

!! Continuations from Page 1 !!

Two UP labourers...

deceased labourers is done, their bodies will be brought to Lucknow by an aircraft. From Lucknow, the bodies will reach their village by road."

The killings drew criticism from administration as well as political parties with Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha saying that "words cannot adequately condemn today's barbaric terror attack on Manish Kumar and Ram Sagar from Kannauj, UP..."

"...security apparatus has been directed to launch coordinated CT (counter terror ops".

He said the Shopian district administration has deputed senior officers to make arrangements for transportation of the mortal remains of the two men to their respective villages with full honours.

"Terrorism is a curse for the civilised society. People from every community must come together to condemn heinous acts and root out terror and its elements," he added.

Former chief minister and vice president of National Conference Omar Abdullah termed the killing as "unacceptable and indefensible targeted attack against minorities in Kashmir".

"My heartfelt condolences to the families of Monish Kumar & Ram Sagar, may they find strength at the difficult time. Prayers for the souls of the deceased," he wrote.

Another former chief minister and PDP president Mehbooba Mufti said it was "distressing to know that two labourers were killed in an attack. At the risk of sounding repetitive, there is no sense of security and dignity for anyone living in J-K. These issues will be resolved only when GOI acknowledges that they exist".

CPM leader Mohammed Yusuf Tarigami termed the killing as "shocking" and said "two poor labourers who had come to earn their livelihood lost their lives to a despicable attack. Each one of us must raise our voice to condemn such barbaric acts of violence".

People's Conference chief Sajad Lone also condemned the attack. "Waking up to the horrific news of the dastardly killing of two people who happen to be non locals. Their journey to earn a livelihood ends in blood bath at the hands of goons. These goons will rot in hell Inshallah."

Protests in Jammu...

targeted killings in the Valley. Over two dozen migrant labourers and other minority community members have been killed by terrorists in Kashmir since 2017. The government at the Centre and J&K administration have failed to provide a safe and secure atmosphere to the people working in Kashmir, he said.

The Kashmiri migrant employees and Jammu-based reserved category employees, who have fled the Valley in the aftermath of the killing of their colleagues in May, vowed not to return till the situation improves.

We will not return to Kashmir till the security situation improves there. Our protest will continue, Kuldeep, a Kashmiri migrant employee under the Prime Minister's employment package for the community, said as his group continued their protest at the Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner's office in Jammu.

Senior Congress leader and former minister Yogesh Sawhney termed the killing of the labourers as unfortunate and said such incidents reflect the failure of the government.

Prominent Kashmiri Pandit leader Vijay Bakaya also expressed concern at the cold-blooded murders.

This incident confirms the apprehension of Prime Minister Package employees that the trend of targeted killing has not ceased and the environment is still not conducive for their return and work safely in the valley, Bakaya, a Kashmiri Pandit leader, said in a statement.

He urged the LG Administration to take a realistic and humane" view and not take coercive measures like stoppage of salary to force the PM package employees to return to duty in the Valley.

Instead those who have come to Jammu should be treated on deputation or attached temporarily in the relief organisation or other offices for performing assigned tasks till the wave of targeted killing subsides, he said.

He reiterated that the migrant employees have been performing duties diligently since 2010.

This is an extraordinary situation which requires an extraordinary solution, he added.

Five newly promoted...

Inspectors following their promotion have been posted as DySPs in ACB with immediate effect. They include Farooq Ahmed Wani, Khursheed Ahmed Wani, Gurmeet Singh, Laxmi Kant and Champa Devi.

The order further said that four DySPs posted in ACB, J&K, are repatriated to Home Department for further posting. They included Zafar Iqbal Manhas, Rameez Rashis Bhat, Masood Ahmed Beigh and Rais Ahmed Mir.

Besides, Ashwani Kumar, Inspector posted in ACB, upon his promotion as DySP, has been repatriated to Home Department for further posting , the order said.

Will not rest...

