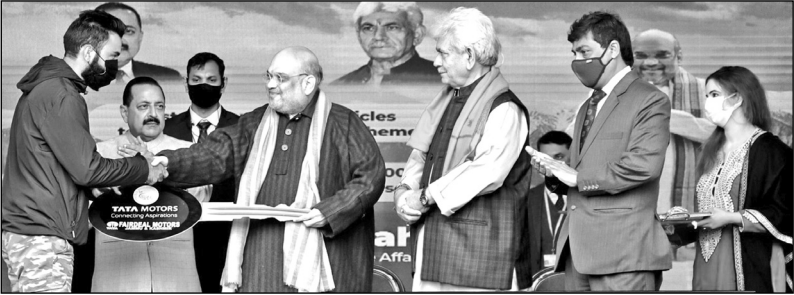


!! Continuations from Page 1 !!
Would rather talk...



Union Home Minister Amit Shah presenting a key of vehicle to a youth.

Indian does," he said.

Without naming Congress, National Conference and Peoples' Democratic Party, he said while only three medical colleges were set up by the "three families which have ruled Jammu and Kashmir", Prime Minister Narendra Modi has ensured seven new medical colleges and these are coming up.

"Earlier, 500 youths could become doctors ... now 2,000 youths can become doctors from these new medical colleges. Nobody will need to go to Pakistan to study medicine," he said.

Shah said schemes and plans of the Modi government will ensure that J&K is the most developed province of the country.

He sought the cooperation of the people to realise this dream.

"It is only the youth of J&K who can work towards achieving this goal," he said, adding "we want that the youth of Kashmir pick books and not stones, pick tools to brighten their future and not arms."

Asserting that the government is aiming to wipe out terrorism and put an end to civilian killings in J&K, Shah said nobody will be allowed to disrupt peace and development in the Union Territory, which has a special place in Prime Minister Modi's heart.

Defending the curbs on internet services and imposition of curfew in the aftermath of abrogation of Article 370, he said that "some people would have misled the masses. Who would have been killed? The Kashmiri youth. We know how heavy the coffin of a young son is for an old man".

He said 40,000 people have been killed in Kashmir in violence and it should stop now.

"This many people do not die even in wars. We have to come back and take Kashmir to new heights of development," he said.

The minister said Rs 12,000 crore worth of investment has already come to the Union Territory and the government aims at a total of Rs 51,000 crore by the end of 2022 to provide five lakh jobs to the local youth.

Shah said "three families" are answerable to the people for their failure to develop J&K over the past seven decades.

"The new phase of development under the leadership of Modi has started in J&K but attempts are being made by inimical elements to create hurdles. I have come here to assure you that nobody will be able to create a hurdle and disrupt peace and development," he said.

He said a new phase of development has started and this cannot be stopped.

Shah said five lakh jobs are being created in Jammu and Kashmir; while 20,000 people have been provided government jobs in the past two years.

"The three families used to say who will come and invest in J&K... in just six months after announcing a new industrial policy, we have got an investment of Rs 7,000 crore in Jammu and Rs 6,000 crore in Kashmir and are looking forward to an investment of Rs 50,000 crore by 2022-end," he said.

Shah accused the "three families" of ruining the tourism industry of the erstwhile state of J&K. However, he said, "from March 2020 to March 2021, 1.34 lakh tourists came to the valley" and claimed it to be highest since independence.

Govt to conduct...

shall be made mandatory, it said. "There should be a thermal scanner, pulse oximeter, first aid boxes and hand sanitisers at the venue of the examination."

All the students appearing for examination have been asked to wear masks with the concerned institutions asked to make the required arrangements.

"Separate facility should be provided to the students showing any symptoms like cough, common cold and flu."

The SEC has directed t the Board authorities and heads of the schools to ensure that the COVID protocols are strictly adhered to.

Scuffle between Kashmiri...

some people expressed serious concern saying 'they (those who raised Pak slogans) live in India they eat of India but they support Pakistan this shows these are the anti-national elements'.

In this regard, people of Samba also staged protest against anti-national elements, seeking their immediate arrest .

Later, police started investigations, as FIR No. 306/2021/224/295A/153A/124/53A/505/109 IPC has been registered .

JSW Group to...

flagship business of the diversified USD 13 billion JSW Group. The company has an integrated steel making capacity of 27 million tonne in India, and steel products like hot rolled, cold rolled, bare, TMT, wire rods and special steel etc.

Shah spends night...

hopeful "we will be able to realise a peaceful Jammu and Kashmir as envisaged by Prime Minister Modi during our lifetime".

