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STATE TIMES

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BLUE MOON
Banquets • Conventions
THE BANQUET WITH A DIFFERENCE
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03 Dr Jitendra shares with Lok Sabha budget hike provisions for Science, Technology, StartUps

03 DIPR celebrates Swachhta Pakhwada; DI leads plantation, cleanliness drives

10 JK Public School Kunjwani organises Tenshinkan Karate Do Annual Belt Grading 2024-25

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Waqf Bill to be introduced in LS, Oppn demands sending it to parliamentary panel

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Opposition parties on Wednesday demanded that the Waqf (Amendment) Bill be sent to Parliament's standing committee for scrutiny after it is introduced, with the government telling the Business Advisory Committee that it will take a call after assessing the sense of Lok Sabha.

The government said at the Committee's meeting that it will not press for discussion on the Bill and its passage following its introduction in Lok Sabha on Thursday.

There is a strong possibility that the government may agree to refer the Bill, which is being opposed by some Muslim organisations, to a parliamentary panel. Sources said some parties, which have been supportive of the government's agenda, have also expressed their reservation over the proposed legislation.

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju said at



the meeting of the Committee, which includes members from major parties and where the government discusses its proposed agenda, that the government will take a call whether or not to send the bill for parliamentary scrutiny on Thursday, the sources said.

Congress MP Gourav Gogoi and Trinamool Congress MP Sudip Bandyopadhyay were among the opposition members who made the demand to send the Bill to Parliament's standing committee for scrutiny after it is introduced.

Incidentally, the depart-

ment-related standing committees of Lok Sabha are yet to be constituted. The House may form a separate panel in the absence of the standing committee to scrutinise the Bill in case the government decides on such a course of action.

The Bill which seeks to amend the law governing waqf boards has proposed far-reaching changes in the present Act, including ensuring the representation of Muslim women and non-Muslims in such bodies.

The Waqf (Amendment) Bill also seeks to rename the

Search continues for terrorists in Udhampur

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: A search operation for terrorists hiding in the higher reaches of Jammu and Kashmir's Udhampur district entered its second day on Wednesday, with additional reinforcements rushed to the area, officials said.

A massive joint search operation by police, Army and the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)

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RS elections for 12 vacant seats on Sept 3: ECI

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The Election Commission of India (ECI) announced on Wednesday that the election for 12 vacant seats in the Rajya Sabha will take place on September 3, reported PTL.

Ten Rajya Sabha seats fell vacant as the sitting members, including Union Ministers Piyush Goyal, Sarbananda Sonowal

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Woman dies in house collapse as heavy rain lashes large parts of Jammu

Water logging in parts of Temple City

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: A 60-year-old woman died in a house collapse and several structures were washed away as heavy rain lashed large parts of the Jammu region, throwing life out of gear on Wednesday, officials said.

Kako Devi was buried alive along with her two cows when her mud-house collapsed due to heavy rain in the Gundha village of Khawas in Rajouri district in the early hours, they said.

Devi's body was recovered from under the debris by rescuers, they added.

At least eight residential structures were washed away at Doonga village in Kathua district following a cloudburst, the officials said, adding there was no report of any casualty.

Heavy rain lashed Jammu for more than three hours from 9:30 am and caused waterlogging in low lying



Cars stuck in waterlogged road of Jammu city after intense rain on Wednesday morning.

areas, disrupting daily life with main city roads witnessing very slow traffic movement.

People faced hardships while commuting through the flooded roads at various places, including Dogra Chowk, Canal Road, Bikram Chowk, Gandhi Nagar, Shastril Nagar, Gorkha Colony and Sanjay Nagar, while many residents and shopkeepers saw their premises inundated.

The downpour also led to an increase in the water level in the Tawi and other water bodies but there was no immediate threat of floods, the officials said.

According to the local Met office, Rajouri district recorded the highest rainfall at 74 mm during 24 hours ended at 11 am, followed by Jammu at 48.5 mm and Ramban 17.5 mm. The Met office has forecast wet

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RR Swain appointed as DGP of J&K

September 30, 2024. Swain, who previously held the additional charge of the DGP position, will now assume full responsibilities.

An order dated August 6 stated, "With the approval of the Competent Authority, Shri R. R. Swain, IPS (AGMUT: 1991), currently holding the additional charge of the post of Director General of Police, Jammu & Kashmir, is hereby appointed to the post of Director General of Police, Jammu & Kashmir with effect from the date of assumption of charge and till 30.09.2024 or until further orders, whichever is earlier."



STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The Ministry of Home Affairs has officially appointed RR Swain as the Director General of Police (DGP) for Jammu and Kashmir until

No alliance for J&K Assembly polls: Farooq

Election Commission's (EC) visit to Jammu and Kashmir to review the preparations for the polls.

Abdullah said the poll panel will talk to the parties and then consult the Centre, before finalising the election dates.

