

## !! Continuations from Page 1 !! SFs, J&K police...

assistance, support and their rights are protected". The family members whose loved ones were brutally killed by various terrorist groups in the past narrated the horrific incidents and sought the intervention of Lt Governor for resolution of their long pending issues.

Paying homage to the martyred civilians, the Lt Governor assured every necessary support and assistance to the families who despite suffering immense personal loss, hardships and pain, were excluded from mainstream of development for several decades.

"Instead of compassion and support, the terrorism-affected families were marginalized, and their voices went unheard. I will try my best to ensure justice, welfare and rehabilitation of these families," the Lt Governor said.

### Five MLAs' nomination...

to constitute a special bench for Monday to hear the matter. Sharma, a former member of Legislative Council and senior vice president of Pradesh Congress Committee, was also present in the court.

The petition challenged the provisions of J&K Reorganisation Act, empowering the LG to make nominations of five MLAs.

The petition contended that the LG is supposed to seek the aid and advice of council of ministers before making nominations, otherwise the provisions are ultra-vires to the basic spirit and structure of the Constitution, Sharma said.

In the recently concluded J&K elections, the National Conference-Congress alliance got a majority with 48 seats in the 90-member assembly.

### Omar reaches out...

by Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary, Cabinet Minister Satish Sharma, and senior civil and police officials.

During his visit, Omar Abdullah expressed his government's commitment to standing by the victims of the tragedy in their hour of need.

"This is our moral responsibility as a government to reach out to you in this difficult time," Omar told the affected families.

"We are here to help you rebuild your lives. The district administration has already provided initial relief, and I have ordered additional support," he added.

The Chief Minister further announced that his government has initiated efforts to secure further financial assistance through the Prime Minister's Relief Fund, ensuring that the families will receive additional aid to meet their immediate needs.

He also highlighted that the affected families would be provided housing assistance under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, helping them to rebuild their homes and start afresh.

In a bid to prevent similar incidents in the future, Omar Abdullah announced the establishing of two new fire service stations in Warwan and Marwah. Additionally, he announced the construction of a proper road leading to the villages, ensuring better access and reducing the risk of fire-related disasters in the remote area.

"Our focus is on both immediate relief and long-term solutions. We must ensure that such tragedies are not repeated," the Chief Minister emphasized.

### MLA not 'standing'...

not stand for too long due to my back ache.

Why does anyone think that I will disrespect the national anthem after having taken an oath under the Indian constitution?" he asked.

### AEE caught red...

subsequent discreet verification report prima facie discloses commission of offence punishable under Section 7 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 (as amended in 2018) on the part of Mubarak Ahmad Ganie, AEE PWD (R&B) Division Sopore, District Baramulla.

Accordingly a case FIR No 13-2024 under section 7 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 (as amended in 2018) was registered against against him at PS ACB Baramulla and investigations were put into motion.

During investigation, a trap team headed by Dy.SP rank officer was constituted at Police Station ACB Baramulla. The team laid a successful trap and accused AEE was caught red-handed while demanding and accepting bribe of Rs. 25000 from contractor at PWD R&B office Sopore District Baramulla on October 16, 2024. Accordingly, after completing all legal formalities the accused AEE was arrested on the spot. The bribe money of Rs 25000 was also recovered from his possession in the presence of independent witnesses, beside this during his personal search some cash was also recovered from his possession which is subject matter of further investigations.

Subsequently residential house as well as official accommodation of the accused was also searched following due process laid down under law, during which incriminating documents were recovered & seized in presence of magistrate & independent witnesses. Meanwhile as mandated under law, the accused AEE was presented before court of Spl Judge Anti-Corruption Court Baramulla and was remanded for 9 days police custody. Further investigation of the instant case is going on.

### CJ inaugurates NDPS...

presence of Jaffer Hussain Beg, Registry officers including Shahzad Azeem, Registrar General High Court of J&K and Ladakh; M.K. Sharma, Principal Secretary to Chief Justice; Abdul Bari, Joint Registrar Judicial Srinagar and other Judicial officers of District Court Srinagar.

