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STATE TIMES

THE BOLD VOICE OF J&K

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10 J&K Sports Council provides sports kits to players of Soft Tennis Khelo India Centre

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CM reaffirms social welfare as Govt's primary responsibility



CM Omar Abdullah addressing at an event on "Empowering Communities-Welfare for All", organised by Social Welfare Department at SKICC on Monday.

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah reiterated the government's firm commitment to welfare of all segments of society as Government's main responsibility rather than an act of charity. Addressing a one-day event on "Empowering Communities-Welfare for All", organised by Social Welfare Department, at the SKICC on Monday, the Chief Minister stressed that welfare

initiatives must be designed to reach the most disadvantaged sections of society, instead of benefitting only the privileged few. He underlined the importance of inclusive growth, saying that the government's policies are aimed at empowering communities and ensuring equitable development. Reaffirming his government's commitment to inclusive development, the Chief Minister said that while it is

easy to deliver schemes to those who already enjoy resources, education and good health, the true test of governance lies in reaching the poor, the vulnerable, and those in far-flung rural areas. "Social welfare schemes are neither favours nor acts of generosity. They are the rightful due of citizens who face greater hardships than others. Any government that ignores them or focuses

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Hope SC sets deadline for restoration of statehood: Omar

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Monday expressed hope that the Supreme Court will set a deadline for the restoration of statehood to the Union territory after it hears the case in October.

The apex court on Monday refused to advance the date of hearing on pleas seeking restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir, saying the matter is already listed on October 10.

"I do not know who went to the Supreme Court for an urgent hearing. We also want there should be no delay in this decision," Abdullah told reporters on the sidelines of a function here.

He said his government has been after the restoration of statehood for the last ten months since the it took over.

"Our first decision in the first cabinet meeting was to pass a resolution on statehood. In my first meeting with the prime minister, the first thing I did was to handover the cabinet resolution on statehood to him," he said.

"We have been waiting, but we have not had any benefit. Unfortunately, the SC is not ready to hear this issue before October 10. We will wait some more and are still hopeful that while the Centre did not take a decision, the SC will," he added.

The chief minister said had the SC not directed the Centre to conduct the assembly elections in J-K, "perhaps I would not have been here before you as

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Addresses Convocation of Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar Bihar University, Muzaffarpur, Bihar LG exhorts youth to cultivate positive mindset for change, courage for growth



LG Manoj Sinha attending Convocation of Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar Bihar University, Muzaffarpur, Bihar on Monday.

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday called upon the youth to cultivate two key qualities - positive mindset for change and courage for greater achievement and growth. "Optimism and courageous personality enables youth to

overcome challenges and helps them to capitalise on opportunities and make meaningful contributions in nation building", the Lieutenant Governor said while addressing the Convocation of Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar Bihar University, Muzaffarpur, Bihar.

Arif Mohammed Khan, Governor of Bihar presided over the Convocation Ceremony. The Lieutenant Governor congratulated the management of Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar Bihar University, faculty members, staff and graduating students,

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Custodian land 'grab' case: Incriminating documents, digital evidences seized in Jammu: ED

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Enforcement Directorate on Monday said it has seized various incriminating documents and digital devices during recent raids at multiple locations here against some revenue department officials as part of a money laundering probe linked to alleged grabbing of custodian land.

search operations in the case of illegal grabbing of 502.5 kanals (62.8 acres) of custodian land involving various patwaris, tehsildars, middlemen and land grabbers. "During the searches, various incriminating documents relating to assets, revenue records and digital evidence were seized," the agency said in a post on X. Locations linked to patwari-rank officials Pranav Dev Singh and Rahul Kai and nail tehsildar Akeel Ahmed and some others are being covered in the case of alleged land grabbing

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J&K bans pen drives in govt offices to strengthen cyber security

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: To strengthen cybersecurity, the Jammu and Kashmir government on Monday said it has decided to prohibit the use of pen drives on official devices at all administrative departments in the civil secretariat and deputy commissioners' offices across districts. The use of public messaging platforms such as WhatsApp or unsecured online services like iLovePDF for processing, sharing or storing official or confidential materials has also been prohibited to uphold data sovereignty and

per department upon formal requests routed through the respective administrative head to the state informatics officer (SIO), National Informatics Centre. "After approval, the pen drive must be physically submitted to the respective NIC cell for reconfiguration, authorisation, and ownership registration prior to use," the order said. As a secure alternative, it said the departments are strongly encouraged to adopt GovDrive -- a Cloud-based, multi-tenant platform offering every government official 50 GB of secure storage with

centralised access and synchronisation across devices, it said. The order also said that all sensitive technical information, including ICT architecture diagrams, system configurations, vulnerability assessments, IP addressing schemes and strategic technology plans, must be classified as confidential and handled exclusively through approved secure channels in accordance with the Information Security Best Practices by the Ministry of Home Affairs, CERT-In directives, and

