

!! Continuations from Page 1 !!

Modi, Rajnath, Amit...

other prominent leaders, will also visit the Union Territory, Raina told reporters on the sidelines of a party function in Ramban district.

The party is launching a public awareness campaign in the Union Territory on October 24 to inform the people about the developmental programmes undertaken by the BJP-led central government.

"In the coming days, the prime minister, defence minister, home minister, roads and highways minister and the BJP president, besides other prominent leaders, are visiting both regions of Jammu and Kashmir to address mega rallies," Raina said.

Though he did not specify the exact date for the visits, Raina said the rallies will be organised as part of the public awareness campaign.

"Our government is working honestly for all sections of society, whether rich or poor; without any discrimination on the basis of religion. Our motive is that all must get justice," he said, adding the Modi-led government has made it amply clear that there is zero tolerance for corruption.

Raina said the party's mass contact programme will cover all villages, panchayats and municipal wards and create public awareness about the large-scale development taking place in Jammu and Kashmir under the BJP government.

Four held for...

smuggler Mushtaq Ali alias "Kaka" at Sarore on Thursday evening.

A police spokesman said four hardcore criminals -- Mushtaq Ahmad Mohd Rashid alias Shida of Samba and Farooq Ahmad and Bashir Ahmed of Jammu were arrested in connection with the attack on the police and NCB teams.

A case under sections of Indian Penal Code and Arms Act was registered at Bari Brahmana police station, he said.

Samba Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Benam Tosh said police teams are conducting raids at different suspected hideouts and all perpetrators behind the attacks would be behind the bars in no time.

Jal Shakti Deptt...

06.10.2023] and Assistant Executive Engineers (Diploma Holders) [Circular No. 10-JK(JSD) of 2023 dated 06.10.2023].

The resolution of the regularization matters will pave the way for smooth career progression of the Engineering cadre i.e from the level of Junior Engineer to Chief Engineer.

This has been possible only due to the visionary leadership of Lieutenant Governor, J&K. The directions of the Chief Secretary and encouragement of the Advisor to Lieutenant Governor have been critical to the entire process.

Most of all, it has been the unstinted support and guidance by Satish Chandra, Chairman of the Public Service Commission and Zubair Ahmad Raza (Member PSC & Chairman DPC, JSD) that has made the difference; that too despite extreme preoccupation with the ongoing time bound recruitments. This has enabled the department headed by Shaleen Kabra, Additional Chief Secretary to work tirelessly to address these service matters.

These measures have enabled the department to rise to the challenges of execution of the Jal Jeevan Mission, flagship scheme of the Government of India that envisages to provide safe and adequate drinking water, @ 55 LPCD of BIS 10500 quality to every rural household, numbering 18.67 Lakh in J&K.

Jal Shakti Department is committed to cater to the requirements of the inhabitants of the UT of J&K through its dedicated officials.

Amit Shah justifies...

-- the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (to replace IPC), Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (to replace CrPC) and Bharatiya Sakshya (to replace the Evidence Act) -- under consideration of a parliamentary panel, he said they will replace the three old codes once passed by the Parliament.

It will expedite disposal of cases as they won't get inordinately delayed, Shah added. He said numerous reforms right from the home ministry to the last police station have been conceived for "Amrit Kaal" and it is the time to implement them on the ground. The All India Police Science Congress covers six subjects, including policing in the 5G era, narcotics, challenges of social media, community policing, internal security, coordination between police and the Central Armed Police Forces, Shah said. The scope of the subjects taken up completely cover the country's internal security, law and order, and border security, the Union home minister said.

Security beefed up...

RFID card at all times as they are linked with various facilities during the yatra and no pilgrim shall be allowed to start the yatra without a valid RFID card," he said.

He also asked security personnel deployed at all entry points to remain more vigilant so that no devotee enters the pilgrimage track without frisking and registration.

Garg directed that drones be used for real-time monitoring of people's movement besides deployment of additional forces in and around Katra and on the track en route to the temple's sanctum sanctorum to ensure foolproof security and effective crowd management.

He added that apart from the deployment of security personnel, CCTVs installed along the route will be acting as watchdogs.

