

INBRIEF

PM Modi to dispense over 51K job letters today

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will distribute more than 51,000 appointment letters to newly selected youth, who will join various government departments and organisations, at a special job fair on Saturday.

As many as 45 "Rozgar Melas" (job fairs) will be held at locations across the country.

The newly recruited candidates will join various ministries and departments of the Central government, including the Department of Revenue, the Ministry of Railways, the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the Department of Financial Services and the Ministry of Defence, according to a statement issued by the Prime Minister's Office.

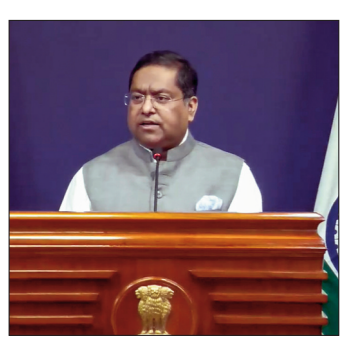
Collision of INS Kolkata in Arabian Sea

India rebuts Pak's allegations, says 'dangerous' manoeuvre by PNS Hunain caused the incident

Pakistani vessel violates a 1991 agreement requiring naval ships to maintain a distance of 3 nautical miles

NEW DELHI: India on Friday strongly rejected Islamabad's allegations regarding a collision between a Pakistani vessel and an Indian Navy warship in the Arabian Sea, asserting instead that "dangerous" manoeuvres by the ship from the neighbouring country caused the incident.

The incident had happened on Tuesday night after the Pakistani vessel closed in on the frontline Indian Navy warship that was on a routine surveillance mission in the north Arabian Sea, according to the Indian side. India summoned Pakistani charge d'affaires Saad Warraich on Wednesday and lodged a



diplomatic protest.

The Pakistan foreign ministry subsequently summoned Indian charge d'affaires Satyanjal Pandey and alleged that "aggressive" manoeuvres by the Indian warship triggered the collision.

At a media briefing, External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said on Friday that Pakistani vessel carried out a "dangerous" manoeuvre in violation of a 1991 agreement requiring naval ships to maintain a distance of three nautical miles. Jaiswal identified

India at UNSC: Navigational rights must be free of threats

UNITED NATIONS: Navigational rights must not be subject to coercion, threats, unlawful restrictions or arbitrary interference, India has said at a United Nations Security Council (UNSC) meeting, emphasising that maritime insecurity has consequences well beyond the immediate risks.

"Recent disruptions to significant global maritime routes have underpinned a fundamental reality: the security of maritime routes are vital to international peace, security and global prosperity," India's Permanent Representative to the

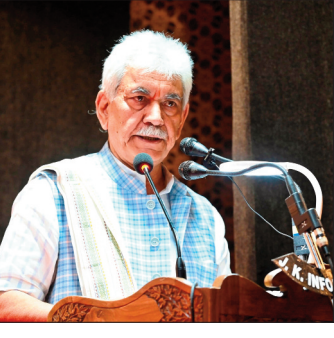
Sinha presents job letters to 29 JKPS Officers

Uniform's respect rests on your courage, conduct: LG to newly appointed officers

Underlined evolving nature of terrorism, radicalisation, and new methods of terror financing via cryptocurrency & money laundering

SRINAGAR: The Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Friday handed over appointment letters to 29 newly selected officers of the Jammu Kashmir Police (Gazetted) Service, marking a significant milestone in the Union Territory's journey towards merit-based governance and strengthened security.

In his address, the Lieutenant Governor emphasized that the appointment letters were not mere documents but carried the extraor-



dinary weight of trust reposed by citizens of Jammu Kashmir.

He described the appointment letter as invitations to serve, pledges to safeguard the dignity, security, and future of the people, and symbols of responsibility entrusted to the officers.

Congratulating the newly appointed officers, the Lieutenant Governor lauded their perseverance in overcoming an intense and transparent selection process conducted by the Jammu Kashmir Public Service Commission (JKPSC). He commended the

LG flags off Harmukh Gangbal pilgrimage

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday flagged off the annual Harmukh-Gangbal yatra in Ganderbal district.

Member of Parliament Mian Altaf, MLA Kangan Mian Mehar Ali, senior police and civil administration officers, and many Kashmiri Pandit pilgrims from across the country attended the flag-off ceremony at Naranag in the central Kashmir district. "Today flagged off the Harmukh Gangbal pilgrimage at Ganderbal. This sacred

Govt to set up Rs 6 Cr sports hall in Ganderbal

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Friday approved the construction of a modern Multi-Purpose Indoor Sports Hall in Ganderbal district at an estimated cost of Rs 6.17 crore, an official spokesperson said.