The Chief Justice interacted with the undertrials in NDPS Cases lodged at Central Jail Kot Bhalwal, Central Jail Agra and District Jail Poonch through virtual mode and enquired about their whereabouts. He directed the District Legal Services Authority Srinagar to provide free Legal Aid Defence Counsel to those who are in need of same.

This new court marks a significant step towards strengthening the legal infrastructure in the district, ensuring efficient and effective handling of cases related to the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act.

Following the inauguration, the Chief Justice engaged in a productive interaction with Judicial Officers and members of the Bar. The discussions focused on key strategies to further bolster the legal infrastructure in the district. This session provided a platform for discussing challenges and exploring collaborative strategies to improve the efficiency and accessibility of justice.

The event concluded with a plantation drive conducted by District Legal Services Authority Srinagar in collaboration with Kashmir Concern (NGO) which was held under the guidance of Jaffer Hussain Beg and under the supervision of Nusrat Ali Hakak, Secretary DLSA Srinagar.

Justice Tashi Rabstan planted the first sapling and the plantation drive was enthusiastically participated in by all dignitaries, including Jaffer Hussain Beg, Chairman DLSA Srinagar and other judicial officers, fostering a spirit of collective responsibility towards the environment.

Justice Tashi Rabstan emphasized the vital role of strengthening the legal infrastructure to ensure a robust and accessible justice system for all. He highlighted the importance of

collaborative efforts between the judiciary, the bar and the community to ensure that legal services reach every corner of society.

This event serves as a testament to commitment of the judiciary to provide efficient and accessible justice to all citizens, while also acknowledging the importance of environmental stewardship.

### Chugh hails hike...

ensure that farmers receive fair prices and boost their financial well being, while also encouraging crop diversification, especially in oilseeds, and increasing domestic oilseed production."

Chugh also thanked PM Modi for the Union Cabinet's approval of a 3 percent hike in DA and DR for central government employees and pensioners effective from July 1st 2024. The increase, which raises the DA from 50 percent to 53 percent of basic pay, is expected to benefit over one crore central government employees and pensioners. This decision also includes three months' worth of DA arrears, providing significant financial relief to these individuals. "This hike will help employees and pensioners improve their financial well being," Chugh added.

Chugh emphasized that these measures highlight the Modi government's unwavering commitment to uplifting both farmers, the backbone of the nation, and central government employees, who play a crucial role in the nation's workforce.

### Nayab Singh takes...

proved his naysayers wrong by steering the BJP to a win in an election many thought would go to the Congress.

Saini is heading the BJP's third consecutive government in the state, a strategic victory after the Lok Sabha elections that many party leaders hope sets the pace for next month's crucial assembly polls in Maharashtra and Jharkhand.

The BJP won 48 seats in the 90-member assembly. Three Independents, including Haryana MLA Savitri Jindal, also extended support to the party.

Haryana can have a maximum of 14 ministers, including the chief minister.

The 13-member council of ministers includes the party's most senior leader and seven-time MLA Anil Viji, Ahir leader Rao Narbir Singh and Jat leader Mahipal Dhandia. It also has two women - former Congress leader Shruti Choudhary, daughter of Rajya Sabha MP Kiran Choudhary, and first time MLA Arti Singh, the daughter of Union minister Rao Inderjit Singh. Rajesh Nagar and Gaurav Gautam took oath as state ministers (independent charge).

All the newly inducted ministers except Choudhary took their oath in Hindi. Choudhary took her oath in English.

Besides giving representation to various castes, including five from the OBC category (Saini himself and four others), two Dalits, two Jats and two Brahmins, the Saini ministry has also accommodated leaders from various regions, including Ahirwal belt, GT road belt and the Faridabad-Palwal region. "It is teamwork... We will fulfil all the responsibilities given to us by the CM (Nayab Singh Saini)," BJP's Shyam Singh Rana said after taking oath as Haryana minister.