He directed the Katra Sub-Divisional Magistrate to verify details of pony porters to check any suspicious activity on the track and ensure extensive checking at different places for overcharging of fares.

The shrine board CEO also reviewed the disaster management measures including firefighting preparedness. He directed the security forces to monitor vulnerable places and jointly simulate exercises to deal with crowd management on the ground. A slew of directives were also issued for the movement of vehicles, sanitation and drinking water arrangements and illumination of dark spots at Katra town, besides physical and systematic improvements wherever required after critical examination, the officials said.

Mehbooba Mufti playing...

in Mehbooba Mufti's criticism of the BJP, considering that her father, Mufti Mohammad Sayeed, held the position of Union Home Minister in the early 1990s. During his tenure, several regrettable incidents occurred in the Kashmir valley, resulting in the tragic loss of lives of several hundred protesters. Additionally, there have been calls for Mufti Mohammad Sayeed to stand trial for his alleged involvement in the massacres in Gaw Kadal, Bijbehara, Hawal, and Kupwara, further adding to the complex historical context of the region.

With clarity, Chugh underscored that instances of corruption had soared during the tenures of both Mufti and her father as Chief Ministers of Jammu and Kashmir. He stressed, "Rather than critiquing the BJP, it's imperative for Mufti to take a moment to ponder the governance record during her own time in office and work towards addressing the concerns raised about corruption."

Chugh expressed the BJP's unwavering commitment to the youth, saying, "We in the BJP stand firmly resolved to guide our young generation away from the path of violence and towards the realms of education and ample opportunities. Our goal is simple: Let them choose pens and laptops over guns."

Referring to the progress under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Tarun Chugh highlighted how Jammu and Kashmir has seen substantial growth in various areas. He remarked, "Under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, our beloved J&K has made great strides in numerous fields. This encompasses improvements in infrastructure, electricity, education, and job prospects."

"The BJP remains committed to the welfare of the people of Jammu & Kashmir and invites all stakeholders to join hands in building a brighter and more prosperous future for the region", he further said.

Key Maroge tunnel...

"In Jammu & Kashmir, we have successfully completed the construction of a 250-metre viaduct (2-lane) in conjunction with a 395-metre (2-lane) Maroge tunnel, at an estimated cost of Rs 82 crore," Gadkari said in his post.

"This infrastructure is situated along Ramban to Banihal section of NH-44 (Srinagar-Jammu national highway). This 645-metre segment, as part of the larger project, will not only shorten the travel distance by 200 metres, reducing steep gradients, but also provide an alternative route bypassing the well-known Sita Ram Passi slide area. Furthermore, it facilitates the smooth flow of vehicles, bypassing the challenging Maroge area gradients," the minister added.

"Under the visionary leadership of Hon'ble PM Shri @narendramodi Ji, we steadfastly uphold our commitment to delivering exceptional highway infrastructure to Jammu & Kashmir," Gadkari said in his post.

The work on the four-laning project of the 270-km highway, the only all-weather road linking Kashmir with the rest of the country, was started by the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) in 2011.

Construction of the highway, which would include several small and large tunnels, bridges and flyovers, is likely to be completed by next year, after missing several deadlines over the past decade.

Earlier in March, the NHAI dedicated the 880-metre T-5 tunnel to the public, providing much-needed relief to the commuters as it bypassed the most vulnerable stretch of Panthlyal. Besides this, several other tunnels including the one-tube of Kmfner tunnel also got completed, while the Ramban flyover was thrown open to traffic in June.

The most critical stretch of 66 km of the highway passes through the Ramban district from the Nashri tunnel to the Banihal tunnel. Work is in progress on several other tunnels, bridges and viaducts on this stretch, which on completion will bypass other critical spots and ensure comfortable travel.

Two 6.3-magnitude...

Jan said four villages in the Zenda Jan district in Herat province bore the brunt of the quakes and aftershocks. Dozens of houses have been damaged.

The United States Geological Survey reported the 6.3 magnitude tremblors. It said the epicentre was 40 kilometres (24.8 miles) northwest of Herat city. There was an aftershock with a 5.5 magnitude.

