

THOUGHT of the DAY

"Develop success from failures. Discouragement and failure are two of the surest stepping stones to success."

—Dale Carnegie

BJP storms to power in Bengal; NDA to form Govts in Assam, Puducherry

Time for change, not revenge: PM Modi



KOLKATA: In a mandate as sweeping as it is symbolic, the BJP on Monday scripted history by winning 206 seats to secure more than a two-thirds majority in the West Bengal assembly polls, ending the TMC's 15-year rule, and decisively shifting the state's ideological and political centre of gravity.

The National Democratic Alliance (NDA) also set to form governments in Assam and Puducherry.

The verdict acquired added political drama and symbolic left as Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee was defeated in the prestigious Bhabanipur seat by BJP's Suwendu Adhikari, capping a stunning turnaround after initial trends appeared to favour the TMC supremo.

What began as tentative early leads soon hardened into a decisive wave, with the BJP winning 202 seats and leading in five, while the TMC trailed far behind, managing to win 73 and leading in eight seats, according to Election Commission data at 11.10pm.

The scale, spread and speed of the BJP surge - breaching the halfway mark of 148 in the 294-member House well before counting reached its midpoint - pointed not merely to a change of guard ▶ P11

Suwendu defeats Mamata

KOLKATA: BJP's Suwendu Adhikari defeated West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee in the prestigious Bhabanipur seat by a margin of 15,105 votes on Monday, the EC said. While Adhikari bagged ▶ P11

Vijay's TVK emerges giant slayer

CHENNAI: Actor-politician Vijay's TVK on Monday created a record of sorts in the electoral history of Tamil Nadu and emerged as the single largest party by delivering a shock defeat to incumbent DMK and its president, Chief Minister MK Stalin in his ▶ P11

Darbar Move: Secretariat reopens in Srinagar CM Omar reviews functioning, facilities for employees, public

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: The Civil Secretariat, the seat of the Jammu and Kashmir government, reopened here on Monday as part of the bi-annual 150-year-old 'Darbar Move' practice, officials said.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah was accorded a ceremonial guard of honour as offices reopened in the summer capital, a week after ▶ P11



CM sets 6-month agenda

SRINAGAR: On the first day of the reopening of the Civil Secretariat in Srinagar after Darbar Move, marking the ▶ P11

15 illegal structures razed in JDA's drive

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: The Jammu Development Authority (JDA) on Monday carried out a major anti-encroachment drive on the outskirts of Jammu city, demolishing over 15 structures built without requisite permissions, officials said.

They said notices had been served to the violators according to legal procedures, giving them adequate time to comply. "In a significant en-



forcement action undertaken today, the JDA carried out a major demolition drive along the Ring Road corridor to check illegal constructions," an official spokesperson said.

He said more than 15 structures, built ▶ P11

Er Rashid moves HC to modify bail

NEW DELHI: Bar-mulla MP Sheikh Abdul Rashid alias Engineer Rashid on Monday urged the Delhi High Court to modify its earlier order granting him one-week interim bail in a terror funding case and allow him to be with his ailing father, who has been shifted to AIIMS Delhi from Srinagar.

A bench of Justices Prathiba M Singh and Madhu Jain, which had confined the ▶ P11

100-DAY NASHA MUKT JK ABHIYAAN

STOP DRUGS

DAY 24

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.

LG Sinha calls upon athletes to act as 'ambassadors' of anti-drug campaign

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday called upon the Athletes to act as the Ambassadors of Nasha Mukta Jammu Kashmir Abhiyaan and inspire the youth to shun drugs and embrace sports.

The Lieutenant Governor was speaking at the inaugural ceremony of All India Inter-University Wushu Championship at University of Kashmir.

In his address, the Lieutenant Governor reiterated that the Administration is committed to building a robust sporting culture across



Higher Educational Institutions, ensuring equal opportunities for every student to lead an active and healthy lifestyle.

The Lieutenant Governor said that the All-India Inter-University Wushu Championship is more than a sporting contest; it is a vibrant celebration of Ek Bharat Shreshth Bharat and serves as a powerful platform to promote unity in diversity, discipline, excellence, and national integration.

