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LG announces decision to declare public holiday on Maharaja Hari Singh's birthday; notification soon



LG Manoj Sinha announcing decision to declare Maharaja Hari Singh's birthday a public holiday.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Government has decided to declare Maharaja Hari Singh's birth anniversary a public holiday. A notification in this regard will be issued soon.

The announcement was made by Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha following his meeting with a delegation comprising of

prominent political leaders, members of the Yuva Rajput Sabha, civil society members, including head of J&K transport union, at the Raj Bhavan on Thursday.

"The government has taken a decision to declare Maharaja Hari Singh Ji's birthday as a public holiday. Maharaja Hari Singh was a great educationist, progressive thinker, social reformer

and a towering man of ideas and ideals. The public holiday will be a fitting tribute to Maharaja Hari Singh Ji's rich legacy," the Lieutenant Governor observed.

Pertinently, on the directions of Lt Governor, a four-member committee was constituted by the UT administration earlier this year to examine the public demand regarding holiday on the

birth anniversary of Maharaja Hari Singh.

Prominent political leaders including Member Parliament, Jugal Kishore Sharma; Former Dy CM, Dr Nirmal Singh; Devender Rana, Sat Sharma; Ajit Singh, President All J&K Transport Union; Rajan Singh, President, Yuva Rajput Sabha and

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16 IAS officers of Joint AGMUT cadre promoted

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India has ordered promotion of 16 IAS officers of Joint AGMUT cadre to Junior Administrative Grade (Level-12), with pre-dated effect, subject to the condition that they will have to mandatorily complete their MCTP Phase-III training, on being nominated for

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Two clerics among five detained in Valley under preventive laws

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Five people, including two influential clerics, from south Kashmir were detained under preventive laws on Thursday, officials here said.

Among those detained are Moulana Mushtaq Ahmad Veeri and Abdul Rashid Dawoodi, they said.

The authorities are contemplating booking the clerics under the Public

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Target last person in queue in terms of service delivery, livelihood avenues: Sinha to officials

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

DODA: Outlining a four-pronged strategy to speed up infrastructure development, credit availability to youth and farmers, special impetus to the food processing industry and strengthening mechanism to provide basic amenities to all, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday called for devising people-centric plans to target the last person in the queue in terms of service delivery and livelihood avenues.

"PRIs and district administration need to integrate plans and identify development activities that could be implemented through convergence", the Lt Governor said while chairing a meeting to review the implementation progress of Central and UT Government schemes and mega developmental projects on the ground in the district.

After Poonch and Kishtwar, this was the third District visit of the Lt Governor in three days.



LG Manoj Sinha chairing District Development Review meeting at Doda on Thursday.

He inaugurated newly constructed Government Degree College Kilhotra worth Rs 11.99 cr and 125 meters motorable bridge over river Chenab including 7.30 KM approach road at Sui Gwari, Doda completed at a cost of Rs 14.85 cr.

The Lt Governor also launched a dedicated portal for promotion of new ideas

and innovation.

He took stock of the interventions for enhancing farmers' income and encouraged the use of modern agriculture technologies among the farming community. He asked the officers to encourage farmers for diversification and availing the benefits of schemes of UT

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State can't curtail fundamental right to establish educational institutes by executive order: SC

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court said on Thursday the right to establish educational institutions is a fundamental right on which the State can impose reasonable restrictions only by a law and not an executive instruction.

The significant verdict of the apex court came on a batch of appeals filed by the Pharmacy Council of India (PCI) challenging three similar but separate verdicts of the high courts of Chhattisgarh, Delhi and Karnataka.

The high courts had allowed the pleas of several

pharmacy institutions against the July 17 and September 9 resolutions of PCI putting a moratorium on opening of new pharmacy colleges in the country.

A bench comprising justices B R Gava and P S Narasimha upheld the high court verdicts and dismissed the appeal of the PCI assailing these judgements, saying the right to impose restrictions on opening new pharmacy colleges cannot be exercised merely by an executive action.

