

!! Continuations from Page 1 !! President’s rule revoked...

as he thinks fit and make such incidental and consequential provisions as may appear to be necessary or expedient for administering the UT of Jammu and Kashmir in accordance with the provisions of the Act."

Articles 239 and 239A of the Constitution of India are related to the administration of union territories and the creation of local legislatures or councils of ministers for some of them.

Section 54 of the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019 covers the appointment and responsibilities of the chief minister and ministers.

Over 1.55 lakh...

Aadhaar-based registration and tools like bio-data generation," the ministry had said. The initial cost of the scheme's pilot project is estimated at Rs 800 crore.

The scheme, announced by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in the Union Budget 2024, aims to provide an opportunity to do an internship in the top 500 companies in India for 12 months.

Israeli strikes kill...

by displaced people, accusing militants of hiding among them.

Israel is waging air and ground campaigns against Hamas in Gaza and Hezbollah in Lebanon, and is expected to strike Iran in retaliation for a missile attack earlier this month, though it has not said how or when. Iran supports both militant groups and has said it will respond to any Israeli attack.

Bodies rot in the streets as fighting rages in northern Gaza

In northern Gaza, Israeli air and ground forces have been attacking Jabaliya, where the military says militants have regrouped. Over the past year, Israeli forces have repeatedly returned to the built-up refugee camp, which dates back to the 1948 war surrounding Israel's creation, and other areas.

Israel has ordered the full evacuation of northern Gaza, including Gaza City. An estimated 400,000 people remain in the north after a mass evacuation ordered in the opening weeks of the war. The Palestinians fear Israel intends to permanently depopulate the north to establish military bases or Jewish settlements there. The United Nations says no food has entered northern Gaza since Oct 1.

The military confirmed Saturday that hospitals were included in the evacuation orders but said it had not set a specific timetable. It said a medical convoy scheduled to transfer patients from the Kamal Adwan Hospital in recent days was cancelled for security reasons - without elaborating - but that the convoy had delivered fuel to the hospital on Saturday.

Dr Mohamed Salha, director of the Awda hospital, said it was among three hospitals in the north, including Kamal Adwan, that had received small shipments of fuel that would only last for a matter of days. He said they also need medicine and medical supplies.

He said casualties are still streaming in and his hospital alone is doing 12 to 15 operations a day.

Fares Abu Hamza, an official with the Gaza Health Ministry's emergency service, said there are a "large number of martyrs" still uncollected from the streets and under the rubble.

"We are unable to reach them," he told The Associated Press, adding that street dogs are eating some of the remains.

The war began when Hamas-led militants stormed into southern Israel on Oct 7, 2023, killing some 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and abducting around 250. Around 100 hostages are still being held in Gaza, a third of whom are believed to be dead.

Israel's bombardment and ground invasions of Gaza have killed over 42,000 Palestinians, according to Gaza's Health Ministry, and left much of the territory in ruins. Palestinian medical officials do not say whether those killed by Israeli forces are militants or civilians, but say women and children make up over half the fatalities. Israel says it has killed over 17,000 fighters, without providing evidence.

Israeli airstrikes destroy Ottoman-era market in Lebanon

Israeli airstrikes destroyed an Ottoman-era market in the southern city of Nabatiyeh overnight, killing at least one person and wounding four more. Lebanon's Civil Defence said it battled fires in 12 residential buildings and 40 shops in the market, which dates back to 1910.

"Our livelihoods have all been levelled to the ground," said Ahmad Fakih, whose corner shop was destroyed.

Rescuers were searching for survivors and remains in the pancaked buildings early Sunday as Israeli drones buzzed overhead. Nabatiyeh was one of dozens of communities across southern Lebanon that Israel has warned people to evacuate, even as the city hosts people who have already fled.

Lebanon's Hezbollah, which is allied with Hamas, began firing rockets into Israel on Oct 8, 2023, drawing retaliatory airstrikes. The conflict dramatically escalated in September with a wave of Israeli strikes that killed Hezbollah's leader, Hassan Nasrallah, and most of his senior commanders. Israel launched a ground operation into southern Lebanon earlier this month.

