

!! Continuations from Page 1 !!

LG calls upon...

religious and societal divides and find strength in the shared experience of being human:

"Lal Ded's influence stretches far beyond the boundaries of time. Her life and teachings resonate as deeply today as they did in the 14th century. Her spiritual wisdom and poetic brilliance awakened an entire society to new possibilities," he said.

He urged the people to draw inspiration from the life of the revered mystic poet and imbibe wisdom from her teachings.

Lal Ded's story teaches us that no matter how great the adversity, inner strength, faith, and courage can turn even the toughest challenges into opportunities for growth and enlightenment. Her teachings guide us along a path of truth, urging us to embark on a journey of inner exploration, cleansing the soul, and seeking purity in every action, he observed.

"In a society where women's voices were often silenced, Lal Ded's voice rang out, powerful and clear, and that voice still echoes through the centuries," the Lt Governor said.

The Opera's mesmerizing performance weaves together music, dance, and spirituality, showcasing Lal Ded's timeless teachings on oneness, love, compassion, and self-realization.

Prof. Nilofer Khan, Vice Chancellor, Kashmir University; Sh Suresh Kumar Gupta, Principal Secretary, Culture Department; Ms Vandana Daftari, Regional Director, Art of Living; Sh Pandit Krishan Langoo, noted music Director, faculty members of University and large number of art lovers and students were present.

Intense search op...

the entire terror ecosystem.

The routes around the site of the attack was closed and the Gondola ropeway service at the resort town was also shut for a few hours as a precautionary measure, even though tourist movement towards the ski-resort was going on smoothly.

In his media briefing in Udhampur, Lieutenant General Kumar on Friday said the Unified Headquarters has formulated a strategy to deal with such attacks.

"The core of this strategy is to strengthen the relationship between citizens and soldiers while encouraging nationalist and mainstream narratives, particularly among youths," he told the press conference.

The focus is on breaking the cycle of violence, dismantling the terror ecosystem, empowering the youth and women, facilitating education, promoting sports, and reviving the region's rich historical and cultural heritage, he said.

"I must assure you that situation is under control," the Army Commander told reporters here.

Senior Army and police officials are overseeing the search operation, with officials saying helicopters and drones have been deployed to help the forces who are also using human and technical intelligence to aid the search operation.

The area is completely dominated by the Army and there were reports recently that a terrorist group had infiltrated during early summer and taken shelter in the higher reaches of the Afrawat range, they said.

The Bota Pathri area was recently opened to tourists.

The prestigious High Altitude Warfare School (HAWS), where army personnel are equipped with special training before their deployment in Siachen Glacier, is just a few km from the site of the attack.

On security forces' ongoing response, Lieutenant General Kumar said the security forces have been able to neutralise 720 ultras in Jammu and Kashmir over the past five years. "As far as residual terrorists are concerned, multiple agencies keep updating figures. They are varying between 120 to 130. Now, the recruitment figures are in single digits... and is at its lowest."

He said that the anti-infiltration grid along the Line of Control and focused counter-terrorism operations in the hinterland have managed to create an environment of peace and development in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

"The adversary is frustrated due to our successes. Their aim is to push terrorists across, but we have foiled infiltration attempts. Their goal is to instill fear among the population, but we will not allow it," he stated.

He said that the peace, prosperity, and improved security situation is due to the concerted and synergised efforts of the Indian Army and all other agencies and stakeholders. "The Indian Army will continue to strive to provide a secure environment to the people of the Union Territories of J&K and Ladakh."

"Our endeavors in kinetic and non-kinetic operations have facilitated greater security," he said.

Referring to the security situation in the Jammu region, he said that various agencies are undertaking operations to achieve the desired outcomes.

"Village Defence Groups (VDGs) have ensured the security of remote areas for decades. The VDG setup is being strengthened, with over 600 VDGs being established and 10,000 modern weapons provided to them. They are also being trained," he said.

