

THOUGHT
of the
DAY

When one door of happiness closes, another opens, but often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the one that has been opened for us.
—Helen Keller

■ NEET Paper Leak Issue

Strong action taken to ensure no one plays with future of youth: PM to MPs

Rahul, Priyanka, Akhilesh detained, removed from protest site

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday asserted that strong action was taken against those involved in the NEET paper leaks so that no one plays with the future of the youth, and said states should join hands with the Centre to tackle the menace in national interest.

Modi made the remarks at a meeting of the NDA MPs here, a day after thousands of students led by the Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) took part in the 'Sansad Chalo' march against irregularities in the NEET exam and to demand Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan's resignation.

Briefing journalists after the meeting, which was named 'Mangal Milan', Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju said the prime minister told MPs that the government acted immediately after reports of the paper leak surfaced, and 13 people were arrested and sent to jail.

"At the same time, the prime minister said, to ensure that students' future was not affected, the NEET re-examination was given priority, conducted successfully, and the results were declared without ► P11



Dr Jitendra slams Rahul's 'conduct'

NEW DELHI: The government on Tuesday said it is ready to discuss all issues relating to the NEET exam and the movement associated with it in Parliament, after Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi ► P11

Govt wasted our time, says Dipke

NEW DELHI: Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) founder Abhijeet Dipke on Tuesday questioned the government's design behind starting talks with his ► P11

Relentless rain batters Jammu region; all major pilgrimages suspended for 3rd day

Relief Ops underway, says LG; CM announces ex gratia for kin

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: Heavy rains lashed large parts of Jammu region on Tuesday, severely disrupting normal life and prompting authorities to maintain a high alert, officials said.

At least 23 people have died and seven others are missing in rain-related incidents in Poonch, Rajouri and Doda districts since Sunday, while all major pilgrimages, including Shri Amarnathji Yatra, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Yatra, Shri Shiv Khori Yatra and Shri Machail Mata Yatra, remained suspended for the third consecutive day due to persistent downpours, landslides, and the heightened risk of flash floods.

Authorities said the situation is being monitored round-the-clock, with district administrations, disaster response teams, police, and other agencies remaining on highest alert in vulnerable ar-



MET Office 'warns' of floods, landslides

SRINAGAR: Many areas in the Kashmir valley were lashed by rains, with few places, receiving heavy rainfall leading to an increase in the levels in several water bodies, the officials said.

The weather office has forecast few spells of rain and thundershower at most places with heavy rain and brief intense heavy showers in few districts of J-K till July 23. It has warned of rockfalls, landslides and ► P11

reas. Pilgrims have been advised to stay at designated shelters until weather conditions improve and the routes are declared safe.

Despite rains, the rescue teams continued their search for seven persons reported missing in the worst-hit Poonch and Rajouri districts, where cloudbursts, flash floods, and landslides have caused extensive damage over the past three days.

According to meteorological department, the holy town of Katra, the base camp for the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi pilgrimage, recorded the highest rainfall of 107.1 mm during the 24-hour period ending at 8.30 am on Tuesday.

Poonch district recorded 61.5 mm of rainfall, Reasi (54.5 mm), Rajouri (49 mm) and Jammu (35 mm) during the same period.

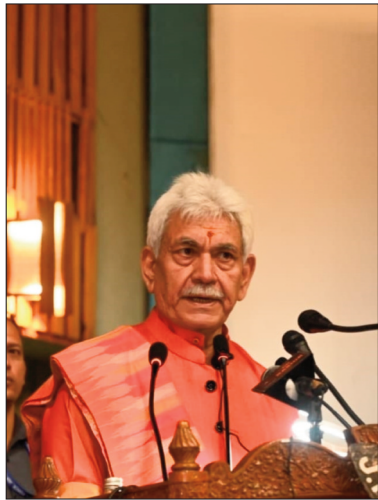
Several roads and link roads remained affected due to landslides and ► P11

School holidays extended till July 26 in J&K

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Tuesday extended the ongoing summer vacation for all Government and recognised private schools across the Union Territory till July 26, bringing schools in the Summer Zones of Jammu Division under the ambit of the order as well.

