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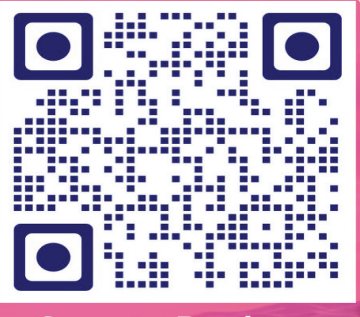
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Doval, Wang hold India-China Special Representatives talks on border issue

“We have extensively talked about it today just to see how to effectively reinforce and further consolidate our efforts to maintain peace and tranquility in the border areas,” Doval said in an apparent reference to differences over the border and Arunachal Pradesh.



BELJING: India and China on Tuesday discussed ways to maintain peace and stability along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and to move toward progress on delimitation of the frontier, while sustaining ongoing work on trans-boundary cooperation, as National Security Advisor Ajit Doval held extensive talks with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi.

Held under the framework of the Special Representatives dialogue, the Doval-Wang talks came weeks before Chinese President Xi Jinping's anticipated visit to India for the upcoming BRICS summit. In his opening remarks at the meeting, Doval said that normalcy in the ties between India and China has been a direct result of both sides main-

taining peace and tranquillity in the border areas. "The two sides positively reviewed the ongoing momentum in bilateral relations which is in line with the directions and vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Xi Jinping," the Indian embassy in Beijing said. "They discussed ways to further expand ►P11

DGP assesses security ahead of festivities

SRINAGAR: Director General of Jammu and Kashmir Police Nalin Prabhat on Tuesday reviewed the security arrangements for Eid Milad-un-Nabi and other upcoming festivals, including Raksha Bandhan, across Jammu and Kashmir, officials said. He also reviewed the ongoing anti-terrorism operations in the Union territory. Chairing a meeting of senior officers at Police Control Room Kashmir, Prabhat stressed heightened vigilance, proactive policing, and foolproof security arrangements, particularly at major shrines, mosques, and other religious places. Special focus was laid on Dargah Hazratbal and other prominent religious sites where nightlong prayers and large ►P11

J&K Teachers Forum holds Education Conference Shaping future of J-K's children shared concern of Govt, parents, teachers: CM

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Tuesday said that the responsibility of shaping the future of our children cannot be placed on teachers alone, stressing that the Government, parents and teachers must work together to prepare children for a rapidly changing world. Addressing a one-day Education Conference organized by the J&K Teachers Forum at Sher-i-Kashmir International Convention Centre (SKICC), the Chief Minister said teachers play a crucial role in determining the future of children, but placing the entire responsibility on them would be unfair and add unnecessary pressure to an already demanding profession. The conference, themed "Child is Our Priority",



brought together educators, researchers, policymakers and teachers to deliberate on key issues confronting the education sector, the challenges being faced by teachers and students, and the way forward. Reflecting on the changing nature of the teaching profession, Omar Abdullah said the challenges before teachers today are very differ-

ent from those faced 10, 15 or 20 years ago. "There was a time when we could not even think of complaining about teachers. From KG to Class 12, I do not remember ever complaining to my parents about any teacher," he said, adding that children today are growing up in a vastly different environment. He said that while children must ►P11

Omar lays foundation for Fruit & Veg Mandi

TANGMARG: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today laid the foundation stone of a modern Fruit & Vegetable Mandi at Wussan Bangil, Karhama, Tangmarg, marking the beginning of a long-pending demand of the area and a significant step towards strengthening the horticulture marketing infrastructure in the Tangmarg-Gulmarg belt. The proposed mandi will be developed on 50 kanals of land, ►P11

LG, CM extend greetings on Milad-un-Nabi

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has extended his greetings to the people on the eve of Milad-un-Nabi, marking the birth anniversary of Prophet Muhammad. In a message the Lieutenant Governor said: "On the blessed occasion of Milad-un-Nabi, I extend my heartfelt greetings and best wishes to everyone. The life and teachings of Prophet Muhammad remain an eternal beacon of peace, equality, and compassion for all humankind. On this sacred day, let us pledge to live by his values of love, kindness, and universal brotherhood and work together to foster a more harmonious, inclusive and united society." Meanwhile, CM ►P11

Dr Jitendra calls for traditional knowledge-science integration



NEW DELHI: Traditional knowledge should not remain confined to conventional systems of medicine but should seek deeper integration with Medicine, modern science and emerging technologies to widen its reach and societal impact, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology and Earth Sciences and MoS PMO, Personnel, Public

Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh, said during his visit to the CSIR-"Traditional Knowledge Digital Library" (CSIR-TKDL) here today. Dr Jitendra Singh emphasised the need for greater outreach and a wider scope of work in the field of traditional knowledge. He said that traditional knowledge should not be ►P11

Minor's rape, death in Kishtwar NCST issues notice to CS, DGP on Chatroo incident

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: Acting promptly upon the complaint submitted by the Tribal Gujjar Bakkarwal Welfare Foundation (TGBWF) through Member Trustee, Kabir Ahmed, the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) has issued a notice dated 25 August 2026 under File No. NCST/ATY-4600/JK/3/2026-RU-IV. The notice has been addressed to the Chief Secretary, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir; the Director General of Police, Jammu and Kashmir; and the Senior Superin-

tendent of Police, Kishtwar. The Foundation has, at the outset, welcomed the Commission's prompt intervention in the case concerning the alleged sexual assault and death of a minor Gujjar Scheduled Tribe child in Chatroo, District Kishtwar, and the reported non-invocation of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989. The Commission also transmitted the notice by email to all three authorities. In the notice, it has expressly recorded that it has decided to investigate and inquire into the matter in exercise of the powers

conferred upon it under Article 338A of the Constitution of India. The Chief Secretary, DGP and SSP Kishtwar have been called upon to submit the relevant facts, information and details of the action taken on the allegations raised in the complaint within five days from receipt of the notice. The Commission has further cautioned that, if the required reply is not received within the stipulated period, it may exercise the powers of a civil court conferred upon it under Article 338A and issue summons seeking the appearance of the concerned authorities, either ►P11

