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03 AIIMS Jammu crosses over 100 Cancer Genomic Tests in 3 months, now expanding beyond cancer, boundaries

09 Shah Rukh, Rani Mukerji, Vikrant Massey conferred National Awards

10 20th Martyrs Memorial Football Tournament 2025 begins

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THIRD NAVRATRA

Maa Chandraghanta

Maa Chandraghanta is the third incarnation of Maa Durga and worshipped on third Navratra. Maa Chandraghanta has weapons in her hands. She rides on Tiger. This day has specific significance as on this day the soul of worshipper enters in "Manipur Chakra". By the blessings of this Devi one gets rid of enemies, bad souls and gets politeness & courage. Mantra to be recited nine times on this day is :-

"Om Kleeng Hareeng Aing Bhagwati Chandraghanta Mum Sarwam Bandhan Naashe Naashe Swaha"

ॐ क्लीं ह्रीं भगवती चन्द्रघंटा मम सर्वम् बन्धन नाशय नाशय स्वाहा

Ayushman Bharat effected revolution in public healthcare: Modi

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi asserted on Tuesday that Ayushman Bharat, which was launched on this day in 2018, has effected a revolution in public healthcare, ensuring financial protection and dignity for its beneficiaries.

The medical insurance scheme provides annual health cover of Rs 5 lakh and covers the poor and all senior citizens above the age of 70. Modi said on X, "Today we mark 7 years of Ayushman Bharat. This was an initiative that anticipated the needs of the future and focussed on ensuring top quality as well as affordable healthcare for people. Thanks to it, India is witnessing a revolution in public healthcare. It has ensured financial protection and dignity."

He added, "India has shown how scale, compassion



and technology can further human empowerment."

An official handle, tagged by Modi, said the government's showpiece welfare initiative covers over 55 crore citizens and lauded it as the "world's largest health assurance scheme". Over 42 crore Ayushman cards have been issued so far, it added.

It has led to the government's health expenditure rising from 29 per cent to 48 per cent, while out-of-pocket cost dropped from 63 per cent to 39 per cent, it added. "Millions of families saved from financial ruin during illness," it said. When illness strikes, it shouldn't

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Justice Sanjeev Kumar makes history, holds HC Div Bench proceedings from Gurez virtually

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
GUREZ: In a historic first, Justice Sanjeev Kumar, senior-most Judge of the High Court of J&K and Ladakh, presided over Division Bench proceedings from Gurez through virtual mode, marking a new chapter in technologically enabled justice system where geographical barriers no longer hinder access to courts.

Justice Sanjeev Kumar was on an official trip as Executive Chairman J&K Legal Services Authority regarding the child friendly scheme of NALSA-2024 and he heard all the listed cases



Justice Sanjeev Kumar presiding over Division Bench proceedings from Gurez through virtual mode.

from Munsiff Court Gurez through virtual mode.

The historic bench comprised of Justices Sanjeev Kumar and Sanjay Parihar, the former joined from Gurez

while the latter was in Jammu wing of the High Court of J&K and Ladakh.

The lawyers also attended their cases from Jammu as well as Srinagar wings of

High Court through video conferencing facility. As many as 45 cases from Jammu wing and 5 cases from Kashmir wing were heard through digital platform exhausting the entire Cause List for the day.

While this initiative has declared the availability of virtual facility from a cut off tehsil of Gurez Bandipora in courts, it has been widely applauded by the local stakeholders.

Justices Sanjeev Kumar impressed upon utility of this service by lawyers, litigants and defence personnel

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Giant python captured in Nowshera

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NOWSHERA: The officers of the wildlife department and Police on Tuesday captured a python weighing nearly 55 kilograms in Nowshera area of Rajouri district, officials said.

Acting on information from locals, teams of police and the wildlife department rushed to Manpur village in Nowshera tehsil and launched an operation to capture a giant python in the forest area, Wildlife official Rajesh Kumar said.

The four-and-a-half-metre reptile was captured after an hours-long operation. It weighed 50-55

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India will be among top 10 countries on Global Innovation Index in next 3 years: Amit Shah

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
GANDHINAGAR: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday said India's ranking on the Global Innovation Index has gone up from 91 to 38 in the last decade, and expressed confidence that it would secure a position among the top 10 in the next three years.

The Startup India campaign launched under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership has started showing results as India now has the third largest startup ecosystem globally, and has

made the country's youth job creators from job seekers, he said.

