

I am not a product of my circumstances. I am a product of my decisions.
-Stephen Covey

No shortage of fuel, LPG across J-K: Oil industry

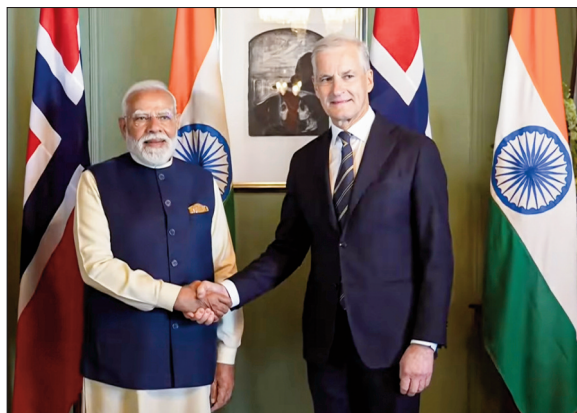
JAMMU: The overall fuel supply position in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir continues to remain stable and adequate, said Himanshu Sharma, State Level Coordinator, Oil Industry. In a statement issued here today, he informed that the entire supply chain, including terminals, depots and retail outlets, is functioning efficiently without any disruption.

He said the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have informed that the availability of essential petroleum products, including petrol, diesel and Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG), remains normal and uninterrupted across Jammu & Kashmir. Fuel stocks are being continuously monitored and replenishment activities are progressing smoothly across all locations, he added.

Sharma further stated that LPG supplies to domestic consumers are being prioritized and are being maintained normally across ▶ P11

PM Modi calls for early end to conflicts in West Asia, Ukraine

'Norway stood firmly with India after Pahalgam attack'



OSLO: India and Norway have firmed up a Green Strategic Partnership, as Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Norwegian counterpart Jonas Gahr Store held wide-ranging talks during which they called for resolving the tensions in Ukraine and West Asia through dialogue and diplomacy. The two leaders held talks on Monday focus-

ing on expanding cooperation in areas such as clean energy, climate resilience, blue economy, green shipping, digital technology, space and Arctic research.

"India and Norway both believe in a rules-based order, dialogue, and diplomacy. We are in agreement that no issue can be resolved through military conflict," Modi said in his televised

media statement after the talks.

"Whether it is Ukraine or West Asia, we support and will continue to support, every effort toward an early end to the conflicts and the restoration of peace," he said.

Delving into India-Norway ties, Modi said the relations are being elevated to a Green Strategic Partnership.

"Through this strategic partnership, our companies will develop global solutions across sectors - from clean energy to climate resilience, and from the blue economy to green shipping - by combining India's scale, speed, and talent with Norway's technology and capital," he said.

The prime minister said the 'Green Strategic Partnership' will be beneficial for the entire world.

The prime minister also touched upon the ▶ P11

SANJY 2026: LG Manoj Sinha reviews facilities at Pantha Chowk Yatri Niwas

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday reviewed the ongoing construction works and pilgrim facilities at Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board (SASB) Yatri Niwas at Pantha Chowk here.

Sinha visited the Yatri Niwas and interacted with the officials. He directed them to expedite the progress and ensure completion of pending works well before commencement of the Shri Amarnathji Yatra, an official spokesperson said.

He said the LG also reviewed the arrangements for



sound and light show dedicated to Baba Barfani.

The lieutenant governor was accompanied by CEO

SASB M K Bhandari, board member Mukesh Garg and senior police and civil administration officers of ▶ P11

Jailed MP Er Rashid's father dies

SRINAGAR: The father of jailed Baramulla MP Sheikh Abdul Rashid, also known as Engineer Rashid, died at a hospital in Delhi on Monday. He was 85.

"Haji Khazir Mohammad Sheikh, father of Member of Parliament, Baramulla, Engineer Rashid, is no more," Awami Itihaad Party (AIP) chief spokesperson Inam Un Nabi said here.

Nabi appealed to the Government of India and the authorities concerned to immediately facilitate the release of the Baramulla MP so that he can participate in the last rites of his father. ▶ P11

100-DAY NASHA MUKT JK ABHIYAAN

DAY 38

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.

