

!! Continuations from Page 1 !! Officer, Jawan martyred...

shoes. An army officer said there was no breakthrough against the holed-up terrorists who are avoiding direct contact with the search parties and are on the run taking advantage of thick foliage, natural caves and difficult terrain.

The entire forest area is under tight security cordon and the operation to neutralise the terrorists is going on, the officer said.

The officials said smoke was seen billowing from deep inside the forest at a few places after dry grass caught fire during the ongoing operation. The fire, however, was put off by the search parties.

Over a dozen persons, including two women, were detained so far for questioning after it came to light that they allegedly provided logistic support, including food and shelter, to the terrorists, the officials said.

Traffic between Bhimber Gali and Jera Wali Gali in Mendhar along the Jammu-Rajouri highway remained suspended as a precautionary measure for the 15th day on Saturday in view of the ongoing operation.

Rajouri and Poonch in Jammu region have witnessed a rise in infiltration attempts since June this year, resulting in the killing of nine terrorists in separate encounters.

JKRTC terminates 15...

No. 2632 (15 offences) , Manjeet Singh Reg. No. 2187 (18 offences), Sukhdev Singh Reg. No. 2447 (16 offences) , Amar Singh Reg. No. 2562 (15 offences), Nanak Chand Reg. No. 2423 (14 Offences), Arjun Singh i/c Assistant fitter (15 offences), Mohammad Saliq Reg. No. 2766 (22 offences), Mohammad Sharief Reg. No. 2333 (14 Offences) and Bashir Ahmad Naidoo Reg. No. 2761 (13 offences).

MD JKRTC further warned all the officers and officials of the Corporation to do their legitimate duties with full zeal and zest otherwise strict disciplinary action will be initiated against them.

5 lakh second...

Moreover, 87 more COVID-19 patients have recovered and been discharged from various hospitals including 16 from Jammu Division and 71 from Kashmir Division.

On COVID vaccination, the officials said that 63,155 doses of COVID vaccine have been administered in the last 24 hours bringing the cumulative number of doses administered across J&K to 14,590,656.

According to the daily Media Bulletin, out of 332154 positive cases, 886 are Active Positive (103 in Jammu Division and 783 in Kashmir Division), 326836 have recovered and 4432 have died; 2176 in Jammu division and 2256 in Kashmir division.

The Bulletin further said that out of 16163431 test results available, 332154 samples have tested positive and 15831277 samples have been tested as negative till date. Besides, 39,002 COVID tests have been conducted in last 24 hours.

Till date 3825024 persons have been enlisted for observation which included 6267 persons in home quarantine including facilities operated by government, 886 in isolation and 448797 in home surveillance. Besides, 3364642 persons have completed their surveillance period.

Eleven fresh COVIDeases were detected in Ladakh, taking the overall virus tally in the union territory to 20,941 and the active cases to 58, officials said.

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

The officials said 1,207 persons were tested for COVID-19 in the twin districts on Friday and 11 of them were found positive in Leh.

Two coronavirus infected patients were discharged from a hospital in Leh, thereby taking the number of recoveries in Ladakh to 20,675, they said, the number of active cases stands at 58 --- 54 in Leh and four in Kargil.

The officials said no fresh covid-related death was reported in Ladakh on Friday.

NSD opens TIE...

performed a "Puppet show" at the Tagore Hall.

After inaugurating the centre, Chairman, NSD Paresh Rawal said that it was a privilege for the NSD to open such a centre in Kashmir for promoting theatre talent in the valley.

Earlier, while welcoming the audience, NSD Acting Director, Dinesh Khanna termed the opening ceremony of the centre as a "welcome development".

Concluding the proceedings of the event, Secretary JKAACL presented vote of thanks.

India ready to...

during the pandemic.

He made these remarks during his intervention at the "global economy and global health" session at the G20 meet, Shringla said.

Stressing on the need for resilient global supply chains, Prime Minister Modi spoke about India's bold economic reforms and invited G20 nations to make India their partner in economic recovery and supply chain diversification.