Governor urged the individuals and volunteer organizations to come forward and complement the government's efforts to selflessly serve the underprivileged sections of the society and for socio-economic empowerment of women and the youth.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor threw light on the golden history of women empowerment in Jammu and Kashmir. The world's first woman guerrilla force and countless examples of great women leadership, sacrifice and bravery have made valuable contributions in the development of UT, he added.

Today, Jammu Kashmir is moving towards regaining its lost glory of women empowerment and creating an ecosystem of women entrepreneurs, the Lt Governor further added.

In the last two years, more than 10,000 girls have become entrepreneurs and they have been provided with training, financial assistance, and market linkage. The handicrafts products of Women self-help groups are reaching different cities of the country and abroad through Amazon & Flipkart, the Lt Governor noted.

The Lt Governor also spoke on the interventions like Aao School Chalen Campaign, Talaash Survey of the government to ensure that every child goes to school and other initiatives like mentorship program, necessary infrastructure for girls' education, tablets and laptops with content for children, Atal Tinkering labs, smart schools for children belonging to underprivileged section of society, increased

average scholarship for children from poor families, vocational courses, Seasonal Centers for Migratory Tribal Population, enhancement of salaries of seasonal teachers etc.

These efforts are yielding favorable results and last year enrollment drive has registered a 14.5% increase, 93,000 out of school children have been identified and brought to school within just one year, he added.

During an interaction session with the author, the Lt Governor highlighted the youth-oriented initiatives being taken by the government under the aegis of Mission Youth.

Chairperson of J&K Waqf Board Dr Darakhshan Andrabi, speaking on the occasion, congratulated the author for the launch of her book. She also appreciated the LG-led UT Government for taking reformative measures for promoting cultural and artistic activities and working for the overall development of J&K.

Altaf Bukhari, senior politician and President, Jammu and Kashmir Apni Party commended Rouble Nagi and her Art Foundation for taking internationally recognized initiatives for the welfare of the underprivileged.

He highlighted the contribution of the Lt Governor for bringing a positive change in Jammu Kashmir and ensuring a peaceful environment for all.

Vikramaditya Singh, former Legislator, remembered the reforms introduced by Maharaja Hari Singh for the empowerment of women in J&K.

Speaking on the occasion, Rouble Nagi- the author of the Book highlighted the objectives of her Art foundation and spoke on the ongoing initiatives of the foundation in J&K as well as across the country with an aim to improve the quality of life of the people.

She informed that her Art foundation has repaired and painted around 1.5 lakh houses so far and as of today her team is working in 163 slums and villages in other parts of the country. She also spoke on the Badal Kashmir chapter from her book.

Volunteers of the Rouble Nagi Art Foundation shared their views and experiences on the occasion.

Senior officials, renowned journalists and prominent citizens from all walks of life attended the book unveiling event at Raj Bhawan Auditorium.

JKP S-I paper...

six States and Union Territories were searched in connection with the scam.

More arrests in the scam haven't been ruled out, sources said, adding the CBI started with those who had sold the question paper at more places for hefty amounts.

The CBI has started questioning of the arrested accused to ascertain total number of persons to whom they sold the papers. Also, the investigators will extract names of persons from whom they secured the question paper.

The CBI has already conducted two rounds of raids in connection with leakage of question papers after the case was handed over to it by the Jammu and Kashmir Government.

The CBI had registered a case on August 3 in connection with Sub Inspectors recruitment scam on the request of Jammu and Kashmir Government, against a total of 33 accused including the then Member JKSSB, the then Under Secretary and Section Officer of SSB, ex-official of CRPF, ASI of JKP, owner of a coaching centre at Akhnoor, private company based at Bengaluru, some private persons and other unknown persons on the allegations of irregularities in written examination for the posts of Sub Inspectors in Jammu and Kashmir Police conducted by the Services Selection Board on March 27. Results of the examinations were declared on June 4.

The Jammu and Kashmir Government had initially set up a Committee of officers to probe the charges of irregularities in the paper leakage. Based on their report, the case was handed over to CBI.

