

Certain things catch your eye, but pursue only those that capture the heart.
— Ancient Indian Proverb

Making the Truth

Popular tourist spot Naranag reopened after 14 months' gap

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor (LG) Manoj Sinha on Saturday ordered the reopening of the Naranag tourist destination in Ganderbal district almost 14 months after it was closed following last year's Pahalgam terror attack.

The popular tourist destination in the central Kashmir district also houses the Naranag Temple, an eighth-century temple dedicated to Lord Shiva.

"After a thorough security review, the decision has been taken to open the Naranag Temple at Ganderbal for devotees and tourists," the LG said in a post on X.

Several tourist spots were closed in April last year after the deadly terror attack in Pahalgam's Baisaran meadows in south Kashmir's Anantnag district left 26 people, mostly tourists, dead.

The tourist spots were closed as a precautionary measure.

However, over the last few months, the LG ► P11

In Modi's time, terror controlled in Kashmir, Naxalism nears end: Shah



KOLHAPUR: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday said Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 12 years in office is just a start and there will be BJP and NDA rule in the country for many years to come.

Shah also said Prime Minister Modi's 12 years in office would occupy a significant place in the history of Independent India and would be inscribed in golden letters for creating a resurgent India and enhancing the country's prestige globally.

"When the history of independent India is written, the chapter on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 12 years in office will be ► P11

Home Secy reviews SANJY preparations

SRINAGAR: Union Home Secretary Govind Mohan on Saturday chaired a high-level security review meeting here to assess the preparedness for the upcoming annual Shri Amarnathji Yatra 2026, which begins on July 3, officials said.

The home secretary chaired the security review meeting at the Police Headquarters here, which was attended by the top brass of police, Army, CRPF, BSF, and intelligence agencies, the officials said.

They said the overall security situation in the Kashmir Valley was reviewed, with a special focus on arrangements for the 57-day Shri ► P11



**100-DAY
NASHA MUKT
JK ABHIYAAN**

STOP DRUGS

DAY 71

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

Search Op conducted; 9 suspects rounded up

JAMMU: In continuation of the sustained efforts under Nasha Mukta Abhiyan to uproot the menace of narcotics and dismantle both supply and demand networks, South Zone Jammu Police on Saturday carried out

an intensive Cordon and Search Operation (CASO) in Maratha Mohalla Trikuta Nagar following specific inputs regarding Ganja peddling activities reported in the recent past.

During the operation, more than 200 juggies were thoroughly searched and nine suspects ► P11

Police destroy wild Cannabis

SHOPIAN: Continuing its sustained efforts to eradicate the drug menace under the ongoing Nasha Mukta Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyan, J&K Police in Shopian conducted a special anti-narcotics drive in the Wachi and Hermain areas of the district to identify and destroy wild cannabis growth.

During the drive, police ► P11

LG addressed Srinagar-Nalanda Dialogue Need to strengthen India's soft power, elevation of cultural diplomacy: Sinha



SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor

Manoj Sinha on Saturday called for strengthening India's soft power and promotion of cultural diplomacy,

saying the country can be the bridge the world needs.

The LG made these remarks while ► P11

LG's message on Int'l Day of Yoga

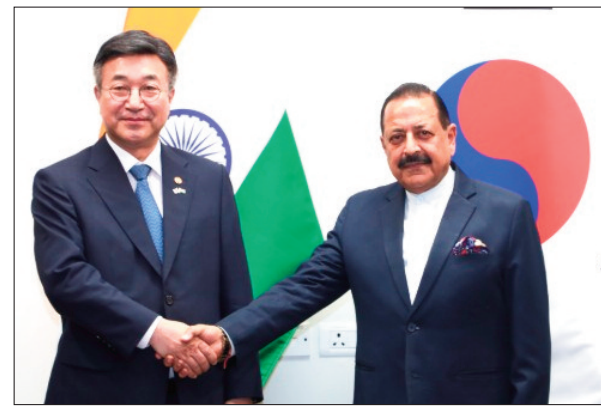
SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has extended his greetings to the people on the eve of 12th International Day of Yoga, which will be celebrated tomorrow.

In his message, the Lieutenant Governor has said, "Heartiest greetings to all on the occasion of 12th International Day of Yoga. On this ► P11

India, Republic of Korea reaffirm to deepen cooperation Tech-enabled governance platforms to improve service delivery, transparency: Dr Jitendra Singh

JAMMU: Republic of Korea Minister of Interior and Safety, Yun Hojung, currently on India visit, on Saturday called on Union Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Dr Jitendra Singh, and discussed possible cooperation between India and the Republic of Korea in the fields of digital governance, E-government, public administration, capacity building, and citizen-centric service delivery.

Welcoming the Korean delegation, Dr. Jitendra Singh noted that India and



the Republic of Korea share a Special Strategic Partnership founded on common demo-

cratic values, innovation, and a commitment to good governance. He referred to the

Joint Strategic Vision Statement finalised when President Lee Jae Myung of the Republic of Korea visited India in April this year and met Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The Minister highlighted India's significant strides in digital governance, public service delivery, and grievance redressal mechanisms under the leadership of PM Narendra Modi.

The Union Minister said, India and Korea are both vibrant democracies with shared values, heritage and commitment to rule of law. "We are two major ► P11

Nodenial of LoP yet, informs SMVDIME; NMC visit awaited

KATRA: Amid media reports claiming that the National Medical Commission (NMC) has denied the Letter of Permission (LoP) to Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Institute of Medical Excellence (SMVDIME), Katra, for the current academic year, the institute authorities have clarified that no such decision can be reached before the mandatory inspection process.

