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30
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03 Rahul's impromptu dinner at Srinagar's 'Ahdoo's' possible because Modi restored peace: Dr Jitendra

09 CIK announces reward for information on Pakistan-based LeT commander

10 Three VAK players making mark at 74th Inter-Services Volleyball Championship

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Union Cabinet approves Unified Pension Scheme for Govt employees

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Union Cabinet on Saturday approved an assured 50 per cent of salary as pension for 23 lakh government employees who joined service under the National Pension System (NPS).
The National Pension System is applicable for government employees joining the service after April 1, 2004. It was based on the premise of contribution rather than defined benefit applicable for employees prior to the NPS.
Announcing Cabinet decisions, Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said the Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) announced that government employees will now be eligible to get 50 per cent of the average basic pay drawn over the last 12 months before the superannuation as pension.
For this full pension or 50 per cent of pay as the pension, he said, the eligibility service length will be 25 years.
However, he said, it would be proportionate for a lesser serv-

UPS ensures dignity, financial security for employees: Modi

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi said Saturday the Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) ensures dignity and financial security for government employees, aligning with the government's commitment to their well-being and secure future.
His remarks came after the Union Cabinet approved an assured 50 per cent of salary as pension for 23 lakh government employees who joined service under the National Pension System (NPS).
The National Pension System is applicable for government employees joining the service after April 1, 2004. It was based on the premise of contribution rather than defined benefit applicable for employees prior to the NPS.
"We are proud of the hard work of all government employees who contribute significantly to national progress. The Unified Pension Scheme ensures dignity and financial security for government employees, aligning with our commitment to their well-being and a secure future," Modi said in a post on X.
Announcing Cabinet decisions, Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said that under the Unified Pension Scheme (UPS), government employees will now be eligible to get 50 per cent of the average basic pay drawn over the last 12 months before the superannuation as pension. For this full pension or 50 per cent of pay as the pension, he said, the eligibility service



ice period up to a minimum of 10 years of service.
NPS subscribers can now opt for the Unified Pension Scheme (UPS), which offers assured pension applicable from the beginning of the next financial year.
Last year, the finance ministry set up a committee under Finance Secretary TV Somanathan to review the pension scheme for government employees and suggest any changes, if needed, in light of the existing framework and structure of the National Pension System.
Several non-BJP-ruled states have decided to revert to the DA-linked Old Pension Scheme (OPS) and also employee organisations in some other states have raised demand for the same.
Briefing media, Cabinet Secretary-designate TV Somanathan said the new scheme is applicable from April 1, 2025.
The benefits of the Unified Pension Scheme are applicable for those retired and retiring till March 31, 2025, with arrears, he added.

Security enhanced at Jammu hospitals to ensure safety of doctors, medical staff

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Security has been beefed up at government hospitals in Jammu with the deployment of armed security personnel to ensure the safety of medical staff and doctors, officials said on Friday.
This step was taken in the wake of the rape and murder of a doctor at a hospital in Kolkata and related

Criminal detained under PSA

STATE TIMES NEWS
SAMBHA: An alleged criminal was detained under stringent Public Safety Act (PSA) in Samba district on Saturday, police said. Sourav Slathia, a resident of Garh Mandi village of Vijaypur, was posing a serious threat to public peace and tranquillity. So, he was accordingly detained under PSA and sent to district jail Kathua, a police spokesperson said. He said Slathia's detention order was issued by district magistrate Samba based on a detailed dossier prepared by police following his repeated engagement in criminal activities.

Terrorist killed in Watergam Sopore encounter

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: A terrorist was killed during an exchange of fire with CRPF personnel deployed at an Election Commission-directed check post in Baramulla district on Saturday, officials said.
The incident took place at around 3 pm near a veterinary hospital in the Watergam area of Sopore in the said district.
Officials said a Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) party drawn from the 92nd battalion was deployed at a 'naka' (check post) when a terrorist fired



shots at them using a pistol. The troops, present at the check post along with a magistrate-rank officer, retaliated leading to the killing of the terrorist, they said.