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ACB arrests SgCt for demanding, accepting bribe of Rs 10,000

STATE TIMES NEWS
NOWSHERA: Jammu and Kashmir Anti Corruption Bureau received a complaint alleging therein that the complainant was called in Police Post Lam telephonically by SgCt Arif Iqbal on the basis of a complaint lodged by a person of Pukharni, Tehsil Qila Darhal District Rajouri. The said Sgct demanded Rs 10000 as bribe for himself and Incharge Police Post Lam for not implicating him in that case/complaint. The complainant, unwilling to pay the bribe, approached ACB to take legal action. After discreet verification,

FIR No. 05/2025 under Section 7 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, was registered at Police Station ACB Rajouri, and investigation was initiated, official said. During the course of investigation, official said, a trap team was constituted which laid a trap and accused public servant SgCt Arif Iqbal of Police Post Lam, Nowshera, District Rajouri was caught red-handed while demanding and accepting bribe amount of Rs 10,000 from the complainant. The accused was arrested on the spot by the ACB

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Schools to remain closed today

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The government has ordered that the government and private schools will remain closed till Tuesday (Aug 26, 2025) in view of inclement weather conditions. "In view of the inclement weather conditions, it is hereby ordered that all Government as well as private schools in the Jammu Division shall continue to remain closed till tomorrow, i.e., 26.08.2025", an order issued by Director Education Jammu stated.

Army launches search operation along LoC

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: The Army on Monday launched a search operation along the Line of Control (LoC) in Boniyar sector after observing some suspicious movement, officials said. Troops observed some suspicious movement near Torna area in Boniyar sector of the north Kashmir district early Monday morning and fired in that direction, they said. Immediately a search operation was launched in the area and it is still underway.

operation. This is India. The prime minister gave the necessary directives," he said. "The target that was decided was hit precisely, just as planned. During Operation Sindoor, our forces received full support from all border regions. India is a country that not only considers people within its borders as

WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 25.8°C Min: 22.0°C

Humidity
Max: 88 Min: 84

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 26.8°C Min: 16.5°C

Humidity
Max: 82 Min: 66

Sunset : 19:05 Hours
Sunrise : 06:01 Hours

SC refuses to advance date of hearing on pleas on J&K statehood

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Monday refused to advance the date of hearing on pleas seeking the restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir, saying the matter is already listed on October 10.

On August 14, a bench headed by Chief Justice B R Gavai had sought within eight weeks the Centre's response on a separate plea seeking restoration of statehood to the union territory. "I am seeking early listing of a contempt petition relating to abrogation of Article 370. Statehood was to be

granted to Jammu and Kashmir," a lawyer told the bench also comprising Justice N V Anjaria. "It is listed already on October 10," the CJI said on Monday while refusing to advance the date of hearing. "We are in the midst of a constitutional bench hearing (the bench is hearing a presidential reference on fixing timelines for governors and the president)," Justice Gavai said.

While seeking the Centre's response, the bench had earlier said, "You also have to take into consideration the ground realities... you can-

not ignore what has happened in Pahalgam." It said this when a counsel had sought an early hearing. On December 11, 2023, the Supreme Court unanimously upheld the revocation of Article 370, which accorded special status to the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir, even as it ordered that assembly elections be held in the union territory by September 2024 and its statehood be restored "at the earliest".

In its December 2023 verdict, the apex court held that Article 370, which was

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Vehicular movement restored on Kathua Bridge after 36 hours of suspension

STATE TIMES NEWS
KATHUA: Traffic movement on the Jammu-Pathankot National Highway through Kathua has been restored after being suspended for nearly 36 hours, following damage concerns to one of the key bridges caused by continuous rainfall and rising water levels.

