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# STATE TIMES


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**J.K. PUBLIC SCHOOL**  
KUNJWANI, JAMMU  
The School with a Difference

**SOWING SKILLS**



**SHAPING INDIA**

**03** Not only growth of Guava orchards has been poor, even most of Rainy Season crop is worm infested

**09** Div Com reviews safety measures; functioning of Private Tuition, Coaching Centres

**10** Dr Jitendra gives in Lok Sabha details of action against IAS, IPS officers

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## J&K proud to have inclusive cultural ecosystem: LG



LG Manoj Sinha addressing gathering during Certificate Award Ceremony at Srinagar.

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday said Jammu and Kashmir is proud to have an inclusive cultural ecosystem, which always inspired the weavers and craftspeople.

"I want to see Jammu and Srinagar becoming the best art cities of India. I want to see both the cities claim the title of best home for the artists and favourite destination for seekers of priceless art," the Lt Governor said while addressing the Certificate Award Ceremony

marking the recognition of Srinagar as 'World Craft City' by World Crafts Council (WCC).

"I believe in honouring the Srinagar city, the World Crafts Council has also honored the 5000-year rich Indian civilization which kept alive creative traditions and always promoted gifted artisans for their ingenuity and craftsmanship", the Lieutenant Governor observed.

Srinagar is the 4th city of

India to receive the prestigious title of 'World Craft City'. The Certificate Award Ceremony was attended by World Crafts Council President Sa'ad Hani Al-Qaddumi and other prominent personalities of the Council.

In his address, the Lt Governor congratulated the people, artisans, craftspeople and all stakeholder departments on the momentous occasion. "Truly delighted to see Srinagar being

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**▶ LG congratulates people, artisans on bestowing prestigious title for Srinagar as 'World Craft City'**

**▶ Great honour for ancient city 'Srinagar' known for its priceless cultural, artistic heritage**

**▶ Srinagar 4th city of India to receive 'World Craft City' title; this will go long way to preserve, promote J&K's crafts, craftsmanship**

**▶ Want to see Jammu, Srinagar becoming best art cities of India. I want to see both cities claim title of best home for artists, favourite destination for seekers of priceless art**

**▶ I believe, in honouring Srinagar city, World Crafts Council has also honored 5000-year rich Indian civilization which kept alive creative traditions and always promoted gifted artisans for their ingenuity, craftsmanship**

**▶ Reiterates UT Administration's commitment to support artisans in marketing and exports of handicrafts, handloom products, promotion of all craft forms**

**▶ UT Administration giving greater attention to training of young generation of craftspeople so they can be part of this traditional occupation**

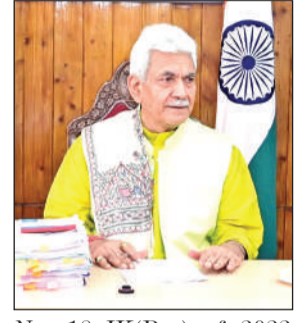
**▶ We are also determined to ensure that their creative products are financially attractive and work is professionally satisfying**

**▶ I am sure this recognition as 'World Craft City' will not only provide a new identity to Srinagar in global market but craftsmanship will re-establish its position as prestigious occupation**

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: In a significant move, the Administrative Council which met here under chairmanship of the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha approved the revised policy for delineation of lands recorded as Gair Mumkin Khads in revenue records.

Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary, Dr Mandeep K Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor were present in the meeting.

The policy is aimed at segregating khads from lands which do not form water course thus allowing for subsequent development of segregated lands. This decision is an amplification and simplification of earlier Administrative Council Decision No. 17/01/2022 Dated 29.01.2022 and subsequent Government Order



No. 18-JK(Rev) of 2022 dated 04.02.2022 vide which a 3-Tier Committee was empowered to carry out the delineation/demarcation exercise in this regard.

Under the new scheme of things, the procedure has been decentralized, empowering the Deputy Commissioner to carry out delineation based on the District Level Committee's recommendation, regardless of the size of the land involved for State Land. For private lands, the Deputy Commissioner can delineate up to 200 kanals per

Khasra on the recommendation of the District Level Committee, while the Divisional Level Committee and Divisional Commissioner can delineate 200-500 kanals per Khasra. All other proposals will be approved by the UT Level Committee.

This decentralized approach will ensure efficient, transparent, and timely delineation. The process will be conducted simultaneously in various districts using modern and scientific technologies like Digital Elevation Model/Digital Terrain Model and Hydrological/Hydraulic Modelling etc.

This decision is expected to lead to substantial industrial expansion and attract new investments. Additionally, it serves as a crucial step towards planned urban development in the segregated areas.

## Govt revises policy regarding delineation of Gair Mumkin Khads

## Over 1,600 pilgrims leave from Jammu for Amarnathji Yatra

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: A fresh batch of over 1,600 pilgrims on Wednesday early morning left from the Jammu base camp for the Amarnath cave shrine in the south Kashmir Himalayas amid tight security, officials said. This year's yatra has already crossed the 4.5 lakh-mark of last year; with over 4.7 lakh pilgrims so far paying obeisance at the naturally-formed ice lingam at the 3,880-metre-high cave shrine, they said.