Ladakh: 4 tourists...

Moradabad, UP, Reyaz Ahmed, son of Shareef Ahmed, resident of R/O C-54, street No 7, Brahmputra Delhi, and Azam Khan, resident of Delhi.

It is pertinent to mention here that the road traffic accident had happened due to the inclement weather which led to snowfall at Khardungla Pass, Changla Pass and other upper reaches of the region and the road get icy and slippery.

In another RTA case an accident had also taken place at Singayla in Lingshed area wherein a Thar vehicle fell down from the road, however both the persons (Tourists from Karnataka) travelling in the vehicle are safe with some minor injuries, they have been immediately shifted to block hospital Khalsi after receiving first aid at Lingshed medical centre.

District Police Leh also informed the general public, especially tourist to avoid travelling plan towards Nubra, Pangong and other high altitude areas during the inclement weather.

The citizens are once again requested not to venture out during the inclement weather period till the high passes get road traffic worthy, district police Leh seek your cooperation.

Integration of 6...

of services and add to the convenience of citizens availing services", he added.

The services on the UMANG platform are end to end digitized and provide a one-stop solution to the citizens starting from application for a service, its processing to receipt of certificates/permissions. The services being provided are integrated with online payment gateway and Rapid Assessment System (RAS) of digital feedback.

It was informed that with the launch of 06 additional services namely domicile certificate of Revenue Department, Mumkin scheme of Mission Youth, Age certificate, Fitness certificate/Medical checkup, Physical Challenged Certificate of Health and Medical Education and Commercial Water Connection of Jal Shakti Department, henceforth 31 popular services can be accessed by the public at <https://web.umang.gov.in> or by downloading mobile app 'UMANG' which is available on 'Android' and 'IOS' platform.

Breakthrough achieved on...

km between Katra and Banihal is under progress and is likely to be completed by next year, the official said, adding the Katra-Banihal section is traversing through the hilly terrain of the lower Himalayas, where geology is a major challenge.

It has a total of 37 bridges and 35 tunnels, he said.

CS launches online...

Administrative Secretaries and Deputy Commissioners in physical and virtual mode.

On the occasion the Chief Secretary maintained that the system would be beneficial in giving equal treatment to all the employees in terms of their career progres-

sion, timely filing of monthly performance reports, Property Returns and Annual Performance Reports.

Dr Mehta directed for monitoring of all these performance standards and take appropriate action against the willful defaulters. He observed that the long staying employees and employees deserving promotions should also be regulated through this management system. He complimented GAD and NIC for coming up with holistic HR management system in a very short span of time.

During the meeting, it was informed that the implementation of JK HRMS, is another achievement of the government in continuation of IT Initiatives like Smart Performance Appraisal Report Recording Online Window (SPARROW), Online Property Return System (PRS), Vigilance Clearance System (VCS), Employees Monitoring Portal (EPM) and Employees Verification System (EVS) launched for facilitation and disposal of HRM issues of employees.

It was further informed that JK-HRMS shall provide a unified dashboard for employees, wherein, vital service related details like posting and promotion, monthly salary slip, income tax remitted, GPF statement, SLI subscription can be accessed.

The portal shall also integrate Employees Monitoring Portal (EPM) and Online Property Return System (PRS). The portal shall provide a generic, product based solution for better management of service matters through electronic service record and can be accessed on URL <https://hrms.jk.gov.in>.

While highlighting the features of the JK-HRMS, all the DDOs were asked to ensure that all employees under their control register themselves on the portal and cross check their service related information integrated in the JK-HRMS, which shall be verified by the concerned Drawing & Disbursing Officers in a time bound manner.

Pertinent to mention here that this 'one- stop solution' for addressing issues related to service records of employees in electronic form has been developed collaboratively by the General Administration Department and National Informatics Center, J&K.

Kharge vs Tharoor...

137-year-old history.

The counting of the votes cast on Monday will begin at 10 am on Wednesday at the AICC headquarters here.