Soon after, Army troops and a police unit too reached the spot and the body of the terrorist was recovered along with a pistol, two

J&K CEO exhorts officers to ensure purity, transparency in elections

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) J&K, Pandurang K Pole on Saturday exhorted upon the officers to work with zeal and dedication to ensure the purity and transparency of the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly Election process.
Inaugurating a day-long Online Training Program on

Election Expenditure Monitoring for nearly 800 officers at Nirvachan Bhawan, here, the Chief Election officer also urged the officers to work in an exemplary way so that all the stakeholders and general public can be assured of free and fair conduct of assembly elections in the

Apni Party rules out pre-poll alliance with any other party

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Apni Party on Saturday ruled out a pre-poll alliance with any other party for the Assembly elections, and said it would contest on 60 seats in the Union Territory.
"We do not have an alliance with any party. We will

PDP releases its manifesto for assembly elections

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: The PDP on Saturday released its manifesto for the Assembly elections, promising to pursue the restoration of Jammu and Kashmir to its "original status", and advocate for confidence-building measures (CBMs) and regional cooperation between India and Pakistan.
The manifesto was released during a function at the party headquarters here by PDP president Mehbooba Mufti along with senior leaders of the party.
"The PDP is resolute in its pursuit of restoring the constitutional guarantees that

were unjustly scrapped, and is committed to restoring Jammu & Kashmir to its original status, ensuring that the voices of its people are heard and their rights are safeguarded," it said.
The manifesto said the "unconstitutional and illegal revocation" of Articles 370 and 35A in 2019 has "further complicated the Kashmir issue, deepening the alienation felt by the people of the region".
It said the PDP firmly believes that meaningful engagement is the only way forward. The party put thrust on improving

11-member gang of interstate criminals arrested for killing Jammu cabbie

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: An 11-member gang of interstate criminals, mostly from Haryana, were arrested for killing a cab driver whose body was recovered from here, a senior police officer said on Saturday.
The body of Mangal Singh, a resident of Jammu, was recovered from Bajalta forest on Friday, five days after he was reported missing while returning from Katra in Reasi district to drop passengers at a railway station.
"Police have successfully resolved the case of the abduction and murder of the



cab driver by apprehending a gang of interstate criminals from Ratia Fatehbad area of Haryana," Jammu Senior Superintendent of Police Joginder Singh told reporters here.
He said a missing report was filed on August 19 by Singh's brother after he failed to return home from Katra.

On August 21, the case was escalated with the filing of an FIR under relevant sections of law when it was suspected that the cab driver had been abducted along with his vehicle, based on CCTV footage, he said.
The SSP said the police teams collected and analysed CCTV footage from various locations, along with call data records and hotel records in Katra.
After getting an actionable lead, a police team travelled to Sirsa, Haryana, where raids were conducted at multiple locations with the

Cong leader, retired SSP, several others join BJP in Jammu



STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: A Congress leader and a former police officer on Saturday joined the BJP along with dozens of their supporters here, vowing to work for the party's

Distt Level Committee meeting of NCORD held

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: In order to curb the drug menace and tighten the noose against drug peddlers in Srinagar District, the Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Dr Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat on Saturday chaired a meeting of NCORD here at Meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex.
Besides, Additional Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Dr. Khalid Hussain Malik, SP Headquarter Umar Shah and Chief Planning Officer, Fayaz Ahmad, the meeting was attended by the Officers of Excise Department, Drug Control Organization, Health, IMHANS, Rehabilitation Centers, Postal Department, Airport Authority and other concerned Departments.
At the outset, Deputy Commissioner emphasized the Officers to intensify the deterrence measures against the drug menace and its

J&K Judicial Academy hosts sensitisation program on POCSO, POSH Acts



Justice Sindhu Sharma, Chairperson, Sexual Harassment Probe Committee and others during the programme in Jammu on Saturday.