In a separate incident, the Lebanese Red Cross said paramedics were searching for casualties in the wreckage of a house destroyed by an Israeli airstrike in southern Lebanon on Sunday when a second strike left four paramedics with concussions and damaged two ambulances.

It said the rescue operation had been coordinated with UN peacekeepers, who informed the Israeli side. There was no immediate comment from the Israeli military.

Israeli forces have repeatedly fired upon first responders and UN peacekeepers since the start of the ground operation. The military has accused Hezbollah of using ambulances to ferry fighters and weapons and says Hezbollah operates in the vicinity of the peacekeepers, without providing evidence.

At least 2,255 people have been killed in Lebanon since the start of the conflict, including more than 1,400 people since September, according to Lebanon's Health Ministry, which does not say how many were Hezbollah fighters. At least 54 people have been killed in the rocket attacks on Israel, nearly half of them soldiers.

Iran, which supports Hezbollah and Hamas, launched around 180 ballistic missiles at Israel to avenge the killing of Nasrallah; an Iranian general who was with him; and Ismail Haniyeh, the political leader of Hamas, who died in an explosion in Iran's capital in July that was widely blamed on Israel.

Kejriwal ready to...

turned J&K into a half state which means an elected government has minimum powers whereas the lieutenant governor has more powers. I want to tell Omar that if he faces any hardship in his work, consult me because I have run the government in Delhi for 10 years," added the former Delhi chief minister.

Kejriwal, who has run into troubles with the BJP-led Central government many times during his rule, was in Doda to thank the people for electing his party representative Mehraj Malik as the first member of the legislative assembly in Jammu and Kashmir.

Malik defeated BJP's Ganjay Singh Rana by over 4,538 votes besides former ministers Khalid Najib Suharwardy of the National Conference (NC) and Abdul Majid Wani of the Democratic Progressive Azad Party from the Doda assembly segment to become the first member of the AAP to register a win in Jammu and Kashmir.

"AAP is formally supporting the Omar-led government and I hope his government will give Mehraj responsibility so that he can not only work for Doda but provide his services to the people of J&K," said Kejriwal.

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader said that Mehraj had not won in the name of religion but raised the basic issues like education, health and roads.

"AAP wants development of Doda and Jammu and Kashmir...We are not in the race to become MPs, MLAs, CM or prime minister for the sake of it but we are in the long struggle against the system and want to introduce a different type of politics in the country to improve the living standards of the people," he said.

Thanking the people for voting Mehraj, Kejriwal said his party's historic win will change the situation and the history of Jammu and Kashmir in the next 10 years.

"You have not only sowed the seed of the AAP but a different kind of politics. AAP is not a party but the name of a new ideology, new type of politics. AAP sets up schools to educate the children of the poor, transform government hospitals and provide free electricity to the people," he said.

Poll setbacks made...

in which Indian Mujahideen operatives were killed while a police officer also lost his life.

"Who extended support to those raising slogans in favour of Guru in JNU? Which government used the term saffron terror," the BJP chief asked. Nadda also took a swipe at the Congress over its MoU with the Chinese Communist Party when it was in power at the Centre, and Rahul Gandhi's meeting with US Congresswoman Ilhan Omar, who drew flak in India for her criticism of the government's handling of Jammu and Kashmir, and her visit to PoK, among other issues. Slamming the Congress for allegedly seeking evidence for the surgical and air strikes aimed at destroying terror camps across the border, Nadda said the entire party leadership has suffered intellectual degradation in its bid to protect and shine a "failed product".

Demand restoration of.

Supreme Court," Chidambaram said in his post.

"Recall that the Supreme Court was persuaded to not rule on the constitutionality of the reduction in the status of J&K because the central government undertook to restore statehood very quickly," he said. "If the central government hesitates to do so, it will be a breach of its promise as well as amount to contempt of Court," the former Union minister said.

