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BRIEF

Mughal road closed amid fresh snowfall

Jammu : Following fresh snowfall on Tuesday, Mughal road has been temporarily closed for precautionary measures via Peer Ki Gali. DTI Traffic Mughal Road Manzoor Ahmad Kohli told that Mughal road, connecting Shopian with Rajouri-Poonch districts was closed following the snowfall for precautionary measures. Traffic movement has been stopped on Mughal Road due to fresh snowfall. People are advised to avoid travelling on Mughal Road until the road becomes passable.

No need for countersignature of transfer certificates: CBSE tells Schools

New Delhi : The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has directed all schools to ensure that no requests for countersignature of transfer certificates (TCs) are sent to headquarters or regional offices, according to officials.

The Board had earlier discontinued the practice of countersignature of the TCs from one CBSE-affiliated school to another. However, the CBSE Headquarters and regional offices still receive requests for countersignature of transfer certificates. Non-compliance of CBSE guidelines by schools causes huge inconvenience to stakeholders and is also a hindrance to facilitating all in this age of digitisation," said CBSE Examination Controller. "Hence, all schools are once again reminded that there is no need for countersignature of any transfer certificate," he added.

3 drug peddlers held, property of another attached in Udhampur

Jammu: Three drug peddlers were arrested along with heroin while the property of another peddler was attached in Udhampur district on Wednesday, a police spokesperson said. The arrest of the trio took the total number of drug peddlers nabbed in Udhampur so far this year to 156, the spokesperson said. He said Pawan Kumar of Dansal and Rajinder Kumar of Manwal were arrested after 5 grams and 4.2 grams of heroin were recovered from their possession during frisking in Majalta area. Police also intercepted a two-wheeler driven by Kazim Ashraf, a resident of Bhabderwah and seized 7.18 grams of heroin from him, the spokesperson said. Three separate cases under relevant sections of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act were registered against the arrested peddlers, he said. In another incident, the spokesperson said the police attached property worth Rs 50 lakh belonging to drug peddler Amit Singh under the provisions of the NDPS Act. Quoting investigations, he said Singh, from Sonthan village, had acquired a residential house with land in his native village and a motorcycle from proceeds of narcotics trade.

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J&K's Peace built on Sacrifice, Sustained by values and Dialogue : LG Sinha

TT Correspondent

Srinagar, Nov 05 : The Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha delivered a keynote address today, at two-day International Symposium on "Peace, People and Possibilities in Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory". The Symposium has been organized by Vishwagram, a non-profit organisation dedicated to fostering education, compassion, art and service across India.

In his address, the Lieutenant Governor spoke about a new vision of a rising Jammu Kashmir that is peaceful, fear-free, prosperous, united and in which every citizen is empowered and touched by India's rapid progress. He said huge sacrifices have been made in last 5 years to make Jammu Kashmir where it is now.

The peace visible in Jammu Kashmir today has

given an opportunity to all to flourish with mutual respect and everyone is getting equal opportunity to live a dignified life. One



can see the impact of Peace, efforts of people for a better tomorrow and immense possibilities for all without any discrimination. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, we have followed the principles of people-first, social

justice and equality, which has transformed both the lives of the people and this crown jewel of the nation.

The Lieutenant

Governor also highlights the strong resolve to dismantle terror ecosystem and the commitment to maintaining peace, justice and equity. We are determined for strengthening socio-economic development and to turn the dreams

Family Background Does Not Determine Who Can Govern : Bihar Governor

SRINAGAR, Nov 5 : Bihar Governor Arif Mohammad Khan on Wednesday confirmed that all preparations are in place for the first phase of voting in the state assembly polls, calling the elections a celebration of democracy.

"Tomorrow is polling day, and preparations have already been finalised. I am confident that democracy in our country has become very strong," Khan told reporters here after attending an event at the Sher-i-Kashmir International Conference Centre (SKICC). Calling the polls a celebration of democracy,

Khan said that one's family background does not determine who can govern.

"The person who runs the government is chosen through the ballot box. They receive a mandate from the people of India and the states for a specific period. They are not sovereign; the people of this country are sovereign," the governor remarked.