Union minister Khattar, who had ceded space to Saini, took the occasion to thank all the NDA leaders, chief ministers and others who had gathered.

"This is the first time since 1980 that any party has formed government thrice in Haryana or any other state," he told PTI Videos after the event.

Among those present were Union ministers Amit Shah, Rajnath Singh, Nitin Gadkari and BJP president J P Nadda. Chief ministers of several BJP-ruled states, including Uttar Pradesh's Yogi Adityanath, Assam's Himanta Biswa Sarma, Chhattisgarh's Vishnu Deo Sai, Gujarat's Bhupendra Patel and Uttarakhand's Pushkar Singh Dhami.

NDA partner, TDP leader and Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu, was there too.

"We are very happy. This is the confidence people are having in PM Modi. That's why it is a big victory. Mood of the nation is very clear," he told reporters.

"This is an unexpected and historic victory in itself. I congratulate Nayab Singh Saini ji and attribute this victory entirely to my PM Modi and his leadership, to Home Minister Amit Shah's policies, to BJP national president JP Nadda's organisational strength, and most importantly, to the people of Haryana," added LJP leader and Union Minister Chirag Paswan.

Before the ceremony, Saini visited Valmiki Bhawan and offered prayers at a gurdwara and the Mansa Devi temple in Panchkula.

Replying to a question, Saini told reporters that the BJP's 'Sankalp Patra' (poll manifesto) will be fully implemented.

After the oath-taking, NDA leaders, including chief ministers and deputy chief ministers, gathered for a chief minister's council meeting here.

There are 13 chief ministers and 16 deputy CMs belonging to the BJP while CMs of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Sikkim, Nagaland and Meghalaya are from its allies, the BJP said in a statement before the conclave.

This is the first conclave of NDA CMs of this kind in the last many years. With the BJP and its allies set to take on opposition alliance in next month's Maharashtra and Jharkhand polls, the ruling bloc is looking to draw momentum from its Haryana win to take on its rivals next month.

### Search ops underway...

adding security forces have deployed drones and sniffer dogs, while a helicopter was also seen hovering over the forest area this morning.

In nearby Rajouri district, the officials said security forces launched a cordon and search operation at Kundan and adjoining villages in Shadra Sharief area following information about movement of three suspected terrorists in the early hours of Thursday.

The search operation was on when last reports were received but there was no contact with the terrorists so far, they said.

Meanwhile, General Officer Commanding of Jammu-based White Knight Corps Lt Gen Navin Sachdeva visited Doda and reviewed security situation and operational preparedness in the hilly district which was rocked by several terror incidents in the recent past.

Lt Gen Sachdeva along with General Officer Commanding of Counter-Insurgency Force Delta visited Sohanda in Doda sector to review the security situation and operational preparedness, the White-Knight Corps wrote on X.

"GOC appreciated the unwavering commitment and dedication of all ranks towards maintaining peace and security in the region," the army said.

### Two JKAS officers transferred

JAMMU: The Government on Thursday transferred two JKAS officers. According to the order issued by Sanjeev Verma, Commissioner Secretary, General Administration Department, Peerzada Zahoor Ahmad, JKAS, Additional Secretary, Health and Medical Education Department (H&ME) has been transferred and posted as the Officer on Special Duty (OSD) to the Minister, Government of Jammu and Kashmir, Sakina Itoo.

As per separate order, Des Raj Bhagat, Additional Secretary, Health and Medical Education Department (H&ME) has been transferred and posted as the Officer on Special Duty (OSD) to Minister Javid Ahmad Dar.

# DB quashes seniority list of Munsiffs of 2000, 2001 batches, directs to prepare seniority list

## STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A Division Bench of the Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court, comprising Justice Sindhu Sharma and Justice Sanjay Dhar, has quashed the seniority list of the Munsiffs from the 2000 and 2001 batches. The Court directed the High Court to prepare a revised seniority list based on the marks obtained by the Munsiffs in the competitive examination conducted by the Public Service Commission (PSC).

