



Indian teacher who created hundreds of learning centres wins \$1 million Global Teacher Prize

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Taskaree Actress Zoya Afroz Brushes Off AR Rahman's 'Communal Bias' Remarks

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Department of Information & Public Relations, J&K

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## Road Safety First

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### J&K economy to grow at 5.82 pc: Economic Survey

The Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir's real Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) is estimated to grow at 5.82 per cent, according to the Economic Survey Report 2025-26.

The report said that Jammu and Kashmir achieved a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 4.47 per cent in real GSDP during 2019-20 to 2024-25, indicating economic resilience and post-pandemic recovery.

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### Nathatop, Daggan Top to be developed as tourism areas

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today informed the legislative assembly that the government was examining a proposal to develop new tourism areas in J&K, including several locations in Ramban district of Jammu.

Replies to a question by MLA of Banihal-Gool, he said the proposal included areas such as Godogali, Nathatop, Dag

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### Deadline for filing APRs extended

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, FEB 05

The government today extended the deadline for filing Annual Property Returns (APRs) for 2025 by 15 days after finding that a large number of employees had failed to submit their details within the prescribed time.

"It has been observed that a considerable number of employees have failed to submit their property returns within the prescribed timeline, resulting in a default in this mandatory process. It has also been noted that several employees have registered on the portal, but have not

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### J&K gets Rs 118 cr for development of fisheries

NEW DELHI, FEB 05: The fisheries department in Jammu and Kashmir has seen increased policy focus, infrastructure support and central funding in recent years through flagship schemes backed by official data and parliamentary disclosures, as part of the Union government's sustained push to strengthen livelihood-driven sectors.

Against this backdrop, over Rs 118 crore has been released to Jammu and Kashmir under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) during the last five financial years, ac-

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## World moving towards new global order, leaning towards India: Modi

NEW DELHI, FEB 05:

India has emerged as the loud voice of the Global South, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said in the Rajya Sabha on Thursday, even as he observed that the world is moving towards a new global order after the Covid-19 pandemic.

"It is clear that the world is moving towards a new world order. After the Second World War, a world order was created; now the world is moving towards a new global order. If we analyse it independently, it is leaning towards India," he said while replying to the Motion of Thanks to the Presidential address, and touched upon several key issues as well as the achievements of the government.

"The world is talking about the Global South; India is a loud voice of the Global South," he said and mentioned the trade deals being finalised with different countries.

Highlighting trade deals being finalised with differ-



ent countries, the PM said, "We are doing future-ready trade deals with a lot of countries. In the past few days, we have had nine major trade deals, and the mother of all deals was the one with the European Union."

The prime minister said that in the journey of Viksit Bharat, the previous years had been years of rapid development of the country. "This has been the era of change in every walk of life, in every section of society. The country is going ahead in the right direction at a fast pace."

He claimed that a significant part of the country's energy was being spent on correcting the mistakes of the past.

"It takes great effort to erase the image that was created in the minds of the world during that period; they left things in such a damaged state. That is why we have placed strong emphasis on future-ready policies," he said.

He also took a dig at the Opposition, which had staged a walkout, and said, "They got tired and left...

But some day they will have to reply... How did they bring India to a point where no country was coming forward to have a trade deal with us."

The Prime Minister started his reply as Opposition parties raised slogans saying the Leader of Opposition should be allowed to speak amid the stand-off in the Lok Sabha.

He took a dig at Rajya Sabha Leader of Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge, and suggested he could raise slogans while sitting.

Opposition MPs later staged a walkout.

He said "the whole world is appreciating" the India-US trade deal.

He added that the trade deal would especially be beneficial for the Indian youth.

"Big countries are very eager to have trade relations with India. Be it the trade deal with the European Union or the recent deal with the US. The entire

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### LS passes Motion of Thanks on Prez's address without PM's response

NEW DELHI, FEB 05: The Lok Sabha on Thursday passed the Motion of Thanks on the President's address without the customary reply by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, amid vociferous protests by the opposition.

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla put the opposition amendments to the Motion of Thanks to vote, which were rejected.

The Speaker then read out the Motion of Thanks to the President for her address to both Houses of Parliament on January 28, which was passed by a voice vote, amid sloganising by the opposition

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### 18 killed in Meghalaya coal mine blast

SHILLONG, FEB 05: At least 18 labourers were killed, and several others feared trapped following an explosion at an "illegal" coal mine in Meghalaya's East Jaintia Hills district on Thursday, Director General of Police I Nongrang said.

Rescue teams have been engaged in search operations, she said, adding that the incident occurred in the Thangsku area in the morning.

"We have recovered 18 bodies so far. The exact number of labourers present inside the mine at the time of the explosion is yet to be ascertained.

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## Abolish UT-with-assembly system, will be gift to nation: Omar to PM



Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, FEB 05

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today made an appeal to Prime Minister Narendra Modi to abolish the Union Territory-with-Assembly system, while expressing hope that long-pending Transaction of Business Rules would be approved in the coming days to end "governance confusion" in Jammu and Kashmir.

