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## Kharge vs Tharoor in Cong prez poll

NEW DELHI, Sept 30: The stage was set today for a contest between Mallikarjun Kharge and Shashi Tharoor for the Congress president's post with the Dalit leader from Karnataka emerging as the clear favourite.

The third candidate in the fray, K N Tripathi, a former Minister in Jharkhand, is considered a lightweight for the contest.

Kharge, Tharoor and Tripathi filed nominations on the last day which saw the AICC headquarters come back to life after long, with workers swarming the complex.

The 80-year-old Kharge, flanked by top Congress leaders, filed 14 sets of nomination papers with the proposers including Ashok Gehlot, Digvijaya Singh, A K Antony, Ambika Soni, Mukul Wasnik and members from the G-23 ginger group comprising Anand Sharma, Bhupinder Hooda,

## SC approves resolution on elevation of Justice Magrey

JAMMU, Sept 30: Supreme Court of India today formally approved resolution regarding elevation of Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey as Chief Justice of Common High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and transfer of present Chief Justice Pankaj Mithal to the High Court of Rajasthan. The decisions in this regard were taken by the Supreme Court Collegium comprising Chief Justice of India Justice U U Lalit and four senior most Judges in its meeting held on September 28, 2022.

## School timings changed

JAMMU, Sept 30: The School Education Department, Jammu today ordered change in school timings with effect from October 1. As per an order issued by Director School Education Jammu Dr Ravi Shankar Sharma, all Government and private schools falling in Summer Zone of Jammu division will observe school timing from 9 am to 3 pm within Municipal limits.

## Searches in border villages

JAMMU, Sept 30: Security forces have launched a massive search operation in several forward areas along the International Border (IB) in Kathua district following information about a suspected drone activity. However, nothing objectionable was found during the joint operation by police, CRPF, BSF and SOG, the officials said.

The operation was launched after villagers near Talli hamlet in Marheen tehsil of Hiranagar sub-division informed that they spotted a drone flying along the IB late Thursday night, they added.

## Huge cache of arms recovered 2 JeM militants killed in Pattan tasked to target Army recruitment rally

SRINAGAR, Sept 30: Two militants of Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) were killed in an encounter in Pattan area of Baramulla district today and police said they were tasked to target the Army recruitment rally. Security forces also recovered a huge cache of arms and ammunition from Gurez sector of Bandipora.

Additional Director General of Police Kashmir, Vijay Kumar, said here that two militants of the JeM were killed in an encounter with security forces in Yadipora village of Baramulla district.

## CSB allocation of Rs 35 cr to benefit 27,000 families We can take J&K to new heights by harmony, capabilities: LG

Fayaz Bukhari SRINAGAR Sept 30: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha today said that by social harmony and capabilities we can take Jammu and Kashmir to new heights.

The LG said this at SKICC here in his inaugural address at a day-long workshop on Sericulture in J&K, "Silk

\*Watch video on [www.excelsiornews.com](http://www.excelsiornews.com)

Samagra & beyond". "The way there is positive change taking place, people living in villages are getting a new type of confidence. By social harmony and capabilities we can make the future of Jammu and Kashmir," he said.

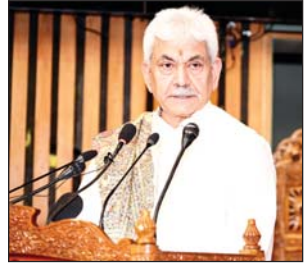
He added that the efforts are being made to make Jammu and Kashmir self-reliant in agriculture and its allied sectors including sericulture.

"Almost 70 percent of the population is directly or indirectly dependent on agriculture and its allied sectors. If this sector is tapped fully, we can take economic, social and cultural

development to new heights," he added.

He urged all those who are associated with silk industry to come out of the past and look for the future.

"Our prime objective is to make the lives of farmers asso-



ciated with this dream fabric better and to ensure uniqueness, beauty and ingenuity, which are the hallmark of J&K's crafts, dominates the global market," the LG said.

Sinha said, under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Government endeavours to provide training, technology inputs, IT tools and such other infrastructure support required for the transformation of sericulture.

The LG said that the

Government is working on area expansion under Mulberry Plantation to increase leaf availability for rearers and enrich green wealth.

