

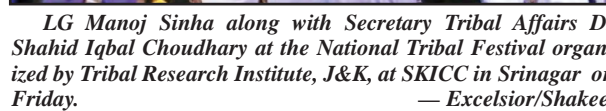
## 'They were acting as owners of Govt property, funds' LG hits out at NC, PDP on homes to homeless issue

**Fayaz Bukhari**  
**SRINAGAR, July 7:** Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha today lashed out at National Conference (NC) and People's Democratic Party (PDP) on the issue of giving homes to the homeless saying that the days of some people were acting as the "owners of Government property and funds" are gone.  
 Addressing the National Tribal Festival at SKICC here, the LG said that the recent announcement of giving land to 2711 landless families and homes to those who are homeless has pinched some people who have started to oppose the move.  
 Without naming PDP president Mehbooba Mufti and NC vice president, Sinha said that they grabbed State land, constructed huge houses for themselves and left poor suffer and

now the same people are misleading the common masses. Minister's Awas Yojna implemented across the country except J&K. "Now that the scheme is being implemented here too, some people feel the

"I want to tell them that gone are the days when they were treating themselves as the owners of Government property and funds. Gone are the days when they were taking decisions that suit their political interests," he said.

The LG said that Prime Minister's Awas Yojna implemented across the country except J&K. "Now that the scheme is being implemented here too, some people feel the



**LG Manoj Sinha along with Secretary Tribal Affairs Dr Shahid Iqbal Choudhary at the National Tribal Festival organized by Tribal Research Institute, J&K, at SKICC in Srinagar on Friday.**

## Cong to move SC on Rahul's conviction

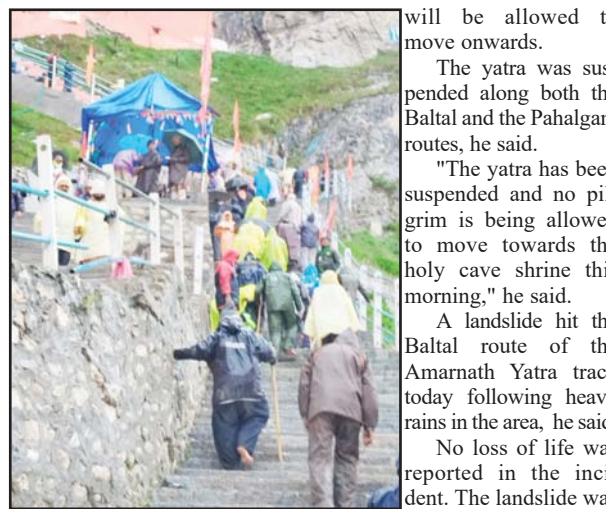
**AHMEDABAD/NEW DELHI, July 7:** Observing that "purity in politics" is the need of the hour, the Gujarat High Court today dismissed Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's plea seeking a stay on his conviction in a criminal defamation case over his "Modi surname" remark.  
 In a setback for 53-year-old Gandhi, Justice Hemant Prachchhak also noted that representatives of people should be "men of clear antecedent" and that a stay on conviction is not a rule, but an exception resorted only in rare cases. There was no reasonable ground to stay the conviction, it added. A stay on Gandhi's conviction would have paved the way for his reinstatement as a Lok Sabha MP.  
 Delivering a 125-page verdict, Justice Prachchhak also said Gandhi, a former Congress president, was already facing 10 criminal cases across India, adding the order of the lower court was "just, proper and legal" in handing over a two year jail term to Gandhi for his remarks. The judge maintained it was not an "individual-centric defamation case", but something which affected a "large section of the society".  
 The court also noted Gandhi took Prime Minister Narendra Modi's name in his speech to "add sensation" and with an intention to "affect the result" of the 2019 Lok Sabha elections.  
 The Congress said it will move the Supreme Court against the verdict and alleged that the Government is finding "newer techniques" to throttle his voice as it is rattled by him speaking the truth.  
 BJP MLA and former Minister in Gujarat Government Purnesh Modi had filed a criminal defamation case in 2019 against Gandhi over his 'How come all thieves have Modi as the common surname?' remark made during an election rally at Kolar in Karnataka on April 13, 2019. Significantly, the Aam Aadmi

## Says holding big BJP rallies in Kashmir shows BJP's growth Centre has done justice with all sections, JK marching towards peace, progress: Nadda

