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Two army personnel...



Arms and ammunition seized by police and army at Reasi.

forces have unearthed a hideout and recovered ammunition from it in Reasi district, officials said on Friday.

At least 42 live rounds of Self Loading Rifle were recovered from the hideout in Khore village in Mahore on Thursday, they said.

Terrorists resorting to...

military preparedness on the borders needs to be alert and sound at all times," he said.

In such a situation, the internal security and stability of the country too must be secured, he added.

Bhagwat said efforts to achieve self-sufficiency in the domain of defence and security and to become up-to-date with newer concerns like cyber security must be ramped up.

Expressing anguish over the violent face-off between Assam and Mizoram police earlier this year, he asked, Are we not citizens of the same country? On OTT (Over the top) platforms, Bhagwat said online education was introduced amid the coronavirus pandemic, but school-going children are now hooked onto mobile phones.

"In the absence of regulatory framework, it will be difficult to predict in what way and to what extent will this emerging phenomenon of contact with fair and unfair means sweep our society," he said.

To what extent anti-national forces wish to use these means is well-known, and "therefore, the government must make efforts to regulate these affairs," he added.

On the management of Hindu temples, the RSS chief said some temples which are under government control as well as some which are run by devotees are doing well, and they help society.

"(But) There is a loot where such things are not functioning properly. Some temples completely lack any system of governance. Instances of misappropriation of movable and immovable properties of temples have come to light.

"The wealth of Hindu temples is being used for non-Hindus who have no faith in Hindu Gods. Even Hindus need it, but it is not used for them," Bhagwat said.

There are Supreme Court judgements related to the management of temples, he said.

"It (the apex court) has said that nobody can be the owner (of a temple), but God. The priests are only managers. It has also said that the government can take control of temples for management only for some time, then it has to return the ownership (control).

"So a decision on this needs to be taken properly. And a decision also needs to be taken on how should Hindu society maintain these temples," he added.

Expressing concern over "rapid growth" of the country's population, Bhagwat called for a review and reformulation of the National Population Policy by keeping the next 50 years in mind.

He also called for curbing illegal infiltration from across the border and preparation of the National Register of Citizens (NRC).

Society's conscience is still skewed with caste-based sentiments, he said.

Islam and Christianity entered India with invaders and grew along with them, while Zoroastrianism and Judaism came seeking refuge, the RSS chief claimed.

That is history. No one has relations with the invaders. All are descendants of Hindus, who believed this diversity is unity and accepted all and lived in peace and harmony, he said. The country had seen martyrs like Hasankhan Mewati, Hakim Khan Suri, Khudabaksh and Gaus Khan and a revolutionary like Ashfaqullah Khan, Bhagwat said.

History is that Islam came as an aggressor. We have no relation with them (aggressors). Today, one can live as Muslim. Our country is generous. Our role models will be the Muslims who sacrificed their lives for the country, he said.

History should not be seen through the prism of animosity. We have to learn to ensure how animosity does not rise, Bhagwat added.

Referring to the 75th anniversary of Independence, Bhagwat said all paths, from non-violent movement to armed rebellions, led to the ultimate destination of freedom.

But the joy of Independence also came with indelible scars of Partition, he added. It is imperative that society, especially the younger generation, learns from this history, understands and remembers it. This is not (meant) to harbour feelings of animosity towards anyone, he said.

J&K records 51...

the pandemic last year.

Four patients -- three from Leh and one from Kargil -- were discharged from hospitals in Ladakh after recovering from the infection, raising the recovery count to 20,615, they said.

All the six new cases were reported in Leh on Thursday, they said, adding that a total of 1,008 sample reports in Ladakh were found negative.

Leh has 42 active COVID-19 cases while Kargil district has two such infections, the officials said.

Pak-sponsored elements...

operations. He directed the officers to maintain close surveillance and track of such elements and bring them to justice as quickly as possible by way of well-coordinated measures.

LG lauds 100...



LG Manoj Sinha chairing weekly meetings of COVID Task Force and DCs, SPs.

Vivek Bhardwaj, Additional Chief Secretary, Health and Medical Education Department gave a detailed presentation on the covid containment measures and weekly trend in Covid cases.

Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary; Dilbag Singh, DGP; Atal Dulloo, Additional Chief Secretary, Finance Department; Shaileen Kabra, Principal Secretary to the Government, Home Department; Shailendra Kumar, Principal Secretary, Public Works (R&B) Department; Nitishwar Kumar, Principal Secretary to the Lt Governor; Pandurang K Pole, Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir; Dr. Raghav Langer, Divisional Commissioner Jammu; Deputy Commissioners and SSPs, attended the meetings, in person and through virtual mode.

Man lynched at...

station received information at 5 am that a body was found near the farmers' protest site," a Sonipat police official said.

A Haryana police spokesperson said in Chandigarh that when Sonipat police reached the spot the man had died.

"Some people were standing there. When the police tried to take the body away, they protested. After some efforts, the body was brought to the civil hospital," the spokesperson said.

