



Maximum : 16°  
Minum : 06°  
Humidity : 50%

SUNSET  
Today 05:27 PM  
SUNRISE  
Tomorrow 07:04 AM



## QUICK Take

### LG inaugurates National Academia-Industry Conclave



MONITOR NEWS BUREAU

**AWANTIPORA, NOVEMBER 15:** Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha inaugurated the National Academia-Industry Conclave, today on the occasion of the 18th Foundation Day of the Islamic University of Science & Technology, Awantipora.

In his address, the Lt Governor congratulated the Vice Chancellor, faculty members, and students on their

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### India beat NZ to enter World Cup final



AGENCIES

**NEW DELHI:** Team India continued its dominance in the ICC World Cup 2023 as the Men in Blue became the first finalist of the tournament.

India successfully took revenge for the defeat it faced in the ICC World Cup 2019 against the Kiwis as the team defeated New Zealand by 70 runs.

Rohit Sharma will ● P-04

### Fake army officer held



MONITOR NEWS BUREAU

**SRINAGAR:** Media reports indicate that a man, who impersonated an army officer has been arrested for trying to assault a class 12 student in Jammu and Kashmir's Samba district.

The accused, known as Sham Lal from the Ramgarh area, was detained after the girl complained to him. As per the complaint, Sham Lal, pretending to be an Army Colonel, lured the girl and her younger brother, a class 10 student from

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## Doda tragedy: 38 killed, 19 hurt as bus falls into gorge



AGENCIES

**DODA:** At least 38 people were killed, and several were injured when a bus carrying passengers skidded off the road and rolled down into a 300-foot gorge in Jammu and Kashmir's Doda district on November 15.

Injured passengers were airlifted to Jammu for treatment. "The incident that happened in Doda is very unfortunate in which several people died

and 19 injured were brought to GMC hospital in Doda. Of them, 4 people were critical and have been airlifted to Jammu," says Jammu Divisional Commissioner Ramesh Kumar on the Doda bus accident.

The bus, bearing registration number JK02CN-6555, was reportedly carrying around 40 passengers, officials said, adding that it skidded off the road near Trungal-Assar on the Batote-Kishtwar national highway and fell 300 feet downhill.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced an ex-gratia of Rs. 2 lakh from PMNRF for the next of kin of each deceased, and Rs. 50,000 would be given to the injured.

"The bus accident in Doda, Jammu and Kashmir, is distressing. My condolences to the families who have lost their near and dear ones. I pray that the injured recover at the earliest," PM Modi said on X.

A rescue operation has been launched, and some

### Indian Army conducts swift rescue operation in Doda



MONITOR NEWS BUREAU

**DODA:** Indian Army, in collaboration with civil administration, conducted a swift rescue operation in response to a grievous accident on National Highway 244 at Assar, near Wani Mod.

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### Amit Shah expresses heartfelt condolences



MONITOR NEWS BUREAU

**NEW DELHI:** Union Home Minister Amit Shah expressed grief over lives lost in a tragic bus accident in Doda district.

Taking to 'X', Shah mentioned that the local

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### PM condoles loss of lives; announces Rs 2L ex-gratia

MONITOR NEWS BUREAU

**NEW DELHI:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi has condoled the loss of lives due to a bus accident in Doda, Jammu and Kashmir. The Prime Minister announced an ex-gratia from PMNRF of Rs. 2 lakh to the next of kin of each deceased and Rs. 50,000 for those injured.

Prime Minister's Office tweeted; "The bus accident in Doda, Jammu and Kashmir is distressing. My condolences to the fami-



lies who have lost their near and dear ones. I pray that the injured recover at the earliest. An ex-gratia of Rs. 2 lakh from PMNRF would be given to the next of kin of each deceased. Rs. 50,000 would be given to the injured."

### LG expresses grief, announces Rs 5L ex-gratia to NoK of deceased



MONITOR NEWS BUREAU

**SRINAGAR, NOVEMBER 15:** Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday said he was "extremely pained"

### CS takes stock of rescue, rehabilitation measures



MONITOR NEWS BUREAU

**SRINAGAR, NOVEMBER 15:** Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta, immediately after the unfortunate road accident at Assar, Doda in

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## Grateful to PM Modi for outreach activities in tribal districts of J&K: LG Sinha



MONITOR NEWS BUREAU

**JHARKHAND/ SRINAGAR, NOVEMBER 15:** Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha virtually attended the launch ceremony of 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra' at Raj Bhawan Srinagar.

The yatra was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Jharkhand.

In Jammu Kashmir, the Sankalp Yatra was flagged off from Budhal,

Rajouri, and Gurez, Bandipora. People, Panchayati Raj institutions, and government officials attended the launch function.

