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Air surcharge 50 paise for Leh

03 Grant of Statehood to UT of J&K or UT of Ladakh is for Parliament to decide unless SC holds invalid use of Art-3 for reducing State to UT

09 JKBOSE issues revised date sheets for Biannual/Private Exams

10 Athletics trials on Sept 7

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

Omar visits flood-hit areas of Srinagar, Budgam; inspects impact of Jhelum breach at Shalina

Assures full support to affected families; urges Centre to announce relief for flood victims

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Thursday carried out an extensive visit to the flood-affected areas of Srinagar & Budgam districts, reaching interior localities by boat to take stock of the situation following breach in embankment of River Jhelum at Shalina near Lasjan.

The Chief Minister visited Taingan Lasjan and Shalina areas, where he made a first-hand assessment of the situation. Braving the floodwaters, he reached the submerged interiors by boat. He also interacted with affected residents, and assured them that the Government would extend all possible help and support.

"The immediate priority of the administration is to rescue people from inundated areas, evacuate them to safer locations, and provide instant relief," he said.



Chief Minister Omar Abdullah visiting flood-hit areas of Srinagar on Thursday.

He directed the administration to ensure smooth and safe evacuation of families from waterlogged localities and instructed that temporary shelters be established, adequately equipped with

safe drinking water, food, and medical facilities.

Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar Choudhary, Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani and MLAs from Chadoora,

Chanapora and Lal Chowk constituencies accompanied the Chief Minister during the visit. Additional Chief Secretary Jal Shakti, Shaleen Kabra,

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Shailendra re-designated as ACS, APD

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The government on Thursday re-designated Shailendra Kumar, IAS (AGMUT:1995) as Financial Commissioner (Additional Chief Secretary), Agriculture Production Department (APD).

"Consequent upon promotion of Shailendra Kumar, IAS (AGMUT:1995) to the Apex Scale (Level-17 in the Pay Matrix), vide

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5 rescued after landslide hits Ratle power project sheds

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KISHTWAR: A landslide hit temporary sheds at the Ratle power project in Kishtwar district, prompting the administration to act swiftly and rescue five persons on Thursday, officials said.

The incident took place in the Dhrabshala area when a landslide hit the tin sheds meant for washrooms at the Ratle power project, they said. Five people, who were trapped inside, were

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JAMMU FLOODS: GoI deutes inter-ministerial team to assess actual scale of damage

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Central government has deputed an inter-ministerial team to pay detailed on-ground visits to the flood-affected districts in the Jammu region in the next four days and assess the actual scale of losses and damage caused by recent rains.

This was revealed at a high-level meeting chaired by Jammu Divisional Commissioner Ramesh Kumar, and the inter-ministerial team head and National Disaster Management Authority of India Joint Secretary Col Kirti Pratap Singh here on Wednesday night.

The meeting was held to discuss the scale of damages caused by the recent cloudbursts, flash floods and landslides in Jammu region.

"Over the next four days, the inter-ministerial team will conduct detailed on-ground visits to the affected areas to assess the actual

scale of losses and damages in the districts of Jammu division. It shall then submit a detailed report to the Government of India," a government spokesperson said.

The Central team comprises officials from the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Ministry of Power, Ministry of Rural Development, Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Jal Shakti, and Ministry of Finance.

During the meeting, a detailed PowerPoint presentation was given, explaining the scale of damages to private property, public infrastructure and loss of lives, the spokesperson said.

The Divisional Commissioner apprised the members of the Central team about the affected areas and the extent of damages caused to essential infrastructure, including roads, power supply, and water supply schemes.

He also briefed about the efforts being made to save precious lives with the assistance and support of security forces, emergency responders, National Disaster Response Force, Union Territory Disaster Response Force, Police, Army, and Central Armed Police Forces.

At the meeting, the officials also discussed the challenging situation arising due to incessant rains, flash floods, and landslides. "Discussions were held on damage to roads, power infrastructure, water supply, and the efforts being made to restore the same," the spokesperson said.

In view of the prevailing weather conditions and the emerging flood situation in Kashmir, Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo also chaired a high-level meeting on Wednesday to review and sensitise the divisional and district administrations about preparedness

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LCMA issues advisory for Dal dwellers, houseboat owners

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: In light of current water levels in the River Jhelum, the Jammu & Kashmir Lakes Conservation and Management Authority (J&K LCMA) has issued an

at any time, as part of emergency water level management measures.