The 34th batch of 1,654 pilgrims left the Bhagvati Nagar base camp at 3.25 am in a convoy of 51 vehicles escorted by the Central

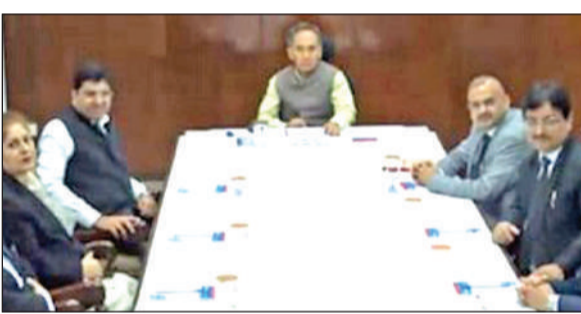
Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and police, the officials said. While 1,198 pilgrims will reach Pahalgam to undertake the annual pilgrimage through the traditional 48-km route in Anantnag district, 456 have opted for the shorter but steeper 14-km Baltal route in Ganderbal district.

Since June 28, when Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha flagged off the first batch from Jammu, a total of 1,41,947 pilgrims have embarked from the Jammu base camp. The yatra commenced on June 29 and is scheduled to conclude on August 19.

## Justice Tashi inaugurates Alternate Dispute Resolution Center at Leh

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: Justice Tashi Rabstan, Chief Justice (Acting), High Court of J&K and Ladakh on Wednesday inaugurated the Alternate Dispute Resolution Center Leh through virtual mode in presence of Justice Atul Sreedharan, Judge High Court of J&K and Ladakh and Executive Chairman Ladakh Legal Services Authority.

In his inaugural address, Justice Tashi Rabstan, appreciated the timely completion of the work by the executing agency and the



Chief Justice (Acting) Tashi Rabstan inaugurating Alternate Dispute Resolution Center Leh through virtual mode.

support and cooperation rendered by the Administration of UT of Ladakh in completion of all the ongoing projects relating to judicial infrastructure.

He expressed the hope that the ADR Center will prove to be a milestone in the justice delivery system. Justice Tashi Rabstan further

stated that physical infrastructure is crucial for a nations economic and social development.

Present on the occasion were Shahzad Azeem, Registrar General, High Court of J&K and Ladakh, M.K Sharma, Principal Secretary to Chief Justice and other officers of the Registry of High Court of J&K and Ladakh through virtual mode and S.K. Bhagat Administrative Secretary, Law and Justice UT Ladakh, Spalzes Angmo Member Secretary, LLSA/Principal District

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## Delhi court extends judicial custody of Kejriwal, Sisodia, K Kavitha till Aug 13

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI: A court here on Wednesday extended till August 13 the judicial custody of Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and his former deputy Manish Sisodia in a money laundering case related to the alleged excise scam.

Special Judge Kaveri Baweja also extended the custody of BRS leader K Kavitha till then in the case. The judge further extended the judicial custody of Sisodia and Kavitha in a related corruption case, being probed by the CBI, till August 9.

The court passed the

order after the accused were produced before it on expiry of their judicial custody granted earlier.

The court had on July 25 extended the judicial custody of Kejriwal in the money laundering case till July 31, while his custody in the corruption case was extended till August 8.

The Supreme Court had earlier granted interim bail to Kejriwal in the ED case. However, he continues to be lodged in Tihar jail here as he has not furnished the bail bond in the case.

The Delhi CM is in judicial custody in the CBI case.

## WP Refugee families celebrate conferment of proprietary rights

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: West Pakistan Displaced Persons on Wednesday celebrated the approval of Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha led Jammu and Kashmir administration to grant them proprietary rights on state land.

The Administrative Council, which met here under Sinha's chairmanship on Tuesday accorded sanction to grant proprietary rights on state land in favour of West Pakistani displaced persons along with displaced persons of 1965.

This shall significantly empower thousands of (refugee) families across Jammu region... the decision fulfills demand of all connected families, which have been requesting for ownership rights since the past so many decades," an official spokesman said.

Post J&K Re-organization Act 2019, domicile rights have been conferred by the Centre to the West Pakistan Displaced Persons.

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## Wayanad landslides: 167 people dead, 219 injured



**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
WAYANAD (KERALA): As many as 167 people have died and over 200 injured in the massive landslides that hit the northern Kerala district of Wayanad a day ago,

with the numbers expected to increase as rescuers unearth debris, the district administration said on Wednesday.

The 167 dead include 22 children, it said.

It also said that 96 bodies

were identified and post-mortem of 166 were completed.

Out of 61 body parts recovered, the post-mortem of 49 was completed, it said.

Of the 167 bodies, 75 were handed over to relatives or next of kin, it further said.

It also said that 219 people were admitted to hospitals from the disaster-hit areas and of them 78 are still undergoing treatment.