Stone-pelting incidents are only seen when we try to look for them. There was a time when stone pelting was common in Kashmir. Such incidents have decreased to a huge extent. But, I want to say that there is no need to be satisfied, Shah said.

Narendra Modi government has a zero-tolerance policy towards terrorism. We cannot

bear it. It is against humanity. It should be our priority to save the people of Kashmir from the persons who are linked to this heinous crime against humanity, he said.

The Home Minister expressed his gratitude to the CRPF and other security forces for ensuring that there was no bloodshed after Article 370 was revoked in August 2019.

"There are many changes that are happening on the development front, in infrastructure, industrial and education sectors because the Army and CRPF are ensuring that all sinister designs are defeated," Shah said.

He said when Articles 370 and 35A were revoked, there were many apprehensions that "there would be a huge reaction".

"It was possible as well, that perhaps there could have been bloodshed, but today I have come here to tell you and tell you freely that because of your alertness not a single shot was fired. It is a huge thing for us.

The alertness with which 28,000 jawans and also J-K policemen worked after a major decision was taken in national and J-K's interest, no blood was shed and a new era of development was started in Kashmir," he said.

Its effect is visible in the fact that the Pulwama which was known across the country and the world over for the terror attack on CRPF will now have a medical college to be built at the cost of Rs 2000 crore, he said.

Shah said during 2004-14, an average of 208 civilians and 105 security personnel were killed every year; but in the 2014-21 period, it has come down to 60 personnel and 30 civilians per year.

However, he asked why should even 30 civilians lose their lives to terror incidents.

Shah said the people of J-K have accepted the decision of the revocation of Article 370.

"All the forces here have taken care of the law and order situation in a right manner. So, as the country's Home Minister, I thank you for the good work, he said.

Shah said when Modi's vision of development in J-K is completed successfully, there will be peace.

And I believe that we will be able to see it in our lifetime only," he said.

"Jammu and Kashmir stands as an example of the fact if we are able to provide a secure environment and grassroots level democracy, anything can be achieved," the minister said, adding development in J-K is moving ahead at a double speed.

Shah said India, which was at the 11th position in 2014, will be a major economic power soon.

"Today we are at sixth position and I am sure that by 2024 we will reach the third position," he said.

The union minister said it was an honour for him to spend a night with the CRPF jawans at the campus in Pulwama.

It is a very important programme for me to be with the forces whether the Army, BSF, CRPF or SSB who are protecting every last inch of the border. This is the last programme of my J-K visit and I can say this without any doubt that it is the most important programme, he said.

A suicide bomber of the Pakistan-based Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) terror group had attacked a CRPF convoy in Pulwama district on February 14, 2019, leaving 40 personnel dead. India then launched a counter-terror airstrike against a JeM training camp in Balakot on February 26.

The next day, Pakistan Air Force had retaliated and downed a MiG-21 in an aerial combat and captured its pilot Wing Commander Abhinandan Varthaman, who was later released.

The IAF had said that during the aerial engagement on February 27, one of its MiG-21 Bison shot down a Pakistani F-16 fighter jet.

60 fresh COVID...

has been reported during the past 24 hours, thus the total number of confirmed cases remains 49.

According to the daily Media Bulletin, out of 331698 positive cases, 835 are Active Positive (129 in Jammu Division and 706 in Kashmir Division), 326433have recovered and 4430 have died; 2176 in Jammu division and 2254 in Kashmir division.

The Bulletin further said that out of 15975291test results available, 331698 samples have tested positive and 15643593 samples have been tested as negative till date. Besides,27,553 COVID tests have been conducted in last 24 hours.

Till date 3749278persons have been enlisted for observation which included 7614 persons in home quarantine including facilities operated by government, 835 in isolation and 450901 in home surveillance. Besides, 3285498 persons have completed their surveillance period.

Meanwhile, Ladakh has recorded five fresh COVID-19 cases, taking the tally to 20,904 while the number of active cases in the union territory has gone down to 37, officials said.

Ladakh has registered 208 Covid-related deaths 150 in Leh and 58 in Kargil since the outbreak of the pandemic last year.

Six patients of coronavirus were cured and discharged from hospitals, thereby taking the tally of recoveries to 20,659, they said.

A total of 173 sample reports in Ladakh were tested negative, they said.

There was no death reported due to Covid in Ladakh Sunday.

All the five new cases were reported in Leh, they said.

With this, the total number of COVID-19 active cases in Ladakh has gone up to 37 including 36 in Leh and 1 in Kargil district.

