

Vol. 30 Issue 215 • Jammu • Tuesday • August 5, 2025 • Pages 12 • ₹ 3.00



Kishtwar's remote Marwah symbolises JU aspirational rise of rural India: Dr Jitendra JKIIAN shines in CBSE Cluster XVIII Football Tournament U-17 Boys 2025-26

Javelin Throw meet on August 7

Modi to address NDA parliamentary

meeting today

Website: www.statetimes.in, Email: statetimes1@gmail.com New generation of scientists, experts must focus on smart farming: LG

Regd. No. L-29/JK-346/2025-27



LG Manoj Sinha addressing convocation ceremony of SKUAST Jammu on Monday.

STATE TIMES NEWS

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday addressed the 9th Convocation ceremony of SKUAST- Jammu and congratulated all the graduating

He also extended his felicitations to the management, faculty, and staff on the completion of 25 glorious years of the University

The Lieutenant Governor lauded the significant contribution of Nari Shakti to innovation and enhancing >> Addresses 9th Convocation ceremony of SKUAST- Jammu

Highlights need for stronger innovation, modern technology ecosystem for sustainable agricultural practices to prioritize farmer incomes, risk mitigation and strengthening farmer-industry linkages Says, farmer welfare top priority of PM Modi

Agriculture and Allied Sector witnessing women-led devel-

Nari Shakti making significant contribution to innovation and enhancing productivity and efficiency in agriculture sector. In areas like climate smart crops, pest management, biotech solutions, organic farming, the participation of women scientists has made invaluable contribution

I am extremely proud that out of ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9 productivity and efficiency in

the agriculture sector. He said, in areas like climate smart crops, pest management, biotech solutions, organic farming, the participation of women scientists has made invaluable contri-

"Agriculture and Allied Sector is witnessing womenled development. I am extremely proud that out of 8 gold medalists in post-graduate and graduate students, 7 are our daughters. Out of 35 Certificates of Merit in PhD and Post-Graduate, 32 Merit Certificates were awarded to our daughters. It is a symbol of the rising influence of Nari Shakti in Agriculture and allied sectors and I believe they will be driving innovation for sustainable agriculture and enhancing farmers' income," the Lieutenant Governor said.

At the convocation ceremo-

ny, the Lieutenant ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

IMD issues weather alert for 4 districts of Jammu region ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The India Meteorological Department (IMD), MET center Srinagar, has issued a nowcast update predicting moderate to heavy rainfall with thunderstorms in Rajouri, Ramban. Reasi and Udhampur districts of Jammu region over the next 2-3 hours.

This weather alert also warns of potential flash floods, landslides, mudslides and shooting stones in vulnerable areas.

As such, the concerned authorities have been requested to take necessary measures to ensure public safety and minimize risk. The people are advised to stay cautious and avoid unnecessary travel, especially in areas prone to landslides and flash floods.

The situation is being closely monitored, and preventive actions will be initiated

The NDA meeting comes a couple of days before the filing of nomination for vice president's election begins from August 7. The NDA will have to announce its candidate, whose election will be

a certainty due to the

alliance's majority in the

electoral college, by August

STATE TIMES NEWS

Minister Narendra Modi will

address the BJP-led NDA

parliamentary party meeting

on Tuesday, a get-together of

the ruling alliance's MPs

which is being held after a

considerable gap.

DELHI: Prime

Something big happening today--Aug 5
The sudden, back-to-back meetings between Prime

Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah with President Droupadi Murmu on Sunday have stirred political anticipation in Jammu and Kashmir. Their timing ust ahead of August 5, the anniversary of Article 370 abrogation-has triggered speculation of major developments.

Since Prime Minister Modi is known for governance with surprise moves like demonetization, Article 370 abrogation and latest Operation Sindhoor, closed-door, unscheduled meetings hint at possible high-stakes decisions.

There are speculations about restoration of statehood to J&K without Home and Finance Departments or Jammu getting statehood and Kashmir becoming a UT without leg slature like Ladakh.

The meetings with the President could have been routine but the date, secrecy, and players involved suggest otherwise All signs point to a significant policy move or political signal from the Centre.

tion-filing and the Monsoon

Session of Parliament. The meeting comes in the middle of a session which has been all but a washout so far except for a two-day discussion on the Pahalgam attack and Operation Sindoor, due to a united Opposition's

ceaseless protest against the

Special Intensive Revision

(SIR) of electoral rolls in Bihar by the Election Commission.

PM Modi is expected to speak on a host of current issues as the Opposition has been raising the heat over the poll body's alleged partisan conduct favouring the government, and the

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CUJ student arrested for supplying illegal arms to gangsters

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A Jammu Central University student from Bihar was arrested on the charges of supplying illegal arms to gangsters in Jammu and Samba districts of Jammu and Kashmir, police said on Monday.

