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WEATHER


Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 31.2°C Min: 24.7°C

Humidity
Max: 92 Min: 92

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 23.3°C Min: 19.5°C


Humidity
Max: 98 Min: 75

Sunset : 19:13 Hours
Sunrise : 05:55 Hours



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SOWING SKILLS



SHAPING INDIA

03 Budget announcements for Space sector have futuristic vision: Dr Jitendra

03 86th AGM of shareholders: J&K Bank announces 215 % dividend

14 78th Independence Day celebrations held at JK Public School Kunjwani with patriotic fervour

Modi proposes ‘Global Development Compact’ to spur growth in countries of Global South

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday proposed the creation of a human-centric "Global Development Compact" for the Global South to facilitate trade, technology sharing and concessional financing based on India's growth journey and in line with the priorities of the developing countries.

The needy countries will not be burdened with debt in the name of development finance, Modi said, announcing the 'Compact' at the third India-hosted virtual Voice of the Global South Summit, amid concerns over many countries falling into the Chinese 'debt trap' under Beijing's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

The prime minister also urged the Global South to work unitedly in confronting food and energy security crises and the challenge of terrorism and extremism.



India hosted the third edition of the summit in sync with its commitment and priorities for the Global South or the developing countries.

The 'Global Development Compact' will be inspired by the development priorities set by the countries of the Global South, Modi said.

"I would like to propose a comprehensive "Global Development Compact" on behalf of India. The foundation of this Compact will be based on India's development journey and experiences of development partnership," he

said at the closing session of the Summit.

"It will be human-centric and multi-dimensional for development and will promote a multi-sectoral approach. It will not burden the needy countries with debt in the name of development finance," Modi said.

The prime minister said the 'Compact' will help in the balanced and sustainable development of partner countries.

"Under this Compact we will focus on trade for development, capacity building for sustainable growth, technology

sharing, project-specific concessional finance and grants.

"To strengthen trade promotion activities, India will start a special fund of USD 2.5 million. Training will be provided in trade policy and trade negotiation for capacity building," he said.

A fund of USD one million will be provided for this, Modi said at the closing session of the summit.

The prime minister also said the solution to various conflicts and tensions around the world lies in inclusive global governance.

"You have also raised concerns related to tensions and conflicts. This is a serious issue for all of us. The solution to these concerns depends on a just and inclusive global governance," Modi said.

"Steps should be taken to reduce the gap between the Global North and the

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Northern Army Commander reviews security situation, counter-terror grid in south Kashmir

Meets J&K DGP designate Nalin Prabhat

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Northern Army Commander Lt Gen M V Suchindra Kumar on Saturday reviewed the security situation and the counter-terror grid in south Kashmir.

"#LtGenMVSsuchindrakumar, #ArmyCdrNC, along with #GOC@ChinacorpSLA, visited South Kashmir to review the Counter Terrorism grid and prevalent security situation," the Northern Command said in a post on X.

The commander of the army's Northern Command was briefed on the soldier-citizen connect and operational preparedness of the force, it said.

Kumar felicitated troops for maintaining the momentum in operations and exhorted all ranks to continue to refine tactics in view of emerging threats and maintain a high level of professional



Northern Army Commander Lt Gen M V Suchindra Kumar along with Special DGP Nalin Prabhat at Srinagar.

sionalism, it said.

Meanwhile, Lieutenant Kumar met Special Director General of Jammu and Kashmir Police Nalin Prabhat and discussed enhanced synergy and security measures between the forces, the Army said.

Prabhat, a highly decorated IPS officer, has recently been

appointed as the Special Director General of Jammu and Kashmir Police and will assume the role of the force's chief following the retirement of R R Swain on September 30.

In a post on X, the Udhampur-based Northern Command of the Army said its General officer

Commanding-in-chief met the Special Director General and Director General of Police designate to convey his best wishes on the new appointment and "discussed enhanced synergy and security measures between the forces".

The Indian Army and Jammu and Kashmir Police remain committed to bolstering the safety and security of the Union territory, the army said.

The Ministry of Home Affairs issued an order this week confirming Prabhat's appointment, stating that he would take charge after Swain's departure.

