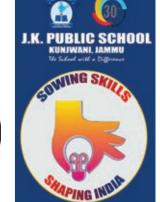


# Vol. 30 Issue 248 • Jammu • Monday • September 8, 2025 • Pages 12 • ₹ 3.00



Regd. No. L-29/JK-346/2025-27 Sham Lal visits landslide-hit areas,

UU ensures quick relief and rehabilitation

Sudden cardiac death, unseen threat to young hearts: Dr Sushil

Air surcharge 50 paisa for Leh **J&K Badminton team leaves** for NZ meet

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

# Heavy downpour stalls reopening of Jmu-Sgr NH; Vaishno Devi Yatra remains suspended

JAMMU: Heavy downpour again hampered the efforts of the National Highway Authority of India to restore traffic on the landslide-hit Jammu-Srinagar national highway which remained closed for the sixth consecutive day on Sunday, officials

The pilgrimage to the Mata Vaishno Devi shrine atop Trikuta hills also remained suspended for the 13th straight day, while Border Roads Organisation (BRO) restored traffic on Basohli-Bani road in Kathua district after bypassing the damaged stretch, the officials said.

Jammu-Srinagar National Highway is still closed for vehicular movement. Restoration work is going on." a traffic department official said, advising people not to undertake their iourney on the arterial road till the restoration work is



Highway Authority of India (NHAI) Project Manager, Ramban sector, Shubam said heavy rains again caused disruption in the restoration efforts this morning to clear the 250-metre stretch, which remains buried under a hill, at Thard in Udhampur dis-

"Explosives were used to blast giant boulders as part of efforts to ensure early restoration of the highway. Despite the rain, our men and machines are on the job

Hazratbal and other shrines

stated, "They need to under-

wrong, and the people will not

tolerate such actions. We are a

peace-loving community, and

they should know that they

made a mistake," he added.

**STATE TIMES NEWS** 

JAMMU: A high-level team

of officials headed by Divisional Railway manager

Vivek Kumar on Sunday

inspected the ongoing repair

work on three vital bridges

which suffered damages due

to recent flash floods in

northern railways Jammu

The damage to the rail

three vital bridges disrupted

the train service in Jammu

division in the past fortnight

with northern railways

announcing cancellation of

68 incoming and outgoing

including

division, an official said.

infrastructure

favours from anyone.

Prophet." he said.

"When

(Sheikh

but the work is going on at a

slow pace," he said. The traffic on the highway, the only all weather road linking Kashmir with the rest of the country, was suspended on September 2 only two days after restoration of partial traffic to clear vehicles which had remained stranded for almost a week.

Barring the four-lane highway stretch at Thard, which is completely buried under a moving hill, the rest of the highway has been cleared for

two-way traffic, the official

The prolonged closure of the highway, virtually for a fortnight, had left hundreds of vehicles, mostly trucks carrying horticulture produce and essential commodities, stranded on both sides.

A meteorological department spokesperson has predicted light rain or thundershowers at scattered to many places across J-K with a possibility of moderate rain or thunder showers over a few districts of the Jammu division towards late night or early morning on September

The officials said the pilgrimage to Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine atop Trikuta hills in Reasi district remained suspended. The yatra was suspended hours before a landslide triggered by heavy rains along the old track at Adhkuwari on

August 26 claimed 34

# IMCT visits Budgam, hold review meeting on relief, restoration measures

Also conduct field visit of flood-affected areas

#### **STATE TIMES NEWS**

BUDGAM: An Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) deputed by Union Government comprising Col. K.P. Singh, Joint Secretary & Advisor (Ops & Comm), NDMA; Ramavtar Meena, Director, MoRD; Shachi Jain, Director, Ministry of Shakti, Directorate, CWC Jammu: Navin Kumar Chaurasia, Regional Officer, MoRTH, Jammu; Dr. Vikrant Singh, Joint Director, Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare; Aarti Singh, Deputy Director, Ministry of Power and Mahesh Kumar Deputy Director Ministry of Finance today visited district Budgam to assess the damages caused by recent flash floods, cloudbursts, and landslides

During the visit, the IMCT members held a review meeting at New Conference Hall of DC Office Budgam,



Inter Ministerial Central Team reviewing relief, restoration measures at Budgam on Sunday

Commissioner Budgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-ud-Din Bhat: other senior officers of district administration, engineers from key departments like PWD (R&B), Jal Shakti (PHE), Irrigation & Flood Control, KPDCL, PMGSY and senior officers of Health, Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal & Sheep Husbandry, FSC, and Revenue depart-

During the meeting, Deputy Commissioner presented a detailed overview of the recent flood situation in

the district.