Citizen's conclave organised in support of 100-day campaign

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: In solidarity with the ongoing Nasha Mukta Jammu Kashmir Abhiyaan led by Lieutenant Governor of J&K, Manoj Sinha, a meaningful citizen's conclave was organised on Monday at K.C. Residency by the Council for Public Accountability (CPA) in collaboration with the Vijay Kumar Mahajan Charitable Trust. The programme witnessed participation from distinguished dignitaries and prominent citizens committed towards building a drug-free Jammu & Kashmir.

The audience comprised former Vice Chancellors, offi-



cers from civil and police administration, judges, doctors, architects, professors, professionals from different fraternities, prominent members of civil society, and



representatives from business houses.

The event commenced with registration, a signature wall campaign, and video messages supporting the

anti-drug movement.

Program Coordinator CPA, Ar. Vishal Abrol, highlighted the urgent need for collective social responsibility and sustained public ▶ P11

Police attach house worth Rs 1.10 crore

SRINAGAR: Police on Monday attached a residential house worth Rs 1.10 crore and belonging to an alleged drug peddler in Anantnag district of Jammu and Kashmir.

The attached property comprises a double-storied residential house belonging to notorious drug peddler Ajaz Ahmad Bhat, a resident of Nowshara in the ▶ P11

Police destroy illicit Poppy cultivation; 3 cases recoded

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Continuing its crackdown against narcotics under the ongoing Nasha Mukta Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyaan, J&K Police in Budgam destroyed illicit poppy cultivation in multiple areas of the district and registered two FIRs under the NDPS Act.

Acting on credible information, Police Station



Budgam registered FIR No. 125/2026 under Section 8/18 NDPS Act against an individual from Bangadpora Ichgam Budgam for illegally cultivating poppy over approximately 1600 square feet of land. Police team along with the Executive Magistrate 1st Class Budgam and Excise officials reached the spot and destroyed the illicit cultivation. Seizure, sampling, and ▶ P11

Country 'by and large' free from Terrorism, Naxal, Northeast problems: Shah in Bastar

CHHATTISGARH: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday asserted that India is now "by and large" free from three main internal security problems of Naxalism, terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir and insurgency in the Northeast.

Speaking in the former Maoist stronghold of Jagdalpur, Bastar, Shah said the Centre and the state government are working with full commitment to ensure lasting peace and progress in the region and it will emerge as the most developed tribal area of the country within the next five years.

Shah, who is on a three-day tour of Chhattisgarh, his



first after the country was declared free from Maoist violence in March, urged the people of Bastar to "accept"

about 3,000 surrendered Naxals and help in their assimilation into the national mainstream.

The minister will chair the 26th central zonal council meeting in Jagdalpur, the headquarters of Bastar district, on Tuesday that will see the participation of four chief ministers of Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

"It is a big day for the country today as India is Naxal-free. This was a dream that has been achieved after numerous security personnel sacrificed their lives in operations," Shah said at an event held at the campus of the Bastar Academy of Dance, Art and Literature (BADAL).

The minister regretted that the Left Wing Extremism (LWE) that emerged ▶ P11

J&K Traffic Police reformed with new 350 vehicles, 685 bodycams

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Traffic Police has received 350 modern vehicles equipped with road safety gadgets, including 685 body-worn cameras, interceptor vehicles and patrol units, to strengthen traffic monitoring, management and regulation, officials said.

The Union Territory has registered a steady decline in accidents over the last three years owing to intensified induction of modern equipment, enforcement measures, awareness campaigns and strengthening of road safety infrastructure.

"As many as over 350 vehicles and over 1000 enforce-

ment assets have been procured out of road safety funds to improve enforcement capabilities and ensure effective implementation of road safety measures across J&K", they said.

According to official figures, the department has procured 213 Pulsar motorcycles, 69 Royal Enfield motorcycles, 19 mobile interceptor vehicles, 16 highway patrol Innova vehicles, seven Hydra cranes, 23 cranes and three Tata Winger vehicles for field enforcement and highway management.

The enforcement agencies have also been equipped with 685 body-worn cameras to improve transparency and accountability during traffic

regulation and enforcement operations.

Besides this, the department has procured 1,625 traffic night safety belts, 560 iron barricades, 687 LED traffic batons, 687 traffic safety jackets, 437 moveable barricades, 231 fixed barricades, 562 traffic cones with iron chains, 64 breath alcohol analysers and 100 first responder kits, they said.

