



It does not matter how slowly you go as long as you do not stop.

—Confucius

BJP issues Rs 100 Cr legal notice to Omar over 'poaching' charges

Party demands public apology within 7 days

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir unit of the BJP on Monday served a legal notice to Chief Minister Omar Abdullah over his claim that the national party had attempted to bribe National Conference (NC) legislators with cash and ministerial berths in a bid to topple his government.

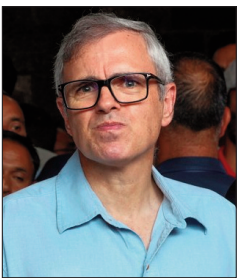
Calling the allegations "false, baseless and defamatory", the BJP has demanded a written retraction, an unconditional public apology within seven days, and warned of civil and criminal proceedings if the demands are not met.

The chief minister, while addressing National Conference (NC) workers at Hazratbal last week, alleged that the BJP is trying to bring down his government by engineer-

Honoured to receive BJP's 'love letter': CM

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Monday said he feels honoured to have received a "love letter" in the form of a legal notice from the BJP as it proves that he is a political force they cannot ignore.

The Jammu and Kashmir unit of the BJP on Monday served a legal notice to Abdullah over his claim that the national party had attempted to bribe National Conference legislators with cash and ministerial berths in a bid to topple his government. "I have received a letter from a lawyer, an electronic copy. I consider this a great honour as ►P11



ing a split in his party. He also claimed that an NCMLA from Jammu told him that he was offered Rs 20-30 crore and a ministerial berth to switch sides to the saffron camp.

The notice has been issued through advocate Parimoksh Seth on the instructions of BJP J-K president and Rajya Sabha MP Sat Paul Sharma. It contends that the chief minister's statements have caused serious damage to the reputation and public standing of the BJP and its office-bearers.

A BJP spokesperson informed that the party has sent the notice to the chief minister.

According to the three-page notice, Abdullah alleged that BJP functionaries had approached certain National Conference MLAs ►P11



Property value over Rs 1.23 Cr attached

SRINAGAR/JAMMU: Immovable property worth Rs 1.23 crore belonging to an alleged drug peddler in Sopore area of Jammu and Kashmir was attached by authorities on Monday, police said.

"Police have attached two immovable ►P11

Drug trafficker's house demolished in Samba

JAMMU: Authorities on Monday demolished the house of an alleged drug trafficker in Samba district as part of an intensified anti-narcotics crackdown, officials said.

The house of Raj Mohammad, who is facing two cases under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, was



100-DAY NASHA MUKT JK ABHIYAAN

DAY 94

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



demolished in a joint operation carried out by the district administration and police in Bela Manohar village, the officials said.

They said the action was taken following legal procedures and forms part of sustained efforts to dismantle the infrastructure and networks supporting drug trafficking in the region. ►P11

Leverage AI for better public service delivery: Dr Jitendra

SHILLONG: Union Minister Jitendra Singh on Monday urged state governments to embrace next-generation administrative reforms and leverage artificial intelligence to improve public service delivery, while stressing that technological progress must be matched by a change in administrative mindset.

Speaking after inaugurating the two-day National Conference on "NEXTGEN Administrative and e-Gov Reforms" at the State Convention Centre here, Singh said technology alone cannot transform governance unless there is a corresponding shift in the way governments function and officials adapt to change.

"Technology is evolving

very fast, and while the government is quick and prompt in adopting the technology, yet the mindset is not changing. The mindset is not changing at an equal pace, and we are not able to make the optimal use of all the options and tools available," he said.

The conference was organised by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) under the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions in collaboration with the Meghalaya government.

Singh said decentralising national conferences has helped strengthen coordination between the Centre and states and provided a platform for sharing best ►P11

Maharaja Gulab Singh Brigade links 'Statehood' to justice, equal rights, civilizational renaissance

BRIGADE RESOLVES FOR "JUSTICE BEFORE STATEHOOD, EQUALITY BEFORE POLITICS, DEVELOPMENT BEFORE DIVISION & CIVILISATION BEFORE VOTE BANK POLITICS"

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: The Maharaja Gulab Singh Brigade, Jammu, Kashmir & Ladakh, on Monday conducted an important meeting to deliberate upon the emerging political, constitutional and civilizational issues concerning the future of Jammu & Kashmir.