Rescue teams comprising the Army, Navy and NDRF are collectively looking for survivors by unearthing the debris and breaking

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## Properties of four drug peddlers attached

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Police on Wednesday attached the properties of four alleged drug peddlers under relevant sections of law here, an official said. The residential houses of Reena alias Roopa, Shaakeela and Pal Singh and his wife Seema alias Kheeri -- all residents of Rajiv Nagar -- and Fareed Ali of Lower Ragoora were attached by separate police teams, a police official said. They are notorious drug peddlers and a menace to society, he added. The action was taken as part of the ongoing drive against the drug peddlers in the city, the official said.

## India, China hold diplomatic talks on eastern Ladakh standoff

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI: India and China on Wednesday held "constructive and forward-looking" diplomatic talks to resolve the lingering border standoff along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh.

The talks were held in Delhi under the framework of Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on India-China Border Affairs (WMCC).

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said the two

sides reviewed the current situation along the LAC with a view to finding an early resolution of the outstanding issues.

"Restoration of peace and tranquillity, and respect for the LAC are an essential basis for restoration of normalcy in bilateral relations," the MEA said.

"They agreed on the need to jointly uphold peace and tranquillity on the ground in the border areas in accordance with relevant bilateral agreements, protocols and understandings reached between the two governments," it said in a statement.

"The discussion at the meeting was in-depth, constructive and forward-looking. Both sides agreed to maintain the momentum through the established diplomatic and military channels," the ministry said.

The court passed the order after the accused were produced before it on expiry of their judicial custody granted earlier.

## Assembly Elections: ECI issues fresh instructions regarding transfer of officers

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The Election Commission of India (ECI) has issued fresh instructions regarding the transfer of officers in poll-bound States of Haryana, Jharkhand, Maharashtra and the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

The ECI has asked Chief Secretaries and Chief Electoral Officers of Haryana, Jharkhand, Maharashtra and UT Jammu and Kashmir that Assembly elections are due this year and in this backdrop, they should transfer officers from their home districts and those officers who are staying for more than three years of duration at a particular posting.

"I am directed to state that the terms of existing State Legislative Assemblies of Haryana, Jharkhand & Maharashtra are up to 3rd November 2024, 5th January 2025 and 26th November 2024, respectively and election are due in the year 2024. Further, the election to the Legislative Assembly of UT of Jammu and Kashmir is also due in the near future," the ECI has said in its order issued today.

The Commission has directed the CEOs and chief secretaries that officers directly connected with the conduct of elections in an election-going State/UT are not posted in their home districts or

places where they have served for considerably long periods or posted in home districts.

"Hence, the Commission has decided that no officer connected directly with elections shall be allowed to continue in the present district (revenue district) of posting if she/he has completed three years in that district during the last four (4) years or would be completing 3 years on or before 30th September, 2024 for UT of Jammu and Kashmir, 31st October 2024 for Haryana, 30th November 2024 for Maharashtra and 31 December 2024 for Jharkhand," the ECI has said.

## LG launches 'Swachhhta Pakhwada-2024', felicitates Safaimitras



LG Manoj Sinha launching Swachhhta Pakhwada at Srinagar on Wednesday.

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday launched the 15-day long Swachhhta Pakhwada 'The Shuchhita Sangram' campaign, at Srinagar.

At the opening ceremony of the campaign, the Lt

Governor felicitated Safaimitras and lauded the significant contribution of Sanitation workers, citizens and all other stakeholders in Swachhhta Abhiyan.

"Swachhhta Pakhwada is not just a campaign, it is a movement that embodies the spirit of a clean and healthy

India which is inspired by the vision of Pujya Babu and aims to instil a sense of responsibility and commitment towards maintaining cleanliness in our surroundings," the Lt Governor said.

Highlighting cleanliness drives planned under Swachhhta Pakhwada, the Lt Governor said the major thrust during the campaign will be on the cleanliness of 186 identified tourist places in the UT, jointly by the Department of Rural Development, Housing & Urban Development and Tourism Department.

The Lt Governor emphasised on capacity building of Panchayat Secretaries and village-level workers and IEC campaign towards behaviour change for success of the

mission.

He directed the officials to focus on public awareness, particularly among students, about waste management, segregation, and its environmental impact.

The Lt Governor further stressed on encouraging community participation through initiatives like Swachhhta Banks and compost-making at household level.

Speaking on the exceptional work done by Jammu Kashmir in Swachh Bharat Mission (G), the Lt Governor said the biggest challenge now is to sustain the efforts and maintain the infrastructures that have been created to ensure that J&K achieve the cleanest UT rank

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**WEATHER**

Temperature (Jammu)  
Max: 36.2°C Min: 28.6°C

Humidity  
Max: 84 Min: 61

Temperature (Srinagar)  
Max: 35.1°C Min: 22.2°C

Humidity  
Max: 75 Min: 36

Sunset: 19:30 Hours  
Sunrise: 05:43 Hours