

**03** DoPT reforms enabled 'ease of working' for women employees: Dr Jitendra

**05** 17 injured as mini-bus falls into gorge

**10** Educational institutions celebrate Teachers' Day with enthusiasm

Website : [www.statetimes.in](http://www.statetimes.in), Email: [statetimes1@gmail.com](mailto:statetimes1@gmail.com)

## 53rd Foundation Day of JU LG terms NEP as beacon of light to guide, motivate overall learning outcomes

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Saying that the National Education Policy (NEP) stresses upon nurturing creativity, curiosity, collaboration, involvement of students in activities inside and beyond the classroom, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday termed the policy as a beacon of light to guide and motivate teachers as well as students and overall learning outcomes.

While attending the 53rd Foundation Day function of University of Jammu, Sinha observed that the world is changing rapidly and education along with it, adding that to cater ever growing demand for better standard and quality of education, University has gone through many changes in the last 53 yrs and has evolved as a centre of excellence.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor congratulated the faculty, and all those associated with the functioning of the University for achieving great milestones, shaping young minds and increased collaboration between academia and industry.

Invoking the vision of the Prime



LG Manoj Sinha speaking at 53rd Foundation Day function of University of Jammu.

Minister Narendra Modi, the Lt Governor asserted that NEP will redefine education in Universities and expressed his whole hearted support to the initiatives of the University.

The Lt Governor emphasized that the real function of education is to nurture talents. National Education Policy provides us an opportunity to

develop our Universities, education institutions as centres of future oriented, value based quality education centres where students get an independent environment to innovate and invent.

Education is the key to open the mind of students. Individual growth and independent thinking is possible only when a student is provided an

environment not confined to the classroom and gets an opportunity to nurture creativity and wisdom, the Lt Governor said.

Under the guidance of Hon'ble Prime Minister, we have received an opportunity to make sure that universities are not known as centres of providing degrees but the education and increasing

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

## ONDC, JKTPO join hands to boost e-commerce in J&K

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: A workshop for familiarising Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) was organised by Jammu & Kashmir Trade Promotion Organisation (JKTPO) at Jammu & Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI), Pampore on Monday. The workshop was attended by MD JKTPO, Director Industries & Commerce Kashmir and Director Handloom & Handicraft Kashmir.

Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) is an initiative aimed at promoting open networks for all aspects

of exchange of goods and services over digital or electronic networks. ONDC is based on open-sourced methodology, using open specifications and open network protocols independent of any specific platform.

The working of the ONDC network was explained in detail and the working of the network was demonstrated. The participants were given the opportunity to interact with the ONDC team and their partners. The workshop was attended by women entrepreneurs, small entrepreneurs, E-commerce Companies, Logistic

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Migrant KP bodies to make representation before Centre, J&K Admn over 'genocide' claim

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Four prominent migrant Kashmiri Pandit organisations have decided to unitedly make a representation before the central and Jammu and Kashmir governments over the alleged "genocide" of Hindus and Sikhs in the valley during 1989-2003. The KP bodies -- Panun Kashmir, Roots

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Pakistan army accepts body of LeT terrorist

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: For the first time in more than two decades, Pakistan on Monday accepted the body of a trained agent and guide of Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terror group who had infiltrated into Jammu and Kashmir to attack an army post.

The body of Tabarak Hussain (32) was

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

**WEATHER**

Temperature (Jammu)  
Max: 31.6°C Min: 20.1°C

Humidity  
Max: 98 Min: 82

Temperature (Srinagar)  
Max: 23.9°C Min: 18.8°C

Humidity  
Max: 77 Min: 70

Sunset : 18:52 Hours  
Sunrise : 06:09 Hours

## 7 die as 2 cars plunge into stream in Doda LG, Dr Jitendra express grief

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BHADARWAH/JAMMU: Seven people were killed after two cars veered off a mountain road and plunged into a stream in separate incidents in Doda district on Monday, police said.

One more person was injured in the two accidents that occurred on the Doda-Bhaderwah road within a span of six hours, Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP), Doda, Abdul Qayoom said, adding that the victims included two married couples.

Around 6.30 am, a car plunged into the Neeru



Wreckage of ill-fated vehicle at accident site.

stream, near Galgandhar, after rolling down about 400 feet, resulting in the death of four people on the spot and critical injuries to another

who died later, the officer said.

The deceased were identified as Naseeb Singh (62), his wife Satya Devi (58), son

Vikram Singh (22), Lekh Raj (63) and his wife Satisha Devi (60), all residents of Shiva village, who were on their way to Bhaderwah as part of a marriage procession, he said. Earlier, another private car fell into the stream from a height of about 300 feet at Mughal Market, two km from the site of the second accident.