"This championship carries with it a responsibility to uphold and renew the essential spirit of sport that transcends competition ▶ P11

Police demolished illegal structure; issue warning

EARTH NEWS SERVICE



SRINAGAR: In a decisive crackdown under the ongoing Nasha Mukta Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyaan, Srinagar Police has demolished an illegal residential structure belonging to a habitual Drug peddler in the Palpora Noorbagh area.

The accused, Mohammad Irfan Sheikh @ Iff S/o Mohammad Ashraf Sheikh R/o Pamposh Colony, Palpora Noorbagh, is a known narcotics offender involved in multiple NDPS cases, including: FIR No. 134/2024 U/S 8/21, 29 NDPS Act of PS Safakadal and FIR No. 48/2025 U/S 8/21 NDPS Act ▶ P11

MVD cancels licences of 2 NDPS accused

PULWAMA: In a major move to curb the drug menace, the Motor Vehicle Department (MVD) Pulwama today disqualified the driving licenses of two individuals heavily involved in drug-related crimes under the NDPS Act. The action was taken following directions from Deputy ▶ P11

Yoga event organised at Polo Ground

SRINAGAR: A Yoga Awareness Event was on Monday organised at Polo Ground Srinagar under the aegis of the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan, aiming to promote a healthy and drug-free lifestyle among youth.

The programme was conducted in collaboration with the Directorate of School Education Kashmir under the directions of District Administration Srinagar and was ▶ P11

District Police conduct massive anti-drug rally

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

POONCH: Continuing its sustained efforts against drug abuse under the ongoing "Nasha Mukta J-K Abhiyan", District Police Poonch, in coordination with the Civil Administration, organised a large-scale anti-drug awareness rally in Poonch to mobilize public participation against the growing menace of substance abuse.

The rally witnessed enthusiastic participation



from hundreds of students representing various schools across the district, along with members of the public. The programme commenced at ▶ P11

Drone attack sparks fire in UAE; 3 Indians injured

DUBAI: Three Indian nationals were injured on Monday after a fire broke out on the Fujairah Petroleum Industries Zone (FOIZ) in the UAE following a drone strike originating from Iran, according to local media reports.

The relevant authorities in the eastern emirate of Fujairah confirmed that a fire has broken out in the FOIZ, resulting from a drone attack coming from Iran, the state-run WAM news agency reported.

Fujairah Civil Defence teams immediately responded to the incident and are continuing efforts to bring the fire under control, it added.

Three Indian nationals sustained moderate injuries after the fire broke out on the FOIZ, the Khaleej Times reported, quoting authorities in Fujairah.

The injured were taken to the hospital for treatment, it added.

In a post on X, the UAE's Ministry of Defence said that Iran launched four missiles toward various areas across the country. "Three were successfully engaged over the country's territorial waters, while one fell into the sea," it said.

The ministry urged the public to comply with all public safety procedures when warning messages are issued to the public.

Authorities have urged the public not to ▶ P11

LG chairs 7th J&K Wildlife Board meet



SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday chaired the 7th meeting of the Wildlife Board for the Union Territory of J&K, at Lok Bhavan, Srinagar. The meeting was attended by Javed Ahmed Rana, Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment, and Tribal Affairs Departments; Dr. Mandeep K. Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor; Sheetal Nanda, Commissioner Secretary, Forest, Ecology & Environment Department; Sarvesh Rai, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force; Chaturbhuj Behera, PCCF & Chief Wildlife Warden, J&K, along with eminent conservationists, ▶ P11

Operation Sindoor showed military's prowess: Rajnath

PRAYAGRAJ: Days ahead of the first anniversary of Operation Sindoor, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Monday described it as a "unique" example of how the Indian military utilised advanced technology to deliver a decisive blow to terror groups and their "patrons".

Addressing an event in Uttar Pradesh's Prayagraj, Singh emphasised that while the armed forces "showed patience", they were clinical in destroying terrorist infrastructure.

He added that the operation served as a global reminder of the Indian military's capabilities.

India launched Operation Sindoor on May 7 last year in response to the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack. The operation targeted terror infrastructure in territories controlled by Pakistan.

The strikes triggered four days of intense clashes that ended with an understanding ▶ P11

