

03 HM inaugurates, lays foundation of 260 dev projects worth Rs 1,960 Cr

08 HM Amit Shah hands-over appointment letters to kins of 4 martyred police personnel

09 Return to status quo ante needed for situation to become normal in Ladakh: IAF Chief

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## Gujjars, Bakerwals, Paharis in J&K to get quota benefits: Amit Shah

Free J&K from clutches of 3 families; today's rally befitting reply to those who used to threaten bloodbath over abrogating Art 370

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

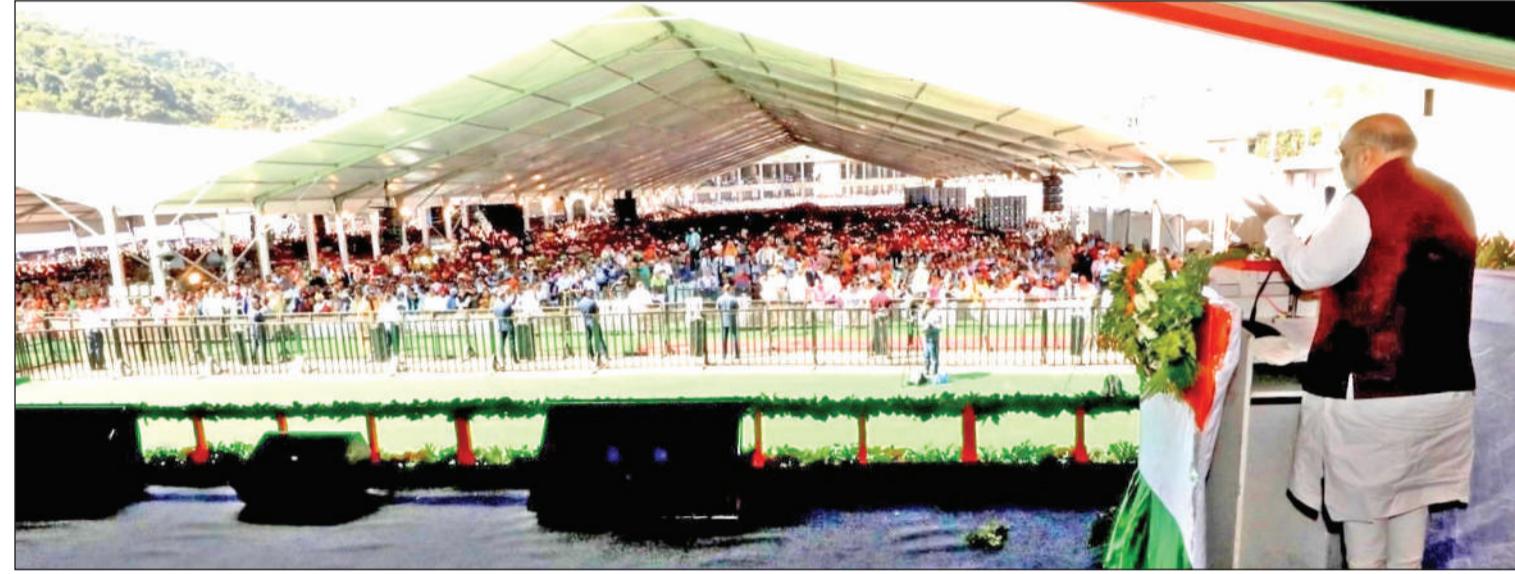
RAJOURI: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday announced that the Gujjars, Bakerwals and Paharis communities in Jammu and Kashmir will get reservation benefits in accordance with the recommendations of the Justice Sharma Commission which examined the issue of quota.

He said this while addressing a rally organised in this town, situated at the foothills of the Pir Panjal mountain range along the Indo-Pak border.

Lt Governor Manoj Sinha, Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh and Members of Parliament Jugal Kishore Sharma and Ghulam Ali Khatana were also present on the occasion.

Shah also said there will be no decline in ST quota of Gujjars and Bakerwals and Paharis and everyone will get their share.

He said the abrogation of Article 370 in 2019 has paved the way for providing



Union Home Minister Amit Shah addressing a public gathering at Rajouri on Tuesday.

reservation benefits to the deprived sections of the society in Jammu and Kashmir.