While Kharge is considered the firm favourite with his perceived proximity to the Gandhis and a large number of senior leaders backing him, Tharoor has pitched himself as the candidate of change.

The process of bringing all the ballot boxes from the 68 polling booths set up across the country by the party will be completed by Tuesday. The sealed boxes will be kept in a "strong room" at the party headquarter.

The sealed ballot boxes will be opened before the candidates' agents and the votes will be mixed repeatedly as they are added from various boxes.

Congress central election authority chairman Madhusudan Mistry has expressed satisfaction with the party's presidential polls process, saying it was "free, fair and transparent".

He has also assured that it was a secret ballot and no one would get to know who voted for whom.

Of the total 9,915 Pradesh Congress Committee (PCC) delegates that formed the electoral college to pick the party chief in a secret ballot, over 9,500 cast their ballot at PCC offices and the AICC headquarters, Mistry said at a press conference after the polling ended on Monday.

The Congress has claimed that its internal democracy has no parallel in any other party and it is the only one to have a central election authority for organisational polls.

It is the sixth time in its nearly 137-year-old history that an electoral contest is deciding who would take up the mantle of the party's president as successor to Sonia Gandhi.

It was way back in 1939, when an electoral contest decided who would be the Congress president and in fact, Mahatma Gandhi's candidate P Sitaranayya had lost to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

Then in 1950 came the Congress' first post-Independence election for the post of party president when Purshotam Das Tandon and Acharya Kripalani faced off. Surprisingly, Tandon, seen as a Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel loyalist, won the contest, trumping the then Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru's choice.

In 1977, following the resignation of Dev Kanta Barooah as party president in the wake of the defeat in the Lok Sabha polls, K Brahmananda Reddy defeated Siddhartha Shankar Ray and Karan Singh in the party's polls for AICC chief.

The next election that needed a contest came 20 years later in 1997 when Sitaram Kesri squared off in a triangular contest with Sharad Pawar and Rajesh Pilot.

Except for Maharashtra and parts of Uttar Pradesh, all state Congress units had backed Kesri. He posted a landslide victory, getting 6,224 delegates' votes against Pawar's 882 and Pilot's 354.

The fifth contest came in 2000 and this was the only time a Gandhi family member was challenged in the elections with Jitendra Prasada taking on Sonia Gandhi. Prasada suffered a crushing defeat at the hands of Gandhi, who garnered over 7,400 votes. Prasada had reportedly polled a paltry 94 votes.

The current polls are historic as the new president would replace Sonia Gandhi, the longest-serving party president who has been at the helm since 1998, barring the two years between 2017 and 2019 when Rahul Gandhi had taken over.

The Nehru-Gandhi family has been at the helm of the party for about 40 years since Independence. The five family members to take on the mantle of the Congress president are Jawaharlal Nehru, Indira Gandhi, Rajiv Gandhi, Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi.

Electors in the Congress presidential polls had been asked to put a tick mark against their candidate in the ballot paper after Tharoor's team took up with the party's top poll body the issue of its earlier directive that voters write "1" to reflect their preference. This, the team said, might lead to confusion.

The political journeys of the two dramatis personae in the Congress presidential elections have been disparate.

Kharge is a grassroots politician and hardcore loyalist of the Gandhi family, while Tharoor, a social media pioneer and often outspoken, joined the Congress only in 2009 after a long stint at the United Nations.

Ahead of the polling, Kharge had said he would have no shame in taking the advice and support of the Gandhi family in running the party affairs, if he becomes its president.

Tharoor, on his part, took a veiled dig at some senior leaders supporting Kharge, saying that some colleagues were "indulging in 'netagiri' and telling party workers that they know who Sonia Gandhi wants elected".

France Minister calls on Dr Jitendra, discusses nuclear collaboration

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI:

France Minister,

Chrysoula

Zacharopoulou, cur-

rently on India visit,

called on Union

Minister,

Dr

Jitendra

Singh at

North Block here to

discuss Indo-French