Responding to a question about terrorist attacks in Kashmir, he said that it was discussed at a Unified Headquarters meeting in Srinagar on Thursday, and strategy was formulated to address these threats.

"Through integrated military and social outreach efforts, we are contributing to the broader process of nation-building," he said.

He noted that the synergy between the Army, civil administration, Central Armed Police Forces, police and intelligence agencies has yielded substantial benefits.

"This region which is starting from Kathua and Samba along the border and then Poonch and Rajouri besides hinterland areas of Reasi Kishtwar and Doda... was largely peaceful for past ten to 15 years. There is huge challenge along International Border and Line of Control. There is nearly 210 kilometers of International Border and about same in LoC," he said.

The officer said the adversary nurturing terrorism is on the decline.

"They want to push in terrorists to intimidate the population and scuttle peace and development in the area. (But) I must assure you that situation is under control," he said.

'Agreement with China...

of troops along the LAC in Ladakh.

"As a result of these discussions, an agreement has been reached on patrolling arrangements along the LAC in the India-China border areas, which has led to disengagement and a resolution of issues that emerged in 2020," Kumar told reporters.

In brief, India and China have engaged in talks at both diplomatic and military levels to resolve differences in remaining areas along the LAC, he said.

"Following these talks, a broad consensus has been achieved to restore the situation on the ground, based on the principles of equal and mutual security. This consensus includes restoring access for patrolling and grazing in traditional areas," he said.

The Army commander also emphasised the importance of technological advancement in defense sectors.

"We are also focusing on capability development in the Northern Theatre. A multi-agency infrastructure development drive is underway along the northern borders to enhance connectivity in forward areas," he stated.

The Army commander added that various weapon platforms and equipment are being procured with significant efforts made to upgrade, overhaul, modify, and refurbish existing equipment to boost operational capabilities.

He reiterated the Army's commitment to the Make in India initiative.

Underlining the Army's various pro-people initiatives in J&K, he said, "In addition to our role in national security, we are also carrying out development activities in the region. Operation Sadbhavana projects are being undertaken to foster development in border and remote areas of the Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh."

He noted the Army provides quality education to a large number of students from the union territories in Army Goodwill Schools. "Students are also sponsored to study outside the union territories through the Jammu & Kashmir Special Scholarship Scheme and Army Public School residential programmes, conducted by us," he added.

Terror attack fails...

in Tripura, we have had militancy. If something has to happen, it will happen.

"We cannot stop living because of fear. Yesterday, my mother called and asked me to take precautions but I said everything was fine. The police and administration are there to take care of things," Ujjwal said.

He added that when he asked their driver if it was safe, the man responded, "I will take care of your safety."

Referring to the October 20 terror attack on a campsite of workers of an infrastructure project in Ganderbal district that left a local doctor and six workers dead, Ujjwal said it was the day they reached Kashmir on vacation.

"The day we reached here, something similar had happened in some other area but the people here are so nice. They make us feel so comfortable. I think that is what makes this place so special," he said.

Despite Thursday's attack, local tourism remains steady.

Sudesh Kumar, a taxi driver from Jammu, said he has been visiting Kashmir for 23 years and does not feel intimidated by the situation in the Valley.

"I live in Katra and I have been coming here for 23 years now. I first confirmed it with a few people in Gulmarg and they gave a green signal. I arrived here with a Bengali group around 11 am. There is so much security here.

"There is no need to worry. I am happy tourists are visiting Kashmir. Even the people of Kashmir are happy. It is good for all of us," Kumar said, adding that business is going on and it should not stop.

"If not a terrorist attack, I might die in a road accident. So, why die every day? A terrorist has the trigger, he does not see who is on the opposite side. Be it a Hindu or a Muslim, his job is to spread terror.

"I have an EMI of Rs 60,000, how will I survive if I do not work? There are so many like me who have liabilities. I have faith in God and whatever is his will, I will accept that," he said.

Security forces on Friday morning pressed helicopters aerial surveillance around the scene of the terror attack, while a massive counter-insurgency operation in the area along the Line of Control (LoC) is underway.