The Lt Governor expressed gratitude to the Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi for starting outreach activities in tribal districts of Bandipora and Rajouri to achieve saturation of flagship schemes, on the birth anniversary of legendary tribal freedom fighter, Bhagwan Birsu Munda.

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## PM Modi launches 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra' to ensure saturation of schemes

MONITOR NEWS BUREAU

**KHUNTI:** Prime Minister, Narendra Modi addressed the program marking the celebrations of Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas, 2023 in Khunti, Jharkhand. During the programme, the Prime Minister launched 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra' and Pradhan Mantri Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups Development Mission. He also released the 15th installment of PM-KISAN.

Modi also laid the foundation stone and dedicated to the nation multiple development projects in Jharkhand worth Rs 7200 crores in multiple sectors like rail, road, Education, Coal, Petroleum, and Natural Gas. He also took a walkthrough of the exhibition showcased on the occasion.

Modi congratulated and conveyed his best wishes to every citizen on the occasion of Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas. He also conveyed his greetings on the occasion of



the Foundation Day of Jharkhand and highlighted the contributions of Former PM, Atal Bihari Vajpayee in its formation.

Dwelling on his connection

with Jharkhand, the Prime Minister recalled that Ayushman Yojana was started from Jharkhand. The Prime Minister said that two historic initiatives

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## Drug inspector arrested on bribery charges in Handwara



MONITOR NEWS BUREAU

**SRINAGAR:** Anti-Corruption Bureau on Wednesday arrested a drug inspector for demanding and accepting a bribe of Rs 10,000 from a complainant in the Handwara area of north Kashmir.

In a statement, ACB said drug inspector Ishtiyah Ahmed Baba had seized some medicines from the complainant and to release the same, he demanded Rs 10,000 as a bribe.

The statement reads that the complainant, however, approached the ACB Baramulla with a written complaint requesting legal action against the drug inspector.

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## Howzatt! Sachin bats for Kashmir via DP World commercial

ISHFAQ-UL-HASSAN

**SRINAGAR:** Imagine Sachin Tendulkar promoting Kashmiri willow bat!

Well, this is not a fairytale, it is a reality. A one-minute commercial of DP World, the official logistical partner of ICC, has put smiles back on the sullen faces of cricket bat manufacturers in Kashmir.

In the video, Sachin can be seen walking into a bat manufacturing factory and trying some Kashmiri willow. He is seen going around the factory while street urchins donning Kashmiri pherans wave at the 'God of the Cricket'.

"We are thankful to DP World and ICC for recognizing cricket bat-making in Kashmir. We have been manufacturing bats for 100 years, but the world did not know. People were just of the opinion that bats come from England and that is it," Fawzul Kabir, spokesperson, Cricket Bat Manufacturers Association of Kashmir, told The



Kashmir Monitor.

What has brought cheers to the industry was Sachin trying Kashmiri willow in the commercial. "Sachin is the god of the game. He promoting our bat will go a long way in boosting our industry and economy. It took me 11 years to

tell the world that you can get the bat in Kashmir as well. We now request Sachin and other players to post an appeal on their social media handles urging the government to conduct a willow replantation drive so that this industry is saved," said Fawzul.

Kashmir boasts of 400 factories manufacturing cricket bats. Of these 200 units are operational in Anantnag and 180 others in Pulwama district. Having superior wood quality, the price of a Kashmiri cricket bat ranges between Rs 250 to 1200. English willow, which

is mostly used by the national and international players, however, is sold at Rs 35,000 to 50,000.

Kashmir cricket bat manufacturing units have been battling a fall in demand and losses due to spontaneous lockdowns, shutdowns, and other issues. According to bat manufacturers, they have faced losses of over Rs 1000 crore since 2019. Over 1.5 lakh people are directly and indirectly associated with this trade

In 2019, the government declared the area between Awantipora to Sangam as an Industrial Zone in a bid to boost the fledgling sports goods industry of South Kashmir.

"Nobody knew the strengths and weaknesses of our bat until Junaid Siddiqui of UAE hit the longest six in a match with Sri Lanka last year. People came to know that there is an alternative to English willow as well. So many international players have used our bat since then," said Fawzul, who also owns GR8 Sports India Pvt Ltd.

## CS visits Flora Nagbani, stresses online services



MONITOR NEWS BUREAU

**JAMMU, NOVEMBER 15:** Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta today visited panchayat Flora Nagbani, in block Marh, and interacted with the locals and PRI representatives in a public event organized under the Back to Village 5 program.

Speaking to the public, the Chief Secretary highlighted the significance and transparency of online services and encouraged all to look at government works on the Jan

Bhagidari portal. He said that paper applications and documentation are discouraged these days and the Prabhari officer must educate the public about the government's online services.

Chief Secretary said that all government works are reflected online public disclosure is the new norm. He underlined that public participation is encouraged by the current system and the public can view the status of the works without any need for usernames or

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