The clarification came from Education Minister Sakina Itoo, who announced through a fresh post on X that the extension would also apply to all schools in the Summer Zones of Jammu Division. Earlier, the extension had been announced only for schools in the Kashmir Division and the Winter Zones of Jammu Division. ► P11

100 Days of 'Drug-Free J-K campaign' Administration will eradicate drug cartels, narco-terror networks: LG



“2,581 drug traffickers arrested, nearly 1,431 Kg narcotics including 23.29 kg heroin seized, and over Rs. 188.89 Cr in assets confiscated to cripple narco-terror financing

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday said the administration is determined to neutralise drug cartels and narco-terror networks that target the youth of Jammu and Kashmir.

Addressing an event

organised by the Department of Social Welfare, commemorating the successful completion of 100 days of 'Nasha Mukti (drug-free) J&K', Sinha said while the milestone marks significant progress, the mission is far from over.

"We are determined to neutralise the drug car-

tels and narco-terror networks that target our youth. We continue to strengthen our key priorities of dismantling illicit trafficking ecosystems, enhancing public awareness, and providing robust rehabilitation to help affected individuals reintegrate into society,' he said.

Sinha said the first 100 days of the campaign laid the foundation for the rigorous path ahead.

"The road ahead will certainly be tough, but our resolve to completely wipe out ► P11

Statehood for J&K imperative to restore 'special status': CM 'Delhi protest 'just the beginning' of NC's campaign'

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Tuesday described statehood as the foundation for restoring the Union Territory's special status and said the National Conference (NC) would keep pressing the Centre to fulfil its promise, while chalking out a strategy to intensify its campaign.



Addressing a press conference here, Abdullah said his protest in Delhi on Monday was "just the beginning" and not the end of the party's campaign.

The chief minister was in the national capital to stage a protest at Jantar Mantar de-

manding the restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir. However, police stopped him and other party leaders from moving towards the protest venue due to the heavy security deployment for the Cockroach Janata Party (CJP) march.

"Some people tell us to talk about (restoration of) Article 370 and J-K's special status first... I want to ask them what does Article 370 or 371 mean without statehood?" Abdullah said.

He said statehood was imperative for the restoration of special status.

"Whatever special status J&K would have, be it under Article 370 or anything else, the point is how to share the powers between the Centre and J-K. There is no sharing of powers between the Centre and a UT because a UT does not have any powers. All powers of a UT lie either with the Centre or the Lok Bhavan. All Cabinet decisions ► P11

BSF apprehends Pak 'intruder' along IB; arms seized near LoC IED destroyed in controlled blast in Rajouri

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU/SRINAGAR: A 53-year-old Pakistani intruder was taken into custody by the BSF after he ventured into the Indian side from across the International Border in Akhnour sector here early Tuesday, officials said.

Mohammad Rafiq Kala, a resident of village Pindi, was noticed by the Border Security Force (BSF) personnel guarding Pragwal area of Khour.

They said the questioning of Kala revealed that he had apparently lost his way while visiting his sister and crossed

the border inadvertently. Nothing incriminating was recovered from his possession, the officials said.

Additionally, an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) was found and subsequently destroyed in a controlled explosion by experts in Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said on Tuesday.

The IED was noticed by an army search party in village Argi Dalhori late Monday evening, the officials said.

They said a Bomb Disposal Squad (BDS) was rushed to the scene and the explosive substance was destroyed in a

controlled explosion at 10 pm, without causing any damage.

Meanwhile, security forces deployed along the Line of Control (LoC) in Gawalta, Uri area of Baramulla have recovered a cache of arms and ammunition, officials said on Tuesday.

The 19 Raj rifles of army, deployed at LoC Gawalta, informed Police Station Uri regarding the recovery made near Chowkas in village Gawalta.