The order said Prabhat, a 1992 IPS from Andhra Pradesh cadre, is sent to Jammu and Kashmir with "immediate effect" and upon retirement of Swain on September 30, "Prabhat is appointed as DGP,

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There is crying need to reform multilateralism: Jaishankar

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: India on Saturday said that there is a crying need to reform multilateral institutions and the inability to take forward the process with respect to the United Nations is costing the world each passing day.

The issue figured prominently at the third edition of the India-hosted Voice of Global South Summit which was attended by over 120 countries with a large number of them pitching for reforms in the multilateral institutions.

"There is a crying need to reform multilateralism if we are to revive its credibility. No nation really differs with



this assessment," External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said at the foreign ministerial session of the summit. "But an inability to take that forward

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Justice Tashi Rabstan inaugurates Village Legal Care, Support Centre at Atholi Paddar

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KISHTWAR: In a significant stride towards enhancing legal awareness and strengthening the legal education in the remote regions of Jammu and Kashmir, the Chief Justice (A), High Court of J&K and Ladakh, Justice Tashi Rabstan on Saturday inaugurated a Village Legal Care & Support Centre (Legal Aid Clinic) at Atholi, Paddar, Kishtwar.

Upon his arrival, Justice Tashi, who was accompanied by M. K. Sharma, Principal Secretary and Amit Kumar Gupta, Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services



Chief Justice (A) Tashi Rabstan inaugurating Legal Aid Clinic at Atholi, Paddar, Kishtwar

Authority was accorded warm reception by Amit Kumar Baghat, SDM Paddar, Manjeet Singh Katal, Tehsildar, Romesh

Lal, Secretary DLSA Kishtwar, Arvind Manhas, District Mobile Magistrate, Pawan Sharma, Additional SP, Ravindar Parihar, SDPO

Paddar, Sanveer Singh, Assistant LADC, Staff of DLSA Kishtwar along with two Para Legal Volunteers.

A ceremonial guard of honour was also accorded to the Chief Justice.

Speaking on the occasion, Justice Tashi underscored the importance of Legal Aid Clinics and said that the opening of such clinics will prove a boon for the local population of the area, as it is a remote and far-flung portion of district Kishtwar and people have to travel a long distance to reach district headquarter for the

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Mortar shell, 10 gelatin found in Rajouri

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A mortar shell and 10 gelatin sticks were found during a search operation by security forces in Rajouri district on Friday evening, officials said.

Besides these, some hand gloves were also found in the Darmaka area, they said.

Further investigation is underway, the officials said.

Two rape accused arrested in Jammu

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Two persons were arrested for allegedly raping a woman in a spa here, police said on Saturday. The duo was arrested immediately after the victim lodged a complaint at the Channi Himmat police station in the outskirts of the city on Friday, a police spokesman said.

He said a case under relevant sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) was registered against the accused.

The medical examination of the victim was conducted and further investigation is on, the spokesman said.

NCB Jammu freezes drug peddlers' assets worth Rs 76 lakh

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In the wake of upcoming Legislative Assembly elections, the Narcotics Bureau (NCB) has geared up its preparation to tackle the drug menace and its possible misuse in the election scenario, the NCB Jammu has freed the illegally acquired properties of notorious smugglers booked in NCB cases. The NCB conducted in-depth financial investigations in four cases related to narcotics trafficking. The investigations revealed substantial financial transactions linked to drug operations. The details of

freezing/seizing of illegally acquired assets include NCB Case Crime (02/2024): NCB Jammu had recovered various pharmaceutical drugs in NCB Case (02/2024). After the recovery, a team of the unit conducted financial investigation in accused Mohd Shabir, son of Md Yusuf resident of Delhi in said case as a result Rs. 15,03,750 (cash) was seized.

NCB Case Crime (09/2020): NCB Jammu had recovered 56,400 kg Charas in this case. After the recovery, a team of the unit conducted financial investigation in accused Mushtaq

Ahmed Lohar in said case as a result, assets worth Rs. 12,65,000/- was seized.

NCB Case Crime (11/2018): NCB Jammu had recovered 60.215 kg Heroin in this case. After the recovery, a team of the unit conducted financial investigation in r/o accused Paramjit Singh in the case. This investigation has led to the freezing of assets amounting to Rs.23,39,740.. NCB Case Crime No. 03/2022: This case involves recovery of 54.424 kg Heroin and the financial investigation in accused Tarshinder

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A Tale of Combating Telling Challenges Tarun Chugh's book 'Modi's Governance Triumph: Reshaping India's Path to Prosperity' unveiled

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: A pivotal moment in political literature was marked on Saturday by the release of "Modi's Governance Triumph: Reshaping India's Path to Prosperity."