As per details, on February 23, 2025, a firing incident took place during a function held at Swaran Palace, Miran Sahib. In this connection, a case FIR No. 27/2025 under Sections 109/3(5) of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and Sections 3/25 of the Arms Act was registered at Police Station Miran Sahib investigation

Govt extends Amnesty scheme for domestic electricity consumers STATE TIMES NEWS

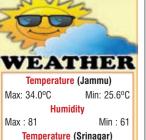
SRINAGAR: Government of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir has extended the Amnesty scheme aimed at providing relief to 6 lakh domestic electricity consumers with outstanding electricity dues

Under this scheme, domestic consumers can clear their electricity bills by paying only the principal amount, while the interest accrued upto 31st March 2025 shall be completely waived. The consumers who pay their principal amount will get a full waiver on interest.

The scheme is applicable to all domestic electricity consumers with pending bills as of March 31st, 2025. This is the final amnesty scheme for domestic users approved in the furtherance to the announcement made by the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir.

The scheme shall go a long way in providing relief to 6 Lakh domestic consumers who have been

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Max: 33.2°C

Min: 46 Max: 74 Sunset: 19:28 Hours Sunrise: 05:46 Hours

taken up. During the course of investigation, two criminals were arrested on the same day, and two pistols were recovered from their possession. However, other associates remained absconding.

After sustained efforts by SI Ajesh Singh Jamwal under the leadership of SHO Police Station Miran Sahib Inspector Jai Pal Sharma, and under the supervision of SDPO R.S. Pura and SP Headquarters Jammu, two more gangsters were arrested. The arrested individuals include Balwinder Singh alias Goru Jatt, son of

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21, the last date of nomina-Prof Nirmal Singh set to be Rajya Sabha MP from J&K



Kavinder Gupta, former Deputy Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, as the Lieutenant Governor of the Union Territory of Ladakh has triggered intense political

developments, especially in the saffron stronghold of Jammu. Now, senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister is all set to be the Rajya Sabha Member Parliament from Jammu and Kashmir.

More than just a routine administrative reshuffle, Gupta's elevation to a constitutional post in Ladakh signifies a larger political reordering by the BJP at the behest of its top leadership and the ideological guidance of the RSS. It



appears to be a prelude to further recalibration in the political structure. Question is being asked, who next to reward Jammu for giving the BJP unprecedented mandate in 2024 assem-

Reliable sources confirmed to STATE TIMES that one name that prominently figures in this context is Prof Nirmal Singh - a seasoned RSS ideologue, former Deputy Chief Minister of J&K, and a past president of the Pradesh BJP. By all calculations, Singh could be fielded for the Rajya Sabha from either Jammu and Kashmir, a move that could serve multiple strategic and political objectives for the BJP in the Union Territory. Nirmal Singh is not just another polit-

ical face from Jammu; he is one of the ideological architects of BJP's sustained growth in J&K. With a background steeped in academia and ideological clarity shaped by decades of RSS training, Singh represents the rare blend of intellectual depth and grassroots political engagement. As a former Deputy CM and Speaker

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Anti-terror ops in Kulgam enter fourth day morning," an official said.

SRINAGAR: The anti-ter-

rorist operation in Kulgam district of Jammu

Kashmir entered the fourth Monday as security forces tightened

the noose

around

the ultras

in the gunbattle with them. "The encounter has entered

its fourth day as intermittent exchange of firing has been

He said the security forces were using all means, includ-

track down the terrorists. Two terrorists have been killed while at least two security forces personnel

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CM advocates organic farming, climate-resilient agriculture

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Underscoring the critical role of agriculture in shaping the economic future of J&K, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, who is also the Pro-Chancellor of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology, Jammu, on Monday addressed the 9th Convocation of the University at Baba Jitto Auditorium, Chatha.

Congratulating the graduating scholars, the Chief Minister said that agriculture and allied sectors are "fields of promise as well as of responsibility"



CM Omar Abdullah addressing gathering at an event in Jammu

acknowledged their growing complexity in the face of climate change, resource depletion and emerging global

based fertilizers are issues He observed that fragment-

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all motor accessories for modifications of vehicles **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: The Jammu administration has banned the sale, purchase, storage, distribution, and display for sale of all motor vehicle accessories that are intended or likely to be used for unauthorised modifications.

The order to this effect was issued by Jammu District Magistrate Sachin Kumar Vaishya under Section 52 of the Motor Vehicles Act, thereby prohibiting such activities within the territorial jurisdiction of the Jammu District with immediate effect. "In exercise of powers conferred upon me

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ASI caught red-handed taking Rs 20,000 bribe in Jammu, arrested state times news 1,00,000 from

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Monday arrested an assistant subinspector of police while allegedly accepting a bribe of Rs 20,000 from a man in a theft case in the Jammu district, officials said.