The petitioners and private respondents were appointed as Munsiffs in the District Judiciary of the erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir State through a competitive selection process. However, the High Court initially determined their seniority not based on merit but according to the Roster for direct recruitment in seniority would be irrelevant. The Bench dismissed this argument, emphasizing that seniority remains a crucial factor in promotions, even if merit is the primary criterion.

The Court clarified that while the seniority for Munsiffs from the 2000 and 2001 batches would be re-evaluated, those who have already been promoted should not be adversely affected by this revision. Any promotions or higher grades already granted will remain

intact, ensuring that no previously promoted judicial officers will be demoted. To facilitate the re-fixation process, the Bench requested the Chief Justice to constitute a committee of judges to hear the concerns of affected officers from the 2000 and 2001 batches. This committee will ensure that all relevant voices are considered before finalizing the revised seniority list.

In conclusion, the Court's decision aims to rectify the seniority positions of Munsiffs while protecting the interests of those already promoted, thereby balancing fairness and institutional stability in the judicial hierarchy.

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## PIL regarding non-recruitment to posts of gazetted cadre in UT of Ladakh during last five years

### DB seeks response from UPSC and CS Ladakh within six weeks

## STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In the social media a letter addressed to the Chief Justice of this Court has surfaced seeking intervention of this Court qua the issues regarding non-recruitment to the posts of gazetted cadre in the UT of Ladakh during the last five years, thereby causing distress and uncertainty among the educated youth of Ladakh who are eagerly waiting for the opportunities to contribute to the governance and development of the region. In the said letter it is stated that failure to carry out the recruitment against the gazetted cadre posts amounts to violation of the principles of natural justice and is in direct contravention of Articles 14 and 16 of the Constitution of India.

The Registry of J&K and Ladakh High Court having taken note of the said letter put up a note along with a copy of the said letter before the Chief Justice of this court, who directed the same to be treated as PIL and, as such, has come up before this Court for consideration.

DB after gone through the latter deem it appropriate to refer to Article 320 of the Constitution which provides that it shall be the duty of the Union and the State Public Service Commission to conduct examinations for appointments to the services of the Union and the Services of the State respectively.

Part XIII of the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019, deals with the provisions as to the Services. Section 93 of the said Act which deals with the provisions as to State Public Service Commission is reproduced as '93. Provisions as to State Public Service Commission.-

(1) The Public Service Commission for the existing State of Jammu and Kashmir shall, on and from the appointed day, be the Public Service Commission for the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Union Public Service Commission, with the approval of the President, shall serve the needs of the Union territory of Ladakh. The representation of the petitioner is bereft of the fact whether the petitioners approached the concerned Authorities i.e., Union Public Service Commission, New Delhi, in terms of Rule 24(4)(vii) of the Writ Proceeding Rules, 1997.

Keeping in view the grievance projected, A Division Bench of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court comprising Chief Justice Tashi Rabstan and Justice Puneet Gupta directed for impleadment of the Union Public Service Commission, New Delhi, through its Chairman, and the Union Territory of Ladakh, through its Chief Secretary, as party respondents in the writ petition. DB directed Registry to prepare the memo of parties, accordingly and serve notice along with a copy of the paper book upon the respondents for filing their response within a period of six weeks.

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## DB directives in PIL advocating for rights of transgender individuals

## STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a Public Interest Litigation regarding for the rights of transgender individuals, A Division Bench of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court comprising Chief Justice Tashi Rabstan and Justice Puneet Gupta directed DSGI to file fresh compliance report disclosing action taken by the Committee being constituted to identify the number of transgenders and also disclose the name of the hospitals where the medical care facilities are being available to the transgender individuals and also file a detailed report with regard to framing of schemes for grant of pensionary benefits to this community as well on or before next date.

