

!! Continuations from Page 1 !! PM to launch...

processed now, the statement said. AMRUT has been ensuring water security by adding 1.1 crore household water tap connections and 85 lakh sewer connections, thus benefiting more than 4 crore people.

Govt extends validity...

continuing due to condition for prevention of COVID-19 across the country, it is advised that the validity of all above referenced documents...whose extension of validity could not, or was not likely to be granted due to lockdown and which has expired since February 1, 2020 or would expire by October 31, 2021, the same may be treated as valid till October 31, 2021," it said.

This will help citizens in availing transport related services, it added. The ministry said all the states and union territories are required to implement this advisory in letter and spirit so that citizens, transporters and various other organisations which are operating under this difficulty time do not face difficulties. It had earlier issued advisories dated March 30, 2020, June 9, 2020, August 24, 2020, December 27, 2020, March 26, 2021 and June 17, 2021 in connection with extension of validity of documents related to the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, and Central Motor Vehicle Rules, 1989.

Load penalty at...

importance of the airport, the administration under Lieutenant-Governor Manoj Sinha proactively took up the issue with the DGCA, Airport Authority of India (AAI) and the Indian Air Force, leading to the issuance of the NOTAM on Thursday.

"The governance mindset has changed from lackadaisical to moving the needle," an official said. "The runway was extended and strengthened which allowed for night landings a couple of months back."

Also, the issue involved market dynamics as well as traveller perception about the safety of Jammu and Kashmir.

There has been a steady rise in passenger footfall at the Jammu airport situated at Sattari, officials said, adding besides religious tourism, the scrapping of Article 370 has led to more trade and business visits.

Jammu connects to the sacred and highly revered Vaishno Devi shrine and Amarnath cave.

The removal of load penalty will result in the cost of operations to Jammu for an airline reducing immediately, resulting in ticket prices coming down. "On the same variable cost, they can now fly more passengers and so their cost of operations will come down," an official explained.

While the NOTAM was issued by IAF, it involved coordination with the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) and AAI and the trigger for change came from the government of the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

Doctor suspended for...

in Thanamandi Zone, under the supervision of Dr. Shabab Ahmed (Dental Surgeon) Nodal Officer COVID-19, 32 students were detected COVID-19 positive and as per SOPs, they were shifted to Covid Care Centre Plangarh for Isolation", an order issued by Deputy Commissioner Rajouri reads.

"The RTPCR Test of all the Students was conducted on 28.09.2021, wherein all have reported negative Now, therefore, in view of the lackadaisical approach and dereliction of duties, Dr. Shabab Ahmed, Dental Surgeon CHC Thanamandi (Nodal Officer, COVID-19 Block Thanamandi) is hereby placed under suspension with immediate effect, pending further inquiry into the matter," the order reads, adding, "During the period of the suspension he shall remain attached with the office of the Addl. Deputy Commissioner, Koteranka".

"Further, Block Medical Officer, Darhal, is hereby directed to explain her position, regarding the lapse on the part of Health Department, within 3 days, positively, so that further action under Service rules may be initiated," the order reads.

School closed, students in COVID care centre after fake Corona test within hours after 32 students were declared Corona positive during target sampling on September 27, authorities ordered the closure of the school, and infectious students were sent to the COVID care centre for isolation and treatment.

Fear gripped the Thanamandi area of Rajouri because students, who were tested 'positive', were residents of different villages of the area. Information was immediately shared with higher authorities as well as district administration.

Chief Education Officer Rajouri Ch Gulzar Hussain ordered the closure of the said school. It was directed that the entire staff and students should go for isolation and sampling.

Flouting of LG's...

Girdawars and Patwaris, within their respective districts, and also to assign the charge of any such vacant posts, till regular arrangement in respect of such vacant posts was made. "Further, the transfers and postings of Naib Tehsildars, Girdawars and Patwaris can also be made by the Sub Divisional Magistrates, within their respective jurisdictions, who are also authorized to assign the charge of any such vacant post, till regular arrangement is made," the order further read.

CBI arrests JE...

Secretary in which among who participated were Ashok Dubey, Vice-President, Er. Rajeshwar Jamwal-Provincial Secretary, Parshottam Sharma, Vipul Sharma - treasurer to deliberate on the immoral act of one Junior Engineer of the department who was caught red handed by the Central Bureau of Investigation.

The association strongly resented the act of the official and feels dejected on account of such inappropriate act in public service.