The ACB received a complaint alleging that ASI Mohd Akram Choudhary, posted at the Railway Protection Force in Jammu, allegedly demanded illegal gratification from the complainant, the spokesperson

The accused ASI allegedly demanded a bribe of Rs

1.00,000 from the complainant for not arresting or involving him in a theft case registered by the RPF, he said. However, the ASI agreed to accept Rs 50,000 and demanded the first instalment of Rs 20,000 after negotiation,

spokesperson added. Since the complainant did not want to pay the bribe, he approached the ACB for legal action against the accused public servant. "On receipt of the complaint, a discreet verification was conducted, which corroborated the demand of bribe by the ASI, and accordingly, a

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Court denies bail in Codeine Trafficking Case; terms drug menace a "Termite" on youth STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: The Special Court

for NDPS Cases in Jammu YP Sharma has rejected the bail applications of Garv Bhambri and Mamta Kansal, accused in an alleged drug trafficking racket involving codeinebased cough syrup (Cocrex).

The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) seized commercial quantities of codeine phosphate and Rs 15.03 lakh in cash, reportedly linked to M/s N.K. Pharmaceuticals Pvt. Ltd., with Bhambri as license holder and Kansal as GST

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HC directs ECI, Centre, J&K Govt to file response over 'delay' in holding bypolls in two seats

STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: The High Court of

Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh on Monday directed the Election Commission, the central government and the J-K government to file their response within four weeks over alleged delay in holding bypolls in two assembly seats. Justice Sanjay Dhar passed the directions after hearing a writ petition filed by former minister Harsh Dev Singh who alleged by-elections in Budgam and Nagrota have

Budgam assembly seat fell vacant after Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, who won two seats in the assembly elections held in September 18-October 1, last year, retained the

not been held despite a man-

date to hold such polls within

six months of when the seat

Budgam while taking oath. BJPDevender Singh Rana who had won the Nagrota seat died on October 31 last year, necessitating a bypoll from the con-Singh, who stituency. appeared in person, said the by-elections in the two constituencies have been denied in violation of plethora of rulings of various courts and the provisions of Section 151A of Representation of the People Act (RPA), which mandate

Ganderbal seat and vacated

"The existing laws required the elections to be held before ending March 2025," the petitioner said. The next hearing in the case has been listed for September 8.

holding such elections within a

period of six months from the

date of occurrence of such

Proud to be Anti-India!

ed land holdings, depleting

water resources and the

unchecked use of chemical-

PROF NUTAN K RESUTRA

et me first of all apologise from my esteemed readers. For, I am an outdated person when it comes to acting in consonance with what is called "the Modern Opposition Political Dictum". Right from my school days, I have been taught that the most sacred religion is Deshprem. "Country First" was the unwritten, unspoken dictum applicable to all, irrespective of any political affiliations of individuals. I have purposely here used the word "was". And the reason for this? Now; the new dictum in market goes "Power aur kursi first; rest all baad mein!"

Everything was going on well till the general elections of 2014. We had become used to terror attacks, bombblasts, Chinese provocations and, above all, proxy war by Pakistan. And we were happy with all this under the Congress Government in the Centre. We the Hindus had also happily embraced the term Bhagva Aatankvaad, and accepted the affi-

davit submitted in the Supreme Court that Ram did not exist and He was an imaginary entity: so no need for a Ram Temple! Not an eye-brow was raised when the present Leader of Opposition had thundered in America that Saffron Terrorism was bigger threat than SIMI or Lashkar-

But then, all hell let loose when Modi became the Prime Minister. Friends, I am not a die-hard fan of Modi Ji, but I do fully support him when he makes me feel a proud Hindu and a respectable Indian who knows how to bleed Pakistani nose when it slaps me with terror attacks. And this is exactly what has not gone well with the current Opposition political parties. For, everything is happening what they could never imagine to do during their own rule. To be kind to them, they might be having their own compulsions and appeasement issues! And of course, unexpected things have really happened. A strike inside Myanmar;

Operation Uri; Balakot; safely bringing back of Squadron Leader Abhinandan Varthaman; and now Operation Sindoor. All these events were the one that had happened never before.

I had read the bestseller "Jaws" where during the climax fight between the shark and the man, the hunter realises: "suddenly, the rules of the game seemed to have changed." The hunter becomes hunted. Now also, I feel suddenly the rules of the game have changed. From being antigovernment; the opposition parties have become anti-country. Scathing attacks are being launched, not on the policies and acts of the government but sacred Institutions such as Army and Armed Forces. Questions are being raised on the conduct and functioning of these Institutions as if these were the government them-

Perhaps the most sacred and dignified post in a rich democracy as India is that of the Leader of Opposition

(LoP); even more respectable than the Prime Minister himself. I say it because this is the prime duty of the LoP to exercise check and balance on the government. He is guardian of the Constitution and this is his duty to ensure that the ruling party does not go beyond its realms. I am reminded of the wisdom, patriotism and vision of the then LoP Atal Behari Vajpayee whom the Prime Minister Indira Gandhi would often take into confidence before all major issues; one such being the 1971 Indo-Pak War. Even being in opposition Vajpayee represented India on the International fora, akin to Shashi Tharoor. And what have we got in the

While opposing Narendra Modi Rahul Gandhi seems to have become totally confused and is not able to distinguish between BJP and the country; going to the extreme extent of being anti-India. I will not talk of his secret agreements with China; or his ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9 rhetorics

present LoP?