Modi also spoke about "One Earth, One Health" vision in the context of fighting the pandemic and future global health issues, Shringla added.

India's vaccination coverage...

from April 1.

The government then decided to expand its vaccination drive by allowing everyone above 18 to be vaccinated from May 1.

Harsh Dev comes...

to have been constructed illegally and in violation of norms, said Singh. As long as the two brothers remained in the ruling party, none questioned them with BJP embracing Ch. Lal Singh with all his idiosyncrasies. But as soon as he disassociated from BJP, and started criticising its dictatorial policies, the axe fell upon him with his business establishments declared illegal and eventually bulldozed. By taking action against the DSS leader, the BJP has once again demonstrated its policies of vendetta and its revengeful attitude towards its political adversaries, he added.

Advising the Saffron leaders to give a peep into their own dirty laundry, Harsh Dev Singh said that BJP blaming Lal Singh and his family members was like burglar blaming a pick-pocket.

Harsh Dev questioned, "Is Lal Singh's brother or his family the only politician in the State having defied the Agrarian Reforms Act? Is there no other politician who has encroached State lands? What about those BJP Ministers and its Ex-MLAs who have been involved in Bank frauds, illegal transfers of land, Roshni seams, illegal constructions, violation of codal formalities in allotment of contracts, media bribing reports, mining seams besides large scale encroachments of State and forest lands? Not only that, the BJP has chosen to shut its eye to the most sensational disclosures made by the Governor SP Malik regarding a bribe of Rs. 300 crore offered to him by some BJP leaders. What kind of jurisprudence is being implemented in the BJP regime? The way the BJP issued rapid fire clean chits to its erring and corrupt leaders while victimizing its opponents only indicates its double standards and hypocrisy. The BJP has demonstrated how myopic you can get in the pursuit of your vested interests. It has proved that political witch-hunting is a game that has no rules, no protocol, no referee and which can be played by defying all norms".

The action against Lal Singh's family would have earned appreciation, had it been taken during his tenure as Minister; observed Harsh adding that present action could only be termed as 'State terror' disguised as 'Legal process'.

Gagan Pratap Singh, Parshotam Parihar (State Secretaries-JKNPP) and Surinder Chouhan (District President Jammu Rural) were also present on the occasion.

Here it is relevant to mention that Harsh Dev Singh was allotted house number 6-A when he was Minister for Education in Mufti Sayeed government from 2002 to 2004. Thereafter, Harsh Dev stayed there for over 15 years but had to vacate the house under pressure.

Innovative steps taken...

Vinod Chatterjee Koul, judge of the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir & Ladakh, were present on the occasion.

The minister inspected various stalls installed by different departments to disseminate necessary information about various schemes.

He complimented the efforts of the union territory administration and the District Legal Services Authority for providing hassle-free services to people and added that the central government and the UT administration is duty bound to provide justice to various sections of the society.

Rijiju pitched for making every endeavour and effort to make the availability of justice for all a reality according to the mandate of the Constitution.

He said access to justice is important for ensuring protection of rights of citizens under various enactments and social welfare schemes.

The minister said the government is regularly monitoring the implementation of social services and welfare schemes being provided to the people of Jammu and Kashmir on the ground level.

theft and disclosed that he sold two batteries to Raju Electricals situated at Kot Bhalwal. On his disclosure, two batteries were recovered from the possession of Raj Kumar, son of Girdhari Lal, resident of Seri Panta, Tartarocho, Tehsil Bhalwal, Jammu. Both accused persons were booked under relevant sections of law. The overall operation was done under the supervision of SP Rural Jammu, Sanjay Sharma.

Drug peddler nabbed with 5.5 Kg poppy straw

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

SAMBA: In its drive against drug smugglers & its propagators, Police on



Saturday arrested a narcotics smuggler and recovered 5.5 Kg Poppy Straw (Bhukki) from his possession.