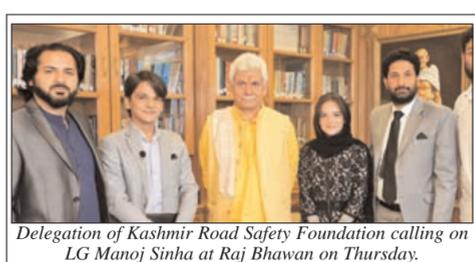
This order has been passed, When the matter came-up for hearing, DB observed that The Social Welfare Department, J&K has filed status report dated

30.08.2024 to which learned counsel for the petitioner shall file response by or before next date. DB directed GA Fahim Nisar Shah, shall also seek instructions as to whether any reservation has been earmarked for this particular community or not. T. M. Shamsi, learned DSGI, has filed status report on behalf of UT of Ladakh on 13.09.2024 contending therein that a Committee has been constituted to identify the actual number of transgenders in order to redress the grievance of the community of Leh as well as the Kargil District. It is also submitted in the report that all the medical care and other facilities are available for the transgender individuals in the hospitals. It has been further submitted that as on date, there is no scheme regarding pension or any other monetary assistance or economic facility specially being provided to the transgenders.

## NDA committed to furthering national progress, empowering poor: Modi

## STATE TIMES NEWS

CHANDIGARH: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) is committed to furthering national progress and empowering the poor and downtrodden. The prime minister made the remarks after chairing a meeting of NDA chief ministers and deputy CMs here, following the swearing-in ceremony of Haryana CM Nayab Singh Saini and his ministerial colleagues. "We had extensive discussions on aspects of good governance and ways to improve people's lives. Our alliance is committed to furthering national progress and empowering the poor and downtrodden," Modi posted on X. Senior Union ministers Rajnath Singh, Amit Shah and J P Nadda, who is also the BJP president, were part of the deliberations as the NDA looks to build on its win in the Haryana assembly polls as it goes to the assembly polls in Maharashtra and Jharkhand.



Delegation of Kashmir Road Safety Foundation calling on LG Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan on Thursday.

## Bike lifter arrested, stolen scooter recovered



## STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A bike lifter was arrested while stolen Scooty was recovered from him within 24 hrs by R.S Pura Police.

as per details, That on October 16, 2024 complainant namely Bansil Lal, son of Tirth Ram, resident of Railway Line Gagian Tehsil R.S Pura District Jammu lodged a written complaint stating therein that on 15.10.2024 about 10:30 hrs complainant parked his Scooty bearing registration No. JK02BA-3431 outside his house and went inside the house and after half hour when he came back and found that his Scooty was stolen by some unknown thieves.

On this case FIR No. 227/2024 U/S 303(2) BNS was registered in this police station. Acting swiftly, to nab thieves a special team was constituted and based on input from own sources and with the help of technical assistance apprehended thief namely Rohit Kumar, son of Karam Chand, resident of Ghazipur Kullian Tehsil R.S Pura District Jammu and put on sustained questioning. During sustained questioning he disclosed his involvement in the commission of crime and on his disclosure stolen Scooty has been recovered.

**UNIVERSITY OF JAMMU**  
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**ADMISSION NOTICE FOR FOUR YEAR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMME (FYUGP) IN NON-GOVT DEGREE COLLEGES (2024-25)**

In continuation to this office Notification No. CDC/2024/1979 dated 05.09.2024, it is hereby notified for the information of all concerned that the last date for submission of online application form for the admission to Four Year Undergraduate Programmes (FYUGP) for 1st Semester of B.A/ B.Sc./B.Com/BBA/BCA courses run in various Non-Government Degree Colleges affiliated to the University of Jammu for the session 2024-25 has been reopened w.e.f. 18th to 22nd October, 2024 with Late fee i.e. Rs. 830/- (Rs. 500+ 330/-).

No. CDC/2024/2634 DIP/J-2266-P/24 Sd/-  
Dated: 17.10.2024 DIRECTOR