A map on the USGS website indicates seven earthquakes in the area. At least five powerful earthquakes struck the city around noon, Herat city resident Abdul Shakor Samadi said.

"All people are out of their homes," Samadi said. "Houses, offices, and shops are all empty and there are fears of more earthquakes. My family and I were inside our home, I felt the quake." His family began shouting and ran outside, afraid to return indoors.

The World Health Organization in Afghanistan said it dispatched 12 ambulance cars to Zenda Jan to evacuate casualties to hospitals.

"As deaths and casualties from the earthquake continue to be reported, teams are in hospitals assisting treatment of wounded; assessing additional needs," the U.N. agency said on X, formerly known as Twitter. "WHO-supported ambulances are transporting those affected, most of them women and children."

Telephone connections went down in Herat, making it hard to get details from affected areas. Videos on social media showed hundreds of people in the streets outside their homes and offices in Herat city. (AP)

Special Lok Adalat...

Services Authority. Amit Gupta appreciated the efforts of all the Judicial Officers, Secretaries DLSA's, Advocates, staff of the district and tehsil courts as well as Legal Services Institutions besides litigants for their whole hearted participation in the Special Lok Adalat and facilitating settlement of cases in such a large number. He also acknowledged the role of Para Legal Volunteers and the media, both print and electronic in creating and spreading awareness amongst the masses about such initiatives of Legal Services Authority.

Hamas surprise attack...

nightfall, airstrikes intensified, flattening several residential buildings in giant explosions, including a 14-story tower that held dozens of apartments as well as Hamas offices in central Gaza City. Israeli fired a warning just before, and the num-

ber of casualties was not immediately known. Soon after, Hamas fired a barrage of rockets into central Israel, hitting four cities, including Tel Aviv and a nearby suburb, where two people were seriously injured.

The conflict threatened to spiral dramatically further with Israel's warnings of greater retaliation. Previous conflicts between Israel and Gaza's Hamas ruler brought widespread death and destruction in Gaza and days of rocket fire on Israeli towns.

The mix is potentially more volatile now, with Israel's far-right government stung by the security breach and with Palestinians in despair over a never-ending occupation.

The strength, sophistication and timing of the Saturday morning attack shocked Israelis. Hamas fighters used explosives to break through the border fence enclosing the long-blockaded Mediterranean territory, then crossed with motorcycles, pick-up trucks, paragliders and speed boats on the coast.

Bodies of dead Israeli civilians and Hamas militants were seen on streets of Israeli towns. Associated Press photos showed an abducted elderly Israeli woman being brought back into Gaza on a golf cart by Hamas gunmen and another woman squeezed between two fighters on a motorcycle. Images on social media showed fighters parading what seemed to be captured Israeli military vehicles through Gaza streets and a dead Israeli soldier being dragged and trampled by crowd of Palestinians.

"We are at war," Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said in a televised address, declaring a mass army mobilization. "Not an operation,' not a round,' but at war."

"The enemy will pay an unprecedented price," he added, promising that Israel would "return fire of a magnitude that the enemy has not known."

The shadowy leader of Hamas' military wing, Mohammed Deif, said the assault was in response to the 16-year blockade of Gaza, Israeli raids inside West Bank cities over the past year, violence at Al Aqsa the disputed Jerusalem holy site sacred to Jews as the Temple Mount increasing attacks by settlers on Palestinians and growth of settlements.

"Enough is enough," Deif, who does not appear in public, said in the recorded message. He said the morning attack was only the start of what he called "Operation Al-Aqsa Storm" and called on Palestinians from east Jerusalem to northern Israel to join the fight. "Today the people are regaining their revolution." (AP)

Three labourers dead...

near Humbal village around 10.40 pm Friday, prompting a rescue operation by local volunteers and police. Three labourers Mani Kumar (31), Karan Jeet Singh (40) and Lal Chand (45) were found dead by the rescuers on-the-spot, they said.

Five others were rescued in an injured condition and are undergoing treatment in government medical college hospital Doda.

Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh, who is also Member Parliament of Kathua-Udhampur-Doda constituency posted on 'X' (Twitter), "spoke to DC #Doda, Vishesh Paul Mahajan. Saddened to learn about a private vehicle road accident at Humbal on Doda-Marmat road. My sincere condolences with the bereaved families."

"The District Administration, led by Mahajan, has promptly mobilised all agencies including the Red Cross to provide every possible assistance. I am in constant touch," he posted.

SARAS AAJEEVIKA: Culture..

& Panchayti Raj, this ten day extravaganza promises a vibrant celebration of art, craft, culture and cuisine, resonating with the essence of 'vocal for local'.

The tourists can anticipate an impressive showcase of talent, as over 200 skilled rural women artisans from 17 different states across India will proudly display their exquisite handicrafts, handloom creations and regional culinary delights at Umeed Women's Haat Boulevard, Dalgate. Participation has been confirmed from states including Telangana, Chattisgarh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Punjab, West Bengal, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Meghalaya for SARAS AAJEEVIKA 2.0. The fair serves as a direct marketing platform for rural entrepreneurs, empowering them to sell their products without any intervention. This unique opportunity allows rural artisans, craftsmen, and Self-Help Group (SHG) beneficiaries from all over India to showcase and directly sell their products to customers, thereby augmenting their income and gaining significant exposure.

The gala event will enable the visitors relish a delightful assortment of handloom and handicrafts, featuring Kantha stitch from West Bengal, Silk suits from Uttar Pradesh, Handloom from Bihar, hygienic dry apricots and velvet fabric from Ladakh, decorative items from Karnataka and handcrafted jewelry from Punjab. The event will also host a dedicated food zone where SHG members will tantalize taste buds with delectable treats such as 'saag-makkey ki roti', kheer, chaat, and bar-becues. Moreover, a separate kid-friendly area promises a memorable experience for young children. Throughout the duration of SARAS mela 2.0, the local artists will enthrall art enthusiasts with captivating performances, showcasing rich cultural heritage of Jammu and Kashmir. The fair strives to promote the art, culture, and traditions of J&K, with a particular emphasis on engaging and inspiring the youth.

The venue has been equipped with essential facilities including drinking water, toilets, security, and medical services. Besides, stringent fire safety protocols have been implemented and first aid kiosks along with 24x7 ambulance services will be readily available. Entry to the fair is free for all, and it will be open from 11am to 9.30 pm on selected dates. The event strictly abides by green protocols, promoting the use of cloth bags and paper bags exclusively. It is worth noting that the first edition of SARAS was successfully held in February in Jammu and in March in Srinagar, marking the end of a decade-long hiatus. The event received an overwhelming response from the artisan community nationwide. Encouraged by the positive feedback, JKRLM has initiated the second chapter of SARAS in Kashmir and plans to hold another event in Jammu in the coming months. Pertinently, SARAS Aajeevika Mela aims to facilitate and motivate the beneficiaries of Self Help Groups (SHGs) supported by the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM) scheme of the Ministry of Rural Development. The fair provides them with a national-level platform to exhibit and sell their products, while offering additional income opportunities, exposure, and the chance to interact on a large scale.

Ashok Koul leads Kalash Yatra in Nowshera

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NOWSHERA: Jammu & Kashmir BJP General Secretary (Organisation) Ashok Kaul, alongwith senior leader & district Prabhari Sanjay Baru, District President Neena Sharma and other leaders undertook "Meri Matti Mera Desh" Kalash Yatra in Siot block, Nowshera on Saturday.

Ashok Koul, who is on tour of the twin districts of Rajouri and Poonch districts, led this yatra on his first day of the tour. Ashok Kaul and other leaders picked up the Kalash (earthen pots) in hands which had the mitti (soil) of different panchayats of Siot Mandal, passed through main areas and reached the BDO Office Siot to deposit the same there.



BJP General Secretary (Organisation) Ashok Kaul and others taking out Kalash Yatra at Nowshera.

A felicitation programme of three families of martyrs was also held at Bhaker Community hall. Addressing the gathering in the community hall, Ashok Kaul administered oath to the party activists to contribute in making India a developed nation; to free the society of the mentality of slavery; to conserve the rich heritage of

the country and educate the people about its importance; to work towards strengthening Akhand Bharat mission and to share information related to duties of citizens and motivate them to abide by these duties. He said that every activist has to work whole heartedly to fulfil the panch Pran (five pledges) at every level, which have been

suggested by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He also appreciated the unparalleled work of the party activists in remote areas.