The law must take its own course and thorough investigation into the matter must take place and if proven guilty, official must be given exemplary punishment.

JKEEGA reiterates that it supports the legitimate rights of the engineers and will continue its struggle for the honour and dignity of the fraternity, but at the same time expects highest level of probity from the fraternity members. This episode should prove to be an aberration. We urge upon all the fraternity members to maintain highest level of propriety in Public service

Dr Jitendra addresses...

Singh said, "India supports sustainability in protecting the Antarctic environment". He said, the two proposed MPAs are essential to regulate illegal unreported and unregulated fishing. He urged the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) member countries to ensure that India remains associated with the formulation, adaptation and implementation mechanisms of these MPAs in future.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, the proposal to designate East Antarctica and the Weddell Sea as MPAs was first put forth to the CCAMLR in 2020 but could not reach a consensus at that time. He said, since then, substantial progress has been made with Australia, Norway, Uruguay and the United Kingdom agreeing to co-sponsor the proposal. The Minister added that by the end of October 2021, India would join these countries in co-sponsoring the MPA proposals.

Dr Jitendra Singh informed the EU Delegates that India had embarked on Antarctic expedition in 1981, through the Southern Indian Ocean sector and since then, there has been no turning back. He said, till date, India had completed 40

expeditions with plans for the 41st expedition in 2021-22 and added that India under Prime Minister Narendra Modi has solidified its interests in upholding its Antarctic vision.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, this is the first time India is considering co-sponsoring an MPA proposal at the CCAMLR and getting aligned with countries such as Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Korea, New Zealand, South Africa and the USA, which are also proactively considering supporting the MPA proposals. The Minister said, India's decision to consider extending support and co-sponsoring the MPA proposals is driven by conservation and sustainable utilization principles and adhering to the global cooperation frameworks (such as Sustainable Development Goals, UN Decade of Oceans, Convention on Biodiversity, etc.) to which India is a signatory.

The high-level ministerial meeting was hosted by Virginijus Sinkevicius, Commissioner for Environment, Oceans and Fisheries, EU. It was attended by Ministers, Ambassadors and Country Commissioners from nearly 18 countries. The meeting aimed to increase the number of co-sponsors of the MPA proposals and reflect on a joint strategy and future actions for their swift adoption by CCAMLR.

CCAMLR is an international treaty to manage Antarctic fisheries to preserve species diversity and stability of the entire Antarctic marine ecosystem. CCAMLR came into force in April 1982. India has been a permanent member of the CCAMLR since 1986. Work pertaining to the CCAMLR is coordinated in India by the Ministry of Earth Sciences through its attached office, the Centre for Marine Living Resources and Ecology (CMLRE) in Kochi, Kerala.

An MPA is a marine protected area that provides protection for all or part of its natural resources. Certain activities within an MPA are limited or prohibited to meet specific conservation, habitat protection, ecosystem monitoring, or fisheries management objectives. Since 2009, CCAMLR members have developed proposals for MPAs for various regions of the Southern Ocean. CCAMLR's scientific committee examines these proposals. After CCAMLR members agree upon them, elaborate conservation measures are set out by CCAMLR.

J&K records 110...

have recovered from the infection, the officials said. The death toll due to the pandemic was 4,422 as no new fatality was reported in the past 24 hours.

The officials said there are 46 confirmed cases of mucormycosis (black fungus) in the Union Territory and no fresh case has been reported since Wednesday evening. Meanwhile, Ladakh has recorded seven fresh COVID-19 cases and 28 recoveries during the past 24 hours, bringing down the count of active cases of the disease in the union territory to 73, officials said.

Six cases were reported in Leh, and one from Kargil, they said, adding that the infection tally now stands at 20,795.

Ladakh has registered 207 Covid-related deaths -- 149 in Leh and 58 in Kargil - since the outbreak of the pandemic last year.

The number of recoveries has reached 20,515, the officials said. At present, Leh has 69 and Kargil four active COVID-19 cases.

GoI committed to...

while holding an interactive session with tour operators and various stakeholders associated with the tourism sector of Jammu and Kashmir along with the Department of Tourism at SKICC here.

Earlier today morning, Reddy arrived here as part of GoI's public outreach programme to J&K. On his arrival, the Minister visited the Tourist Facilitation Centre and J&K Tourism Information Centre.

During his interaction with different tourism players from Kashmir, Reddy discussed various avenues pertinent to tourism in the region of J&K and highlighted the importance of promotion and campaigning of J&K as a tourism destination in India and across the globe, and said that the Central Government will do everything in their domain to brand the region as an international tourist destination.