During the meeting, it was informed that a  $24 \times 7$ Control Room has been established for real-time monitoring and response. It was also informed that lowlying areas like B.K. Pora,

Shalina, Rakh Bemina, Shalina, Baghi Shakurshah, Seerbagh, Summerbugh, and Zoonipora have been affected. It was also given out that infrastructural projects, roads, bridges, irrigation canals, and power supply lines have also sustained damages.

The meeting was also briefed about rescue

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## Farooq criticises Waqf Board for Hazratbal row

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: National Conference president Farooq Abdullah on Sunday said the controversy at the Hazratbal shrine could have been avoided had the current Jammu and Kashmir Waqf Board not installed the plaque with the Ashoka emblem at the shrine to Prophet dedicated Muhammad. "There was no need to install the plaque. They put it up and people did not like it," Abdullah told reporters in Anantnag, where he attended a condolence meeting. Calling the installation a mistake that should not have occurred, the former chief minister emphasised that

#### Heavy-load drones used to deliver essentials to flood-hit village STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: In a first, heavyload drones were used to deliver ration and other essential supplies to residents of a village in Kathua district of Jammu and Kashmir, an official said.

The special operation was carried out by the district administration, Kathua, in collaboration with the Indian Army at Chilla village, located on the banks of the river Uih, the official said.

He said the village, comprising over 15 families, had remained cut off due to the recent torrential rains and flash floods that triggered landslides and washed away approach routes.

To overcome the challenge, the district administration and Army pressed heavyload drones into service, which undertook multiple sorties to deliver dry rations, cooking oil and other essential commodities to the stranded households, the official said.

"The operation was part of our resolve to ensure that ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9



Sunrise: 06:09 Hours

## 'Blood Moon': Total lunar eclipse enthrals skywatchers; clouds play spoilsport

#### **STATE TIMES NEWS**

were built through the contri-BENGALURU/NEW butions of the people, not as DELHI: From Ladakh to Sher-e-Kashmir Tamil Nadu, skywatchers Muhammad turned their gaze towards the Abdullah) oversaw the conmoon Sunday night to witness struction, he did not put any a rare 'Blood Moon' or the board on the shrine because it total lunar eclipse. was dedicated to Allah and His The earth's shadow started

covering the lunar disc at 9:57 pm as the moon played hide When asked about the FIR registered over the vandalisaand seek in the cloudy skies tion of the emblem, Abdullah with monsoon rains lashing parts of the country. The earth's shadow will comstand that what they did was

pletely cover the moon at 11:01 pm, turning it coppery red, putting up a rare display of 'Blood Moon'.

"The Moon will be fully

High-level railway team inspects repair

work on flood-hit bridges in Jammu Div

Katra stations till September

However the railways

started special train service

for stranded passengers

Divisional Railway Manager Vivek Kumar and team



eclipsed from 11.01 pm to 12.23 am for a duration of 82 minutes," Ramanujam, Head of Science. Communication, Outreach and Education (SCOPE) Section, Indian

September 4. A fresh land-

slide on the track between

Jammu and Katra on

September 4 forced suspen-

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Institute of Astrophysics, Niruj Mohan Public reflected and

#### said. The moon appears red during lunar eclipses because the only sunlight reaching it is scattered through the earth's atmosphere, B S Shylaja, former

## paddy, apple crops in south Kashmir STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Flash floods in Kashmir have destroyed standing paddy -- mainly rice and apple -- spread over thousands of acres in four southern districts of the valley, leaving farmers staring at cumulative losses running into hundreds of crores.

As the Jhelum swelled due to incessant rains and cloudbursts, overflowing waters washed away rice fields in several areas of Anantnag and Pulwama districts.

"We were preparing to harvest the paddy by the end of this month. The crop was abundant, but

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

#### director at Jawaharlal Nehru Planetarium said.

The Indian Institute of Astrophysics has turned the telescopes at its campuses in Bengaluru, Ladakh, and Tamil Nadu towards the moon and were streaming the progression of the total lunar eclipse live on social media platforms.