Court: Handcuff Shabir Shah only when necessary

JAMMU: A special NIA court in Jammu has directed jail authorities to ensure that separatist leader Shabir Ahmad Shah is not unnecessarily handcuffed while being escorted from the Central Jail in Kot Bhalwal here to a hospital or court following his plea that handcuffing could cause him pain, and further endanger his health. Shah was arrested in April by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) in connection with a three-decade-old terror case related to mob violence and firing on policemen during a terrorist's last rites at Naaz crossing in Srinagar. His arrest comes shortly after he was released on bail after nearly seven years of imprisonment in other NIA cases, including one related to terror funding. Disposing off an application filed by the undertrial, who had ►P11

Delhi Gurjars demand HC-supervised probe into death of minor Tribal girl

“Adv Sunil Kumar Bainsla seeks NCST intervention, ₹1 Cr compensation, protection for family & witnesses; demands time-bound investigation and fast-track trial in Delhi

NEW DELHI: The Gurjars of Delhi have expressed deep shock and anguish over the alleged sexual abuse and subsequent death of a minor tribal girl in Kishtwar and have demanded that the entire investigation be conducted under the close supervision of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir to ensure a fair, impartial and time-bound investigation. Advocate Sunil Kumar Bainsla, representing the concerns of the Gurjar community in Delhi-NCR, strongly condemned what he described as a "barbaric and inhuman act" and said that the matter cannot be treated as an ordinary criminal case. He announced that he would approach the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) seek-

ing immediate intervention, monitoring of the investigation and appropriate action under the law. According to the complaint proposed to be placed before the NCST, an FIR has already been registered against Khalid Hussain and his brother Tariq Hussain under relevant provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act. The complaint alleges that the minor girl was sexually abused on multiple occasions and that the accused included a person associated with her school. Advocate Bainsla said that, since the victim belonged to the Scheduled Tribe community, the applicability of the Scheduled Castes and Sched-

uled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act must also be examined strictly on the basis of the facts and evidence. He urged the authorities to explain why the relevant provisions of the Act were not invoked, wherever legally applicable. The Gurjar delegation has demanded that the NCST seek an Action Taken Report from the J&K Chief Secretary, Director General of Police and other concerned authorities regarding the investigation, invocation of the SC/ST Act, protection of the family and witnesses, compensation and rehabilitation. The complaint also seeks immediate preservation of all evidence, including viral videos, electronic communications, call records, financial transaction records, school records, medical and investigation reports, prescriptions, pharmacy records and medicines. An inquiry has also been demanded into whether any school official, doctor, panchayat member or other person ►P11

JMC seals 46 shops for rent default

JAMMU: The Jammu Municipal Corporation on Tuesday sealed 46 shops at the vegetable market in Indira Chowk for failing to pay rent for more than four years, officials said. A JMC team pasted notices and put locks and seals on the shops after they failed to clear their outstanding dues despite repeated notices, including a final notice, they said. The shopowners subsequently approached Deputy Commissioner (North), JMC, Sanjay Badyal, and assured the corporation that they would pay the rent regularly for the allotted shops, following which the sealing was lifted. "The 46 allottees of the open spaces at Indira Chowk had not been paying ►P11

Wandhama Massacre SIA reopens probe into 1998 killings of 23 Kashmiri Pandits

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: In a move to unmask the perpetrators of 1998 Wandhama massacre, the State Investigation Agency (SIA) of Jammu and Kashmir Police has reopened the investigation into the heart-wrenching killings, where 23 Kashmiri Pandits including toddlers were gunned down in Ganderbal district, officials said on Tuesday. The reopening of the case comes as part of an effort by the security agencies to re-launch probes into unresolved terror incidents involving the targeted killings of the minority Kashmiri Pandit community and to heal decades-old scars. The horrors of January 25, 1998 night, the eve of Republic Day, continue to haunt the collective memory of the region when a group of terrorists, disguised in Army uniforms, descended upon Wandhama village in central Kashmir and entered into four households belonging to Kashmiri Pandits for having a

cup of tea. The terrorists engaged with the unsuspecting residents in conversation, coaxing four Pandit families, who had courageously chosen not to migrate during the exodus of the early 1990s, to assemble together. Moments after a crackle on a walkie-talkie announced that the village was surrounded, the gunmen opened fire. Within minutes, 23 people from the community were mercilessly killed which included nine women and four children, two of them toddlers. Among the fallen was a one-year-old toddler whose body was riddled with 18 bullet wounds. In a desperate act of motherly love, a mother had tried to shield her infant in her lap, only for both to be fallen to terror bullets. The night's solitary survivor, young Vinod alias Ashoo, lived to tell the harrowing tale after sneaking to the upper storey of his house and hiding himself beneath a heap of dried cow-dung. He ►P11

8 OGWs held in 3 separate operations

SRINAGAR: Security forces have arrested eight overground workers of terrorists in three separate operations across Kashmir, officials said on Tuesday. On a tip off, police and army personnel launched a joint operation in an orchard at Imamsahib in Shopian district. During the search operation, security forces recovered one grenade, two AK magazines, four mobile phones and posters of a banned terror outfit from the orchard belonging to Nazir Ahmad Wani. The three suspected overground workers (OGWs) were identified as Ashiq Hussain ►P11