During the session, different stakeholders including tourist trade and travel, houseboat association, shikharavalas, hoteliers among others put forth their demands and issues before the Minister.

Among other issues, the tourism stakeholders sought direct flights from different cities of the country including Hyderabad, Kolkata, Chennai to Srinagar. They also demanded insurance cover in case of losses, development of new and virgin tourist destinations, better mobile connectivity at tourism places, renovation of old hotels at tourism destinations like Pahalgam, Gulmarg among others.

The Minister gave a patient hearing to the tourism stakeholders and assured them that all their genuine issues would be taken up at the Central Government level for early resolution.

While speaking on the occasion, Reddy said that the Central Government is doing every bit to bring J&K back on the tourism map and make it the number one tourist destination among travelers, tourists, visitors once again.

He informed the meeting that the Government of India along with UT government is putting in serious efforts to bring Mughal Gardens of J&K on UNESCO Heritage map so that these places would get international recognition to help in increasing tourist footfall from other countries.

He said that J&K being a tourism state remains top priority for Prime Minister Narendra Modi who always pushes his Cabinet for the development of J&K.

Earlier, the Minister presided over a meeting with the Department of Tourism J&K, J&K Academy of Arts, Culture & Languages, Department of Archives, Archeology & Museums, Archeological Survey of India, heads of different development authorities and other concerned.

The Minister reviewed the progress of tourism development projects supported by the Union Government for the UT.

The meeting was attended by Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Baseer Ahmad Khan; Additional Director General at Ministry of Tourism, GoI, Rupinder Brar; Secretary Tourism & Culture, Sarmad Hafeez, Secretary Director, Archives, Archeology, and Museums, Rahul Pandey; Director Tourism Kashmir, Dr GN Itoo, officers from ASI, and other concerned.

On the occasion, Secretary Tourism & Culture gave a detailed presentation and presented an overview of the Tourism scenario in the UT.

The Minister was informed about the different activities and projects being carried out in the region and the initiative taken with respect to the promotion of J&K tourism.

It was told that in the past three years many tourism festivals and events besides 2nd Edition of Khelo India Games were held at Gulmarg and wide promotion campaign is also being carried out in different parts of the country.

A detailed presentation was also given on the celebrations of 75 years of independence and in this regard, an Iconic Week celebration is being organized in both the divisions of J&K where myriad activities would be held to showcase J&K's rich culture, heritage, food, music etc.

On the occasion, the Minister also e-inaugurated various developmental tourism projects which include 10 bedroom tourist complex at Verinag, Apple resort at Ladoora Raffiab, wayside amenities at Avantipora among others.

Also, Conservation Architect & Historic Building consultant, Abha Narain Lambah gave a detailed presentation over the preparation of nomination dossier for listing of Mughal Gardens of Kashmir on UNESCO's list of World Heritage Sites.

While appreciating the J&K tourism for their work done during Covid-19 pandemic, the Minister said that the UT has done a lot better than other States and UTs during the pandemic. He said J&K is progressing and moving in the right direction and Union Government is supporting the UT in every respect to take the region on

uniform prosperity with rest of India.

Later, the Minister had an interaction with students of various Govt-run Schools at Royal Springs Golf Course, who were trained in golf by The Golf Club of Kashmir.

He said Kashmir is a favorite golfing spot for tourists and the golfers from around the world and the local youth should get maximum benefit from the beautiful golfing destinations.

He also urged the students to focus in one sport and be expert and excel and bring glory to their areas, state and country alike in the sports arena.

On the occasion, the Minister also distributed certificates among the students who completed their training courses.

Meanwhile, the Minister also flagged off Dachigam Foothills Mountain Biking Expedition from the gate of Harwan Garden.

Later, the Minister also interacted with the members of District Development Council, Block Development Council and Panchayat Raj Institutions of District Srinagar who also put forth their issues and grievances before the Minister.

The elected representatives demanded to announce a Development Authority for Harwan Block of Srinagar which houses world-famed Mughal Gardens, degree College, a hospital in the area, playground, and other tourism related facilities.

The members said that the area has a huge tourism potential as the area possesses traditional trekking routes to central and southern parts of Kashmir which can give a fillip to tourism and subsequently generate employment in the area.

While addressing the members, the Minister said J&K has a three-tier Panchayati Raj System in place due to the honest efforts of PM Modi who wants to empower the grassroots democracy in the country.