PM launches mega...

some dynasts in UP flourished," he charged. "The cycle of corruption ran 24 hours but the ordinary families in Purvanchal and UP got crushed."

Akhilesh Yadav later claimed that the BJP government was inaugurating new projects as it sensed defeat in the upcoming state elections.

Attacking the earlier governments, the prime minister said in Varanasi, For those in power before us, the health service was a means to earn money and commit scams.

The people's money which earlier went into scams and the coffers of such people is now being used on big projects, he said, adding that the government is planning big and taking an aggressive approach on medical infrastructure.

Those who had been in the government for a long time, kept the healthcare deprived of all-round development. Either there were not enough hospitals in villages, if there were hospitals, the doctors were not there. Testing facilities in blocks were not available, he said.

He said the new mission will address these shortcomings.

It will give strength to the health infrastructure of Uttar Pradesh and the country and would also help high-grade preparation for facing pandemics in the future, besides bringing confidence and self-reliance to the health sector.

The mission target is to strengthen the critical healthcare network in the next four years from the village to the national level. There will be a special focus on the hill states as well as the Northeast.

It aims to develop a complete ecosystem from treatment to critical research across the country.

"All this work should have been done decades ago, the prime minister said. We have been improving it since the past seven years but now we are working with an aggressive approach and on a big scale.

He said when this health infrastructure is created, it will also lead to employment opportunities.

"We have seen that when one big hospital is set up, a big city develops around it and it becomes a centre of financial activity. This mission will lead to holistic health care which is available to all and is in the reach of all, he said.

The PM also inaugurated or laid foundation stones for projects worth around Rs 5,200 crore in his parliamentary constituency.

Had it been for people who were at the helm earlier, Varanasi would have been left to its fate, he said, listing hanging power cables and the state of the roads and the ghats'.

The heart of Kashmi is the same but an honest effort is being made to improve its ambience, he said, claiming more work has been done in Varanasi in the past seven years than in the previous 70.

The medical colleges inaugurated in the first part of his UP visit have been built at a cost of Rs 2,329 crore. They are located in Siddharthnagar, Etah, Hardoi, Pratapgarh, Fatehpur, Deoria, Ghazipur, Mirzapur and Jaunpur districts.

Eight of them were sanctioned under a centrally sponsored scheme. The state government funded the one in Jaunpur.

The nationwide medical infrastructure scheme will provide support to 17,788 rural health and wellness centres in 10 high-focus states. Further, 11,024 urban health and wellness centres will be established.

Through this, critical care services will be available in all districts in the country with a population of over five lakh, the government said.

Four new national institutes of virology, a regional research platform for WHO South East Asia Region, nine biosafety level-III laboratories and five new regional centres for disease control will also be set up.

NEET-PG counselling...

advocate Arvind Dattar, appearing for some NEET candidates, mentioned that as per the schedule announced by the Director General of Health Services, the counselling process for the NEET-PG is to commence from October 25.

He said that by the time the court decides the pending batch of petitions, challenging the July 29 notification, introducing the reservation from academic year, the entire process of admission will be over and serious prejudice would be caused to the students.

Nataraj said the communication which counsel for petitioner is referring to was sent only to the medical colleges for verification of seats and one more clarificatory notification has been issued on Monday.

The counselling process will not begin till the court decides the pending batch of petitions, the ASG submitted.

The bench said that it is taking the word on record.

We will take your word on record that counselling process will not start till we decide the batch of petitions one way or the other. You know, students will be in serious problem, if the process continues, the bench said.

Nataraj agreed with the observation of the court and said that if there is any problem at all in the future, the petitioner's counsel can contact him directly.

On October 21, the top court had asked the Centre whether it would like to revisit the limit of rupees eight lakh annual income, fixed for determining the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) category for reservation in NEET admissions for medical courses.

The top court had clarified that it is not embarking into the policy domain but is only trying to ascertain whether constitutional principles have adhered or not.

It had asked the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and the Department of Personnel and Training (DOPT) to file their affidavits in a week's time and had formulated questions to be answered by the Centre.

The top court had said, Tell us if you want to revisit the criteria or not. If you want us to discharge our duties, then we are ready to do so. We are formulating questions which you need to answer them .

It had added, We may stay the government notification fixing rupees eight lakh criteria for determining the EWS and you can keep filing the affidavits .

The top court was hearing a batch of pleas challenging the Centre and Medical Counselling Committee (MCC) July 29 notice providing 27 per cent reservation for Other Backward Class (OBC) and 10 per cent for EWS category in the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) admissions for medical courses.

It had asked searching questions from Centre, and asked whether any exercise was undertaken before fixing a limit of Rs 8 lakh annual income for determining the EWS category.