As per details, a team from Police Station Samba while performing vehicle checking duty near Nud, Samba, signaled a Nissan Car (PB07AD-4880), to stop, which was coming from Kashmir side and moving towards Punjab. During checking of vehicle, 5.5 Kg of Poppy Straw packed in 8 polythene bags were recovered, which were concealed in specially-fabricated cavity.

The accused identified as Jaga Singh, son of Balwinder Singh, resident of Abaadi, Verka, Amritsar was arrested and FIR No. 310/2021 under sections 8/15 of NDPS Act has been registered against him at Police Station Samba.

130 sacks of polythene bags recovered

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

SAMBA: Police on Saturday recovered 130 sacks of polythene bags which were being illegally transported under jurisdiction of Police Station Samba.

As per details, a party from Police Station Samba, while performing routine vehicle checking duty in Samba area, intercepted a Canter (RJ02GA-7259) driven by one Sukhwinder Singh, son of Nand Lal, resident of Abhor, Punjab



which was on its way from Gujarat to Srinagar. During checking of vehicle, 130 sacks of polythene bags, each weighing about 20-25 Kg were found laden inside the vehicle, without any permission. In this regard, the matter was handed over to District Pollution Control Board, Samba for further action at their end.

He said Jammu and Kashmir is progressing tremendously in every field and the need of the hour is to provide social services and justice at the doorstep of every citizen.

A definition parallel...

the years the ` National Conference appeared compelled by the style of political culture that emerged in Kashmir valley after 2000 to once again lay 'more priorities' on Kashmir Valley only as it did prior to 1947.

But it was appreciable that still in 2011 the NC- Cong Government lead by National Conference had come up with the plan for issue of Dogra Certificates for the welfare of all the permanent residents of Jammu Division of J&K from outside Kashmir Valley. Ofcourse there are some NC leaders belonging to Kashmir Valley who had in low tones criticized the intentions of Revenue Minister Raman Bhalla. But these NC leaders then did not have much political base in Kashmir Valley and hence to stand against the separatists such leaders totally depended upon the goodwill of Dr. Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah.

So far, it were only the people of Kashmir Valley who were more known outside J&K and the basis / guidelines for issue Dogra Certificate had in a way disclosed to the outside world that there is a large part of J&K known as Dogra that extends from Kathua to Doda/Poonch/Rajouri/Mirpur lands of Jammu Division. Lets us not go into finer details/ technicalities and other administrative aspects of such like order. The Dogra certificate issue may not bring too much of extra employment benefits to the Dogra people of J&K but one thing is sure that with such like Identity the people of Jammu Division will stand more firmly against the forces who may be there to weaken the socio religious ties amongst the simple & innocent masses Hindu and Muslim of Jammu Division. But why did the leadership from Jammu Division did not unitedly carry the provision for issue of Dogra Certificate further after that making the J&K Revenue Department Order No. Rev.(LB) 69 of 2011 dated: 25-03-2011 issued with the approval of the then Revenue Minister Raman Bhalla almost an unknown identity even in 2021 ? To Be Continued

(Daya Sagar, is a senior journalist and analyst of J&K Affairs , can be reached at dayasagr45@yahoo.com)

T20 WC: Mehbooba...

three students from Kashmir studying in Agra were arrested for allegedly celebrating Pakistan's victory over India in the T20 World Cup match played in Dubai on October 24.

"I write to you with a deep sense of disappointment and concern about the alarming situation in Jammu and Kashmir. Not too long ago when you presided over an all-party meeting in Delhi you expressed your intention to remove 'dil ki doori' between Delhi and J&K. In my capacity as the President of PDP, I suggested a few confidence building measures that would have provided a sense of relief and breathing space to the people of J&K," Mehbooba wrote.

"We had been waiting for the roll-out of a policy to address the hearts and minds of people, especially youth," she said.

The PDP president said there were also expectations that Union Home Minister Amit Shah's recent visit to J&K would have led to a meaningful reach-out, especially after his statement about engaging with the youth here.