Though there is a fundamental right to establish educational institutions,

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4 dead, 26 injured as bus plunges into gorge in Rajouri

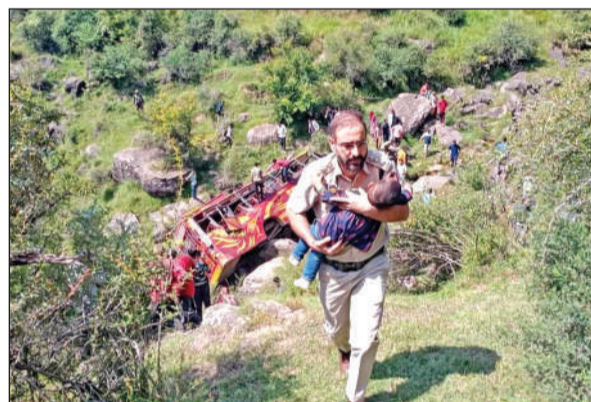
■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Four persons were killed and 26 others injured when the bus they were travelling in plunged into a deep gorge in Rajouri district, officials said on Thursday.

The bus, which was on its way to Jammu from Surankote Poonch, skidded off the road and plunged into the gorge at Deri Ralyot in Manjakote area, they said.

Security forces and local residents have launched a rescue operation, they added.

LG Manoj Sinha also



DySP Shamsher Singh, SDPO rescuing a child injured in bus accident at Manjakot of district Rajouri.

expressed grief over loss of lives in Rajouri accident. "Anguished by the loss of lives due to a tragic accident

in Rajouri. In this hour of grief, my thoughts are with the bereaved families. May the injured recover at the

earliest. The district administration is providing all possible assistance", tweets LG.

Deceased have been identified as bus driver Harshid Choudhary (26) son of Surinder Kumar resident of Chowki Nowshera, bus conductor Ravaiz Iqbal son of Mohammad Iqbal resident of Draba Surankote, Mohammad Jahangir Khan son of Mohammad Riaz Khan resident of Dharati Mendhar and Noushada Akhter wife of Mohammad Sajid resident of Dabrote.

The injured have been identified as Aftaj, son of Mohd Ashraf, resident of Surankote; Mohd Sajjad,

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'Hybrid terrorist' arrested in Reasi, major attack averted

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Security forces on Thursday foiled a major terror attack with the arrest of a "hybrid terrorist" in Reasi district, police said.

The security forces also recovered arms, ammunition and explosives from a hide-out and Rs 1,81,000 in cash that was to be used for terror-related activities, they said.

The arrested "hybrid terrorist" was identified as Zaffar Iqbal of Bal-Angrala. He is the brother of Lashkar-e-Taiba terrorist Mohd Ishaq, who was killed in an encounter with security forces in Rajouri district,

they said. "Hybrid terrorists" are unlisted radicalised people who carry out terror strikes and slip back into their routine lives often without leaving any trace.

Information was received at Mahore police station that Zaffar Iqbal was in touch with terrorist handlers in Pakistan. Based on the input, a joint operation was launched by police, Rashtriya Rifles and Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) teams in the Angrala forest, the police said. During the operation, two pistols (Glock),

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Country's security can't be outsourced: Army Chief

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NAGPUR: Army chief General Manoj Pande on Thursday said India's dependence on imported technologies for defence has emerged as a "strategic vulnerability", and stressed the need for self-sufficiency in the sector, saying country's security can neither be outsourced nor be dependent on the largesse of others.

Hostile and nuclear-armed neighbours and developments on the country's borders with China have reinforced the need to maintain modern, agile and technologically empowered armed forces at all times, he said while highlighting the need to possess modern technological capabilities.

In his video message addressed to the students of Visvesvaraya National Institute of Technology (VNIT) Nagpur on the occasion of its 20th convocation, Gen Pande also said

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Secretary Mining reviews e-Marketplace, DMFT usage across J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Secretary, Mining, Amit Sharma on Thursday said a comprehensive review meeting regarding functioning of G2B2C Web Portal meant for e-Market place / e-Challan besides status of various schemes being executed under Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana (PMKKKY).

while interacting with Deputy Commissioners, SSPs and District Mineral Officers of Geology and Mining Department, Secretary held threadbare discussion regarding imple-



Secretary Mining Amit Sharma reviewing e-Marketplace, DMFT usage across all districts.

mentation of various schemes aimed at welfare of people affected due to mining activities and utilization of funds available under

District Mineral Foundation Trust (DMFT).