A police team from PS Uri immediately reached the site and took possession of the recovered items. ► P11

SVS Trust distributes relief to flood-hit families Serving the needy earns Lord Vishnu's blessings: Swami Vishwatamanand Ji

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

RAJOURI: The Swami Vishwatamanand Saraswati Sadhbhawana Charitable Trust on Tuesday distributed essential relief material among families affected by the recent floods at the relief centre established at Boys Modern Higher Secondary School in Rajouri.

The relief distribution was led by Acharya Mahamandaleshwar Param Puja Shri Shri 1008 Swami Vishwatmanand Saraswati Ji Maharaj, and was flanked by former MLC Vibodh Gupta and other prominent people and devotees. The trust pro-



vided essential items to several families who suffered losses due to the natural calamity.

Speaking on the occasion, Swami Vishwatamanand Saraswati Ji Ma-

haraj said the trust has always remained at the forefront of humanitarian service, extending assistance wherever natural disasters have struck across the country. ► P11

Assembly polls in PoJK to be held in 3 phases

ISLAMABAD: The elections for the so-called legislative assembly in Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK), which were originally scheduled for July 27, will now be held in three phases ending on August 10, authorities announced on Tuesday.

India has maintained that Pakistan has been in illegal possession of the Indian Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

Addressing a press conference, PoJK's Election Commissioner Ghulam Mustafa Mughal said that polling in 13 constituencies of Mirpur division will be held on July 27; nine constituencies of Muzaffarabad

division and all 12 refugee constituencies on August 2; and 11 constituencies of Poonch division on August 10.

There are 53 seats in the so-called legislative assembly of PoK - 45 are directly elected, while eight seats are reserved for women, technocrats and clerics.

Mughal said the changes in the election schedule were made keeping in view the ongoing situation in the region, where the banned Joint Awami Action Committee (JAAC) has been protesting against the 12 seats for refugees in the legislative council.

A large number of security personnel have ► P11

Omar indulging in 'political theatrics': LoP Sunil BJP demands 20L compensation for dead, rehabilitation of rain victims

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: Launching a scathing attack on the ruling National Conference (NC), the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Tuesday accused Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and the party leadership of indulging in "political theatrics" in New Delhi while Jammu and Kashmir was grappling with one of the worst rain-related tragedies in recent years.

Addressing a press conference here, Leader of Opposition in the Jammu and



Kashmir Legislative Assembly, Sunil Sharma along with former Minister and MLA, Shama Lal Sharma, MLA, Mohan Lal Bhagat, party vice

president, Dr Shenaaz Ganaie, general secretary, Gopal Mahajan, spokesperson, Zorawar Singh Jamwal, alleged that the National

Conference had chosen "politics over humanity" by organising and participating in a protest in the national capital at a time when flash ► P11

Lok Sabha adjourned on Day 2

NEW DELHI: Lok Sabha proceedings were washed out for the second day on Tuesday as opposition members protested seeking discussion on the NEET paper leak, the CJP protest and the alleged theft of donations at the Ram temple in Ayodha.

The House was adjourned for the day after witnessing two repeated disruptions.

As soon as the House took up the first question at 11 am, opposition members started raising slogans on the NEET paper leak and police baton-charge on protesting students. ► P11

LG addressed 'Shakti Mimamsa' national symposium Shakti is 'soul' of creation; symbolises compassion, knowledge & love: Sinha

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: The Lieutenant Governor, Shri Manoj Sinha today addressed the "Shakti Mimamsa" national symposium, a collaborative initiative by the Central Sanskrit University (Jammu Campus), Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, and Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University. He said the deliberation on the spiritual heritage of the 51 Shakti Peethas over next 4-days will allow us to reconnect with the ancient Sanatana consciousness that has long defined India's soul.



"Shakti is the very heartbeat and sustaining consciousness of the cosmos. It manifests in all motion and creation, shining through

compassion, knowledge, love, patience, and life itself. From Vedic hymns and Upanishadic philosophy to the Devi Mahatmya, ► P11