He said the government headed by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah has accorded administrative approval for construction of the 60 metre x 40 metre sports hall at Ganderbal, the constituency represented by Abdullah himself.

The facility will be equipped with modern sporting amenities and quality infrastructure, enabling young athletes to hone their skills, the spokesperson said. The project is aimed at nurturing

Birthday boy kills friend for smearing 'cake' on his face

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: A celebration on a roadside turned fatal when the birthday boy allegedly attacked and killed his friend with a sharp-edged weapon here after a dispute over cake being smeared on his face, police said on Friday.

Police arrested the accused and his brother.

At about 9 pm on Thursday, Police Post Government Medical College Jammu informed Police Station Janipur that one injured person, Pawan Nair alias "Sameer", was brought to the hospital by his friends -- John Sotra, Gaurav Singh and Sugandh Bhatti -- and doctors declared him brought dead, a police spokesperson said.

He said a police team from Police Station Janipur

rushed to GMC Jammu.

Preliminary enquiry revealed that Neeraj alias "Anshu" was celebrating his birthday on a roadside near Lower Roop Nagar where his friends Sotra, Singh, Bhatti and the deceased were present.

"Neeraj was accompanied by his brother Rishu. During the cutting of the cake, the deceased Nair smeared cake on the face of Neeraj, triggering a verbal duel. When Sotra, Singh and Bhatti pacified them, Neeraj got enraged, took out a 'khokhri' which he was carrying and attacked Nair on his neck, causing grievous injury. The injured was immediately shifted to GMC Jammu, where he was declared brought dead," the spokesperson said. Taking cognisance of the incident, Police Station Janipur regis-

GoC visits encounter site, reviews ongoing Op in Udh



■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: A day after security forces killed two Pakistani terrorists belonging to the proscribed outfit Jaish-e-Mohammad, the General Officer Commanding (GOC) of Jammu-based White Knight Corps, Lt Gen P K Mishra, on Friday visited the encounter scene in Udhampur district to review the ongoing counter terrorism operation, the Army said.

Lt Gen Mishra was accompanied by GOC Delta Force, a spe-

cialised counter-insurgency force of the Army headquartered in Batote that operates primarily across the Chenab valley districts of Ramban, Doda and Kishtwar and parts of Udhampur.

"GOC White Knight Corps, accompanied by GOC Delta Force, visited Brattal, Udhampur, to review the ongoing counter terrorism operations and assess the situation on ground.

"The Corps Commander reviewed the evolving security environment, operational dynam-

Omar attends conference on financing

NEW DELHI: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Friday attended the two-day conference on "Financing India's Journey towards Viksit Bharat", organised by the Ministry of Finance, Government of India, in New Delhi.

Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman attended the inaugural session of the conference of State Finance Ministers and Finance Secretaries of States and Union Territories with Legislature.

The two-day conference provides a platform for deliberations on financing challenges and policy priorities shaping India's development journey towards Viksit Bharat, while exploring policy complementarities between the Centre and the States through a combination of academic rigour and practical policy perspectives.

Chief Ministers, Deputy Chief Ministers, Finance Ministers and senior representatives from several States and Union Territories are participating in the conference.

The deliberations are also providing an opportunity to explore clear financial path-

India's idea of 'Dharma' distinct from Western notion of religion: Bhagwat

UJJAIN: RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat on Friday said India's understanding of the concept of 'dharma' was distinct from Western notions of religion, asserting that the country has not discriminated among different faiths and this was its understanding of secularism.

Addressing around 1,700 Gen Z participants at the 'Yuva Dharma Sansad' here, Bhagwat said he was happy to see youngsters discussing 'dharma' at a time when some considered it an old people's affair.

"Our state has always been intermingling. It does not discriminate among its people. This is the meaning of 'panth-nirpekshata' for us,"



he said.

Bhagwat said the Western concept of secularism emerged from conflicts between rulers and religious authorities, and therefore, did not fit the Indian context in the same manner.

The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh chief said India had

traditionally viewed material and spiritual aspects of life together rather than separating them.

Distinguishing between 'dharma' and religion, Bhagwat said that the two should not be treated as synonymous.

'Dharma' is above religion, he said, adding that while the latter binds, the former liberates and leads to 'moksha' (salvation).

He noted that the English language had no exact equivalent for the Indian concept, and the word 'religion' had historically been used to explain it to Western audiences.