In order to have uniformity of measurement unit

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2 drug-peddlers detained under PSA in Reasi

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Two alleged drug peddlers, a woman, were detained under the Public Safety Act on Thursday during raids in Reasi district, police said.

The PSA is an administrative law that allows detention without charge or trial for up to two years in some cases.

Police teams conducted raids at two places in Reasi and detained two notorious drug peddlers under the PSA. They were identified as Anit Kumar alias Rinku and Maya Mir, both from Katra, the police said.

Kumar was involved in four drug peddling cases

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DGP reviews border security; directs for checking narco-trade

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Director General of Police, J&K Dilbag Singh on Thursday visited Teetwal, Keran, Gogal Dhar forward areas in Kupwara district where he reviewed the border security scenario. He interacted with representatives of the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) & locals and also surveyed sites for border police posts. The DGP paid tributes to the martyrs at the war memorial Teetwal and also visited the under construction Sharda Temple/Gurdwara. Accompanied by ADGP



DGP Dilbag Singh during visit to forward areas in Kupwara district.

Headquarters, PHQ, M.K Sinha, DC Kupwara D.S Dattatray and SSP Kupwara Yougal Manhas the DGP first visited Tangdhar

where he was received by Brig N.K Dhas, Brigade Commander 104 Infantry. The Brigade Commander

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Govt issues consolidated guidelines on official dealings between administration, MPs

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The Centre has issued consolidated guidelines on official dealings between the administration and Members of Parliament and state legislatures, and said its violation will be viewed seriously.

The Members of Parliament (MPs) and state legislatures, as the accredited representatives of the people, occupy a very important place in our democratic set-up and in connection with their duties, they often find it necessary to seek information from the ministries/departments of the Government of India or the state governments or make suggestions for their consideration or ask for interview with the officers,

an official order said.

The comprehensive guidelines regarding observance of proper procedure in official dealings between administration and Members of Parliament and state legislatures were issued by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions in 2011.

These guidelines were issued to all the ministries/departments and to chief secretaries of all states/UTs, with the request to circulate them to all officials at the state/division and district levels, in order to sensitise them with regard to their duties and obligations in relation to dealings with the Members of Parliament and state legislatures.

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Azad seeks support of people to take J&K out of shadows of 'fear', 'helplessness'

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Ghulam Nabi Azad on Thursday sought support of the people to take the Union Territory out of the shadows of "fear, unemployment and helplessness".

Azad, who quit the Congress last month, said he will not rake up emotive issues like "freedom", "autonomy" or "self-rule", but will only talk about issues which can be achieved.

"I am not like those leaders that I will play with your sentiments to win elections," he said, addressing a public meeting at Dak Bungalow in south Kashmir's Anantnag district.

Azad said there are two ways to become a leader -- one by raking up emotive slogans and the other by talking only about those issues which are under his control.

"I will say you will get freedom. But, you will not get it. Have you got it from



Former CM Ghulam Nabi Azad addressing public meeting at Srinagar on Thursday.

the last 75 years? I will say you will get autonomy (NC's plank) or the self-rule (PDP's plank). Many elections were fought on these slogans, you have experienced, but there have been no results.

Instead, they have only added to the death count. So, why should I raise such slogans," the veteran leader said.

Azad said if some people were promising the return of Article 370 -- which

was scrapped by the Centre in August 2019 -- "let them", but he will not guarantee people something over which he has no control.

"What happened to the previous promises those people made?...I can promise you development. I will ensure you have a dignified life. I promise you that no policeman or Army man will knock the doors of the

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WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 32.8°C Min: 24.5°C

Humidity
Max: 84 Min: 71

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 30.5°C Min: 14.0°C

Humidity
Max: 75 Min: 35

Sunset : 18:38 Hours
Sunrise : 06:16 Hours