It had said the court is not going to tell the government as to what should be the limit whether it should be rupees four lakh or rupees six lakh because it is for the executive to decide but all it wants to know is on what basis Rs. 8 lakh criteria was fixed.

For determining creamy layer in Other Backward Classes (OBC) category the limit was fixed as Rs 8 lakh annual income and they were considered progressed class among OBCs and they were excluded from reservation benefits. Here, for the EWS category, the limit is the same Rs 8 lakh annual income but it was for inclusion in the reservation benefits, the top court had said.

On October 7, the top court had posed searching questions to the Centre on its decision to fix a limit of rupees eight lakh annual income for determining the EWS category for reservation in NEET admissions.

The Centre had then said fixing a limit of Rs eight lakh annual income for the EWS category is a matter of policy based on the National Cost of Living Index.

On September 17, the top court has agreed to hear a batch of pleas of students against the July 29 notice providing 27 per cent reservation for OBC and 10 per cent for EWS category in 15 per cent UG and 50 per cent PG All India Quota seats (MBBS/BDs and MD/MS/MDS) with effect from the current academic session 2021-22.

CRIME REPORT

Drug peddler nabbed with contraband

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

KULGAM: Continuing its efforts to eradicate menace of drugs from the society, Police have arrested a drug peddler in Sopore and recovered contraband substance from his possession. Officers from Police Station Sopore apprehended a drug peddler in Sopore and recovered 1,008 Spasmaproxyvon Plus capsules from his possession. He was arrested and shifted to Police Station, where he remained in custody. Accordingly, FIR No 259/2021 under relevant sections of law was registered in Police Station Sopore and further investigation has been initiated.

Twenty one persons got injured in separate accidents

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

NEWSHERA: Twenty one persons got injured on Monday in separate accidents.

As per details, a mini-bus bearing registration number JK02AK/0297 turned turtle in middle of the road at Chetagate, Jhangar, due to which 15 persons got injured. All injured persons have been shifted to Sub District Hospital Nowshera while two of them, whose condition was serious, were evacuated to Government Medical College Hospital, Jammu.

The injured passengers were identified as Swarana Devi, wife of Vinod Kumar; Sakshi Devi, daughter of Vinod Kumar; Manzoor Hussain, son of Munir Hussain, all residents of Jhangar; Ram Payari, wife of Nanak Chand; Ram Parshad, son of Tara Chand, both residents of Sarya; Neetu Choudhary, wife of Vikas Kumar, resident of Kalsian; Tara Devi, wife of Kaka Ram, resident of Bal Shama; Suresh Devi, wife of Rattan Lal, resident of Jhangar; Beena Devi, wife of Dev Raj, resident of Sarya; Sachin Kumar, son of Sat Pal; Mukesh Kumar, son of Sita Ram, both residents of Sarya; Kajal Devi, daughter of Swaran Singh, resident of Bhethra Kalakote; Mukesh Kumar, son of Som Raj, resident of Sarya; Tilak Raj, son of Karnail Singh, resident of Kalsian and Vidya Devi, wife of Nanak Chand.

Meanwhile, an Army vehicle collided with a Tempo at Magarkot, due to which some people suffered minor injuries. A truck, on its way to Valley, collided with an Alto car near Khooni Nallah, resulting in minor injuries to some people.

At the same time, some people got injured when a Tavera, on its way to Jammu from Srinagar was hit by shooting stones near Khooni Nallah. The injured, identified as Mudassar Ahmed, Mohammad Sahil Vani, Rashida Begum, Mavya Mudasir, Baby and Sabrina Begum, were referred to Anantnag after giving first-aid at PHC Ramsu.

Terrorists lob grenade at PS Kakapora, no injury reported

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

PULWAMA: Suspected terrorists on Monday evening lobbed a grenade towards security forces in Kakapora area at Pulwama district. As per an official, suspected terrorists hurled a grenade towards Police Station Kakapora, but it exploded outside. There was no loss of life or injury in attack, he added. The terrorists managed to flee from the spot; however a search operation has been launched by Police to nab them. CCTV footage of the area is also being scrutinized for identifying the culprits.

JSD daily-wager consumes poisonous substance, dies

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: A daily wageer of Jal Shakti Department (JSD) died here on Monday after consuming some poisonous substance.