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Under the leadership of Justice Tashi Rabstan, Acting Chief Justice of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, and with guidance from the Chairperson and Members of the Governing Committee for the J&K Judicial Academy, a two-day sensitization program was organized by the J&K Judicial Academy on Saturday.
The program, titled "POCSO Act and POSH Act with Special Reference to SAMVAD's Training Manual and Combating Gender

Stereotypes," was held at the J&K Police Auditorium in Gulshan Ground, Jammu.
It aimed to educate Judicial Officers, Special Public Prosecutors, Medical Officers, officers from the Forensic Science Laboratory, police officers, members

Case registered after woman converts to Hinduism, marries non-local

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Police have registered a case after a woman from Baramulla district went missing and then allegedly converted to Hinduism to marry a non-local man, an official said on Saturday.
A police official said the Kreeri police station in the north Kashmir district lodged a report after a complainant alleged his daughter had been missing since the morning of August 16.
"On Friday, it was learnt that on August 19, the

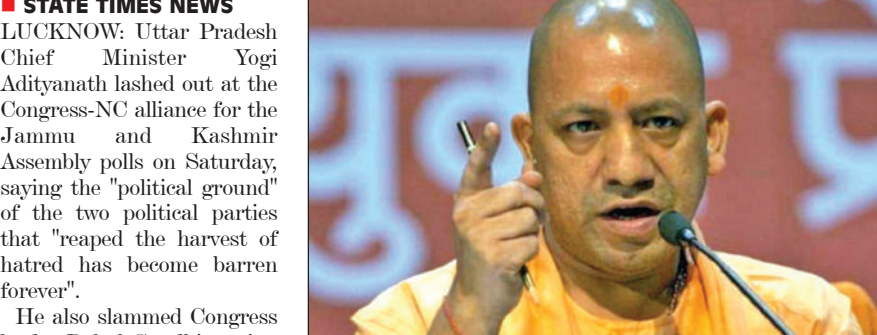
Congress playing dirty game by supporting Pakistan agenda: Chugh

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh said on Saturday assailed the Congress for playing a dirty game in the country by supporting Pakistan's agenda, which the National Conference is promoting.
"National Conference manifesto clearly states that separatists currently in jail should be released, which is nothing short of anti-national", Chugh said while addressing a press conference held at the Delhi BJP State Headquarters on the "anti-national manifesto

families, who plunged Jammu and Kashmir into hatred and terror.
"Under able and decisive leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the current wave of change, patriotism, and development in Jammu and Kashmir is not favored by the selfish parties", he added.
"Congress and the National Conference (NC) alliance must answer what their stance is on Article 370 and Article 35A. The country wants to know whether Congress wishes to bring Jammu and Kashmir

Yogi Adityanath slams Cong-NC alliance for J&K polls

STATE TIMES NEWS
LUCKNOW: Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath lashed out at the Congress-NC alliance for the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly polls on Saturday, saying the "political ground" of the two political parties that "reaped the harvest of hatred has become barren forever".
He also slammed Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, saying his party has "again put its anti-national intentions in front of the country by allying with the National Conference of Abdullah and Sons Family Private Limited".
"Talking to reporters at his official residence at 5,



Kalidas Marg here, Adityanath claimed that there are several points in the NC's manifesto for the Jammu and Kashmir polls that raise apprehensions about India's unity, integrity and national security.
"The political ground of the Congress and the NC, which harvested the crop of hatred, has become barren for ever," he said, adding that the issue of terrorism and separatism has merged with the water of the Chenab river. Lashing out at Gandhi, the leader

Congress forged alliance with NC due to its 'lust for power': Uttarakhand CM

DEHRADUN: The Congress forged an alliance with the National Conference for the assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir due to its "lust for power", Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami on Saturday.
Dhami also posed 10 questions to the Congress and its leader Rahul Gandhi and asked them to explain why the party allied with the National Conference and the Abdullah family.
He alleged that the Abdullaha "pushed back" Jammu and Kashmir for three decades and "ruined" it.
Describing the National Conference as a party that fomented separatism and terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir, Dhami said, "(Rahul) Gandhi owes an explanation to the nation on whether, by entering into an alliance with the National Conference, he supports the party's promise of a separate flag for Jammu and Kashmir and restoration of Article 370."
"Gandhi and his party must explain whether they want to push Jammu and Kashmir back into disorder. Does he support separatism and cross-border terrorism and the National Conference's decision of resuming trade with Pakistan?" Dhami asked during a press

WEATHER
Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 34.1°C Min: 22.6°C
Humidity
Max: 81 Min: 64
Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 31.3°C Min: 16.8°C
Humidity
Max: 67 Min: 41
Sunset: 19:05 Hours
Sunrise: 06:00 Hours

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