The officials said traffic enforcement agencies have shifted completely to a 100 per cent e-challan system to ensure transparent and technology-driven enforcement against violators.

Official data revealed that during 2025, the Motor Vehicles Department ▶ P11

After Trump, Putin to visit China for talks

BEIJING: Russian President Vladimir Putin will visit China on Tuesday - a trip that comes shortly after his US counterpart Donald Trump's visit to Beijing for talks with Chinese leader Xi Jinping.

Xi and Putin will exchange views on bilateral ties, cooperation in various fields, as well as international and regional issues of mutual interest, during Putin's two-day visit, the Chinese Foreign Ministry said on Monday.

This will be Putin's 25th visit to China, Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Guo Jiakun told a media briefing in Beijing, emphasising on close strategic ▶ P11

CJI urges for virtual trials in High Courts

NEW DELHI: Chief Justice of India Surya Kant said on Monday that he had requested the chief justices of all the high courts to conduct hearings online on Mondays and Fridays for the time being to reduce avoidable expenditure in the wake of the West Asia crisis.

On May 15, the top court decided to hear cases exclusively through video conference on Mondays and Fridays, and judges "unanimously resolved" to encourage car-pooling arrangements amongst themselves in order to ensure optimum fuel utilisation.

The move came following a call by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on cutting down avoidable expenditure due to the West Asia crisis.

On Monday, senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi praised the CJI for the decision during the hearing of a case, saying that there was seamless integration of technology and judges showed "extra patience" during online proceedings.

"I commend the Chief Justice of India for the online hearings because today, they have gone on smoothly in all the courts," Rohatgi said, adding "I must commend the Chief Justice for this step. I also urge that all the high courts follow suit".

He further said that the digital hearing did not hinder the judicial process and "every judge was extra patient. The VC (video conference) hearings went on very smoothly". Solicitor General Tushar ▶ P11

Traditional 'tongas' gather popularity in border areas

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: Traditional horse-driven tongas, once a common mode of transport in the border areas of Jammu, are seeing an increase in the number of takers in the RS Pura sector following Prime Minister Narendra Modi's appeal for fuel conservation.

The tongas, which historically ferried passengers between Jammu and Sialkot before Independence, have continued to survive in parts of R S Pura for more than seven decades. Locals and tourists alike have been opting for the eco-friendly transport for entertainment as part of

border tourism and for short-distance travel in villages near the International Border.

"We have been running tongas here for decades. Before 1947, people used to travel from Sialkot to Jammu in tongas. Over the years, this tradition went out of fashion, but now, after the Prime Minister's appeal, locals are once again using tongas for short-distance movement in villages," said Teja Singh, a traditional tonga operator.

He said tonga operators continue to assemble in the area every Saturday and Sunday to keep the tradition alive.

Another operator, Rattan Singh, said people have

started preferring tongas again as fuel-saving measures gain momentum across the country.

"From Zero Line to R S Pura, people use tongas for commuting. Earlier, people depended more on fuel-powered vehicles, but now, with the emphasis on saving fuel, tongas have started running again. Horse-driven tongas do not require fuel. So, people are considering them a better option," he said.

The renewed interest comes amid wider efforts to conserve fuel, including reduced vehicle movement and awareness campaigns encouraging alternatives ▶ P11

5 arrested in Kishtwar sacrilege case

JAMMU: Police have solved a sacrilege case reported from Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar district and arrested five people allegedly involved in the crime, officials said.

According to police, Chatroo police station received information regarding an act of sacrilege on May 8, following which a case was registered and an investigation was launched.

Senior Superintendent of Police, Kishtwar, Naresh Singh, said that a special investigation team headed by Chatroo station house officer, Inspector Rishi Kumar, was constituted. ▶ P11

Coaching centre founder held in NEET-UG case

NEW DELHI: The CBI arrested Renukai Career Centre founder Shivraj Raghunath Motegaonkar on Sunday over his alleged involvement in the NEET-UG paper leak, agency officials said on Monday.

Motegaonkar was arrested on Sunday evening after the agency recovered a leaked question paper of the examination held on May 3 from his personal mobile phone during searches at his premises, the officials said.

The officials said Motegaonkar was allegedly an "active member of the organised gang" involved in the leakage and circulation of the NEET-UG paper. As part of a conspiracy with other accused persons, Motegaonkar received the question ▶ P11