Khan highlighted the examples of President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi, noting that their ascension to the highest offices in the country sends a powerful message: there

are no limits to what anyone can achieve. "What message does this send to the common man, especially to the youth? It demonstrates that we have a system where there are no restrictions on how high you can aspire to go. However, you must earn the people's trust. After that, the sky is the limit," he added. When asked about the dual power system in Jammu and Kashmir under the Union Territory setup and the lack of restored statehood, Khan acknowledged that it is unfortunate for Kashmir to have endured such painful situations.

SC asks ED to trace, secure absconding Mahadev betting App accused

New Delhi, Nov 05 : The Supreme Court has directed the Enforcement Directorate to trace and secure the absconding Mahadev betting app co-founder, who has fled from Dubai to an undisclosed location, saying the white-collar crime accused cannot be allowed to treat courts and probe agencies as "instruments to play around with". A bench of Justices MM Sundresh and Satish Chandra Sharma took serious note of the accused Ravi Uppal evading the law enforcement agencies and said, This shocks our conscience and the court has to do something about it. Uppal, who is evading law enforcement agencies in India, has reportedly fled Dubai, where he was under surveillance, to an undisclosed location forcing the UAE authorities to initiate steps for closure of his extradition proceedings.

"For kingpins like him, the courts and investigating agencies are mere instruments to play around with. We have to do something about it," the bench said, asking the ED to trace and

secure him. "We will dismiss his petition. Find out how to secure him. He seems to be quite resourceful flying from one place to the other," the court said on Tuesday. The top court was hearing a plea of Uppal in which he has challenged the Chhattisgarh High Court order of March 22 directing him to join the trial in the money laundering case pending before a Raipur trial court. Additional Solicitor General SV Raju, appearing for the ED, informed the court that Uppal seems to have escaped from Dubai, where he was detained in 2023. Raju said the accused, who are involved in financial crimes often try to flee to locations where there are no extradition treaties with India like the country has with the United Arab Emirates. "You can be extradited from the UAE as India has an extradition treaty with them. So, he may have gone to locations like the British Virgin Islands as India does not have an extradition treaty with that country," he submitted.

PM Modi meets Women's World Cup champions at his residence, poses for photo with trophy

New Delhi, Nov 05 : Prime Minister Narendra Modi hosted India's Women's World Cup-winning cricket team at his official residence at Lok Kalyan Marg on November 5, congratulating the players on their remarkable triumph and their spirited comeback in the tournament after facing early setbacks and online trolling.

Captain Harmanpreet Kaur recalled meeting the Prime Minister in 2017, before the team had won the trophy, and expressed delight at returning with the cup this time. Vice-captain Smriti Mandhana highlighted the PM's motivational influence, noting that his encouragement had inspired not just the team but also girls across India to strive for excellence in every field.

Deepthi Sharma shared her excitement about meeting the Prime Minister, remembering his words in 2017 when he urged them to keep working hard to

achieve their dreams. During the interaction, PM Modi also discussed Sharma's Instagram post of "Jai Shri Ram" and her tattoo of Bhagwan Hanuman.



The PM recalled iconic moments from Indian women's cricket, including Harleen Deol's famous catch against England in 2021 and the team's memorable moments in the World Cup final. Harmanpreet Kaur shared the story of how she kept the final match ball as a memento, while Amanjot Kaur reflected on her now-famous catch after a series of fumbles, which the PM praised as a lesson in focus. Kranti

Gaud also mentioned that her brother is a big fan of PM Modi, who extended an open invitation to meet him. The PM encouraged the team to promote fitness

among young girls nationwide, citing the growing challenge of obesity and the importance of physical well-being. He urged the players to visit schools and inspire students, reinforcing the message of Fit India while highlighting the impact of sports in empowering youth. Meanwhile, the Indian team also gifted a signed jersey to the PM, with Nammo written on the backside with the number 1 imprinted.