The meeting was chaired by Sh. Shivang Satya Gupta, Chairman Maharaja Gulab Singh Brigade wherein it was resolved that while the restoration of Statehood to Jammu & Kashmir is a democratic aspiration, it should not result in the revival of an unequal political order that historically led to regional imbalance, administrative discrimination and gov-



ernance deficits. Among office-bearers present were S. S. Jamwal, President; Anil Rakwal, Working President;

Ravish Handoo; Ashish Kapoor; Aman Gupta; Sanjay Charak; Kadafi Qayoom; Umar Sheikh; Gourav

- Constitutional Safeguards Before Statehood
- Equal Justice for Jammu
- Rehabilitation of Kashmiri Pandits
- Construction of Shri Amarnath Ji Temple Complex
- All-Weather Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra

Chadha; Rohit Jain; along with hundreds of volunteers and members of the Brigade from across the Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, who unanimously endorsed the resolutions.

It was learnt that the Brigade unanimously resolved that ►P11

Chain collision leaves 18 hurt at Chanderkote

RAMBAN: At least 18 people, most of them Shri Amarnathji pilgrims, were injured when two buses and a car collided outside a community kitchen on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway on Monday, officials said.

The accident occurred outside the Chanderkote Langer point at around 7.20 am after one of the buses allegedly suffered a brake failure, leading to a chain collision involving one more bus and a car, officials added.

All three vehicles, part of the Kashmir-bound pilgrim convoy, suffered damages in the incident, officials said, adding that rescuers rushed to the spot and ►P11

Shri Amarnathji Yatra

Batch of 7,754 devotees depart under heightened security cover



■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: Amid tight security, over 7,700 devotees departed from Jammu on Monday in the twelfth batch for the twin base camps of the annual Amarnath Yatra in the Kashmir Valley.

So far, more than 252,000 pil-

grims have paid their respects at the ice Lingam of Lord Shiva, located at the 3,880-metre-high cave shrine.

Officials stated that a total of 7,754 pilgrims left in 303 vehicles, which included 5,383 men, 2,071 women, 222 sadhus, 58 sadhvis, 16 children, and 4 transgender individuals. ►P11

Books glorifying separatists: Three publishers sent to 10 days custody

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: A court here has remanded three publishers to 10-day police custody in connection with the alleged publication and circulation of books allegedly glorifying separatist leaders, officials said on Monday.

The Counter Intelligence Unit in Jammu arrested the three publishers on Sunday as part of its ongoing probe into the controversy over certain books supplied to government libraries that were allegedly found to contain material glorifying separatists.

The books in question are 'Personalities and Legends of J-K', authored by Hilal Ahmad and Santosh Meena, and published by Jammu-based Oberoi Book Service, and 'Great

Personalities of Jammu and Kashmir', authored by Sushant Giri and published by the Delhi-based Anurag Prakashan.

The arrested publishers -- Indrapaul from Oberoi Book Service and Amardeep Singh and Girish Arora from the Noida-based Dominant Publishers -- were virtually produced before the court, which granted the police remand to facilitate further investigation into the case, the officials said.

Previously, both Oberoi Book Service and Dominant Publishers had been blacklisted by the government. Counter-intelligence teams conducted raids on their premises on July 6.

On July 4, the counter intelligence unit registered an FIR under Sections 49 (abetment), 61(2) (criminal conspiracy), 152 (endangering ►P11

Kashmiri film 'Tasrufdar' to premiere in Srinagar

JAMMU: After earning international acclaim with the world premiere in London, acclaimed Kashmiri short film "Tasrufdar: Djinnns of Kashmir" is set to premiere in Srinagar later this month, with filmmaker Kapil Mattoo hoping the screening will start an honest dialogue among Kashmiris on memories, loss and reconciliation rooted in the events of 1990.

Describing the Kashmiri-language directorial as "more than a film", Mattoo said "Tasrufdar" ►P11

NMC approves 50 additional MBBS seats for GMC Jammu

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: In a significant development for the medical education sector and aspiring medical students in the Union Territory, the Health and Medical Education Department today announced that the National Medical Commission (NMC) has granted permission to increase the annual MBBS intake capacity at Government Medical College (GMC) Jammu.