As per details, the health of Sushil Kumar, son of Mohan Lal, resident of Karwanda, Bhalwal deteriorated at night hours, after which his family members shifted him to hospital but he failed to recover and died during treatment. After preliminary investigation, doctors informed that Sushil had consumed some poisonous substance. On receiving information, Gharota police reached hospital and initiated legal action in the matter. Sushil Kumar was a daily-wager in Jal Shakti Department (JSD). He was having a dispute with his wife, after which his wife lodged a complaint against him in Women's cell, but later both had an agreement and presently both were living together. The body has been handed-over to the family-members after all legal formalities.

Girl missing under suspicious circumstances

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

DOMANA: A 20-year-old girl went missing, under suspicious circumstances, from her house in Domana on Monday. As per details, father of a missing girl lodged a complaint with Domana Police, stating that his 20-yr old daughter left house for some work but did not return. Police has registered a case in this regard and started investigation to launch to missing girl.

One more arrested in cash snatching case

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Bus-stand Police arrested one more accused in cash-snatching case on Monday. Earlier, after receiving a complaint from one Bashir Ahmed Butt, resident of Anantnag, stating that some cash has been snatched from him, Police has arrested an accused Umar Ahmed and recovered a sum of Rs 38,000 from his possession. During further interrogation, it came to fore that one more accused is involved in the crime and after searching him for several days, Police finally arrested him on Monday. He was identified as Mushtaq Ahmed, resident of Baramulla. A sum of Rs 5,000 has been recovered from him. Further investigation is going on in the matter.

Exact place, date of birth of Baba Banda Singh Bahadur located

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

RAJOURI: After putting in strenuous efforts for last ten years, the 'Baba Banda Singh Bahadur Sikh Youth Organisation', Rajouri (Regd') led by its President, Rajvinder Singh Puri has finally succeeded in establishing the exact place and date of birth of Martyr Banda Singh Bahadur.

As per the Deputy Commissioner Rajouri's letter no DCR/2020-

21/SQ/80-81 dated 12-6-2020, after detailed scrutiny of Revenue records of the area, it has been confirmed that place of birth of Baba Banda Singh Bahadur is 'Daddan Wali Bowli, village Gowardhan Pain, Tehsil & District Rajouri while his exact date of birth is October 16, 1670.'

Speaking on the occasion, Rajvinder Singh Puri said that birth place of the great soul is presently under occu-

Power shutdown

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Chief Engineer, (Distribution) JPDCL, Jammu has informed that the power supply to Ramsoo, Neel, Ukharal and Khari shall remain affected on October 26 from 9 am to 5 pm. Similarly, the power supply to Roop Nagar, Lower Roop Nagar, Housing Colony, Chinor, Durga Nagar, Buta Nagar adjoining areas shall remain affected on October 26 from 9 am to 3 pm. Likewise, the power supply to Greater Kailash and its adjoining areas shall remain affected on October 27 from 8 am to 11 am. Similarly, the power supply to Kullian, Badyal and adjoining areas shall remain affected on October 27 from 9 am to 1pm. Likewise, the power supply to Ramgarh, Rangoor; Biaspur; Kotli, Kalyana, Badyal Brahmana, Rangpur Maulana, Kullian, Krishna Nagar, Chand Nagar, Jewel, Vinayak Bazar, PHE, Company Bagh, M.A. Stadium, Jammu Club, JullakaMohalla, Governor House, Kachi Chawni, Karan Nagar, Poonch, 33KV MES line and adjoining areas shall remain affected on October 27 from 9 am to 3pm. Meanwhile, Superintending Engineer O&M Circle, Jammu, JPDCL has informed that the power supply to Muthi, Toph, Bantabal, Vasuki Vihar, Gurba Brahmana, Keeran Morh and their adjoining areas shall remain affected on October 27 and 29 from 10 am to 2 pm. Similarly, the power supply to power supply to Muthi and its adjoining areas shall remain affected on October 27 from 10 am to 2 pm.

ipation of India Army and matter has been taken up with the concerned authorities for vacation of the land at the earliest.

Mata Ki Chowki program organised at historical Chichi Mata Temple in Samba

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

SAMBA: District administration Samba, in collaboration with Directorate of Tourism, Jammu today organised Mata Ki Chowki program here at Historical Chichi Mata Temple amid huge participation of local public.

The Chief Guest, District Development Council Chairman Keshav Dutt Sharma, paid obeisance at revered Chichi Mata temple and inaugurated the Mata ki Chowki recital in presence of Vice Chairman Balwan Singh, Deputy Commissioner Anuradha Gupta, Senior Superintendent of Police Rajesh Sharma and others.

The singers included Antu Kotwal, Shubham Banarjee, Yogeshi, Kismat Khatra, Atul, Sarita Salmotra, Surjeet Kumar, Akshay Kumar, besides local artists.