Drone strike in Israel wounds almost 40 as Hezbollah claims responsibility

■ AGENCY

DEIR AL-BALAH (GAZA Strip): Israeli rescue services said almost 40 people were wounded on Sunday in a drone strike in the central city of Binyamina, three of them critically. The Lebanon-based Hezbollah militant group claimed responsibility for one of the most serious strikes to land in Israel in a year of war.

Israel's advanced air-defence systems mean that it's rare for so many people to be hurt by drones or missiles. Israeli media reported that two drones were launched from Lebanon, and the military said one was intercepted.

It was not immediately clear who was hurt, military members or civilians, or what was hit.

Hezbollah said in a statement that it targeted an Israeli military training camp in retaliation for two Israeli strikes in Beirut on Thursday that killed 22 people.

It was the second time in two days that a drone has struck in Israel. On Saturday, during the Israeli holiday of Yom Kippur, a drone struck in a suburb of Tel Aviv, causing damage but no injuries.

The latest strike came on the same day that the United States announced it would send a new air-defence system to Israel to help bolster its protection against missiles.

Israel is now at war with Hamas in Gaza and Hezbollah in Lebanon — both Iran-backed militant groups — and is expected to strike Iran in retaliation for a missile attack earlier this month, though it has not said how or when. Iran has said it will respond to any Israeli attack.

A year into the war with

Hamas, Israel continues to strike what it says are militant targets in Gaza nearly every day. One strike late Saturday hit a home in the Nuseirat refugee camp, killing the parents and their six children, ages 8 to 23, according to Al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital in nearby Deir al-Balah. An Associated Press reporter counted the bodies there.

"They were safe, while he was sleeping, and he and all his children died," said the man's brother, Mohammad Abu Ghali. Women stroked the body bags, in tears.

Israel's military says it tries to avoid harming civilians and blames their deaths on Hamas and other armed groups because they operate in densely populated areas.

Netanyahu calls UN peacekeepers human shield' for Hezbollah

International criticism is growing after Israeli forces have repeatedly fired on UN peacekeepers since the start of the ground operation in Lebanon. The military says Hezbollah operates in the vicinity of the peacekeepers, without providing evidence.

The peacekeeping force known as UNIFIL said Israeli tanks forcibly entered the gates of one of its positions early Sunday and destroyed the main gate, and later fired smoke rounds near peacekeepers in that location, causing skin irritation. UNIFIL said the incident was a "further flagrant violation of international law".

Israeli strikes have wounded five peacekeepers in recent days.

Israel's military said a tank trying to evacuate wounded soldiers backed into a UN post while under fire. It said a smoke screen was used to provide cover.

Army spokesman Lt. Col. Nadav Shoshani asserted

that Israel has tried to maintain constant contact with UNIFIL and that any instance of UN forces being harmed will be investigated at "the highest level".

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Sunday called for UNIFIL to heed Israel's warnings to evacuate, accusing them of "providing a human shield" to Hezbollah. "We regret the injury to the UNIFIL soldiers, and we are doing everything in our power to prevent this injury. But the simple and obvious way to ensure this is simply to get them out of the danger zone," he said in a video addressed to the UN secretary-general, who has been banned from entering Israel.

Israel has long accused the United Nations of being biased against it, and relations have plunged further since the start of the war in Gaza. Israel has accused the UN agency for Palestinian refugees of being infiltrated by Hamas, allegations the agency denies.

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North Korea says front-line units ready to strike South Korea if more drones appear

■ AGENCY

SEOUL: North Korea said on Sunday its front-line army units are ready to launch strikes on South Korea, ramping up pressure on its rival that it said flew drones and dropped leaflets over its capital Pyongyang.

South Korea has refused to confirm whether it sent drones but warned it would sternly punish North Korea if the safety of its citizens is threatened.

North Korea on Friday accused South Korea of launching drones to drop propaganda leaflets over Pyongyang three times this month and threatened to respond with force if it happened again.