He said that J&K is one of the shining example in whole of India where the three-tier Panchayati Raj system is working successfully and people themselves are identifying, executing and monitoring works at level, block and district level.

Praising the 'Back to Village' programme in J&K, Reddy said that earlier people used to visit different offices and run pillar-to-post to get their grievances addressed but now the whole administration is at their doorsteps to get their issues resolved promptly.

He added that J&K is now reaping benefits like the rest of India with all the centrally sponsored schemes and other initiatives and is playing an important part in the overall development and progress of the whole country.

Later in the evening, the Minister also visited Nishat and Chashma Shahi Mughal Gardens.

ED attaches assets...

time of Rs 352.72 crore," the agency claimed.

The company obtained multiple loans, and used them to export goods mostly to related parties and the export proceeds were never realised in India, it claimed.

"The company also diverted the funds to sister/group concerns by adjustment of their overdue export bills by releasing fresh packing credit, Inland Letters of Credit (ILC) towards dealings with sister concerns by way of accommodation of bills under garb of ILC."

"It was found that S A Rawther Spices Pvt Ltd has availed packing credit loans from J&K Bank and used the same for servicing instalments towards term loan account of Central Trade Agency Pvt Ltd., which is a sister concern of the former company," it said.

Gujarat ATS nabs...

by showing them videos of post-Godhra violence and brainwashed them into spreading terror in the country as a revenge," Bhatia told reporters.

Bilal Dar was studying at this madrasa in 2006, he added. Subsequently, a separate case of conspiracy and sedition under the Indian Penal Code and relevant provisions of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act was registered against all the accused who were part of the conspiracy, Bhatia said.

"Bilal joined (Pakistan-based terror group) Lashkar-e-Taiba after meeting Aslam and Bashir. He then brainwashed 15 other Muslim youths and sent them to Pakistan-occupied-Kashmir and Pakistan with the help of ISI to get them trained in shooting and bomb-making," the top police official said.

Nine persons had been arrested in connection with this conspiracy earlier, he said. Aslam is presently lodged in a jail in Jammu and Kashmir in another case, while Bashir was killed in an encounter in J&K in 2016, said the DGP.

As to the arrest of Hussain Ali Dar, an ATS release said it had arrested one Shankar Prasad with 10 kg of charas in Gujarat in 2009. Seven more persons were arrested in this case. Some of them confessed that Hussain Ali Dar, the main supplier, had earlier sent 108 kg of charas to Gujarat. It was suspected that he was using the money from smuggling to fund anti-India activities, said the release.

Diesel at record...

to a price notification of state-owned fuel retailers.

Diesel rates increased to Rs 89.87 a litre in Delhi and Rs 97.52 in Mumbai.

Prices differ from state to state depending on the incidence of local taxes.

This is the second price increase in petrol since the ending of a three-week-long hiatus in rate revision and the fifth in the case of diesel.

The hike took the retail price of petrol to a near-record high. Petrol had hit a record high of Rs 101.84 a litre in Delhi in July and Rs 107.83 in Mumbai. For diesel, the increase led to rates equalling the all-time high of Rs 89.87 a litre touched in Delhi in the same month.

International oil prices are at three year high with global benchmark Brent trading at USD 78.64 per barrel.

This spurt in global rates led state-owned Indian Oil Corp (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corp Ltd (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corp Ltd (HPCL) resuming daily price revisions on September 24, ending the pause in rates that came into effect from September 5.

Action to be...

Muhammad Ajaz Asad said 16 cases of tampering of revenue records of Kashmiri migrant properties have been verified.

"Cognisance has been taken and action being initiated against officials involved in tampering of revenue records," he said.

Asad said 18 cases of trespassing were also verified, of which a few were found lacking the details of the properties and the same have been sought for final resolution.

He said the district administration has resolved 660 complaints since the launch of the dedicated online grievance portal for migrants.

"As many as 390 grievances alleging alienation by fraud or distress sale were resolved. Similarly, 129 grievances alleging encroachments on migrant properties were also verified and resolved. Out of grievances of encroachment, the necessary demarcation of 20 cases has been done and necessary eviction notices have also been issued, though 12 of them are sub-judice before the High Court," he added.

Asad said some trespassing cases involved pending rentals with security forces and lack of compensation by the PWD Department.

In three cases of illegal trespassing, the necessary follow-up action has already been initiated, he added.

Asad said the officers of revenue and other departments concerned have been given clear directions to address the grievances concerning the land and property of the migrants on priority.