Singh was found wearing only a pair of shorts. His hand was cut off at the wrist and a foot bore deep injuries. Altogether, there were over 10 injury marks inflicted by sharp-edged weapons.

He was allegedly dragged by his assailants for a few metres before he was tied with ropes to the barricade. He is said to have bled to death.

"We have registered a case and further investigations are on," Additional Director General of Police, Rohtak Range, Sandeep Khirwar told PTI over the phone. Khirwar, who later visited Kundli, told reporters that police hoped to make arrests very soon.

We have the names of some suspects and the investigations are on. I am hopeful that we should be able to make headway very soon, as we have some leads in the case, he said.

Back in Tarn Taran village, Lakhbir Singh's family was in shock and said he could never desecrate a holy book.

Some villagers told reporters that his parents died a few years ago and his wife and three children stayed with some relatives. Singh was said to be staying with his sister.

The Sonipat police said some people initially resisted their entry into the area where his body was found to the barricade, and were not cooperating with them.

The video clip shows the Nihang group asking the man badly injured man where had he come from and who sent him to commit the sacrifice.

He is heard pleading with the group in Punjabi.

One of the Nihangs says the man is a "Punjabi" and not an outsider, and it should not be made into a Hindu-Sikh issue. Another raises a religious chant.

The Nihangs are a Sikh order, distinguished by their blue robes and often seen carrying spears.

Last year, a Punjab policeman's hand was chopped off with a sword and six colleagues injured in an attack allegedly by a group of Nihangs at a village market in Patiala when the accused were asked to produce curfew passes.

The policeman's hand was later reattached after a surgery at the PGIMER in Chandigarh.

A case of murder has been registered at the Kundli police station in Sonipat against unidentified people, police said. A board of doctors conducted the post-mortem at the Sonipat civil hospital.

At least five video clips connected with the murder have surfaced on social media.

In a statement, the SKM said it wanted to make it clear that "both the parties to the incident, the Nihang group and the deceased person, have no relation with the Morcha.

The peaceful and democratic movement of the farmers is opposed to violence in any form, it added.

The SKM said it is against the desecration of any religious text or symbol, but that does not give anyone the right to take the law into their own hands.

"A Nihang group at the scene has claimed responsibility, saying the incident took place because of the deceased's attempt to commit sacrilege with regard to the Sarbloh Granth," the farmers' body said.

It demanded that the culprits be punished in accordance with law after investigating the allegation of murder and conspiracy behind sacrilege.

"As always, the Samyukta Kisan Morcha will cooperate with the police and the administration in any lawful action," it added.

Thousands of farmers, mostly from Punjab, Haryana and western Uttar Pradesh, have been camping at three border points of Delhi -- Singhu, Tikri and Ghazipur -- for months, demanding a repeal of the three farm laws enacted by the Centre in September last year.

Bishnah Insp Joginder Singh after strenuous efforts arrested the two accused namely Rajesh Kumar and Rattan Lal.

On the other hand a police team of Police Station Khour led by SHO Police Station Khour Insp Balwinder Singh after strenuous efforts, arrested the accused namely Balwinder Kumar. Balwinder Kumar alias Raman, son of Darshan Singh, resident of H.No.19 Sector-4, Sanjay Nagar was absconding in FIR No. 47/2011 registered under sections 2/3 of E&IMCO at Police Station Khour. Finally all three absconders were produced before the Court.

Cop restores lost ear-rings to rightful owner

STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: Displaying an exemplary act of honesty, a cop restored lost gold ear-rings to its rightful owner at Ramnagar.

As per details, during routine patrolling in market, a police official namely SPO Gushu Ram posted at Police Station Ramnagar found gold ear-rings near court complex Ramnagar. After proper verification, they were handed over to owner namely Sushma Devi, son of Kartar Chand, resident of Tagan, Ramnagar.

On this act of honesty, owner of ear-rings thanked SDPO Ramnagar Dr Bishnu Dubey, Insp Kulbir Singh SHO Ramnagar and other police personnel. The Senior Superintendent of Police Udhampur Sargun Shukla has also appreciated the cop for displaying such an act of honesty.

Missing man found from Banihal

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A man who went missing from his house in Gangyal was found on Friday from Banihal area.

As per details, Indu Koul, wife of Vinod Kumar Koul, resident of Sector 1, Gangyal lodged a complaint with police that her husband went to office in his car (JK02CF-6052) on October 14 but didn't return back. Acting on the complaint, police traced his mobile location and found him from Banihal area. With help of local police, Vinod was brought back Jammu and handed over to family after legal formalities. It was learnt that he went to Banihal after a family dispute.

Meanwhile, a married woman, resident of Chand Vihar, Muthi went missing from

• Saturday • October 16, 2021

GoI to extend...

infrastructure and languishing projects are being completed in record times, observed the Lt Governor.

The UT of J&K presented an investment plan of Rs. 12000 Cr by 2025 in transmission and distribution sectors in order to strengthen infrastructure as well prepare a future-ready power infrastructure that would not just provide power on demand to all citizens but would also cater to the industrial demand in line with the proposed investment of Rs 28,400 crores under J&K's new Industrial Policy.