Encounter underway in Kishtwar, soldier injured

Kishtwar/Jammu, Nov 05 : An encounter broke out early Wednesday morning between security forces and terrorists in the Chhhatru area of Kishtwar district of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said. According to Army officials, the operation was launched after receiving credible intelligence inputs about the presence of suspected terrorists in the area. Soon after, the Army and J&K Police jointly cordoned off the location and launched a search operation. As the cordon was tightened, security forces established contact with the terrorists, and an exchange of fire ensued. In a post on X, the White Knight Corps wrote, "In an intelligence-based operation, conducted jointly with @JmuKmrPolice, alert troops of #WhiteKnightCorps established contact with terrorists in the general area of Chhhatru in the early hours today. Fire has been

exchanged with the terrorists. The operation is in progress."

Search operation launched in Poonch



Security forces on Wednesday launched a search operation following suspicious movement in the border areas of Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district, officials said. The operation was launched by the Special Operations Group (SOG),

army and the CRPF following reports of movement of suspected persons in the Balakote-Mendhar border areas, they said. The forces

are on high alert and locals have been urged to share any information about suspicious movements in their areas. On Tuesday, troops recovered a suspicious drone in the Sakhi Maidan border area of Mendhar, they added.

14 pilgrims denied entry into Pakistan for Guru Nanak's birth anniversary event

Amritsar, Nov 05 : As many as 14 persons were denied entry into Pakistan at the Attari-Wagah border, where pilgrims had arrived to celebrate the 556th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev. Pakistani immigration officials allegedly turned them back, citing their Hindu faith. Among the 14 individuals, seven are said to be residents of Delhi and the remaining seven from Lucknow. According to reports, the group had paid Rs 13,000 each as part of a bus fare package arranged for the visit. The amount was reportedly not refunded

after their entry was refused.

Notably, around 2100 people were cleared by the Union Home Ministry to visit Pakistan for the occasion. Islamabad had issued travel documents for approximately the same number of visitors.

An estimated 1,900 pilgrims successfully crossed into Pakistan through the Wagah border on Tuesday. This was the first occasion since Operation Sindoor when people-to-people contact between the two countries took place.

Acting Jathedar of Akal

Takht Sahib, Giani Kuldeep Singh Gargaj, is leading a Sikh delegation to Pakistan for the Gurdwarab celebrations. He crossed into Pakistan on November 4. The main event will take place later today at Gurdwara Janamasthan, located about 80 km from Lahore. During their 10-day visit, the Indian Sikh pilgrims will also pay homage at Gurdwara Panja Sahib in Hasan Abdal, Gurdwara Sacha Sauda in Farooqabad and Gurdwara Darbar Sahib in Kartarpur. Meanwhile, Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann has urged

the Centre to reopen the Kartarpur corridor. He made this request to the government after paying obeisance at the Golden Temple in Amritsar on Guru Purab. "What is the use if they reopen it when someone writes to them. They should reopen on their own. Now cricket matches are also being played with them (Pakistan). Devotees even return after 4-5 hours after paying obeisance at the Kartarpur Sahib. Therefore, the home ministry and external affairs ministry should reopen the Kartarpur corridor," he told reporters.

BJP hits back at Rahul Gandhi over Haryana 'vote chori' charge, says Diversionary tactic before Bihar polls

New Delhi, Nov 05 : The Bharatiya Janata Party on Wednesday hit back at Congress MP and Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi after he alleged that the Election Commission colluded with the BJP to secure victory in the Haryana Assembly elections 2025. Addressing a press conference, Union Minister Kiren Rijiju rejected Gandhi's allegations of massive electoral fraud and said the Congress leader was indulging in "diversionary tactics" before Bihar goes to polls. "Rahul Gandhi addressed the press to hide his failures.

There will be polling in Bihar (tomorrow), however, he was sharing stories about Haryana. This shows that the Congress has nothing left in Bihar and this is why to deviate attention he is raking up Haryana issue," Rijiju said. He added, "I would advise him that being Leader of Opposition, he should talk on serious issues and not waste time over irrelevant issues." Rijiju also countered Rahul Gandhi's accusations that a Brazilian model's photo-

graph was used multiple times under different names in the Haryana voter rolls. Gandhi had accused the BJP and the Election Commission of "systemic manipulation" in the state, alleging that 25 lakh fake votes amounting to almost 12 per cent of the electorate had been used. Rijiju dismissed the allegations and said this was "politically motivated drama." He remarked, "Rahul Gandhi collects information from foreign trips and tries to apply it in India," while ridiculing the claim regarding the Brazilian model's photograph.

