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Parliament winter session ends: Om Birla meets MPs PM Modi & Priyanka Gandhi attend meeting



NEW DELHI, DEC 19 Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on Friday held a meeting with leaders of political parties and Members of Parliament in his chamber at Parliament House, marking the conclusion of the Winter Session of Parliament 2025.

opposition leaders were present at the meeting. Sharing a post on X, Birla said, "After the conclusion of the sixth session of the 18th Lok Sabha, a cordial conversation took place in the office located in the Parliament Building with the Honourable Prime Minister Narendra Modi, defence minister Rajnath Singh, Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi and several other

continued opposition protests over the passage of the Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (VB-G RAM G) Bill, both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha was adjourned sine die. Prime Minister Modi, who returned on Thursday from a three-nation foreign visit, was present in the lower house during the

During sixth session of 18th Lok Sabha, productivity was 111 percent: Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla

NEW DELHI: The Sixth Session of the Eighteenth Lok Sabha, which commenced on December 1, concluded today, marking a productive fortnight in Parliament. Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla informed that the House held 15 sittings, totalling 92 hours and 25 minutes, achieving a productivity rate of 111 per cent, said the release. During the session, ten Government Bills were introduced, of which eight were passed. The approved bills include the Manipur Goods and Services Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 2025, Central Excise (Amendment) Bill, 2025, Health Security and National Security Cess Bill, 2025, Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 2025, Repealing and Amending Bill, 2025, Sabka Bima Sabki Raksha (Amendment of Insurance Laws) Bill, 2025, Sustainable Harnessing and Advancement of Nuclear Energy for Transforming India Bill, 2025, and Viksit Bharat - Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin)- VB-G RAM G Bill, 2025. The release stated that, "On 15 December, after discussion, voting was held on the Supplementary Demands for Grants - First Batch, 2025-26. Thereafter, the Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 2025 was passed. On 8 December, the Prime Minister initiated a discussion to commemorate the

Indian knowledge system offers solutions to many modern-day problems: LG Sinha

Urges youth to embrace nation's civilisational values

JAMMU, DEC 19 Asserting that the Indian Knowledge System, rooted in the Vedas, offers a complete and holistic worldview that can provide solutions to many modern-day problems, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday called on the youth to embrace India's civilisational values. Addressing a gathering after releasing the 4th Edition of "Kartavya Marg" - annual in-house magazine published by Shri Kailash Jyotish and Vedic Sansthan Trust - here, LG Sinha, according to the news agency highlighted the enduring relevance of India's ancient knowledge systems in addressing contemporary global challenges. "Indian Knowledge System, rooted in the Vedas, offers



a complete and holistic worldview that can provide solutions to many modern-day problems," he said, adding, "Ancient texts such as the Vedas and Upanishads are a rich repository of knowledge across disciplines including mathematics, medicine, physics, botany, chemistry, arts and humanities." The Lieutenant Governor noted that India's

philosophical schools, along with its traditions in art and architecture, continue to be profoundly relevant in building a resilient and harmonious society. He said that Indian culture, ethics and values help in navigating complex challenges while cultivating virtues that promote harmony, unity and social cohesion. Highlighting the

Three booked in fake Railway Job Scam as EOW Kashmir files chargesheet

GY CORRESPONDENT SRINAGAR, DEC 19 The Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of Crime Branch Kashmir has filed a chargesheet against three persons in connection with a fake Railway recruitment scam in Budgam. The accused allegedly duped job aspirants by issuing forged appointment letters of the Railway Recruitment Board, New Delhi, and collecting hefty sums of money in return. "The Economic Offences Wing

MHA clears promotions of IPS officers in J&K segment of AGMUT cadre

3 elevated as IGP, 8 DIGs; 10 get selection grade, 6 JAG grade GY CORRESPONDENT SRINAGAR, DEC 19 The Ministry of Home Affairs has approved the promotions of several IPS officers of J&K segment of the AGMUT cadre. The MHA cleared the promotion of three IPS officers of J&K segment to the rank of Inspector General of Police (IGP). According to an order, a copy of which is in possession of news agency --, Tejinder Singh has been promoted to the IGP rank w.e.f January 01, 2026. Two officers-Abdul Jabbar and Udaybaskar Billa- who are currently on central deputation, have also been granted proforma promotion to IGP grade. The MHA has also ordered the promotion of eight IPS officers to



Deputy Inspector General of Police (DIGP) grade with effect from January 01, 2026. Those promoted include Sargun Shukla, Sandeep Wazir, Anita Sharma, Jatinder Singh Johar, Swarn Singh Kotwal, Zahid Naseem Marhas, and Dr. Koushal Kumar Sharma. Sandeep Choudhary, who is currently on deputation with the NIA, has been granted proforma promotion to DIG grade. The MHA has further