"Forest Department & Sericulture Department have been working jointly for achieving the green mission of the UT. Avenues of Market Infrastructures to provide platform and facilitate the cocoon growers in selling their produce in their vicinity," he added.

"The futuristic roadmap for holistic growth of agriculture and allied sector will help in ensuring product quality, quantity and boosting global demand. We need to safeguard skills handed down from generation to generation and make this sector financially more attractive, the LG observed.

He underscored the importance of adoption of latest technological advancements in the silk to reduce the dependence on imported silk. "One of the three important centers in the country for Research and Development, Training, Transfer of Technology and IT Intervention

(Contd on page 4 Col 3)

## Use of Social Media also under strict surveillance Centre, UT's major focus on border areas to check drone activities, intrusions, narcotics

Sanjeev Pargal JAMMU, Sept 30: All security and Intelligence agencies have been keeping special focus all along the border areas of Jammu and Kashmir with Pakistan in view of anticipated surge in drone activities and infiltration attempts by the militants along both Line of Control (LoC) as well as International Border (IB).

Earlier, the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) had also sounded about "undesirable activities" along the border areas and called upon all Governments which share boundaries with neighbours especially Pakistan to maintain high alert at all such places.

## Movement of suspicious persons on radar

Official sources told the Excelsior that there have been "very credible and specific inputs" with security and Intelligence agencies about drone activities and infiltration attempts in the border areas and, in this context, the Union Home Ministry has also called for very high alertness especially ahead of the festival season.

"The threat was more about smuggling of sticky bombs from across the border using drones and Over Ground Workers (OGWs) of the militants," the officials said, adding though movement of drones has been observed

earlier also along the International Border but the threat perception has increased because of the festival season and in the aftermath of ban on Popular Front of India (PFI) for five years by the Union Home Ministry.

Arms and explosives smuggled from the borders here could be used in other States in retaliation to ban on the PFI but security, Intelligence agencies and police personnel are maintaining very high alert to thwart the designs of militants, their mentors and other anti-national elements.

(Contd on page 4 Col 3)

## Startup movement major achievement of Modi Government: Dr Jitendra

Avtar Bhat JAMMU, Sept 30: Maintaining that Startup Movement is major achievement of Narendra Modi Government, Union Minister in PMO with Independent charge of Science and Technology, Dr Jitendra Singh today asked the youth to come

\*Watch video on [www.excelsiornews.com](http://www.excelsiornews.com)

out of feudal mindset of Government job which is a big impediment in Startup culture in North India especially J&K.

Inaugurating the first-of-its-kind Startup Expo here, covering areas of Agriculture, Aroma, Dairy, Pharma, IT, Computer and Communications, Dr Jitendra Singh gave full credit to the futur-



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh taking round of stalls after inaugurating the first of its kind Startup Expo at Jammu on Friday.

istic vision of Prime Minister, Narendra Modi who had given a call for "Startup India and StandUp India" from the ramparts

(Contd on page 4 Col 1)

## Pilgrims, passengers suffer Huge traffic jam on NH

KATHUA, Sept 30: The commuters as well as the other people including college and school going students, employees and pilgrims of Mata Vaishno Devi were put to many hardships due to huge traffic jam on Jammu - Pathankot National Highway right from Pathankot in Punjab to Chadwal in Kathua district today.

According to reporters, the passengers as well as the pilgrims of Mata Vaishno Devi faced a tough time as they were trapped in the traffic jam for more than three hours. To clear the Highway, SSP Traffic, Ruler, Mohan Lal Kaithi rushed to Lakhapur and monitored the road clearance along with other officers of the Department and police.

Reports said that the authori-

ties did not allow the vehicles coming from outside the UT to proceed towards Jammu and Srinagar with the result they were forced to park their vehicles on one tube of the Highway that resulted in huge traffic jam and long queues of vehicles on

NH are lying right from Chadwal to Pathankot.

Reports said that authorities stopped the vehicles coming from Punjab side to J&K on the pretext that priority will be given to fruit laden trucks coming from Kashmir valley with the result the drivers parked their vehicles on one tube of Highway which created impediments in the smooth plying of traffic resulting in a huge jam.

Reports said even the vehicles carrying cement, iron, vegetables



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