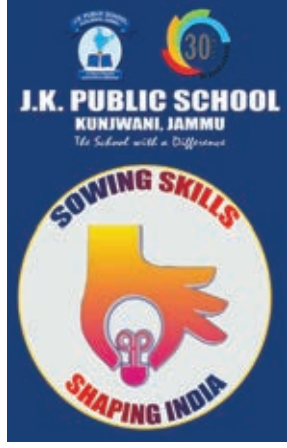




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03 Dr Jitendra inaugurates CAT Guwahati building complex, hails Northeast transformation in 11 years

09 Yasin Malik acquitted in 1996 Protest Case after nearly three-decade

09 Bike lifting gang busted; 10 stolen two-wheelers recovered, 2 arrested

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

Think to rewrite history, correct distortions of past: LG to writers

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Saturday attended the 'Chinar Book Festival' organised by National Book Trust of India at Srinagar.

The inaugural event was also graced by Union Education Minister, Dharmendra Pradhan.

In his address, the Lieutenant Governor congratulated the Union Ministry of Education and the National Book Trust for providing an opportunity to the readers to keep track of new ideas and perspectives and interact with eminent writers and scholars from across the country.

"The books open the window to the world. Books offer new ideas and fresh perspectives that change the way we perceive things and promote critical thinking. Chinar Book Festival will connect the new generation to our precious literary heritage



LG Manoj Sinha speaking at the Chinar Book Festival at Srinagar on Saturday.

and inspire them to preserve and promote our traditional wisdom left behind by our ancestors," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor called upon the writers to think about rewriting the history to correct the facts, which were distorted in the past.

"New generation must be made aware that our civilization was economically prosperous and it was also the global centre of literature, science and spirituality.

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» Attends 'Chinar Book Festival' organised by National Book Trust of India at Srinagar
» Says, new generation must be made aware that our civilization was economically prosperous and it was also the global centre of literature, science and spirituality
» Ancient India was engine of world civilization and culture. We gave gift of science, mathematics, medicines to world and we should be proud of our cultural, literary, scientific and spiritual heritage
» Roots of our knowledge and science have always been immense. We need to liberate ourselves from colonial mindset and new generation must be told that our heritage has been

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Two terrorists killed in Kulgam encounter



■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Two terrorists were killed in an encounter with security forces in Kulgam district on Saturday, officials said.

The overnight encounter began after security forces

launched a cordon and search operation in a forest area at Akhal in the south Kashmir district, following specific intelligence inputs about the presence of terrorists there.

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Security Headquarters holds DPC meeting

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: The Departmental Promotion Committee (DPC) meeting of Security Headquarters, held here the other day under the chairmanship of Surjit Kumar, IGP Security, J&K, at Security Headquarters.

The committee, supervised by Rashmi Wazir, DIG Security J&K, reviewed the service records of 98 officials from the Security Wing of J&K Police. After thorough examination, the DPC

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Illegal structures demolished, shops sealed by JDA

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In a decisive action against unauthorized encroachments, the Jammu Development Authority (JDA), under the guidance of the Vice Chairman, conducted anti-encroachment drive on Saturday at Khasra No. 119, Village Majeen, Tehsil Jammu Khas. The enforcement wing of JDA, in close coordination with

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WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 33.0°C Min: 24.5°C

Humidity
Max: 86 Min: 80

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 29.5°C Min: 21.2°C

Humidity
Max: 77 Min: 50

Sunset : 19:29 Hours
Sunrise : 05:45 Hours

Bihar polls: INDIA bloc leaders to meet in Delhi next week: Farooq

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: National Conference president Farooq Abdullah on Saturday said the Congress has convened a meeting of the opposition leaders in New Delhi on August 7 to deliberate on the Bihar Assembly elections likely to be held in October-November.

The National Conference president also expressed confidence over the restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir.

"We have faith in the one who is the master of all. We will get our rights," he said. Responding to a question on Rahul Gandhi claiming that his party has an "atom bomb" of an evidence to prove "vote chori" by the Election Commission for the the BJP, Abdullah stated the Congress leader "has said that they have made such an arrangement that they

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Resolution of Kashmir problem lies in pens, not guns: Pradhan

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Saturday said the resolution of the "Kashmir problem" does not lie in violence but in education, emphasising that Kashmir is an educated society.

"The resolution of the Kashmir problem does not lie in guns or lathis, but in pens. Kashmiri society is an educated society," Pradhan said, addressing the inauguration ceremony of the nine-day Chinar Book Festival at the SKICC here.

The Union Minister of Education highlighted that following the abrogation of Article 370 by the Centre in 2019, democratic processes are gradually being restored in Jammu and Kashmir.



"Numerous things are happening for the first time in Jammu and Kashmir. Democratic processes have been restored after many years. Several facilities or programmes for the poor and backwards classes, or various laws,

which were not being implemented here before, are now benefitting the people of Jammu and Kashmir after the abrogation of Article 370," he added.

Later, speaking to reporters, Pradhan noted that before the abrogation of Article 370, local elections had not occurred in the Union Territory for several years.

"The grassroots-level representation of the people was missing; now, gradually, the democratic system is being restored in Jammu and Kashmir," he said.

Asserting that normalcy is returning to Kashmir, Pradhan expressed confidence that the tourism sector in the Valley is doing well, local businesses are stabilising, and as the system moves forward, the development of the people will lead to

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Drone found abandoned inside Army camp

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: A small drone, suspected to used for wedding photography, was found abandoned inside an Army camp in Samba district, officials said on Saturday.