MHA clears promotions of IAS officers in J&K segment of AGMUT cadre

7 promoted to Super Time Scale, 13 Selection Grade, 3 Junior Administrative Grade GY CORRESPONDENT SRINAGAR, DEC 19 The Ministry of Home Affairs has approved promotion of seven IAS officers of AGMUT cadre, posted in J&K segment, to Super Time Scale. According to an order, a copy of which is in possession of news agency, Shahid Iqbal Choudhary has been promoted to Super Time Scale notionally w.e.f.01.01.2025 and actual from the date of assumption of charge. As per the order,

CAT raps School Edu Dept over transfer of 70% disabled lecturer, orders ramps in all schools

JAMMU, DEC 19 The Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT), Srinagar Bench, has taken serious note of the transfer of a physically challenged lecturer and the lack of disability-friendly infrastructure in a Srinagar higher secondary school, directing the School Education Department to decide the employee's pending representation within four weeks through a reasoned ("speaking") order and to ensure ramps are installed in every institution under the Directorate's jurisdiction. The case pertains to Altaf Ahmad Dar, a Lecturer in Environmental Science with over 70% locomotor disability due to post-polio palsy, who challenged Government Order No. 488-JK (Edu) of 2025 dated May 27, 2025, insofar as it transferred him from BHSS Hazratbal to BHSS Taibial, Srinagar. The applicant contended that the move caused severe hardship, citing accessibility concerns, distance

Red Fort blast: NIA to grill Naseer Bilal for 7 more days; Soyab remanded to 5-day judicial custody



NEW DELHI, DEC 19 A Delhi court on Friday extended by seven days the NIA custody of Dr Bilal Naseer Malla, an accused in the Red Fort blast case. The court also remanded Soyab, a Faridabad resident accused of harbouring Red Fort bomber Umar-un-Nabi, to five days of judicial custody. The probe agency produced Soyab and Bilal at the Patiala House Court amid tight security on Friday upon the expiry of their previous four-day NIA custody granted on December 15. Media persons

Rain, snowfall likely to end dry spell in J&K

GY CORRESPONDENT SRINAGAR, DEC 19 Minimum temperatures declined at several places across Jammu and Kashmir on Friday, with Pulwama recording the lowest in the Kashmir region. The Meteorological Department said the weather is likely to change from December 20 evening with rain in plains and snowfall at higher reaches. According to details obtained by the news agency, in the Kashmir valley, Pulwama recorded a minimum

Anti-State, Anti-Village: Rahul Gandhi Blasts VB-G RAM G Bill One Day After Parliament Passage



NEW DELHI, DEC 19 Congress leader Rahul Gandhi launched a blistering attack on the central government a day after Parliament approved the controversial Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) Bill - widely referred to as the VB-G RAM G Bill - describing it as "anti-state and anti-village by design." His comments signal a deepening political

Over 17,000 street vendors benefit under PM SVANidhi in J&K; Rs48 cr disbursed



JAMMU, DEC 19 Security forces have launched an extensive search operation in different villages of Rajouri district after reports of the movement of suspicious people in the region. The operation, which was launched around midnight on Thursday, is continuing, official sources said. They said security forces received reports of suspicious movement in some villages located between the Thanamandi and Manjakote subdivisions of the district in Jammu division. "Acting on the reports,

Free ration, LPG cylinder promises to be fulfilled within 6 months: Minister Satish Sharma



GY CORRESPONDENT SRINAGAR, DEC 19 Minister for Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs (FC&CA) Satish Sharma on Friday said that no one will sleep hungry in J&K and government will fulfil its promise of free ration and

remains a top priority. All necessary steps are being taken to ensure that all commitments are met." The Minister said: "We are peace-loving people. Our message is clear and we will respond to terrorism with tourism. The government will stand by every poor family. No one will sleep hungry within the next six months." "A comprehensive plan has been put in place to ensure uninterrupted food supplies during the harsh winter months, particularly

Finance Minister likely to present Union Budget 2026-27 on Sunday, February 1: Govt source



NEW DELHI, DEC 19 Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman is expected to present the Union Budget for the 2026-27 fiscal year on February 1, 2026, despite the date falling on a Sunday, according to

Delegation of Shree Mata Vaishno Devi Sangharsh Samiti Meets Union Health Minister J.P. Nadda; Assurance of Early Resolution



NEW DELHI, DEC 19 In connection with the ongoing public concern and stir regarding the allotment of seats in Shree Mata Vaishno Devi Welfare, Shri Prakash Nadda, Jagat