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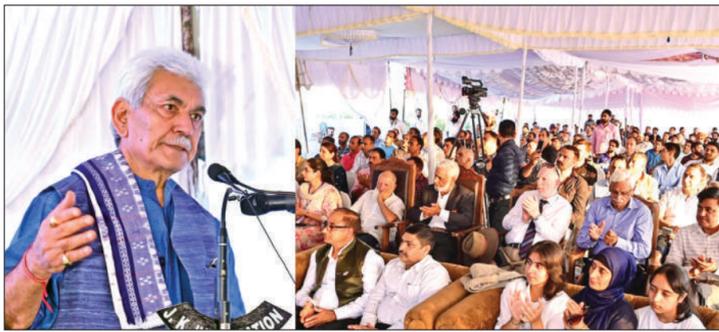
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03 Mayor stresses on positive energy for welfare

Lays foundation stone for Areesha Royal Hospital & Medical College at Medicity, Srinagar J&K to get Rs 80,000 Cr investments: Sinha



LG Manoj Sinha speaking after laying foundation stone for Areesha Royal Hospital & Medical College at Medicity, Srinagar on Monday.

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday said Jammu and Kashmir will get investments to the tune of Rs 80,000 crore in the near future as the administration is keen to establish an industrial ecosystem that will help the local youth achieve their dreams.

"The kind of enthusiasm I see and the kind of proposals

we are getting, I am sure that, in the coming days, we will get investments of Rs 75,000 crore to Rs 80,000 crore. It will provide employment to five lakh people," Sinha said after laying the foundation stone of a private hospital and medical college here.

Sinha said over the past two years, the Union Territory on an average has got six proposals per day for

setting up industrial units. "If I take average of two years, we have been receiving proposals for setting up six industrial units every day," he added.

Sinha said the 500-bedded hospital and medical college project, which is estimated to come up at a cost of Rs 559 crore, was second such project in the valley after Milli Trust launched a similar project earlier this year. He

said the hospital will provide modern medical facilities, generate employment opportunities for youth and health-care professionals and create additional 100 MBBS seats.

"This is a reflection of our potential in the health sector and it will have a positive effect on other sectors and overall economy as well. I am told that this project is also a kind of foreign direct investment. This is the second such project. We want to create such an industrial ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir which will fulfil the aspirations and dreams of the youth here," he added.

It will serve as a hub for medical education and research, he added.

"This is a significant achievement in our endeavor to encourage private investment in medical infrastructure and to create modern, integrated and quality healthcare facilities in J&K UT," the Lt Governor

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04 Sacked Sajad Ahmad Bazaz GK columnist turns ISI mole, terror asset in J&K Bank

Two terrorists killed; Army foils infiltration attempt along LoC in Poonch

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Alert troops on Monday foiled an infiltration bid by killing two Pakistani terrorists along the Line of Control in Poonch district, the Army said.

The bodies of the slain terrorists could not be retrieved as they managed to flee across the Line of Control (LoC) before succumbing to their injuries, suffered during a gunfight with the Army, according to an Indian Army spokesperson.

One AK-47 rifle, two magazines, 30 rounds, two hand grenades and some medicines of Pakistani origin were recovered from the scene of the gunfight in the Balakote sector, he said.

Lt Col Sunel Bartwal, a Jammu-based defence PRO, said, "Intelligence inputs received from multiple agencies and police revealed the presence of terrorists waiting to cross the LoC from



opposite own Balakote sector. Based on these inputs, own surveillance grid was placed on heightened alert and multiple ambushes were sited at suitable location."

He said the alert troops detected the two Pakistani terrorists attempting to cross the LoC into the Indian side, taking advantage of the inclement weather, dense fog, thick foliage and undulating grounds in the Hamirpur area of Balakote early on Monday. "As the terrorists approached own ambush

A search of the area led to the recovery of an AK-47 rifle with two magazines, 30 rounds, two grenades and medicines of Pakistani origin.

"During the search, blood trails leading towards the LoC were also detected," he said and added, "As per intelligence inputs, the two terrorists who attempted to infiltrate were injured but still managed to return across the LoC and later succumbed."

Lt Col Bartwal said the Indian troops continue to remain on alert and maintain vigil to foil any infiltration attempts from across the border.

This was the second infiltration bid that the Army has scuttled along the LoC in Poonch this month.

On August 7, a self-styled divisional commander of the Hizbul Mujahideen and his bodyguard were killed

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Amarnath Yatra: 'Chhari-Pujan' held at Srinagar temple



'Chhari-Pujan' of Lord Shiva's holy mace being performed at Shri Amreshwar Temple in Mahadev Gir Dashnami Akhara.