Some Army personnel noticed the drone lying near the supply depot inside the camp at the Bari Brahmana cantonment late on Friday night, the officials said.

Preliminary investigation suggested that the drone may have been used for a marriage ceremony

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Amit Shah hails PM for releasing Rs 20,500 cr under Kisan Samman Nidhi

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday hailed the disbursement of Rs 20,500 crore to 9.7 crore farmers under the Kisan Samman Nidhi and said it was yet another "farmer-friendly" step of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

While visiting his parliamentary constituency Varanasi on Saturday, Modi also inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for 52



became the "strength of Operation Sindoor".

"Shiva means welfare but when terrorism raises its ugly head, Mahadev takes his 'Rudra' roop'. During Operation Sindoor, the world witnessed this very form of India," the prime minister said.

Taking a dig at the Opposition, Modi alleged that while the country was celebrating the success of Operation Sindoor, "some people in our own country were troubled by it."

"Congress and its allies are

unable to digest the fact that India demolished terrorist hideouts inside Pakistan," he said.

"Aren't you proud of Operation Sindoor? Aren't you proud that India destroyed terror bases (in Pakistan)," the prime minister asked the gathering.

He added, "You all must have seen the visuals of how our drones and missiles precisely struck and reduced terrorist headquarters to rubble. "Several air bases in Pakistan are still in

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Ladakh LG meets PM, Home Minister



Ladakh LG Kavinder Gupta meeting PM Narendra Modi at New Delhi on Saturday.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Ladakh Lt Governor Kavinder Gupta on Saturday separately met Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister

Amit Shah here and apprised them of the overall situation in the Union Territory, an official spokesman said. Gupta, who took over as

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9



development projects worth approximately Rs 2,183.45 crore.

In a major move to support farmers, the prime minister

released the 20th instalment of the PM-Kisan Samman Nidhi, transferring Rs 20,500 crore to the bank accounts of over 9.70 crore eligible farmers across the country at a function held in his parliamentary constituency.

"Farmer-friendly Modi ji today took another step towards farmer welfare by releasing the 20th installment of the 'Kisan Samman Nidhi' from Kashi.

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BJP accuses Rahul Gandhi of lying about Arun Jaitley, demands apology

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The BJP condemned Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Saturday for his allegations against Arun Jaitley on the farm laws issue and demanded that he apologise for "shamelessly lying" about the former Union minister who had passed away before the proposed legislations were brought before the Cabinet.

The ruling party asked the Congress leader not to "rewrite timelines to suit narratives" but to stick to facts after Gandhi claimed that Jaitley had threatened him not to speak against the farm laws or else he would face action.

Accusing Gandhi of "shamelessly telling a blatant lie", senior BJP leader Ravi Shankar Prasad said Jaitley used to speak to his political rivals and even his "enemies" decently.

"And, he meant to say that Arun Jaitley threatened him. He was shamelessly lying, that too about a respected (former) finance minister, who has passed away," the former Union minister said.

Questioning Gandhi's allegation, Prasad asked the Congress leader how Jaitley could have threatened him when he had passed away a year before the farm bills were brought to the Union Cabinet for its decision.

"On behalf of the BJP, I vehemently condemn the remarks that he made against Arun Jaitley. It's very shameful. A person, who is the Leader of Opposition (in Lok Sabha), is telling such a lie," he said and asked Gandhi to maintain some dignity of his position.

Arun Jaitley's son Rohan Jaitley also took to X to slam Gandhi's remarks and asking him to "let the departed Rest

in Peace".

"Rahul Gandhi now claims my late father, Arun Jaitley, threatened him over the farm laws. Let me remind him, my father passed away in 2019. The farm laws were introduced in 2020," he said.

Union Minister Anurag Thakur also accused Gandhi of making a false allegation against Jaitley and demanded that he apologise to the former Union minister's family and the people of the country.

Asserting that it is not even "worth thinking" that Jaitley would have ever threatened anybody, Prasad alleged, "Rahul Gandhi is such a person who threatens everybody."

It is Rahul Gandhi's "nature to intimidate and threaten" people, he charged. "Yesterday, he said that he has such an atom bomb that it will destroy the Election

Commission when he detonates it. Don't know what kind of atom bomb... He can threaten a constitutional institution, lever baseless allegations against it," the BJP leader said.

Reacting to the Congress MP's remarks, BJP IT cell head Amit Malviya wrote on X, "Fake News Alert." In a swift rebuttal, Malviya said, "Rahul Gandhi claims that Arun Jaitley approached him to water down his opposition to the 2020 farm laws. Let's set the record straight -- Arun Jaitley ji passed away on August 24, 2019.

"The draft Farm Bills were brought to the Union Cabinet on June 3, 2020. The laws were enacted in September 2020."

Malviya said any discussion, whether in support or opposition of the Bill,

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RahulGandhiExposed
Rahul Gandhi 'LIES'. Again.
He claims Shri Arun Jaitley ji asked him not to oppose the Farm Laws.
★ **Fact Check:**
Farm Laws were introduced in September 2020.
Shri Arun Jaitley ji passed away in August 2019 & was bedridden for months before his demise.
So either Rahul Gandhi speaks to the dead... or he's lying — as always.
Bharat deserves a better leader of opposition.