The potential opening of this gate is expected to cause a further rise in the water level of Dal Lake, which cur-

Budgam Admin asks villagers of several villages move to safer areas

advisory for residents living in and around Dal Lake, particularly Dal dwellers and houseboat owners.

According to the notice, the water level in River Jhelum has crossed the danger mark of 21 feet. To regulate this surge, the gate at Ram Munshi Bagh may be opened

rently stands at 10.5 feet. This rise may pose a significant risk of inconvenience to Dal dwellers and houseboat owners.

The LCMA has informed all Dal Lake dwellers and houseboat owners of the potential rise in water

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LG expresses gratitude to PM, Union MoS AYUSH for 35 Ayurveda PG seats for Govt Ayurvedic Medical College, Akhnoor

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has expressed his heartfelt gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Minister of State (I/C), Ministry of AYUSH, Prataprao Jadhav for granting 35 Ayurveda PG Seats for Government Ayurvedic Medical College, Akhnoor.

In a post on X, the Lieutenant Governor said:

"Heartfelt gratitude to Hon'ble PM Shri Narendra Modi Ji and Union MoS (I/C), Ministry of Ayush, Shri Prataprao Jadhav Ji for granting 35 Ayurveda PG

» This is a first for J&K, a huge gift for aspirants of Ayurveda Practices in UT
» 7 new PG Degree Programmes with 35 seats at GAMC Akhnoor will further strengthen J&K's health architecture, popularize traditional medicine system

Seats for Govt Ayurvedic Medical College, Akhnoor. This is a first for J&K and a huge gift for aspirants of Ayurveda Practices in UT.

Ayurveda, the traditional medicine system has gained global popularity and the people across the world are adopting Ayurveda tech-

niques for healthcare needs of people and well-being of the body, mind and spirit and management of various diseases.

The 7 new PG Degree Programmes with 35 seats at GAMC Akhnoor will further strengthen J&K's health architecture and popularize

traditional medicine system. The human resource in Ayurveda practices and research and collaborations will help in promoting preventive and holistic care."

Meanwhile, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha also extended his heartfelt congratulations to the Universities and Educational Institutions of Jammu Kashmir UT for their remarkable accomplishment in the recently released NIRF-2025 rankings.

In a post on X, the Lieutenant Governor said: "University of Kashmir

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Jammu-Katra shuttle service suspended for second day

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Jammu-Katra shuttle train service, which was started to facilitate the movement of locals and stranded passengers, was suspended for the second day on Thursday in the wake of floods and landslides.

Heavy rains triggered landslides blocking the portal of tunnel number 16 on the rail track between Ramnagar and Manwal in the Jammu-Udhampur section.

"Due to heavy rainfall and landslides, railways have decided to cancel the shuttle train service (between Jammu and Katra) today," Chief Public Relations Officer Himanshu Shekhar Upadhyay said.

The shuttle services, with the induction of four trains between Katra and Jammu, had started on September 1, and were scheduled to run till September 15.

Rail traffic has remained suspended in the Jammu railway division for the

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WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 31.0°C Min: 20.3°C

Humidity
Max: 95 Min: 81

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 26.4°C Min: 11.2°C

Humidity
Max: 86 Min: 75

Sunset: 18:53 Hours
Sunrise: 06:06 Hours

Terror funding case: SC refuses interim bail to Shabir Shah

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Thursday refused to grant interim bail to Kashmiri separatist leader Shabir Ahmed Shah in a terror funding case.

A bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta, however, issued notice to the National Investigation Agency (NIA) seeking its response within two weeks on Shah's plea challenging the Delhi High Court's June 12 order denying him bail in the case.

Senior advocate Colin Gonsalves, appearing for Shah, sought interim bail,

saying that the petitioner was "very sick".

"No interim bail," Justice Nath said.

At the outset, the bench issued notice on Shah's plea challenging the high court order.

"I (Shah) need interim bail," Gonsalves said.

To this, Justice Nath observed, "You should be released today itself?"

Gonsalves then requested for early hearing on Shah's plea.

The bench posted the matter for hearing after two weeks.