Shah was speaking at the



inauguration of the Gujarat government's Startup Conclave here.

"Recently, the Global Innovation Index was announced. In 2015, our

ranking on this index was 91 but we have jumped to 38th rank in 2025. This indicates the potential that our people have. I am a firm believer that India will be among the top 10 countries in the next three years and dominate innovation in the world looking at the performance and abilities of our youth," he said.

The Startup India scheme is the Indian government's flagship initiative launched in 2016 to promote innovation and create a

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Maharaja Hari Singh's birth anniversary celebrated across Jammu

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The 130th birth anniversary of Maharaja Hari Singh, the last Dogra ruler of Jammu and Kashmir, was observed on Tuesday across Jammu region, as leaders and civil society group used the occasion to renew their demand for the restoration of statehood to the Union Territory.

While tributes were paid at various functions to recall the Maharaja's reforms and his role in the accession of J-K to India, the day also turned into a platform for many to voice their concern over the continued UT status of the region since 2019 when the centre revoked Article 370 and bifurcated the erstwhile state into two UTs of J-K and Ladakh.

"We have managed to get the public holiday on the birth anniversary of our Maharaja and we will also reclaim the honour, pride and glory of his state," a leader of the YRS said after garlanding the statue of the Dogra ruler near Tawi



A huge rally by Yuva Rajput Sabha marks birth anniversary celebrations of Maharaja Hari Singh in Jammu on Tuesday. (Pic by-Ashok Anand) (More pics on Pg-10)

bridge here, marking the end of a massive motor rally taken out from Talab Tillo in the outskirts of the city.

Maharaja's grandson and former min-

ister Ajat Shatru Singh and leaders of various political parties also joined the rally which went through various areas of the city.

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Armed forces to test drones, counter-drone systems during key exercise in October

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The Indian military will test the capabilities of some of its drones and counter-drone systems during a mega exercise in the first week of October, with an aim to bolster its air defence system, a senior official said on Tuesday.

Exercise 'Cold Start', hosted by the Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff (HQ IDS), will see the participation of all three services, and will take place five months after India launched Operation Sindoor in response to the Pahalgam

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CM chairs cabinet meeting; takes key decisions on governance, development

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Tuesday chaired a Cabinet Meeting at the Civil Secretariat, Srinagar, where several important decisions pertaining to governance and development were taken.

The meeting was attended by the Council of Ministers, including Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar Choudhary, Ministers Sakina Itoo, Javed Ahmed Rana, Javid Ahmed Dar, and Satish Sharma. Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo was also present.

During the session, the



Chief Minister Omar Abdullah chairing Cabinet Meeting at Srinagar on Tuesday.

Cabinet took up a series of agenda items concerning public welfare, administra-

tive efficiency, and developmental priorities across Jammu and Kashmir.

Strategic Hanle-Chumar road in Ladakh thrown open to public: Army

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
LEH: The 91-kilometre strategic road connecting Hanle to the border village of Chumar in Ladakh has been thrown open to public, Army said on Tuesday.

The route traverses extreme high altitudes ranging from 14,500 feet to 17,200 feet, including the high Salsa La Pass.

"A 91 km road connecting Hanle to the border village of Chumar constructed by Project Himank of the

Border Roads Organisation has been opened for public in Ladakh," the Army said on its official X handle.

"The road, while providing strategic connectivity for the Armed Forces along the borders, will also facilitate local connectivity and tourism in the region by connecting attractions including Hanle Observatory, Kyun Tso Lake, Chilling Tso Lake and onward to Tso Moriri," the Army said.

It said the road stands as a significant achievement in

strategic infrastructure development, enhancing operational readiness, promoting tourism and boosting socio-economic growth in Ladakh's remote areas.

Meanwhile, a vital road connecting Rajouri, Reasi and Ramban districts in Jammu and Kashmir was restored by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) after nearly month-long closure owing to major damage in the aftermath of

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Union Bank of India donates Rs 1 Cr towards flood relief, presents cheque to CM

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Union Bank of India on Tuesday extended support to the ongoing flood relief efforts in Jammu and Kashmir by contributing Rs 1 crore. A cheque was formally handed over to Chief Minister Omar Abdullah at Civil Secretariat here.

Expressing gratitude, the Chief Minister appreciated the gesture of the Bank, noting that such contributions would significantly aid in relief and

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