"The Justice Sharma Commission has recommended that Paharis, Bakerwals and Gujjars should be included for ST quota benefits. These recommendations

have been received and soon after completion of legal procedure, Gujjars, Bakerwals and Paharis will get the reservation benefits," he said.

The Home Minister said some people have tried to instigate the Gujjars and Bakerwals in the name of ST

status being given to Paharis but the people have foiled their design.

Coming down heavily on the Opposition in Jammu and Kashmir, Shah said earlier just three political families used to rule the erstwhile state, but now power is with

30,000 people who were elected to panchayats and district councils through fair elections.

Referring to the possibility of holding assembly elections, he said delimitation exercise was carried out before holding the Assembly polls in

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One each PDP, NC leader promise to join BJP if Pahari community granted ST status

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Two prominent leaders of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) and the National Conference have expressed their desire to join the BJP on condition that the central government grants Schedule Tribe status to their Pahari community.

PDP District President Rajouri Tazeem Dar and senior NC leader Shafqat Mir gave the assurance to Union Home Minister Amit Shah during a meeting here on Monday night, sources said.

The two leaders were part of a Pahari community delegation which called on the home minister shortly after

## DGP Lohia's suspicious murder case: Domestic help arrested from Kanhachak

LG Manoj Sinha, DGP Dilbag Singh express grief



Accused Yasir Lohar

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A 23-year-old man working as a domestic help was arrested on Tuesday for allegedly murdering Jammu and Kashmir Director General of Police (Prisons) Hemant K Lohia, police said.

Yasir Lohar's arrest from a field in Kanhachak area followed a major all-night manhunt, police said in a statement, adding that his interrogation was underway.

The 1992-batch IPS officer was found dead on Monday night at his friend's house on the outskirts of Jammu, with

burn injuries on his body and his throat slit.

Police said initial investiga-

tions did not point towards a terror angle.

Though a terror group

People's Anti-Fascist Front (PAFF) claimed responsibility for his murder, Director General of Police Dilbag Singh, who visited the crime scene, told reporters these terror groups shamelessly own everything and anything.

"In a major manhunt

launched by Jammu and

Kashmir police throughout

the night, the accused

involved in murder case of

the DG prisons has been

apprehended. Interrogation

of the accused has

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has extended his greetings on the eve of Dussehra.

In a message, the Lt Governor said, "On the auspicious occasion of Dussehra, I extend my warm greetings and best wishes to all. Dussehra symbolises the victory of good over evil

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10 individuals designated as terrorists by Home Ministry

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: A total of 10 members of Hizbul Mujahideen (HM), Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and other proscribed outfits were on Tuesday designated as terrorists by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA). Those designated as terrorists include Habibullah Malik alias

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■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The path breaking initiatives of Government launched in various sectors from last three are laying the foundations of Golden period across Jammu and Kashmir.

Over the last three years, the pace of execution of developmental schemes has increased five times on account of resurgent institutional framework.

Similarly, grassroot democratic institutions like Panchayats and Urban Local Bodies have been empowered to actively participate in the decision-making process to

cater to the needs of common citizens.

In the past two years, the government has endeavoured to develop areas which had remained neglected till now.

Dalits, tribals and socio-economically backward classes have benefited from an equitable governance system, so have the women of the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Union Territory has

achieved new horizons of success in the field of business,

economy, education, culture and sports.

The aspirations of the youth of Jammu and

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Kashmir have been synchronized with the aspirations of the country now. Their dreams are not confined to personal development, but transcend to create a good future for the society, nation and the entire humanity. The youth of Jammu and Kashmir aspire for an equitable society free from poverty, unemployment and exploitation. They want a society which challenges and harnesses their creativity.

Union government and J&K administration is making every effort to make impossible things

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

The Union home minister set off the three-day tour of Jammu and Kashmir on Monday. He met several delegations on Monday, and on Tuesday, he visited Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine at Katra and addressed a public rally in Rajouri.

On the Shah's Kashmir itinerary is a public rally in Baramulla on Wednesday and a security review meeting, the officials said.

They said the focus of the

meeting will be on tackling the attacks on the non-locals in the Kashmir valley.

The launch and foundation laying of various development projects in Srinagar is also on Shah's list, the officials said, adding he will then return to Delhi the same evening.

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The checking on Srinagar-Baramulla highway has

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