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INDEPENDENCE DAY GREETINGS TO ALL OUR READERS

STATE TIMES

THE BOLD VOICE OF J&K

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08 While celebrating 77th Independence Anniversary pledge to do what 'We' can instead counting what 'Elders' could not

09 In high-level meeting on J&K, Rajnath issues directions to strengthen security grid

14 133 officials receive JKP Medal for Gallantry and JKP Medal for Meritorious Service

Website : www.statetimes.in, Email: statetimes1@gmail.com

Groundwork laid for new era of economic reforms: Prez Murmu

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: President Droupadi Murmu on Wednesday declared that the groundwork has been laid for a new era of economic reforms aimed at elevating India to the status of a developed nation.

In her address to the nation on the eve of India's 78th Independence Day, the President highlighted India's impressive economic trajectory and said the country has emerged as the fastest-growing major economy, boasting an average annual GDP



growth rate of 8 per cent between 2021 and 2024. "It is a matter of pride that

India has become the fifth-largest economy in the world, and we are on the cusp of

breaking into the top three economies soon," she remarked.

The President attributed this remarkable progress to the relentless efforts of workers and farmers, the foresight of planners and wealth creators, and the visionary leadership guiding the nation.

She emphasised the government's ambitious goal of transforming India into a 'Viksit Bharat' -- a developed nation -- by 2047, coinciding with the centenary of

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IAS officer Govind Mohan appointed as next Union Home Secretary

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Senior IAS officer Govind Mohan was on Wednesday appointed the next Union Home Secretary, succeeding Ajay Kumar Bhalla, according to an official order.

Mohan, presently serving as Secretary, Ministry of Culture, will join as Officer on Special Duty in the Ministry of Home Affairs.

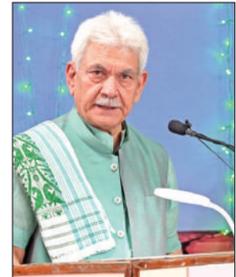
"The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the appointment of Govind Mohan, IAS (Sikkim: 1989), Secretary, Ministry of Culture

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Overcoming challenges, new J&K stands firm with steadfast determination: LG

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Sharing the transformational journey of Jammu and Kashmir over the past few years, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday said the going has never been as good for Union Territory in the past as it is now.

"Our economy has been growing and it is stable and strong. Over a period of just five years, overcoming numerous challenges, a new J&K stands firm with steadfast determination," the Lt Governor said while speaking at DD Kashmir's special event



"Meri Maati Mera Desh" after paying tribute to freedom fighters and martyrs on the eve of the

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Sinha greets people on Independence Day

SRINAGAR: Greeting the people on Independence Day, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Wednesday renewed the pledge, "Let's rededicate ourselves to build an inclusive, progressive, prosperous J&K and Viksit Bharat".

"On the joyous occasion of 78th Independence Day, I extend my heartiest greetings and best wishes to the people of Jammu Kashmir. Today I pay my tribute to

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NSG DG Nalin Prabhat deputed to AGMUT cadre

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The Union government on Wednesday curtailed the tenure of NSG Director General (DG) Nalin Prabhat

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HOLIDAY NOTICE

The offices of STATE TIMES Group of Publications shall remain closed on August 15, 2024 (Thursday) on the occasion of Independence Day. Therefore, there will be no issue of your newspaper on August 16, 2024 (Friday).

Captain martyred, terrorist killed in Doda encounter

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: An Army captain was martyred and a terrorist killed in an ongoing operation in the higher reaches of Jammu region's Doda district on Wednesday, officials said.



Martyr Captain Deepak Singh
Kishtwar region of Jammu and Kashmir.

A civilian was also injured in the encounter that broke out on the eve of Independence Day and is the latest in a series of incidents in the Jammu region that has witnessed a spike in violence of late.

This is the fourth encounter in recent days in the Udhamपुरi-Doda-

tion (CASO) launched by a joint team of security personnel to track down a group of foreign terrorists hiding in the Shivgarh-Assar belt, the officials said.

Captain Deepak Singh was critically injured during the operations and shifted to a military hospital where he succumbed to his injuries, they added.

"One terrorist has been neutralised in the ongoing operation. One AK 47 has been recovered. Intermittent exchange of firing continues as the operations are

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Political leaders should mind their language, suggestions on national security

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DOST KHAN

Long-awaited Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir are around the corner if what the Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar said in Jammu is to be taken the final word on the proposed democratic exercise. As an institution, the Election Commission of India has both responsibilities for what it says or does. As the ECI is entrusted with the responsibility of conducting elections in the world's largest democracy, it did perform this task during the Lok Sabha elections early this year, its words have meanings which cannot be

disputed. The elections in India are not all about electing the representatives to the democratic institutions from Parliament to Panchayats, these reflect nation's temperament on the crucial issues. In the first spot, however, comes the role and language and the issues

NEWS ANALYSIS

that political parties and their leaders raise. It is an important issue for the whole country. It is extremely delicate one in Jammu and Kashmir, which, in the geopolitics is a confluence of so many issues from internal to external security. Its narrative is broadcast all over the world. This is a fact that cannot be hidden, its status matters very

little. It was a majestic state until August 2019, and at present it is a Union Territory, one of its part for decades, has been carved out as a separate UT-Ladakh.

It is a fact that political parties up their ante to appeal to their bloc of voters. This sort of thing does happen at the time of the elections elsewhere in the world too. The US presidential elections have raised lot of fury between Kamala Harris and her rival Donald Trump; they are raising so many issues and attacking them left, right and middle, but after the elections the Americans are in habit of seeing things in right perspective. All the political parties should bear in mind that

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78th INDEPENDENCE DAY

GREETINGS TO THE PEOPLE OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

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