

Inking the Truth

Modi urges fuel saving, bats for WFH

VADODARA: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday reiterated his call for reduced fuel consumption, greater use of public transport and electric vehicles by citizens, and urged people to defer gold purchases amid the West Asia crisis which has caused large-scale disruptions.

Addressing a gathering in Vadodara after inaugurating the Sardar Dham Hostel built by the Patidar community, Modi appealed to people to opt for work from home, a pandemic-era practice, wherever possible and reduce foreign travel.

"The West Asia crisis is one of the worst in the decade; just as we overcame the COVID-19 pandemic, we will come out of this also," the Prime Minister asserted.

Modi noted citizens had always fulfilled their responsibilities whenever the country faced war or any other major crisis.

"Whenever India faced war or any other major crisis, citizens fulfilled their responsibilities upon the government's appeal; ► P11

Omar meets Amit Shah over statehood, J-K business rules



NEW DELHI: Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah called on Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday where the two leaders discussed issues concerning the Union territory.

During the meeting, the two leaders discussed several significant matters including restoration of Statehood, Transaction of Business Rules, rationalisation of reservation and other key governance and public welfare issues related to

Jammu & Kashmir. The meeting also deliberated on the prevailing security and economic situation in Jammu and Kashmir, with emphasis on ensuring sustained peace, stability and inclusive growth for the people of J&K.

CM Omar Abdullah stressed the importance of addressing governance-related concerns and accelerating developmental and welfare initiatives to meet the aspirations of the people. He also ► P11

CM greets Vijay on swearing-in

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Monday congratulated his Tamil Nadu counterpart TVK chief C. Joseph Vijay on taking the oath of office.

"It should not have come to this (with regard to delay in swearing in). It took three to four days and several visits to Lok Bhawan but finally the (majority) numbers were achieved," Abdullah told reporters.

He said as per Supreme Court rulings, the governor should have invited the single largest party or the single largest pre-poll alliance to prove majority. "And the ► P11

Sinha attends Puja on Somnath Swabhiman Parv Somnath Temple symbol of unbroken faith, resolve: LG

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: The Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha performed Puja on Somnath Swabhiman Parv, a celebration of 1,000 years of unbroken faith and unyielding resolve. He also attended a public event organized on the sacred occasion at Lok Bhawan.

The Lieutenant Governor said despite countless atrocities and invasions by aggressors, Somnath has remained a guiding light ushering Bharat towards new horizons. "From the consecration



of the rebuilt Somnath on May 11, 1951, to this day, this center of faith has ignited the deepest spirit in every Indian. I am confident that Som-

nath's blessings will continue to inspire us to march forward with renewed resolve," the Lieutenant Governor said. He also stated ► P11

12 limestone blocks in J-K set for auction

NEW DELHI: The government will put on sale 12 limestone blocks in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir on Tuesday.

The auction will pave the way for reviving the UT's mining sector and boosting the local economy.

"The Ministry of Mines...is set to launch the second tranche of auction of limestone blocks in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir on May 12, 2026, at Srinagar," an official statement said.

Under the second tranche, the mines ministry in ► P11

Iltija Mufti's X account withheld

SRINAGAR: The account of PDP leader Iltija Mufti on X was withheld in India following a legal demand, nearly two weeks after authorities registered a case of sedition against her for posting a video of former Hurriyat Conference leader Syed Ali Shah Geelani.

"@IltijaMufti_ has been withheld in response to a legal demand," the X page of her account read.

The withholding of the X handle of the young PDP leader comes in the wake of an FIR registered by the cyber police on April 30 after Iltija Mufti had posted a video clip of Geelani ► P11

IED batteries seized; GOC reviews security

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

POONCH: Police on Monday busted an old terrorist hideout and recovered suspected militancy-era material, including IED batteries and binoculars, in Rajouri district, officials said.

The recoveries were made from the Sara-Simli Gali area in the Darhal belt during a search operation carried out by the Special Operations Group (SOG) of police, they said.

According to officials, the seized items included five IED batteries, two old backpacks, a binocular, two syringes, shaving blades and some diary covers.

Preliminary investiga-



tions suggest that the recovered material belonged to an earlier phase of militancy in the region, officials said.

Meanwhile, General Officer Commanding (GOC) of the White ► P11

VB-GRAM G Act effective from July 1

NEW DELHI: The Centre on Monday announced that the Viksit Bharat -- Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) Act will come into force across the country from July 1, replacing the two-decade-old Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act.

The new Act will have a fresh framework that promises 125 days of statutory wage employment to rural households, it said.

In a statement, the Ministry of Rural Development described it as a "historic transition" in ► P11

100-DAY NASHA MUKT JK ABHIYAAN

DAY 31

The EARTH NEWS joins with the campaign launched by Honourable Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Ji to eradicate drug menace from union territory of J&K.

Illegally raised assets of NDPS accused demolished at Langate

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

HANDWARA/KATHUA: In a strong and decisive crackdown against drug networks, police in Handwara on Monday demolished two shops and two residential rooms belonging to notorious NDPS accused Ab Rehman Bhat son of Gh Ahmad Bhat resident of Shartpora Langate, constructed illegally on Kahcharie land, involved in case FIR No. 394/2017 U/S 8/20 NDPS Act of Police Station Handwara, under the ongoing Nasha Mukta Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyan.

The demolition drive was carried out in the presence of the Executive Magistrate 1st Class and other concerned officials after completing all legal formalities. The property was identified as being linked to narcotics-related activities and formed part of the broader offensive against drug traffickers and



their support infrastructure. This action reflects the firm resolve of Police to dismantle the ecosystem of drug trafficking by targeting not only the offenders but also the illegal assets and networks sustaining the menace.