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: The 'Chhari-Pujan' of Lord Shiva's holy mace was performed on Monday at the Shri Amreshwar Temple in the Mahadev Gir Dashnami

Akhara here on the occasion of Nag Panchami, officials said.

Amid chants of Vedic hymns, Mahant Deependra Giri -- the mace's

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Jammu-Pathankot NH remain closed for several hours Sarore Toll Plaza violence: FIR registered, protesters detained DC Samba imposes Section 144 CrPC near toll plaza

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In a major late evening crackdown on protesters at Sarore Toll Plaza, the Samba police detained over 50 leaders of Yuva Rajput Sabha (YRS). Meanwhile, the District Administration Samba has imposed Section 144 CrPC around the Toll Plaza to maintain law and order and avoid any further dharna at the spot.

This development is seen as assertiveness of the government to tackle hooliganism with iron fists. This is a reminder of the administra-



Members of Yuva Rajput Sabha detained while heavy security deployed after imposition of Section 144 near Toll Plaza on late Monday evening.

tive inaction on ransacking mob led by former minister Chander Prakash Ganga at the same plaza when he had

led the protest, a resident of the adjacent area told STATE TIMES.

Today, the activists of the

Yuva Rajput Sabha (YRS) held a strong protest demanding the removal

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Sachin Kumar Vaishy takes over as DC Jammu

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Sachin Kumar Vaishy assumed the charge as Deputy Commissioner Jammu from the incumbent Avny Lavasa here on Monday.

The outgoing Deputy Commissioner was accorded a warm farewell at a function attended by officers and staff of the DC office and Revenue Department including Additional District Development Commissioner, Ramesh Chander; Additional Deputy Commissioner, Harvinder Singh; Additional Commissioner General and Assistant Commissioner Revenue.

Speaking on the occasion, Avny Lavasa talked about the challenges, and lessons learnt during her tenure as the DC Jammu. She remarked that Jammu serves as the foundation for pivotal activities at the Union Territory level, contributing a major portion to its revenue generation. "Alongside this, the district also receives its share of grievances, which requires coordination and teamwork for effective administration" she added.

Avny Lavasa expressed her deep appreciation for the dedicated officers and

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Encounter breaks out between security forces, terrorists in Pulwama

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: An encounter broke out between security forces and militants in Pulwama district on Sunday, police said.

"Encounter has started in Larrow-Parigam area of #Pulwama. Police & Security Forces are on the job. Details shall follow," Kashmir Zone Police said on X (formerly Twitter). There were no reports of any casualty on either side.

Wreath-laying ceremony held for nine soldiers martyred in road accident in Ladakh

STATE TIMES NEWS
LEH: A wreath-laying ceremony was held here on Monday for nine Army personnel who were martyred when a vehicle carrying them skidded off the road and plunged into a deep gorge in the Union Territory of Ladakh last week.

The accident took place near Kiari in southern Ladakh's Nyoma on August 19, with only one soldier

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SC dismisses plea seeking declaration that abrogation of Article 370 constitutionally valid

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Monday dismissed a petition seeking a declaration that abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution, which bestowed special status on the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir, was constitutionally valid.

Terming the plea as "misconceived", a bench headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud said the issue of constitutional validity of abrogation of Article 370 is already pending before a constitution bench of the apex court.

"What kind of a petition is this? You are now seeking a declaration by this court that the abrogation of Article 370 is valid. Why should we issue that declaration on your petition? Who has set your client up?" the bench, also comprising Justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra, asked the counsel appearing for the petitioner.

The bench noted that the petitioner has filed a public interest litigation (PIL) seeking a declaration to the effect that abrogation of Article 370 (1) of the Constitution and the deletion of Article 35-A were consti-

tutionally valid. "A declaration cannot be issued by this court with regard to the constitutional validity of the action of the Union Government. In any event, the issue of constitutional validity is pending before the constitution bench," it said.

"The present petition is misconceived and is accordingly dismissed," the top court said.

Article 35-A, which was incorporated in the Constitution by a 1954 Presidential Order, accorded special rights and

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BJP leader demands SIT to look into 'fraudulent sale' of properties of migrants in Kashmir

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: BJP leader G L Raina on Monday demanded the constitution of an empowered Special Investigation Team (SIT) to look into cases of alleged grabbing of properties owned by displaced Kashmiri migrants in the valley over the last three decades.