"Whether the dates are announced or not, the EC is coming here. They will talk to everyone, then they will consult the Government of India and finalise the dates. They cannot finalise the dates themselves. Today, everything is done by the Government of India, (Prime Minister Narendra) Modiji and the Home Minister

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STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: National Conference (NC) president Farooq Abdullah on Wednesday said his party will not enter into a pre-poll alliance with any other party for the Assembly election in Jammu and Kashmir.

"We will not enter into any alliance, totally not," Abdullah told reporters here.

The NC chief's comments came on the eve of the

NC ready for assembly elections, wants level playing field for all parties: Omar

KATHUA/JAMMU: As the Election Commission is set to visit Jammu and Kashmir to review preparedness for the assembly polls, National Conference vice-president Omar Abdullah on Wednesday said his party is prepared for the elections and wants a level playing field for all parties in the Union Territory.

Expressing confidence about restoration of full statehood to Jammu and Kashmir after the assembly elections, Abdullah said "they (BJP) cannot dare to lie to the Supreme Court making a promise on the subject".

"The ECI is touring Jammu and Kashmir from tomorrow (Thursday) and our only request to them is to issue the election notification as soon as possible to start the process. We are also hopeful that all parties will be treated equally so that we can fight the elections on a level playing field," Omar told reporters on the sidelines of a

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Budha Amarnath Yatra begins from Jammu

First Batch of Yatris reached at Poonch

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Budha Amarnath pilgrimage in Poonch district began on Wednesday, with the first batch of 651 pilgrims leaving from here.

A convoy of 14 vehicles carrying the pilgrims was flagged off by Divisional Commissioner Ramesh Kumar, Additional Director General of Police, Jammu Zone, Anand Jain and several Bajrang Dal and VHP leaders from the Bhagwati Nagar base camp here.

Jain said all security arrangements have been put in place to ensure an incident-free yatra.

The Budha Amarnath Temple dedicated to Lord Shiva in Rajpura village in Poonch is among the oldest shrines in the Jammu region, drawing large numbers of devotees.

Meanwhile, the District Poonch today witnessed a joyous occasion as the first batch of Shri Budha Amarnath Ji Yatris reached in the district.

District Administration Poonch, Bajrang Dal, Sanatan Dharam Sabha, Akhara Committee, the civil society and the locals

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CBI arrests employee among 3 persons in bribe case

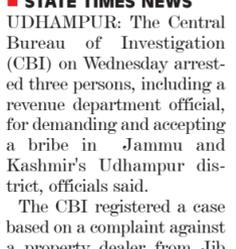
STATE TIMES NEWS
UDHAMPUR: The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Wednesday arrested three persons, including a revenue department official, for demanding and accepting a bribe in Jammu and Kashmir's Udhampur district, officials said.

The CBI registered a case based on a complaint against a property dealer from Jib village in Udhampur, alleging that the dealer was demanding a bribe of Rs 40,000 on behalf of a patwari for the issuance of a revenue extract of a property being purchased by the complainant's father, said a CBI spokesman.

The CBI laid a trap and the property dealer, a middleman, and the Patwari were caught in a relay-trap operation, he added.

The dealer was caught red-handed first while demanding and accepting the bribe from the complainant. During further proceedings, a middleman was apprehended while accepting

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Justice Tashi reviews functioning of Juvenile Justice Boards in J&K

Srinagar.

The meeting was attended by its members, Chandraker Bharti, Principal Secretary, Home; Sheetal Nanda, Commissioner Secretary, Social Welfare and Amit Kumar Gupta, Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority also Ex-officio Member Secretary, Juvenile Justice Committee, High Court of J&K and Ladakh.

The meeting was convened to review the pendency and disposal of cases by the Juvenile Justice Boards across the UT of

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Chief Justice (A)Tashi Rabstan chairing a meeting at Srinagar on Wednesday.

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: A meeting of High Level Committee chaired by Justice Tashi Rabstan, Chief Justice (A), High Court of J&K and

Ladakh and Executive Chairman J&K Legal Services Authority was convened on Wednesday at Conference Hall, High Court of J&K and Ladakh at

J&K Police security wing takes charge of I-Day celebration venue in Jammu

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The security wing of the Jammu and Kashmir Police has taken charge of the M A M Stadium, the venue of the Independence Day function in Jammu, in view of the high degree of threat perception following a chain of terror attacks in the region, officials said on Tuesday.

Security has been beefed up in and around the venue, and as part of enhanced measures, they have assumed control of the area, and the general public is prohibited from entering the premises of the

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Chugh warns Khurshid against spreading anarchist ideas

'Cong must explain its secret ties with China, Pak ISI'

STATE TIMES NEWS
CHANDIGARH: BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh on Wednesday warned disruptive elements, including senior Congress leader Salman Khurshid for spreading anarchist ideas in the country.

Reacting strongly to Salman Khurshid's statement that Bangladesh type turmoil can happen in our country, Chugh said it is shameful and reprehensible when the Congress leaders start speaking of

situation in the country", he added.