In a statement carried by state media on Sunday, the North's Defence Ministry said the military had issued a preliminary operation order to artillery and other army units near the border with South Korea to "get fully ready to open fire".

An unidentified ministry spokesperson said the North Korea's military ordered relevant units to fully prepare for situations like launching immediate strikes on unspecified enemy targets when South Korea infil-

trates drones across the border again, possibly triggering fighting on the Korean Peninsula, according to the statement.

The spokesperson said that "grave touch-and-go military tensions are prevailing on the Korean Peninsula" because of the South Korean drone launches. In a separate statement later Sunday, the spokesperson said that the entire South Korean territory "might turn into piles of ashes" following the North's powerful attack.

Also on Sunday, the powerful sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un described as "suicidal" the South Korean Defence Ministry's reported warning that North Korea would face the end of its regime if it harms South Korean nationals. She warned on Saturday the discovery of a new South Korean drone will "certainly lead to a horrible disaster".

North Korea often issues such fiery, blistering rhetoric in times of elevated animosities with South Korea and the United States.

Ties between the two Koreas remain tense since a US-led diplomacy on ending North Korea's nuclear pro-

gramme fell apart in 2019. North Korea has since pushed hard to expand its nuclear arsenal and repeatedly threatened to attack South Korea and the US with its nuclear weapons. But experts say it's unlikely for North Korea to launch a full-blown attack because its military is outpaced by the combined US and South Korean forces.

Observers predicted North Korea would escalate tensions ahead of next month's US presidential election to boost its leverage in future diplomacy with the Americans.

Since May, North Korea has floated thousands of balloons carrying rubbish toward South Korea in retaliation for South Korean activists flying their own balloons carrying anti-Pyongyang leaflets. South Korea's military responded to the North's balloon campaign by restarting border loudspeakers to blare broadcast propaganda and K-pop songs to North Korea.

North Korea is extremely sensitive to any outside criticism of the authoritarian government of Kim Jong Un and his family's dynastic rule.

Man held for stabbing cousin to death following altercation over parking vehicles in Srinagar

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Police arrested a man for allegedly stabbing his cousin to death following an altercation over parking space here on Sunday.

Zareef Ahmad Mir allegedly stabbed his cousin, Amir Razak Mir, during an argument over parking vehicles near their shops in the city's Parimpora area, a police spokesperson said.

Police have taken cognisance of the incident and arrested the accused, he added.

The victim was declared dead on arrival at the Shri Maharaja Hari Singh Hospital (SMHS) Hospital, the police spokesperson said, adding that an FIR under section 103 (punishment for murder) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) has been registered at the Parimpora police station.

"The accused has been arrested and the weapon of offence seized," he said.

518 kg drugs worth Rs 5000 crore recovered in Gujarat, 5 arrested

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: In a joint operation of Delhi and Gujarat Police, at least 518 kilograms of cocaine worth around Rs 5000 crore were recovered from Gujarat's Ankleshwar on Sunday and five people were arrested, officials said.

The officials said the new seizure was connected to the recovery of 700 kilograms of cocaine in Delhi. With this, 1,289 kg of cocaine and 40 kg of hydroponic marijuana, worth more than Rs 13,000 crore, have been recovered so far. The number of arrests in this connection has risen to 12.

Sources said this is believed

Gaza since October 1.

The military confirmed that hospitals were included in evacuation orders but said it had not set a timetable and was working with local authorities to facilitate patient transfers.

Fares Abu Hamza, an official with the Gaza Health Ministry's emergency service, said the bodies of a "large number of martyrs" remain uncollected from the streets and under rubble.

"We are unable to reach them," he told the AP, saying dogs are eating some remains.

The war began when Hamas-led militants stormed into southern Israel on October 7, 2023, killing some 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and abducting around 250. Around 100 hostages are still held in Gaza, a third believed to be dead.

Israel's bombardment and its ground invasion of Gaza have killed over 42,000 Palestinians, according to Gaza's Health Ministry, and left much of the territory in ruins. The ministry doesn't distinguish between militants or civilians, but says women and children make up over half the deaths. Israel says it has killed over 17,000 fighters, without providing evidence.