Bhagwat said religion could become sectarian when separated from 'dharma',

JMC orders citywide survey of 'unsafe, dilapidated' buildings

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: In a major public-safety initiative, the Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) on Friday ordered a survey of dilapidated, dangerous and structurally unsafe buildings across the city, with particular attention to Old City and institutional buildings where many people reside or gather.

JMC Commissioner Devansh Yadav said the corporation had been receiving complaints about ageing and unsafe structures in the Old City for some time, with risks becoming particularly acute

HIGHLIGHTS

- 15 days deadline set to record inspection reports
- 15 unsafe buildings demolished over the past year
- Urgent-risk structures to be prioritised for action
- Ward-level teams formed for physical inspections
- Ownership, location, condition to be documented
- Old City, institutional buildings under special focus
- 50+ year-old residential buildings to be examined
- Columns, foundations, seepage will be checked

during the monsoon season.

"Over the past year, we have identified around 15 buildings that were unsafe, got them officially declared unsafe, and subsequently had them demolished. Now, as part of a fresh initiative, we have constituted ward-

ments and submit detailed reports within 15 days.

"The teams will assess buildings for structural deficiencies and other indicators of danger, including the condition of structural columns, foundations, water seepage, signs of severe deterioration and landslide-related risks. The reports will include details of the location and ownership of the structures, their physical condition, the nature of the danger posed and recommendations for further action," he said.

The JMC commissioner highlighted that the initiative would focus particularly on

Dr Jitendra leads coastal clean-up drive

MUMBAI: Leading the coastal clean-up drive at Juhu Beach on the eve of "International Coastal Cleanup Day" being observed across the world tomorrow, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences, and MoS in the Prime Minister's Office, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr. Jitendra Singh highlighted India's unexplored ocean wealth and referred to Deep Ocean Mission launched by PM Sh Narendra Modi as the torchbearer of India's Blue Economy.

The Minister said that the 'Swachh Sagar Surakshit

BIS seizes over 1K articles of '1 Gram Gold'

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) on Friday seized 1,095 articles of coated, imitation and "1 Gram Gold Plated Jewellery" here after detecting the BIS Hallmark and Standard Mark on tags attached to the items, an official said.

The seizure was made during a raid conducted at a jewellery outlet here, Joint Director, BIS, Jammu and Kashmir, V Avinash Babu, said.

According to the representative of the outlet, the seized articles were coated jewellery, imitation jewellery or "1 Gram Gold Plated Jew-

Dismantling drug networks vital for peace and security in J&K: LG Sinha

From villages to universities, women, youth clubs, teachers and civil society have joined hands to make J-K drug-free

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir LG Manoj Sinha on Friday stressed the need to dismantle drug-smuggling networks, underlining their links with narco-terrorism and their potential to undermine peace and security in the Union territory.



He called for coordinated and sustained efforts to disrupt these networks and strengthen the fight against drugs to ensure a safer, more secure and drug-free Jammu and Kashmir.

"There is a direct link between drug smuggling and narco-terrorism. Dismantling these networks is essential to ensuring peace, security and a drug-free Jammu and Kashmir," Sinha said while launch-

ing a documentary and collage exhibition on the 'Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan' at the University of Jammu.

In his address, the Lieutenant Governor emphasized that the beginning of any social change lies in acknowledging its reality. Drug abuse has long posed a grave challenge to the social fabric of Jammu Kashmir, devastating families and threatening the future of the younger generation. He highlighted the link between drug smuggling and narco-terrorism, underscoring the importance of dismantling these networks to ensure peace, security and drug-free Jammu Kashmir.

The Lieutenant Governor recalled the launch of the

J&K Bank renews agreement with Tata Motors as preferred financier

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: J&K Bank renewed its Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Tata Motors Limited - India's largest commercial vehicle manufacturer - to offer convenient and competitive financing solutions for the company's extensive range of commercial vehicles.

Under the agreement, J&K Bank will act as a preferred financier for all variants of commercial vehicles manufactured and marketed by Tata Motors. The partnership will operate on a pan-India basis, building on the Bank's established presence in J&K and Ladakh while extending support to customers across the country.

The renewed arrange-



ment will enable the Bank's branches to work closely with Tata Motors and its authorised dealer network to facilitate finance for eligible customers. Tata Motors and its dealers will also undertake promotional initiatives, generate customer leads, and connect prospective buyers with the Bank for financing support.

Speaking on the occasion, General Manager (RAM) Sanjay Gupta said, "The renewal of our association with Tata Motors reflects the shared commitment of two trusted