The Medical Assessment and Rating Board (MARB) of the NMC has issued the Letter of Permission (LoP) approving an additional 50 MBBS seats for the college. With this approval, the total annual intake capacity of

GMC Jammu will rise from the existing 200 seats to 250 seats, effective from the upcoming Academic Year (A.Y.) 2026-27.

It is pertinent to mention that earlier, on 10.07.2026, the NMC has granted permission in favour of GMC Srinagar for additional 50 MBBS Seats, thereby raising the total intake of GMC Srinagar to 250 seats.

Expressing satisfaction over the allocation of additional seats in these GMC's, the Health and Medical Education Department has stated that the expansion reflects the government's steadfast commitment to upgrading medical infrastructure, improving human resource capacity, ►P11

Red Fort blast: Court allows to cremate victims' remains

NEW DELHI: A Delhi court on Monday allowed the National Investigating Agency to cremate or dispose of the remains of 11 persons killed in the car bomb explosion near the Red Fort last November.

Special Judge Pitambar Dutt also allowed the agency to dispose of the body parts of Dr Umer Un Nabi, the driver of the explosive-laden car who was killed in the suicide blast.

The court underlined that the biological body parts must be disposed of with full dignity after taking into account the religious beliefs of the victims. It also sought a compliance report from the National Investigation Agency (NIA).

The NIA told the court that forensic evidence had

been collected from the body parts of the victims and the suicide bomber, Nabi.

It had earlier sought the court's permission to dispose of the body parts, as they had started decomposing.

On May 14, the NIA filed a 7,500-page chargesheet in connection with the high-intensity IED blast that rocked the national capital on November 10 last year.

Last month, the NIA filed a supplementary chargesheet against three more persons, including an absconding paediatrician identified as the founding member of a terror module, for involvement in the blast, taking the number of persons chargesheeted in the case to 13, including Nabi.

Court rejects bail plea of Editor impersonating as 'PMO official'

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: A Delhi court on Monday rejected the bail plea of the founder-editor of a Jammu-based news outlet, arrested by the ED in May for allegedly impersonating an "influential" PMO official and cheating people of over Rs 4 crore on the pretext of getting their work done.

The court said Vijay Gupta "failed" to satisfy the twin conditions mandated under section 45 of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) while dismissing his plea.

These two conditions state that the court must be satisfied that there are reasonable grounds that the ac-

cused is not guilty of the offence and that they are not likely to commit any offence while on bail.

Gupta, founder and editor of Young Bites, was arrested by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on May 20 in a money laundering case based on a Delhi Police FIR.

According to the ED and the Delhi Police, Gupta posed as an official working in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) to "cheat" people, including a friend from his school days and a sanitary shop owner whose Rs 14,900 payment was pending.

The FIR said Gupta undertook 26 foreign trips between 2016 and 2026, many of them coinciding with the

prime minister's overseas visits, to "create an image" that he was a "high-ranking" government official having "influence".

He also allegedly circulated pictures of himself with senior government officials to reinforce the false image, it said.

"...this court is of the considered view that the accused used false credentials, foreign visits, photographs with public officials to impersonate himself as a senior officer of PMO to get illegal monetary advantage from victims."

"Accused has failed to satisfy the twin conditions of Section 45 of the Act (PMLA) and no ground is made out to release the accused ►P11

GOC reviews Op readiness, warfare strategy in Rajouri

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: General Officer Commanding of White Knight Corps Lt Gen P K Mishra on Monday visited the headquarters of Ace of Spades division and Counter-insurgency Romeo Force in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri and was briefed on precision strike capabilities and initiatives to strengthen readiness for future warfare, army said.

During the visit, Lt Gen Mishra commended all ranks for their indomitable vigilance, operational excellence and sustained commitment towards maintaining a secure



and stable environment. "GOC White Knight Corps visited operational locations of Ace of Spades Division and Cif (Counter-insurgency force) Romeo to review

the prevailing security situation and operational preparedness..." the army said in a post on X.

The post, shared by the White Knight Corps ►P11