Chugh said it is time the Gandhi family's secret understanding with the Chinese authorities and the covert connection with the Pakistan ISI are exposed.

Chugh said the Modi government would defeat all nefarious designs to disrupt peace in the country and it should be a lesson for people like Salman Khurshid to restrain from spreading disruptive ideas in the society.

derailing the nation.

"It speaks of their frustration and desperation to disturb the law and order



Utter Intelligence Failure? Yes; and Yes!!

PROF. NUTAN K. RESUTRA
I am shocked.
I am perplexed.
I am confused!

It's not because there has been a takhta-palat or coup in Bangladesh; which has been the hot news. For, coups can and do happen anywhere in the world; with blessings of one big political power or the other, the continent of Africa being their favourite play-ground. The (Alas!) Former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has "left" the country and till the writing of this piece, is in India. As the reports suggest, this coup is also the harvest of khethi-badi or cultivation by China, America; and above all, Pakistan.

I am a common man; literally an Aam Adami; (Sorry, not a karyakarta of the AAP) in political vocabulary. To me, an aam adami is the one who reads newspaper thoroughly; more so because he feels he has paid for it with his retirement pension; watches news on TV channels, sometimes also happens to see discussions of the so-called experts who burrrrr and fight and shout about everything else except the topic of discussion! And on the basis of all these, forms his own so-called political truth about happenings and current affairs. Yes, I am that common man.

And going by the knowledge gathered from all these sources, I have learnt that there exists a Think-tank, a group of those who are supposed to possess the heaviest weight of grey matter; the group that shapes policies, procedures, actions of any government and in short, the maker of what will happen in coming days. Its main task is to safeguard interests of country in general and the government in particular. Fair enough.

I have also read that there exist certain agencies in our country: Intelligence Bureau or IB, Military Intelligence or MI and on top of that, the Research and Analysis Wing or the RAW; to name just the known ones although there might be many more working behind the curtain. Again, similar to think tank, the job of these agencies is to watch interest of Bharat viz-a-viz other countries. And for this purpose, unknown, unaccounted and unaudited funds out of tax-payers money are placed at their disposal to get the object achieved.

See, what objects were achieved if we consider only the neighbours.

First Afghanistan, where India had been investing for the last so many years fell to the Taliban plunging the region into turmoil. Apprehensions had been expressed of fall out about spurt in militancy in Jammu and Kashmir, which has become a reality now. This was followed by Sri Lanka; Maldives with Out India slogan; Nepal with anti-India rhetoric; and now Bangladesh; again, with India haters taking over. The coup in Bangladesh can be summed up as the fall of last India friendly bastion neighbour! Last evening, the Prime Minister had held a security meeting with his top Ministers including Defence, Foreign Affairs, Finance and above all the National Security Advisor. Is there any -thing to advise now Mr. NSA?

In the beginning of this write-up, I had stated that I am confused. Yes, I am, because I fail to understand what these agencies had been doing for so long. One after the other a neighbour became hostile towards India and we have conveniently been fed the blame-game about role of ISI and China in making them anti-India. Agreed, but what were the counter actions of our RAW, MI, IB, etc. After all, these events did not happen in one night. A lot of ground work must have been done by the ISI and their friends.

I vividly remember that before elections took place in Bangladesh, Sheikh Hasina had been making public statements about interferences of the US and Pakistan there. But our think-tank supposedly did not think it appropriate to act or react: sorry I am not privy to those higher echelons.

I think the time has come when our decision makers must take responsibility for their actions and inactions; and be brave enough to admit that what happened in Bangladesh is the utter failure of intelligence agencies in safeguarding the country's interest. Or else the powers that are, can conveniently sit and ponder over one security review after the other. For the common Indian, let us all be prepared to face the onslaught of the fallout of instability, India-hating, alarming militancy in North-East, en-mass Bangladeshi Hindu migration and head ache of yet another hostile neighbour!

WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 30.5°C Min: 26.1°C

Humidity
Max: 98 Min: 78

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 31.1°C Min: 21.6°C

Humidity
Max: 68 Min: 51

Sunset : 19:23 Hours
Sunrise : 05:48 Hours

Chhari-Sthapana ceremony for Chhari Mubarak performed in Srinagar

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: The Chhari-Sthapana ceremony for the Chhari Mubarak -- the saffron-robed holy mace of Lord Shiva -- was performed on Wednesday amidst Vedic chants at a temple here.

In connection with the annual pilgrimage of Chhari-Mubarak Swami Amarnathji, the 'Chhari-Sthapana' ceremony was performed with the chanting of Vedic hymns at Shri Amreshwar Temple located at Dashnami Akhara Trust Building, Budshah Chowk, here by a group of sadhus led by Mahant Deependra Giri.

The Puja lasted for about two hours, Giri, the custodian of the mace, said.

Chhari-Mubarak, one depicting Lord Shiva

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