Sanjay Baru stressed upon the party activists to be cautious about the misleading campaign of the opposition parties to malign the image of BJP and asked them to put united efforts to defeat their nefarious designs.

The programme was organized by the BJP Mandal President Siot Madan Gopal and attended by senior leaders Capt. Ramesh Kumar, Capt. Bal Krishan, Th.Randhir Singh, DDC Sunderbani Rajinder Sharma, BJYM State Vice president Yuvraj Singh, BJYM District President Rajat Singh Chib, Tilak Raj Gupta and others.

Dalbir Singh, Romi, and others, joined in encouraging the community to participate and support the upcoming Dangal. This event serves as a testament to the rich tradition of wrestling and showcases the committee's dedication to preserving and promoting this cultural heritage.

76th Dangal event announced by Pir Monga Dangal committee

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Pir Monga Dangal Committee, representing Baran Patta Khu, has officially declared the 76th Dangal to be held at Baran on October 8. Shiv Paul Singh, the committee's chairman, shared this announcement, highlighting that this traditional

wrestling event, known as 'Dangal,' takes place every year as part of the DhoomDham festivities. Renowned wrestlers from across the country and abroad participate in this exciting competition.

Shiv Paul Singh also made an earnest appeal to the youth, urging them to

actively engage in such sporting events. He emphasized that such competitions not only promote a spirit of sportsmanship but also serve as a means to keep young individuals away from harmful habits like substance abuse.

Committee members, including Balbir Singh,

HC dismiss petition of KDA against hotel

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Justice Javed Iqbal Wani of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court dismissed the petition filed by Katra Development Authority for quashing order dated July 19, 2012 passed by the J&K Special Tribunal, Jammu in the appeal titled as "Vijay Laxmi and another Vs Building Operation Controlling Authority, Katra".

The case set up by the petitioner in the instant petition is that the Katra Development Authority is a statutory autonomous body for the purposes of the Control of Building Operations Act, 1988 (for short, 'the Act of 1988') having been constituted vide SRO 389 dated 21.12.2009 under and in terms of Section 3(2)(b) of the Act of 1988 and that the Chief Executive Officer of the authority is competent to maintain the petition and to call in question the impugned order dated 19.07.2012 and that the respondents 1 & 2 herein raised illegal construction in violation of the provisions of Act of 1988 necessitating issuance of a show cause notice

Bike lifter gang busted; 2 arrested, 8 vehicles recovered

■ STATE TIMS NEWS

RAJOURI: Police on Saturday busted a gang involved in bike lifting and has recovered nine bikes from the possession of accused. Police said that on 28th of September , a written application was lodged in PS Rajouri by a resident of Danhore, Rajouri who stated to have parked his motorcycle bearing registration number JK11D 0803 (Glamour) outside his residence but after some-time the vehicle was missing. On receipt of this applicatio, a case in FIR No 458/2023 U/S 379 IPC was regis-

tered and investigation was started during which several suspects were rounded up and with the assistance of CCTV footage and technical analysis, one Shoket Ahmed son of Mohd Shafi resident of Kunderdan Chasana in district Reasi was identified as main suspect who was detained and put to questioning during which he confessed about theft of the motorcycle.

The said person was arrested in the instant case and on his disclosure one more bike lifter namely Tehseen Mehmood son of Noor Ahmed resident

of Shahdara Sharief, Thanamandi was arrested. On their disclosed eight more stolen motorcycles were recovered with a total of nine motorcycles have been recovered in the case. These vehicles are of registration numbers JK13G 6563 (Pulser), JKB 9668 (SUPER SPLENDER), JK 11-9552 (PULSER), JK11D 0803 (GLAMOUR), JK11A 4513 (GLAMOUR), one Pulser without number plate, JK01P 9489 (PASSION PRO), JK11E 4441 (SCOOTY) and one Scooty without number plate.