Authored by BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh, this book provides a detailed and insightful analysis of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's transformative governance and the challenges that he surmounted.

The event, held in New Delhi, had the distinguished



Home Minister Amit Shah, Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy releasing book of Tarun Chugh at New Delhi on Saturday.

presence of Union Home Minister and Minister for Cooperation Amit Shah and Union Minister of Coal and Mines G. Kishan Reddy.

The book offers an in-depth exploration of the visionary initiatives, and reforms that guided the Antyodaya mission of the Modi's administration.

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ANCHOR

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DOST KHAN

New dawn of democracy arrives in J&K

Democracy is a continuing process and it should be seen like that only. The framework of democracy in Jammu and Kashmir has changed in the past five years. The announcement of the schedule for the Assembly polls on Friday by the Election Commission has added yet another dimension to it. It could conceive and spell out the poll plans as it discovered a sound ground where the voters could make a choice of their elected representatives in a free and fair manner.

The Election Commission, it admitted candidly, has a task to build on the foundation that was laid by the people of Jammu and Kashmir in 2024 Lok Sabha elections. The people in the Valley surprised themselves and left the world awestruck as they participated in large numbers which broke the record of almost 40 years. The voting percentage is a sign of health of democracy in any place, and

Kashmir was no exception that recorded substantially high voter turnout in the Lok Sabha polls

The ground did not surface overnight. It took lot of time and effort on the part of the government and the people , both sides complimented each other. The result is that the people all across J&K have hailed the announcement of the poll dates. The cynicism of the past has been replaced by optimism; it is a long journey that J&K had embarked after the abrogation of Article 370 , learning that each and every election matters. The public representatives gain credibility only when they face and win elections , be those of Panchayats, municipalities , Assembly or Parliament . No particular election has a monopoly on the spirit and content of democracy.

There are many unique features of the upcoming Assembly polls. It is the first election after the abrogation of Article 370 that Prime Minister Narendra Modi hailed as watershed moment in nation's history . This watershed moment needs a

little explanation . On August 5, 2019 , the day Jammu and Kashmir's special status was scrapped and it was announced that henceforth the state would be known by its two different entities as Union Territories of J&K and Ladakh , was a declaration that the former state will come out of its captivity of the past - no more violence , no more unnatural deaths, and no more scare of stepping out of doorsteps , and freedom to send children to schools and help them shape their careers.

The democracy and conflict zone stand at odds to each other . No conflict can ever allow the genuine democracy to grow, as the very idea of conflict is an antidote to people's will . The people don't want conflict, they want freedom from fear and violence . They love peace and to live life on their own terms. That is what happened in J&K since August 2019 . Today, Kashmir has taken a new birth. It has shunned the troubles of the past and embraced prospects of high-value future.

A positive change has set in . The people demonstrated that how they wanted to defeat bullets and boycott in the Lok Sabha polls . Another opportunity has come knocking their door, the assembly polls in which they will elect their own government that will have to make and live up to promise of peace and development . It is no longer a battle of emotional politics versus emotional politics. The election will be contested on issues as to which party can offer better and brighter prospects of peace and opportunities to grow.

This Assembly poll will be the first in which the people will find that the parties will have to talk about them and their issues not of their agendas which only fuelled the ideas of conflict .The people want fresh ideas, not the trappings of the self-rule, greater autonomy , for they know the truth that all these selling points have been locked for once and for all with the Article 370 becoming a history . It's time to write new chapter of history within the Indian democratic landscape.

NEWS ANALYSIS

J&K HC dismisses appeal challenging conviction in sexual abuse case

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh High Court here has dismissed a man's appeal challenging his conviction by a lower court in a sexual abuse case of a minor.

The court of Justice Sanjay Dhar upheld the conviction in the February 22 judgment by Additional Sessions Judge (fast track court), Kulgam.

Accused Sajad Ahmad Bhat was convicted under Section 376 read with Section 511 of the Ranbir Penal Code (RPC) and sentenced to undergo rigorous imprisonment for four years and pay a fine of Rs 10,000.

However, Bhat challenged the impugned judgment of conviction and the order

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