The deputy commissioner said a robust mechanism has been put in place for redressal of such complaints as per law and in a time-bound manner.

2 bovines rescued, 2 smugglers arrested

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JHAJJAR KOTLI: Police on Thursday foiled a bovine smuggling bid by reseuing 2 bovines and arrested 2 smugglers.

As per the details, Jhajjar Kotli Police intercepted one Truck (JK18/0465) loaded with 2 bovines which were kept in the driver cabin of the truck. The bovines were rescued and truck driver along with his associate namely Intiyaz Ahmed, son of Mohd. Shafi Bhatt, resident of Ganipura Mattan, Anantnag and Ravi Kumar, son of Shanker Dass, resident of Neeli Nallah Jib Thathi Tehsil and District Udhampur were arrested on spot.

FIR No.159/2021 under section 188 IPC,11 PCA Act was registered against them at Police Station Jhajjar Kotli.

2 narco smugglers arrested with 55 Kg poppy straw

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
HIRANAGAR: In Its recent action against drug dealings and to neutralised the activities of drug peddlers within the district, Kathua Police under the overall supervision of SSP Kathua R C Kotwal recovered approx. 55 Kg's of poppy straw (Bhukki) narcotics at Hiranagar on Thursday and arrested 2 persons.

As per the details, a team of Police Station Hiranagar led by Insp. Anil Kumar Sharma SHO Hiranagar under the supervision of SDPO Border Sachit Mahajan during Naka checking duty at Dyalachak noticed one suspicious truck (JK22B-3119) which was enroute from Jammu towards Kathua being driven by person namely Latif Ahmed, son of Abdul Rehman Tehsil & District Pulwama who was alongwith his accomplice namely Arif Bashir, son of Bashir Ahmed Lone, resident of Nassarpur Shopian were signalled to stop for checking. On thorough checking approx. 55 kg poppy straw (Bhukki) were recovered from two plastic bags. The duo was arrested and FIR No. 128/2021 under section 8/15 NDPS Act was registered against them at Police Station Hiranagar.

CRIME REPORT

Ammunition recovered in Rajouri Distt

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
RAJOURI: Security forces have recovered ammunition during a search operation in Rajouri district, officials said Thursday. During a search operation launched in Targain-Jalan area of Budhal tehsil, security forces recovered a pocket kept hidden under a boulder on Wednesday evening, they said. They recovered 25 rounds of Light Machine Gun (LMG) and a rusted magazine, they said.

Man held for strangling wife to death

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: A man has been arrested here for allegedly strangulating his wife to death, police said on Thursday.

As per the details, On September 27, 2021, Police Station Zakura received information that Saleema, 50 years, wife of Abdul Rehman Dar resident of Khudwani Kulgam at present Gulistan Colony Gulab Bagh Zakura was strangulated by some unknown persons and was shifted by locals to hospital where doctors declared her brought dead. On this information, a case FIR No.104/2021 under relevant sections of law was registered in Police Station Zakura and investigation was set into motion. During the course of investigation, a Special Investigation Team (SIT) headed by SDPO Zakura and SHO Zakura under the supervision of SP Hazratbal was constituted. The investigating team visited the scene of crime along with FSL team, collected circumstantial & technical evidences and examined eye witnesses. Besides, the team questioned some suspects including the deceased lady's husband namely Abdul

Rehman Dar, son of Ghulam Mohammad Dar, resident of Khudwani Kulgam, employed at SKAUST Shuhama. During questioning, the husband of the deceased woman confessed his involvement in the commission of crime. The team also learnt that the motive behind this murder was matrimonial dispute. Further investigation into the case is in progress.

Rape accused arrested within 24 hours

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Police on Thursday arrested a rape accused of minor girl within 24 hours.

As per the details, an information was received at Police Post Pounichak regarding the kidnapping and rape of a minor girl. On this, FIR No.275/2021 under section 363/376/ 3/4 POCSO IPC was registered at Police Station Domana and investigation started. On this special police teams of Police Post Pounichak under the supervision of SDPO Domana Kosheen Koul were constituted. The team led by SHO Domana Insp. Mahesh Sharma assisted by In-Charge Police Post Pouni Chak PSI Nitish Khajuria did strenuous efforts and with the help of technical assistance and timely human intervention, finally arrested the accused namely Vikas Singh, son of Jaswant Singh, resident of Bhagatpur Ghou Manhasan. During intensive questioning, accused confessed his involvement in the above case.