He said that the issue has been raised by the community repeatedly at all available platforms, but there is little response from authorities to the demand of setting up an SIT. "We demand an empowered SIT to look into

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ACB exposes extortion network at FCI Godowns in J&K, two arrested

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In a shocking revelation, the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) of Jammu and Kashmir has exposed a widespread bribery scheme thriving within the Food Corporation of India (FCI) godowns. The investigation was triggered by a complaint from a whistleblower, shedding light on a disturbing pattern of corruption that has reportedly hindered the timely unloading of food-grain-carrying trucks.

According to statement, truck drivers transporting essential food grains to FCI's Chandpora Godown in

Budgam were allegedly subject to extortion by certain officials. The situation escalated when drivers were allegedly coerced into paying bribes to facilitate the unloading process.

The ACB's investigation resulted in the arrest of two key individuals central to the alleged extortion racket. Ab Majeed Sheikh, owner of Sheikh Suppliers and Contractors, was apprehended for his alleged role in orchestrating the scheme. Tajamul Hassan Shah, an FCI weigher, was also taken into custody for his purported involvement in soliciting

and accepting bribes from truck drivers.

As per the complaint and subsequent investigations, it is alleged that AbMajeed Sheikh instructed drivers to deposit Rs 1500 into his personal bank account even before their trucks were unloaded. Tajamul Hassan Shah allegedly demanded a bribe of Rs 3500 from drivers to expedite the unloading process.

The ACB executed a meticulously planned sting operation, leading to the capture of Tajamul Hassan Shah accepting a bribe of

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Sustainable dev goals achievable by transforming villages, making them Aatma-Nirbhar: LG Union Minister Giriraj Singh commends UT Admin for strengthening PR System in J&K

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Sharing the efforts of the UT Government in the last three years to ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday said that sustainable development goals can be achieved through transforming the villages and making them Aatma-Nirbhar.

"It is our firm resolve to make the PRIs empowered, stronger and ensure their increased participation in development initiatives," the Lt Governor said while addressing the inaugural session of the 3-day National Workshop on 'Panchayat with Good Governance'.

Union Minister for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Giriraj Singh, joined the conference virtually.

"Meri Panchayat App"- an integrated and unified m-governance platform was also launched on the occasion.

Union Minister Giriraj Singh commended the UT Administration for its efforts in strengthening the three-tier Panchayati Raj System in J&K. He said initiatives like "Meri Panchayat" App are the new form of good governance and digital India to empower rural India.

In his address, the Lieutenant Governor Sinha added: "We are making endeavours to transform Panchayats into the centers of economic activities and prosperity".

The development projects are being taken as per the needs of the people and completed at a faster pace. Infrastructure development is bridging the gap between rural and urban J&K and timely completion of projects shows our rural



LG Manoj Sinha addressing inaugural session of 3-day National Workshop on Panchayat with Good Governance in Srinagar.

society is becoming prosperous and growth is inclusive and sustainable, the Lt Governor added.

Sinha welcomed the representatives of Panchayats, stakeholders and domain experts from across the country to Jammu Kashmir.

He said the deliberations on exemplary strategies, convergent actions and best practices aligned with Localisation of Sustainable Development Goals over the three days will make the governance at Panchayat level more effective and

efficient. "Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given us a vision of 'Gram Uday se Bharat Uday' and it should be our sincere efforts to realise the limitless potential and possibilities of rural areas, to change the destiny of the country," the Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor also appealed to the people and all the stakeholder departments to work together on Panchayat Level indicators for the good governance. He said the government is ensuring necessary resources as well as giving Panchayats the responsibility of implementation to strengthen the solid foundation of inclusive development.

The Lt Governor reiterated the commitment of the UT Administration towards the welfare of the last man in the queue and improving the standard of liv-

ing of rural population. "We are working together to take necessary steps for effective and seamless public service delivery as well as benefits of government schemes and programmes to fulfill the aspirations of all the villages," he said.

Self-employment schemes and Self Help Groups founded and run by rural women have immense potential for making rural society self-reliant and to increase household incomes by creating more opportunities for employment and self-employment at the grassroots level, the Lt Governor said.

In order to meet the housing needs of the poor, we have taken a concrete initiative to provide land to landless and a pucca house, he added.

Union Minister of State for Panchayati Raj, Kapil Moreshwar Patil, in

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WEATHER
Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 35.2°C Min: 26.0°C
Humidity
Max: 89 Min: 71
Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 34.0°C Min: 19.6°C
Humidity
Max: 73 Min: 40
Sunset : 19:06 Hours
Sunrise : 05:51 Hours