Cloudy skies played spoilsport at several parts of the country, but the live streams set up by astronomy enthusiasts world over made up for the disappointment due to overcast skies. The total lunar eclipse was visible

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

#### on Katra-Srinagar Vande Bharat Express STATE TIMES NEWS gers during breakfast and JAMMU: To promote the

**IRCTC** introduces local vegetarian cuisine

rich culinary heritage of Jammu and Kashmir, Railways, in collaboration with IRCTC, on Sunday started serving local vegetarian cuisine on the recently launched Katra-Srinagar Vande Bharat Express, an official said.

The menu includes famous Kashmiri 'Kahwa', fresh bakery items, dishes like Kashmiri Pulao, Rajma, Babroo, Ambal Kaddu and fresh apples.

The official said Indian Railways and IRCTC will prepare and serve the traditional local cuisine to passenlunch on the Vande Bharat train, which was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on June 6, marking the completion of the muchawaited Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla rail link to connect Kashmir with the rest of the country.

The initiative received an encouraging response, with most people travelling between Katra and Srinagar opting for the local menu and praising the quality and taste of the food.

"The facility is aimed at providing an authentic and memorable travel

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

## Modi attends workshop for BJP MPs; resolution on GST reforms passed

### **STATE TIMES NEWS**

DELHI: Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday attended a workshop for BJP MPs where a resolution was passed lauding the government for the GST reforms ahead of the party's nationwide outreach to highlight its benefits.

Modi remained in the midst of the MPs and attended different sessions on the first Karyashala".

Sources said the prime minister gave suggestions and shared his views while attending meetings of MPs divided into different groups.



bers of a few parliamentary committees were combined, he asked them to take active participation in discussions and in reading and preparing

said MPs from the BJP's allies will also join the meeting on Monday, and Modi will address the ruling alliance members. NDA MPs are also likely to participate

# LG calls for developing advance warning system for flash floods through nanotechnology

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha addressed the inaugural session of the International Conference on "Nanotechnology for Better Living (NBL-2025)" at University of Kashmir (KU).

The five-day mega event, organised by KU in collaboration with Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Hyderabad, has brought together leading scientists and researchers to showcase recent advancements in nanotechnology and its applications for sustainable living.

In his keynote address, the Lieutenant Governor spoke on the advancements and breakthroughs in Nanotechnology that is reshaping the lives and work environment and ensuring ease of living.

"Today evolution in Nanoscience and Nanotechnology is having

transformative impact across vari-

Governor said. The Lieutenant Governor, in his address, exhorted the scientists and experts to establish a group which can help in developing an Advance Early Warning System for Flash Floods by making more

research in future will address critical global challenges in industries,

There is not a single area of glob-

al socio-economic development

that does not bear the signature of

Nanotechnology in some form or

the other. In the years to come,

this will become more prominent

as we script the new advancements

in technology," the Lieutenant

healthcare and the environment.

through nanotechnology. "Keeping in mind the challenges of climate change, we should focus on creating nanomaterials that can reduce pollution in chemical manufacturing.

sensitive and accurate sensors

We must also explore the new ous sectors. The cutting-edge possibilities to develop soil sensors



University of Kashmir on Sunday.

specifically for the Himalayan regions. These sensors would be part of an Advanced Early Warning System that can warn about the dangers of landslides in advance based on changes in soil saturation," Governor said.

He said these projects will prove to be game changers in preventing loss due to natural disasters for the Himalayan region of India in the future.

The Lieutenant Governor further called on the scientists and experts associated with nanotechnology to make their significant contributions in defense sector, particularly in manufacturing the lighter components of defense equipment.

Nanotechnology experts and scientists must join this effort and strengthen the self-reliance campaign in the defense sector, he CONTD ON PAGE 9

## Addresses Int'k Conference on 'Nanotechnology for Better

Living' at KU

5-day mega event brings together leading scientists, researchers to showcase recent advancements in nanotechnological gy and its applications for sustainable living

Says, today evolution in Nanoscience and Nanotechnology is having transformative impact across various sectors. The cutting-edge research in future will address critical global chal-

lenges in industries, healthcare and the environment We must also explore possibilities to develop soil sensors specifically for the Himalayan regions. These sensors would be part of an Advanced Early Warning System that can warn about the dangers of landslides in advance based on changes

in soil saturation Calls for devising plan to incentivize talents in Nano-**Technology in Academic institutions** 

Our focus should be on developing and using Nano-Technology for the benefit of humanity

Scientists, experts associated with nanotechnology must also join the effort to strengthen self-reliance campaign in defense