Israeli airstrikes destroy Ottoman-era market in Lebanon

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"Our livelihoods have all been leveled," said Ahmad Fakih, whose shop was destroyed.

Lying in cowshed can cure cancer: UP Minister

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

PILIBHIT: Lying in a cowshed and cleaning it can cure one's cancer, Uttar Pradesh Minister Sanjay Singh Gangwar on Sunday said.

He also said one can bring his or her blood pressure down by stroking the back of a cow.

The Minister of State for Sugarcane Development made the remarks while addressing a gathering after inaugurating the Kanha Gaushala, built at a cost of Rs 55 lakh in Nougawa Pakadiya.

"If there is a blood pressure patient, there are cows here. The person should stroke a cow on its back every morning and evening and serve it. If the person is taking a 20 mg dose of blood pressure medicine, it will come down to 10 mg within 10 days," Gangwar told the gathering.

He added, "If a cancer patient starts cleaning a cowshed and lying there, even cancer can be cured. If you burn cow dung cakes, you get relief from mosquitoes. Everything that a cow produces is useful in some way."

The Israeli military said it struck Hezbollah targets, without elaborating.

Rescuers searched pancaked buildings as Israeli drones buzzed overhead. Nabatiyeh was one of dozens of communities across southern Lebanon warned by Israel to evacuate.

Lebanon's Hezbollah, allied with Hamas, began firing rockets into Israel on October 8, 2023, drawing retaliatory airstrikes. The conflict dramatically escalated in September with Israeli strikes that killed Hezbollah's leader, Hassan Nasrallah, and most of his senior commanders. Israel launched a ground operation earlier this month.

Separately, the Lebanese Red Cross said paramedics were searching for casualties in a house destroyed by an Israeli airstrike in southern Lebanon on Sunday, when a second strike left four paramedics with concussions and damaged two ambulances.

The Red Cross said the operation had been coordinated with UN peacekeepers, who informed the Israeli side.

The Israeli military said it continued to target Hezbollah in Lebanon on Sunday, and reported rocket fire on northern Israel throughout the day, with at least 115 fired from Lebanon. It also said two soldiers were severely injured in a barrage of anti-tank missiles in Lebanon.

At least 2,255 people have been killed in Lebanon since the start of the conflict, including more than 1,400 people since September, according to Lebanon's Health Ministry, which does not say how many were Hezbollah fighters. At least 54 people have been killed in rocket attacks on Israel, nearly half of them soldiers.

Lying in cowshed can cure cancer: UP Minister

The state minister told off the farmers for complaining against stray cattle grazing in their fields.

"We are not serving our mother, so the mother is harming us somewhere," he said.

He also urged the Muslims to come to the cowshed on Eid. "The vermicelli made on Eid should be made in cow's milk."

The gaushala inaugurated on Sunday will have a provision of fodder and medicine, as well as shelter for destitute cows.

"Our effort is to connect people with the gaushalas. People have also been requested to celebrate their wedding anniversaries, their children's birthdays with the cows and donate fodder to the gaushala," the minister said.

Gangwar had contested 2012 assembly election on a BSP ticket but lost.

In 2017, he joined the BJP and won from the Pilibhit seat. He again won the election in 2022 and was made a minister.

Gangwar hits the headlines frequently, mainly because of his attacks on former BJP MP Varun Gandhi.

Dubai and UK. On October 2, the Special Cell seized more than 560 kg of cocaine and 40 kg of hydroponic marijuana estimated to be worth Rs 5,620 crore from a godown in south Delhi's Mahipalpur and arrested four people. Two others were subsequently apprehended from Amritsar and Chennai. Then in the second big drugs haul in a week, the Special Cell seized 208 kg of cocaine worth Rs 2,080 crore from a rented shop in west Delhi on Thursday.

On Thursday, police arrested one more person from Uttar Pradesh's Hapur. He was the seventh person to be arrested in the case.