**■ Raina, Stanzin give presentation of two UTs**  
**Sanjeev Pargal**  
**JAMMU, July 7:** BJP president JP Nadda today said that Jammu and Kashmir has been marching towards peace, progress and prosperity very fast and people in the UT have developed full faith in democracy. He lauded BJP's growth in the UT especially the Valley where the party earlier had negligible presence but now it is holding big rallies there.  
 Nadda is reported to have made these remarks while addressing a meeting of State/UT presidents and general secretary (Organizations) of North Zone and national office bearers in New Delhi. The meeting is being seen as a move by Nadda to review preparations of States/UTs for 'Mission 2024' and Assembly elections where they are due in December this year.  
 In North Zone, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan are scheduled to have Assembly polls in December. Though Assembly elections are also due in Jammu and Kashmir, their schedule hasn't been notified by the Election Commission of India so far.  
 From Jammu and Kashmir, the meeting was attended by UT BJP chief Ravinder Raina and general secretary (Organizations) Ashok Koul. BJP national secretary Narinder Singh, who hails from J&K, was also present.  
 "Peace, Progress and Prosperity have been restored in Jammu and Kashmir. People in the UT have full faith in democracy. It's now 'Khashali Ka Daur' (an era of prosperity) in J&K," Nadda reportedly said while touching Jammu and Kashmir in his address to the meeting.  
 All this is because of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's policy of treating all people as one and delivering justice to every section of society, he said.  
 Referring to Ravinder Raina's address earlier on grant of rights to various sections of

## Yatra to remain suspended from Jammu today Amarnath Ji pilgrimage temporarily halted on twin tracks due to bad weather

**Avtar Bhat**  
**JAMMU, July 7:** As Amarnath Ji Yatra was suspended today from twin Baltal and Nunwan-Pahalgam tracks due to heavy rainfall in many parts of Kashmir and slippery tracks, the authorities have decided to suspend the yatra from Jammu tomorrow in view of the bad weather.  
 Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar told Excelsior that yatra will not be allowed to proceed towards twin base camps of Nunwan - Pahalgam and Baltal tomorrow owing to slippery tracks and bad weather conditions.  
 A SASB spokesman from Kashmir said that the decision regarding resuming the yatra which remained suspended



**Despite rains, Amarnath Ji yatis proceeding towards holy cave to perform darshan on Friday. Another pic on page 4.**

## Vehicle falls in Chenab Father-son among 3 feared dead in Ramban

**Excelsior Correspondent**  
**RAMBAN, July 7:** Three persons including a father and his son were feared dead after a load carrier auto (four wheeler) in which they were travelling skidded off the road and plunged in river Chenab near Mehar, Ramban on Jammu-Srinagar National Highway today.  
 Police said the ill fated vehicle bearing registration number JK19-9605 rolled down into Chenab and three persons travelling in it were feared drowned.  
 On getting information rescue teams of Police and SDRF reached the spot and launched a rescue operation to trace the missing persons.  
 (Contd on page 4 Col 7)

## Disruption of traffic likely on NH, hilly roads MeT forecasts moderate, heavy rains in Kashmir till July 9

**Excelsior Correspondent**  
**SRINAGAR, July 7:** Weatherman today forecast widespread moderate to heavy rain in Kashmir till July 9 under the influence of monsoon winds and Western disturbance.  
 Kashmir was lashed by rains today bringing down the temperatures across the region and giving respite to the people from hot weather.  
 Director MeT office here Sonam Lotus said: "Under the influence of monsoon winds and western disturbance, widespread moderate to heavy rain with thundershower/lightning is expected in Jammu & Kashmir during 7- 9th July with main activity on July 8-9th."  
 (Contd on page 4 Col 7)



**People walk through the Polo View Market, carrying umbrellas on a rainy day in Srinagar on Friday. —Excelsior/Shakeel**

## 15 officers transferred

**Excelsior Correspondent**  
**JAMMU, July 7:** The Government today ordered transfer and posting of 15 officers.  
 Anuradha, awaiting orders of adjustment in the Directorate of Rural Development, Jammu has been transferred and her services are placed at the disposal of office of Mission Youth.  
 Sunil Sharma, Tehsildar in the office of Commissioner, Survey and Land Records, J&K  
 (Contd on page 4 Col 7)

## BJP appoints In-charges for poll-bound States

**NEW DELHI, July 7:**  
 The BJP today appointed Union Ministers Pralhad Joshi and Bhupender Yadav, the party's In-charges for Assembly polls in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh respectively, stepping up its campaigns for key State polls before the Lok Sabha contest in 2024.  
 Former Union Minister Prakash Javadekar and another  
 (Contd on page 4 Col 1)

## Two killed in Leh mishap

**Excelsior Correspondent**  
**LEH, July 7:** A driver and conductor of a truck died when their vehicle fell into a deep gorge near Buzgoo Nimoo on Srinagar-Leh highway in the Union Territory of Ladakh today.  
 Reports said that a truck bearing Registration No. JK03D/5004 which was on way from Srinagar to Leh skidded off the road and fell into 400-ft deep gorge Near Buzgoo area in  
 (Contd on page 4 Col 2)

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