The accident occurred around 12.30 am and the bodies of Sajad Ahmad (38) of Tangorna-Bhaderwah and Ravinder Kumar (33) of Himote-Bhaderwah were retrieved from the

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

## Farooq asks J&K natives to register as voters to defeat 'vested powers'

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: National Conference (NC) president Farooq Abdullah on Monday urged the natives of Jammu and Kashmir to register themselves in the electoral rolls so the "powers" that intend to "import temporary voters to win seats" are defeated.

He said the first assembly elections in the Union territory will not just be about electing a government or forming a ministry but protecting Jammu and Kashmir's identity and dignity.

"Allowing non-locals to vote in Jammu and Kashmir will

be disastrous. The powers that are pitted against NC are so insecure about the support from genuine voters that they have to import temporary voters to win seats," Abdullah said at a workers' convention in Shopian.

The Lok Sabha MP from Srinagar said such "heinous designs" will not help if the people of the now Union territory get to exercise their franchise.

"It is for you to stop them. No one else can. If you come out and register as voters and subsequently vote in huge numbers, there is nothing that can touch

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

## Hijab ban: Can right to practice religion be taken to school having prescribed uniform, asks SC

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: A person has a right to practise religion but the question is whether it can be taken to a school which has a prescribed uniform, the Supreme Court observed on Monday while hearing the Karnataka Hijab ban row.

Hearing arguments on a batch of pleas challenging the Karnataka High Court verdict refusing to lift the ban on hijab in educational institutions of the state, the apex court asked whether a student can wear hijab to a

school where uniform has been prescribed.

"You may have a religious right to practise whatever



you want to practise. But can you practise and take that right to a school which has uniform as a part of dress

you have to wear? That will be the question," said a bench of Justices Hemant Gupta and Sudhanshu Dhulia.

The apex court posed the question to senior advocate Sanjay Hegde, who was arguing for some of the petitioners.

On the argument that the hijab ban may deny education to women, the bench noted the state is not saying it is denying any right. "What the state is saying is that you come in a uniform which is

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

## Bullet-riddled body found in Shopian, police begin probe

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Police on Monday recovered a bullet-riddled body from an orchard in Shopian district, officials said.

The deceased has been identified as 30-year-old Manzoor Ahmad Nengroo, son of Ghulam Ahmad Nengroo, resident of Hanjin Bala Rajpora in nearby Pulwama district, a police spokesperson said.

His body was found from Narapora village, he said. According to preliminary reports, the deceased, who was Waza by profession along with two more associates including an elderly man, were returning from their work in an Auto after conclusion of a function at Charapora area of Budgam.

Enroute one more person, a baker by profession, also boarded in the Auto. The terrorists waiting in a Tata Mobile at Aglar intercepted the Auto and forcibly abducted all the four persons. The elderly man was released after travelling a distance of about two kilometers, followed by release of other two near Kellar. However, deceased Manzoor Ahmad was taken along by the abductors and his bullet riddled body was recovered in the orchards of village Narpora Shopian this morning.

It was further revealed during the course of investigation that the killing is handiwork of terrorists due to group rivalry between

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

## Meets various delegations in Jammu Azad begins process for finalizing name of his new party



Former Chief Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad meeting various delegations at his residence in Jammu on Monday.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Several delegations on Monday visited former chief minister Ghulam Nabi Azad at his residence, a day after he returned from Delhi to a warm welcome by his supporters after quitting Congress last month to launch his own party.

The delegations comprising large number of people from the twin border districts of Rajouri and Poonch and Chenab valley including Doda, Bhalassa, Khara, Batyas, Chilly and Gandoh, Kishtwar and Banial visited Azad at his Gandhi Nagar residence, Azad's close aide said.

Addressing his first public meeting after returning from Delhi on Sunday, Azad had said that he is staying for four days in Jammu to meet delegations from different parts of the region before visiting Doda, Kishtwar and Kashmir.

The process of interactions started

this morning with various delegations visiting Azad and extending their support to him. The process of interactions will continue till Wednesday, the aide said.

Azad, 73, ended his five-decade-long association with the Congress on August 26, terming the party "comprehensively destroyed". He also lashed out at Rahul Gandhi for "demolishing" the party's entire consultative mechanism. During the public meeting, the veteran leader said he would announce the name of his new party after consulting people and leaders of Jammu and Kashmir, but added "it will be in neither Maulana's Urdu nor Pandit's Sanskrit". He, however, spelled out the agenda of his yet-to-be-named party -- the restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's statehood, protection of land and job rights of its residents, and the return and rehabilitation of Kashmiri Pandits.