"Instead, what followed was shocking and worrying. A friendly cricket match between India and Pakistan that was solely a source of entertainment for people here...led to booking (of) youngsters under the draconian UAPA for simply choosing to cheer the winning side," she said. Mehbooba said the brightest young people pursuing professional courses like MBBS have been targeted and slapped with anti-terror laws. "...three students in Agra too have been arrested and charged with sedition for the same reasons. This, despite the college's own admission that they didn't engage in any activity that might be construed as anti-national," she said. The former chief minister said patriotism and a sense of loyalty have to be cultivated with compassion and cannot be "forced by wielding the baton or by the barrel of a gun".

"Such punitive actions laced with contempt will only further the sense of mistrust and alienation between the younger generation and rest of the country.... Wisdom deems it prudent for this government to engage with them, understand their aspirations and goals. I fervently request you to intervene so that the future of these young bright minds is not destroyed," she wrote to Modi.

Mehbooba said political parties and their fortunes will wax and wane over the course of time, but what matters the most is the future generation that will have to carry the burdens of the past yet strive to fulfil the expectations of a better tomorrow.

Remembering Martyrs: Cultural event organised

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

SUNDERBANI: In series of efforts aimed towards remembering the police Martyrs and to pay tributes to them, the Jammu and Kashmir police organised a cultural event at Girls Higher Secondary School Sunderbani.

The event was organised by police station Sunderbani with officials of School Education Department, staff of school, prominent citizen of the area and Police officers including Additional SP Nowshera, Amit Verma, Sub Divisional Police Officer Nowshera Zakir Shaheen Mirza, Station House Officer Sunderbani SD Singh and others were present.

During this event, the students of the school presented



Additional SP Nowshera, Amit Verma handing over gift to family of a martyr.

patriotic cultural items with an aim to pay tributes to the police Martyrs who laid down their lives for the motherland and nation in past. Addressing the event Additional Superintendent of Police Nowshera, Amit Verma said that martyrs from any force are real heroes of our society and

every member of the society should remember these heroes who laid down their lives and attained martyrdom for the sake of motherland and mother nation.

He further said that Jammu and Kashmir police is organising series of events to pay tributes to the police Martyrs.

DYSS conducts series of cleanliness drives in schools

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

KISHTWAR: As a part of Clean India Programme, Department of Youth Services & Sports Kishtwar on Saturday conducted cleanliness drives in the schools of zone Nagseni.

The drive was conducted at Government High Secondary School Dool, Government High Secondary School Nagseni, Government High School, Banderna, Government High School Galhar, Government High School Kuchalna, Government Middle School, Huller, Government Middle School Indra Nagar, Government Middle School, Poohie Khurd and Government Middle School Lower Huller. The REKs, staff members and the students took part in the cleanliness drive at

their respective schools with great enthusiasm and vigour.

They collected the garbage, litter, plastic waste and wrappers in and around the premises of their respective schools and disposed it properly.

Besides this, the teachers and students educated the people residing in adjoining areas not to throw garbage in open and appealed to them to make it their habit to dump the household wastes in proper way to avoid the hazardous environmental effects.

The programme was conducted under the guidance of I/C Zonal Physical Education Officer Nagseni Suresh Chander Parihar and under the overall supervision of District Youth services and Sports Officer Kishtwar Kharati Lal Sharma.

ARTO Reasi organises awareness camp for drivers, commuters

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

REASI: Assistant Regional Transport Officer Reasi Rajesh Gupta organised an awareness and Sanitization camp for Drivers, conductors here on Saturday at Katra. During the camp, Rajesh Gupta sensitised the drivers about the Motor Vehicle Act and urged them to follow all the traffic rules to ensure the safety of one and all. He emphasized that the traffic violation leads to road accidents and kills hundreds of peoples on a daily basis and adherence to Laws can avert most of the road accidents besides making commutation hassle free. During the camp, Rajesh Gupta also distributed masks and hand sanitizers among drivers for their safety amid COVID-19. Meanwhile, the drivers expressed their satisfaction over the gesture of ARTO & Thanks ARTO Reasi for conducting such an Awareness & Sensitization camp.



ARTO Reasi Rajesh Gupta distributing masks among drivers.