The Union Minister said the LoP was spreading lies to hide electoral setbacks and should "behave responsibly as Leader of Opposition" instead of wasting time on "irrelevant claims." Notably, Rahul Gandhi on Wednesday cited electoral list data from Haryana to claim that 25 lakh entries were "fake" and the assembly polls last year were "stolen", as he accused the Election Commission of colluding with the BJP to make them win.

'52 lakh pensioners use 'Face Authentication' technology for Life Certificate'

New Delhi, November 5 : Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science & Technology, MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr. Jitendra Singh today formally launched the Nationwide Digital Life Certificate (DLC) Campaign 4.0, marking a significant step in the government's ongoing drive to simplify life certification for pensioners.

The month-long DLC campaign 4.0, which began on November 1 and will continue till November 30, has already seen over 55 lakh Digital Life Certificates generated within the first four days, against the month-long target of two crore. Referring to the achievements of the

previous DLC Campaign 3.0 last year, Dr. Jitendra Singh informed that notably, 52.73 lakh DLCs were submitted using face authentication, while 72.64 lakh were from EPFO pensioners. The Minister further informed that Campaign 3.0 of last year was conducted in 1,984 locations across 845 districts and cities in November 2024, during which 1.62 crore DLCs were generated, including 49.78 lakh from Central Government pensioners. Of these, over 85,200 were from pensioners above 90 years, and more than 2,200 were from pensioners aged above 100 years.

The present Campaign 4.0, covering nearly 2,000 districts, cities and towns

across the country through 2,500 camps and coordinated by 1,250 nodal officers, is being implemented with the participation of major banks,



India Post Payments Bank, and Pensioners' Welfare Associations. The initiative adopts a saturation approach to ensure that every pensioner irrespective of location or mobility constraints can submit their life certificate seam-

lessly. The DLC Campaign 4.0 is being conducted in collaboration with 19 Pension Disbursing Banks, India Post Payments Bank (IPPB),

Welfare Associations, UIDAI, MeitY, EPFO, Railways, CGDA, and the Department of Telecommunications, with the aim of reaching every pensioner across the country, including those in remote and

rural areas. IPPB alone is organizing camps in over 1,600 districts and sub-divisions through its network of 1.8 lakh postmen and Gramin Dak Sewaks, offering doorstep DLC services to pensioners, irrespective of their pension-disbursing bank. The Department has also created a dedicated DLC portal, mapped across 1,850 cities and towns with more than 2,500 camp locations and over 1,200 nodal officers. Trainings have been scheduled in a phased manner to ensure smooth operations throughout the month-long campaign.

The campaign also draws significant support from 57 Pensioners' Welfare Associations registered with DoPPW, which are playing a

pivotal role in organizing camps and mobilizing pensioners. This year, special emphasis is being laid on promoting Face Authentication Technology, developed with full technical support from MeitY and UIDAI, to make the process more seamless and convenient for the elderly. The outreach is being amplified through coordinated publicity by PIB, DD News, and All India Radio, alongside social media, SMS campaigns, and short films under the hashtag #DLCCampaign4, making this the largest digital empowerment campaign ever undertaken for pensioners in India. Recalling the journey of this reform, Dr. Jitendra Singh said, the idea behind introducing a Digital Life

Certificate was born out of empathy for the elderly. "It appeared inhuman to ask senior citizens to physically prove that they are alive to receive their pension," he said, adding that the government turned this challenge into an opportunity to introduce biometric and face authentication technologies for a noble cause. Underlining the technological transformation in pension delivery, Dr. Jitendra Singh said, "This not only brings ease of living for pensioners but also changes our social and economic behaviour, making society more technology-friendly". Jitendra Singh highlighted that the initiative has evolved into a global success story.

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