In the transmission sector, J&K suggested evacuation of Renewable Power, both Solar & Wind from Ladakh, through J&K and presented a detailed proposal. It was agreed that the comprehensive Rs 4971 crore investment plan prepared by the UT with the support of the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) would be executed immediately. JKPDD would explore the option of a Joint Venture Company between the J&K TRANSCO and any reputed CPSU like PGCL to execute the projects.

On the distribution side, the Minister of Power reiterated his commitment of full support to the UT under the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme and asked J&K would prepare a comprehensive plan by including the latent power increase predicted on account of the Industrialization of J&K and by conducting area wise system studies including a comprehensive gap analysis and a future proof roadmap.

It was agreed that as a first step, J&K DISCOMS would introduce a new arrangement in the current year to maximum power to all feeders with the least losses and where electricity meter coverage is progressively saturated. RECPCL was also asked to accelerate the pace of installation of meters so as to complete the installation of 2 lakh meters by March 2022.

Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary; Rohit Kansal, Principal Secretary, PDD; Sh. Nitishwar Kumar, Principal Secretary to the Lt Governor; SKG Rahate, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Power; RS Dhillon, CMD PFC; AK Singh, CMD NHPC; Dr RP Singh, Chairman JKPL; Vishal Kapoor, Joint Secretary, MOP; senior officials from Ministry of Power GoI and UT Government attended the inaugural ceremony.

Earlier, the Union Minister took a detailed review of the Power Scenario of J&K including status of implementation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS). The Principal Secretary PDD made a presentation in which he presented a brief overview of power demand, availability, consumer mix and energy consumption.

Referring to the IT sector and e-governance initiatives, Secretary (Power) J&K informed the Chair that in order to ensure data authenticity and integrity, the Department has initiated the process of monitoring energy flow, consumption, revenue realization and other critical information related to the feeders to monitor AT&C losses, feeder-wise outages and reliability indices on real-time basis through an in-house developed e-portal.

The department has achieved 100 percent feeder metering and a total of 647 Urban Feeders of JKPDD have been on-boarded on the National Power Portal (NPP) and the process of on-boarding of remaining feeders is in process. Similarly, for improving the life cycle of DTs, an innovative step of assigning Unique Identification Number (UIN) to all the DTs, punching of UIN in the DTs and maintenance of the computerized database of DTs containing complete technical details/repair history is already underway.

Various steps have also been taken to improve consumer responsiveness which includes the establishment of separate cloud-based e-customer care centres at Jammu and Srinagar cities for end-to-end redressal of consumer complaints, social media interactions through Twitter handle and formation of WhatsApp groups at all levels.

He further informed that all the projects, sanctioned under different CSS stand awarded to the implementing agencies and are at different stages of execution. He also highlighted the difficulties being faced in some projects and requested for support of the Ministry of Power.

Later in the day, the Minister visited Gurez where he inspected the upcoming SHP for providing supply to the local area. He also directed NHPC to commission another 16 MW SHP in Gurez to cater to the needs of the local population.

Pertinently, Green Corridor for Renewable Power evacuation proposed Rs 175 crore transmission line for grid power to Gurez.

On the demands of the locals for stable grid power, the Union Minister issued directions to the Ministry to assist J&K in removing all technical and financial bottlenecks and ensuring the completion of the line to Gurez on priority.

JEE-Advanced 2021...

been bagged by Delhi's Dhyananjay Raman and Anant Lunia.

A total of 41,862 candidates have qualified in JEE-Advanced this year, of whom 6,452 are female candidates, according to officials.

This year, IIT Kharagpur conducted the exam, which is the qualifying test for admission to the prestigious Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs). A total of 1,41,699 candidates had appeared in both paper 1 and 2 of JEE-Advanced.

"While 97 foreign candidates had registered for the exam only 42 of them appeared out of which seven have qualified," a senior official said.

Describing the criteria for inclusion in the rank list, the aggregate marks are calculated as the sum of the marks obtained in Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry. Candidates have to satisfy the subject-wise as well as the aggregate qualifying marks to be included in a rank list.

Twenty-eight students each from IIT Bombay and Delhi zone have figured in the top 100, followed by 27 from IIT Hyderabad zone, IIT Roorkee zone (13), IIT Kanpur (3) and IIT Kharagpur (1).

While the JEE-Mains is conducted for admission to engineering colleges across the country, it is considered as a qualifying test for JEE-Advanced.

Starting this year, JEE-Main was conducted four times a year to offer flexibility to students and a chance to improve their scores. The first phase was held in February and the second in March.

The next phases were scheduled for April and May but those were postponed in view of the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic that raged through the country affecting lakhs. The third edition was held from July 20-25, while the fourth edition was conducted from August 26 to September 2.

The ranks of the candidates were released taking into consideration the best of four NTA scores in accordance with the policy already made.

her house on October 13. Searches are going on to trace her.

Youth found dead in Nallah

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A youth was found dead in Balol Nallah of Gaggar area on Friday.

As per details, locals on seeing body of a youth in Balol Nallah, informed police which rushed to the spot and shifted body to morgue. The deceased has