Police reiterated its commitment to continue aggressive action against drug peddlers and anti-social elements involved in narcotics trade to ensure a safer and drug-free society, particularly for the younger generation.

The general public has once again been appealed to cooperate with Police by sharing credible information related to drug peddling or substance abuse. Strict legal action will continue against all those involved in destroying the future of society through drugs.

Meanwhile, The Jammu and Kashmir administration and the police on ► P11

Mahila Nigrani Samities sensitise on drug abuse

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

UDHAMPUR: A One-day training cum awareness Programme under the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan was organised on Monday for members of the Mahila Nigrani Samities here by the Social Welfare Department in coordination with the District Administration and NRLM Udhampur.

Deputy Commissioner Minga Sherpa attended the programme as the chief guest while District Social Welfare Officer Kanika Gupta presided over the event.

The programme aimed to sensitise the members about their vital role in preventing drug abuse and strengthening community vigilance at the grassroots level.

Addressing the participants, the Deputy Commissioner emphasised that the Samiti members ► P11

Multiple FIRs lodged, awareness progs held

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

BANDIPORA: Continuing its firm action against drug-related offences under the ongoing Nasha Mukta Jammu and Kashmir campaign, police in Bandipora achieved a significant success by attaching the immovable property of a notorious drug peddler.

In addition, illegal poppy cultivation spread over a large area of land in Sumbal was destroyed, and multiple

FIRs under the NDPS Act were registered. Widespread awareness programmes were also organised across the district.

In a major action, Police Post Ajas (PS Sumbal) seized the immovable property (two shops) belonging to a drug peddler, namely Mush-taq Ahmad Rather S/o Late Abdul Kamal Rather R/o Rather Mohalla, Ajas, who is involved in FIR No. 103/2023 under the NDPS Act of PS Sumbal. ► P11

Excise range destroys illegal poppy cultivation



■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Central Kashmir Excise Range intensified its crackdown against the illicit cultivation of narcotic crops under the Nasha Mukta Jammu and Kashmir Abhiyan and destroyed illegal poppy cultivation at multiple locations across the Srinagar-Budgam-Ganderbal

Excise Range in collaboration with Police, Revenue and Agriculture Departments.

During the enforcement drive, illegal poppy cultivation spread over different patches of land was identified and destroyed at various locations, including Aulipora Chadoora in Budgam district. In this connection,

Case FIR No. 58/2026 under Section 8/18 of the NDPS Act has been registered at Police Station Chadoora and investigation has been taken up.

All legal formalities, including seizure, sampling and on-spot destruction of the illicit crop, were completed as per procedure. The Excise ► P11

Police detain peddler with drugs

SAMBA: Intensifying its drive against drug smugglers/peddlers in the ongoing Nasha Mukta Abhiyan, Samba Police under the supervision of SSP Samba, Anuj Kumar-IPS has arrested a drug peddler in the jurisdiction of Police Station Bari Brahmana and recovered approximately 7.26 grams heroin-like substance (Chitta) from his possession.

A Police team of Police Station Bari Brahmana during patrolling in the area, intercepted a pedestrian who was coming ► P11

Lieutenant Governor inaugurates National Youth Fest-Aarohan 2026

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: The Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday inaugurated National Youth Festival- Aarohan 2026 in Srinagar.

The Lieutenant Governor said this event declares a new vision of 'Rise, Shine, and Conquer' to our youth which encapsulates a complete philosophy that lights the path to the future, a promise, and a bold challenge to build a developed India @2047.

"National Youth Festival is also a proclamation that the time for youth has arrived. Through Youth Festival's 'Young Leaders Dialogue,' we



are laying the very foundation and the framework on which the next chapter of India's glorious heritage will stand tall," the Lieutenant Governor said. The Lieutenant Governor

observed that history was never made by those who waited for permission to be extraordinary. He urged the youth participating in 'Viksit J&K Young ► P11

Trump: Ceasefire with Iran extremely fragile

WASHINGTON: US President Donald Trump on Monday said the ceasefire with Iran was at its "weakest" and on "massive life support", a day after he rejected Tehran's proposal to end the months-long war as "totally unacceptable".

"It is at its weakest... After reading that piece of garbage they sent us... It's on life support, massive life support," Trump told reporters at the Oval Office in response to a question on the ceasefire with Iran in the wake of the rejection of the peace proposal.

"They think that I'll get tired of this, or I'll get bored, or I'll have some pressure,

but there's no pressure, there's no pressure at all. We're going to have a complete victory," Trump said.

Trump received the Iranian proposal on Sunday amid hopes that it could lead to a breakthrough to end the war with Iran that began on February 28, blocking the key sea route for global oil supplies, leading to fuel shortages in several countries.

"I have just read the response from Iran's so-called Representatives. 'I don't like it,' he wrote on his Truth Social platform on Sunday, calling it "totally unacceptable".

The US and Israel's war on Iran started on ► P11

IAS probationers of AGMUT cadre called on CM Abdullah

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: A group of Indian Administrative Service (IAS) probationers from the AGMUT Cadre called on Chief Minister Omar Abdullah here today.

The probationers included Alfred Thomas, Ruchika Jha, Mohd. Haris Mir, Shagun Singh, and Jitendra Kumar.

During the interaction, the Chief Minister enquired about their current postings in Jammu and Kashmir and discussed the administrative nature of their assignments and general functioning.

Wishing the young officers success in their future



endeavors, the Chief Minister urged them to work with dedication and commitment towards the betterment of the people and the nation.

Meanwhile, CM Omar Abdullah today said there is nothing wrong in giving telecom powers to the lieutenant

governor during public safety events, as he holds the charge of security and law and order.

"This is the right thing. These powers should be with the lieutenant governor. This is not against the business rules or the reorganisation act," Abdullah told ► P11