"The sooner the UT-with-Assembly system is removed from the Constitution, the more beneficial it will be for the country," he said while replying to a

debate on the motion of thanks to the LG's address in the assembly.

"It is true that working in a Union Territory is extremely difficult. I hold my ears and ask who came up with this model of a UT with an Assembly. I say this openly if our Prime Minister wants to give a gift to this country, it should be to abolish this system. If you want to keep a UT, then do not keep an Assembly; and if an area is fit to have an Assembly, then make it a state," the chief minister said during his over an hour-long speech.

Referring to the speech of a legislator who recently

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'Calamity-hit landless families to get land'

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, FEB 05

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today said the government had approved the allotment of five 'marlas' of land on a 40-year lease basis to landless families affected by natural calamities in 2025.

"Over 6,400 families hit by flash floods and landslides in Udhampur district have been provided financial assistance," he said in a written reply to a question by BJP's Balwant Singh Mankotia in the assembly.

The chief minister said the Council of Ministers had taken a decision, which was followed by a government order on January 2, approving the allotment of five marlas (1.60 acre) of state land to each landless family rendered homeless due to floods, landslides, cloudbursts and earthquakes in Jammu and

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## Amit Shah arrives; security apparatus review to take centre stage



Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, FEB 05

Union Home Minister Amit Shah, who arrived here late tonight on a crucial 3-day visit to the UT, is scheduled to review security apparatus to intensify operations, and development initiatives in high-level meetings here on Friday.

Soon after his arrival here, he straightway moved to Lok Bhawan.

During his stay here, Shah was scheduled to preside over high-level review meetings on security and development issues.

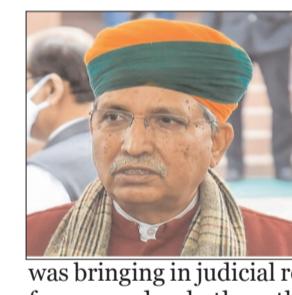
He was also set to visit the Bobia and Gurnam

and hand over appointment letters.

Speaking on the Home Minister's visit, Jammu and Kashmir Leader of Opposition Sunil Sharma said that the scheduled security

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## Process to revise MOP on judicial appointments under consideration: Meghwal



NEW DELHI, FEB 05: Minister of State for Law & Justice Arjun Ram Meghwal today informed the Rajya Sabha that the process to revise the Memorandum of Procedure (MOP) for appointment of judges in higher judiciary was under consideration and further steps in this regard would be taken only after it was complete.

"Consultations are underway on setting up the All-India judicial service and in what form it should be brought in," he said while replying to supplementaries during the Question Hour.

The Speaker then read out the Motion of Thanks to the President for her address to both Houses of Parliament on January 28, which was passed by a voice vote, amid sloganising by the opposition

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was bringing in judicial reforms and whether the NJAC would be brought in again, the minister said all know that the National Judicial Appointments Commission Bill was passed by Parliament and the Act was later challenged in the Supreme Court and was struck down.

"After that, a procedure to revise the MoP (Memorandum of Procedure) is under consideration and

the next step will be taken up after that process is complete," Meghwal informed the House.

To another query on whether a national judicial service would be introduced in the country, the minister said, "Article 312 in our Constitution has a provision for the All-India judicial service and this issue has been discussed several times even during conferences of judges."

"This is an issue which is pending before the Supreme Court. Consultations on this are underway as to in what form this should be brought in. This matter is pending," Meghwal said.

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## Kavinder vows to transform Ladakh into knowledge, innovation hub



Himalayan Mail News LEH, FEB 05

Underscoring University of Ladakh's role in education-led development, Ladakh LG Kavinder Gupta today vowed to transform the UT into knowledge & innovation hub.

"Education is key to Ladakh's sustainable growth," he said while interacting with the faculty, staff and students of University of Ladakh at Taru here.

"We have recovered 18 bodies so far. The exact number of labourers present inside the mine at the time of the explosion is yet to be ascertained.

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Ladakh's future and contributing to the national vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

"Institutions, like the University of Ladakh, are the cornerstone of nation-building in geographically challenging regions," he said while lauding the uni-

versity's rapid growth since its inception.

Gupta described the university as a symbol of Ladakh's aspirations, resilience, and intellectual strength.

Commanding the world-

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## SC to hear PIL against poll freebies promises by political parties

political parties to voters during elections and this amounts to corrupt practice," the lawyer said.

"This is an important issue. You please remind us and mention it at the end. We will list in March," the CJI said.

On January 25, 2022, a bench headed by the then Chief Justice N V Ramana had sought replies from the Centre and the Election Commission on the PIL seeking direction to seize the symbol or deregister a political party that promises or distributes "irrational freebies" before polls.

Lawyer-petitioner Ashwini Updhyaya told a bench comprising Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi that the notices on his PIL were issued to the Centre and the Election Commission in 2022 itself, and urged it to list the matter soon.

"Except Sun and Moon, everything is promised by

Cont. on P9 >

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