Police and administration had stopped all movement on the stretch on Saturday after cracks and erosion were reported around the bridge base. Engineers from the Public Works Department and other technical

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Rs 2.62 Cr job scams: CB books doctor, bank manager, teacher, female fraudster, others

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: By registering four separate FIRs, Crime Branch has booked a Doctor, a Bank Manager, a government Teacher, a female fraudster and others for major frauds/job scams involving Rs. 2.62 crore. "An FIR has been registered against Dr. Liyaqat Ali (Govt. Dental Surgeon, then posted at Vijaypur), son of Mohd. Shareef Khan, resident of H.NO. 116 Gujjar Nagar Jammu on the written complaint of Des Raj of Rangarh District Samba for duping the complainant of Rs. 21 lakh on the pretext of

arranging MBBS seat for his son and securing job in J&K Bank for his nephew. Dr. Liyaqat Ali is a notorious fraudster and this is the third case registered against him for fraud," CB official said. A case has also been registered against Bank Manager JK Grameen Bank, Amit Dogra, son of L.R Dogra, resident of Dogra Niwas Lane No.2 Bandhu Rakh Jammu on the written complaint of the Chief of Audit, Inspection and Vigilance Sanjeev Kumar

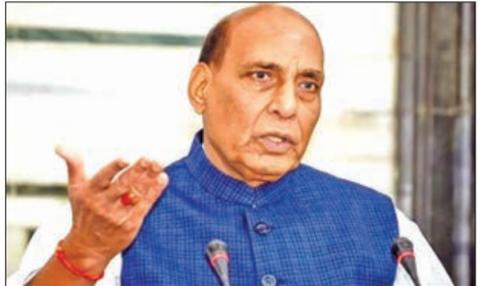
alleging therein that Amit Dogra during his posting as Branch Head at Rajouri and Simbal More misused his official position and in connivance with others misappropriated an amount of Rs. 55 lakh by opening and disbursing amount in various accounts for establishment/expansion of business units which were neither established nor existed, official said. Another fresh case has been registered against government Teacher Jameel Anjum Mir, son of

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Our soldiers did not kill terrorists based on their religion, but because of their deeds: Rajnath

STATE TIMES NEWS
JODHPUR: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Monday asserted that Indian forces gave a "befitting reply" to Pakistan during Operation Sindoor and "our soldiers did not kill terrorists based on their religion, but because of their deeds".

Addressing an event Here, Singh also lauded the people of border areas for supporting the administration and the armed forces during the military operation to avenge the Pahalgam terror attack. "The Defence Minister said that after the incident, he called the service chiefs and asked if they were ready for the operation. "The chiefs of all three armed forces unanimously replied, 'We are ready for any



operation.' This is India. The prime minister gave the necessary directives," he said. "The target that was decided was hit precisely, just as planned. During Operation Sindoor, our forces received full support from all border regions. India is a country that not only considers people within its borders as

members but also regards people across the world as part of its family, spreading the message of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam." "India does not discriminate based on caste or religion. However, terrorists killed people after identifying their religion. Our soldiers did not kill the terrorists

based on religion but because of their deeds," he said.

Under Operation Sindoor in May, precision strikes were carried out on multiple targets in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir linked to terror groups. The operation aimed at destroying terror infrastructure and neutralising key operatives following the April 22 Pahalgam attack.

Lauding Prime Minister Narendra Modi's efforts in the education sector, Singh said a significant transformation had taken place over the years that will help the country achieve new heights. "There is a considerable difference between the education of our time and today's education. "I had also studied in a vil-

lage primary school. When I used to look at the globe on the principal's table, it felt like a magical ball," he said. He attributed the changes to decades of hard work, saying, "In recent years, there have been significant changes in education. Today, our children can access information on the internet. Such a huge transformation has taken place."

Singh expressed gratitude toward Prime Minister Modi, saying, "I want to thank Modi for showing a strong resolve to improve the education sector. Bringing reforms in education was not an easy task. Several commissions were formed and recommendations were given but the kind of reform that

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50 pc US tariffs deadline Pressure might increase, but we will bear it all: Modi

STATE TIMES NEWS
AHMEDABAD: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday asserted he can't compromise on interests of farmers, cattle-rearers, small-scale industries, cautioning "pressure on us may increase, but we will bear it", remarks coming two days before the 50 per cent US tariffs on Indian goods kick in.

Addressing a gathering in Ahmedabad after launching multiple projects, he hit out at the Congress, saying the party, which ruled India for 60 to 65 years, made the nation dependent on other countries in order to indulge

in 'import scams'. India is empowered by walking on the path of Sudarshan Chakradhari Mohan Lord Shrikrishna,



who symbolised strength and protection, and Charkhadhari Mohan Mahatma Gandhi, the independence movement hero who pushed for swadeshi with his spinning wheel, the PM maintained.

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