Talking to The Earth News, Dr. Yashpal Sharma, Executive Director, SMVDIME, said that no team from the NMC has visited the institute campus so far for the current academic session. He clarified that the grant or denial of

LoP is decided only after the NMC inspection and assessment process, which is yet to take place.

"Till date, there has been no visit of the NMC team to the campus for the current academic year. The LoP is awarded or denied only after the inspection by the NMC team, and the process is yet to happen," Dr. Sharma said.

The clarification comes after some social media reports surfaced regarding the alleged denial of permission for continuing the MBBS programme at the institute. The issue has drawn attention as SMVDIME had earlier faced regulatory action following a controversy that emerged last year. ► P11

Dr Minhas directs for smooth registration of SANJY pilgrims

JAMMU: To ensure smooth and hassle-free on-spot registration of Shri Amarnathji Yatra pilgrims, Deputy Commissioner, Dr. Rakesh Minhas directed the officials to work with full dedication to make it a success.

In this regard, a training programme for 75 Data Entry Operators was conducted on Saturday at the District Headquarters, Jammu. The programme was held under the directions of Deputy Commissioner, Dr. Rakesh Minhas.

Additional Deputy Commissioner, Vidhu Shekhar presided over the event and briefed the attendees about their respective roles and responsibilities, besides highlighting the overall plans of the district administration.

The training was imparted by the District Informatics Officer (Director, IT), National Informatics Centre (NIC), Jammu, Sanjeev Kapoor, who familiarised the ► P11



NEET re-exam today Coaching centres to remain closed

JAMMU: The Directorate of School Education, Jammu, has ordered the closure of all coaching centres across Jammu Division on June 21, 2026, in view of the NEET re-examination scheduled on the same day.

According to an official order issued by Director School Education Jammu, the decision has been taken to ensure smooth conduct of the examination.

The order states that any violation will invite strict action under law against the concerned institute.

As such, authorities have directed all coaching centres to comply with the instructions without exception.

The authorities said the step has been taken as a precautionary measure to avoid any disruption during ► P11

Over 9K devotees leave for Kheer Bhawani Mela

JAMMU: More than 9,000 pilgrims, mostly Kashmiri Pandits, departed from Jammu for the famed Kheer Bhawani temple in Kashmir on Saturday.

With pilgrim participation significantly higher this year, officials anticipate a substantial turnout at the Kheer Bhawani Mela, one of the most important religious events for the Kashmiri Pandit community.

The pilgrims left for the valley in 200 J&K Road Transport Corporation buses, amid elaborate security arrangements, the officials said.

The convoy was jointly flagged off by BJP MLA from Nagrota Devyani Rana, Relief Commissioner (Migrants) Arvind Karwani and Deputy Inspector General of Police, Jammu-Kathua-Samba Range, Shridhar Patil.

The Kheer Bhawani Mela will be held at five Ragnya Bhagwati shrines at Tulmulla in Ganderbal, Manzgam and Devsar in Kulgam district, and Logripora in Anantnag district of south Kashmir and Tikkar in northern ► P11

Lok Bhavan celebrates WB Foundation Day

SRINAGAR: Jammu Kashmir Lok Bhavan on Saturday hosted the cultural evening to mark the West Bengal Foundation Day. The event brought together officials, security personnel, students and the people of West Bengal currently living in J&K UT.

Addressing the gathering, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha conveyed his greetings and best wishes to the people of West Bengal on the occasion. He prayed for the happiness, well-being and prosperity of the people of West Bengal.

"West Bengal is a vibrant expression of Indian culture. Its folk arts, musical traditions and festivals symbolize social harmony and cultural richness. West Bengal's unparalleled contributions to literature, art, music and science, have



offered a fresh perspective to society. The region has served not only as a hub of political awakening but also as a major center of spiritual and cultural consciousness," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor paid tributes to the freedom fighters and great revolutionaries from West Bengal.

"West Bengal's contribution to India's freedom struggle and nation-building has been truly glorious. This land has always been a focal point for patriotism, social awakening and ideological leadership. It has been home to great luminaries and historic icons ► P11

Inquiry reveals needless heart surgeries, GMC Doc suspended

SRINAGAR: A doctor was suspended on Saturday after an inquiry into alleged large-scale procedural irregularities at the Anantnag Government Medical College revealed that nearly 50 per cent of his evaluated patients who underwent advanced cardiac surgical procedures did not even require them.

The Jammu and Kashmir Health and Medical Education Department revealed fraudulent insurance claims, patient exploitation and unnecessary procedures on healthy patients, naming Dr Syed Maqbool, a Cardiologist at GMC Anantnag, for alleged large-scale procedural ► P11

J&K Bank commissions EBU at Mankote

JAMMU: Continuing its efforts to extend convenient financial services to remote areas, J&K Bank commissioned a new Easy Banking Unit (EBU) at Tehsil Mankote, Sakhimaidan in district Poonch.

The EBU was formally inaugurated by Deputy Commissioner, Poonch, Ashok Kumar Sharma in the presence of SDM Imran Rashid Kataria, Tehsildar Mankote Maroof Qadri, J&K Bank Zonal Head (Rajouri) Rajeev Kumar Digra, Cluster Head (Poonch) Ashutosh Gupta and other senior officers of the Bank. With the addition of this facility, the total number of EBUs in Rajouri Zone, comprising the twin districts of Rajouri and Poonch, has reached nine.

Speaking on the occasion, DC



Poonch appreciated the Bank for establishing the EBU at Mankote and highlighted its significance in enabling seamless banking services for the local population. He noted that the facility would facilitate cash deposits, account opening, enrolment under various social security schemes including PMJJBY, PMSBY, APY and PMJDY, while also strengthening the adoption of digital banking services in the area.

Addressing the gathering, Zonal Head Rajeev Kumar Digra expressed gratitude to the ► P11