The high court had refused

to grant him bail in the case, observing the possibility of him carrying out similar unlawful activities and influencing witnesses couldn't be ruled out.

Shah was arrested by the NIA on June 4, 2019.

In 2017, the NIA registered a case against 12 persons on allegations of conspiracy for raising and collecting funds for causing disruption by way of pelting stones, damaging public property and conspiring to wage war against the Government of India. Shah was alleged to have

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Pilgrimage to Shri Mata Vaishno Devi shrine suspended for 10th consecutive day

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Pilgrimage to the Mata Vaishno Devi shrine in Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi district remained suspended even 10 days after the cloudburst-induced landslide on one of its routes claimed 34 lives and left 20 injured.

Officials said that although the debris on the track has been cleared, the pilgrimage remains suspended as a precautionary measure.

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has ordered the setting up of a three-member committee to probe the causes of the landslide.

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BRO Chief discusses post-flood scenario with CS, assures swift restoration of road connectivity

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Lt Gen Raghu Srinivasan, Director General Border Roads (DGBR), on Thursday called on Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, at the Civil Secretariat here.

The DGBR was accompanied by Brig Rakesh Kumar Mishra, Chief Engineer Project Sampark, and Col Vishal Kumar Srivastava, Technical Secretary to DGBR.

During the meeting, Lt Gen Srinivasan apprised the Chief Secretary about the ongoing measures being undertaken by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO)



DGBR Lt Gen Raghu Srinivasan calling on CS Atal Dulloo in Jammu on Thursday.

to restore inter-divisional connectivity across J&K, particularly in the aftermath of the recent flood-like situation. He informed that men

and machinery have been mobilized on a war footing to ensure early restoration of road services across the UT.

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GST now simpler, new rates to be effective from first Navratri: Modi

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: GST 2.0 is a double dose of support and growth for the nation and the generation reforms have been done to support India's progress in the 21st century, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Thursday.

His comments came a day after the GST Council approved a complete overhaul of the tangled Goods and Services Tax (GST) regime.

In an interaction with National Teacher awardees, Modi noted that five new gems (panch ratna) have been added to India's vibrant economy through the GST reforms.

He said GST has become even simpler and new rates of 5 per cent and 18 per cent will become effective from first day of Navratri.



"GST 2.0 is a double dose of support and growth for the nation. Next generation reforms

in GST has been done to support India's progress in 21st century. Five new gems (panch ratna) have been added to India's vibrant economy through

LG expresses gratitude to PM, FM for Next-Gen GST reforms

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha expressed gratitude to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman for the Next-Gen GST Reforms.

In a post on X, the Lieutenant Governor said: "Heartfelt thanks to Hon'ble PM Sh. Narendra Modi ji and FM Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman Ji for Next-Gen GST Reforms. It'll empower MSMEs and farmers and accelerate manufacturing. It'll improve ease of living and ease of doing business while further strengthening our fastest growing economy."

GST reforms," he said.

"Without timely changes, we cannot give our country its rightful place in today's global situation. I had said from the Red Fort on 15 August this time that it is crucial to undertake next-generation reforms to make India self-reliant. I had also promised the countrymen that there

would be a double blast of happiness before this Diwali and Chhath Puja," he added.

The prime minister said that during Congress regime basic household items used to be "heavily taxed" and the BJP government has tried to address those issues for ease of common man.

SC takes note of landslides, floods; seeks response of Centre, NDMA, affected states

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Taking note of the unprecedented landslides and floods in states such as Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand, the Supreme Court on Thursday sought responses from the Centre, NDMA and others and said illegal felling of trees led to the disasters.

A bench of Chief Justice B R Gavaai and Justice K Vinod Chandran also issued notices to the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, the National Highway Authorities of India (NHAI) as well as the governments of Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Jammu and Kashmir and

Punjab. It was responding to a plea alleging illegal felling of trees as a key reason for such disasters.

The bench listed the plea filed by an Anamika Rana for hearing after two weeks and asked Solicitor General Tushar Mehta to ensure remedial measures.

"We have seen unprecedented landslides and floods in Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and Punjab. From the media reports it is noticed that in the flood a huge number of wood was flowing along. Prima facie it appears that there has been illegal felling of trees. Thus issue notice to respondents. Returnable in two weeks..." the CJI said.