There was also a temporary shutdown of the Gondola cable car project in Gulmarg but it was restored. The shutdown, according to officials, was a precautionary measure to ensure the safety of tourists and staff.

However, local shopkeepers have a different tale to tell, fearing that the deadly attack is going to have an impact on their businesses before the situation returns to normal in a few weeks.

"This attack will have an impact on our businesses for a few days. Right now, Gulmarg is trending on every platform on social media, although Bota Pathri is at some distance from here," a local tea seller said.

"Tourists are roaming freely and enjoying the beautiful scenery but it is not how Gulmarg looks like on a normal day. We are dependent on it. Many of the tourists have already cancelled plans and that is worrisome," he added.

Joint search operation...

being conducted in the border areas of the Ramgarh sector with security forces scanning several sensitive locations, including some forest belts along the International Border.

The purpose of this operation is to monitor suspicious activities in border areas and strengthen security, they said.

Meanwhile, the district magistrate of Samba, has ordered a complete ban on the sale or use of all kinds of firecrackers within two km of the International Border in Samba district.

This order shall come into effect immediately and will remain in force for a period of two months from the date of issuance, unless withdrawn or rescinded earlier, they said.

LG pays tributes...

Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Minga Sherpa accompanied by Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Uri, Javaid Ahmad, paid a visit to the families of two porters who were assassinated in a brutal attack at Bota Pathri, Gulmarg.

During the visit to Nowshera Boniyar, the residence of slain porter Chaudhary Mushtaq Ahmad, the DC met with the bereaved family and extended condolences. He assured them of support from the administration during this difficult time.

The DC accompanied by the SDM also visited Barnate Boniyar, the home of Zahoor Ahmad Mir, the slain porter, where they paid their respects and offered heartfelt condolences to the grieving family, acknowledging the service and sacrifice of the deceased.

The visit was met with strong community support, with a large gathering of locals joining the hands to pay tribute to the memory of the deceased and express solidarity with their families, according to an official spokesperson.

During the visit, the DC presented compensation cheques of Rs. 6 lakh to each family, aiming to provide immediate relief to support them through this period of loss.

He further emphasized the district administration's commitment to standing with the families in this time of grief, pledging continued support to ensure they have access to necessary resources as they move forward.

CJ Tashi Rabastan...

It was added that such conferences not only enhance and enrich the Judicial acumen but abets in advancement of local art and culture by providing a platform to showcase it alongside its commencement at the venue of the conference.

With the resolutions in place, the High Court of J&K and Ladakh, in cooperation with UT government departments, aims to deliver a well-coordinated conference that facilitates constructive discussion and networking among judicial officers from across the North-Zone region.

This upcoming North-Zone-1 Regional Conference scheduled to be held on November 30 and December 1, 2024 was attended by Justice Sindhu Sharma, Chairperson, J&K Judicial Academy; Justice Javed Iqbal Wani, Member, J&K Judicial Academy; Justice Rahul Bharti, Member, J&K Judicial Academy; Shahzad Azeem, Registrar General of J&K and Ladakh High Court.

Those who attended it from civil administration and police included Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo; Principal Secretary Home/Finance; Additional Director General of Police Security; Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir; IGP Kashmir; Secretary, Hospitality & Protocol; Secretary, Transport Departments; Secretary, Law, Justice & Parliamentary Affairs; Deputy Commissioner, Srinagar; Director, SKICC; Director Health Services; Director Floriculture besides others.

J&K Bank Q2...

take care that businesses are equipped with the tools they need to manage growth sustainably. Therefore, by carrying forward our digital momentum, we are also revolutionizing the way our customers experience banking, making it more convenient, swift, secure and efficient for them with every passing day."

"Moreover, by embracing cutting-edge technology, we have embarked upon a digital journey that enables our customers to manage their finances online and with ease, from account opening and transactions to applying for a range of our loan products. Going forward, we have devised a comprehensive road-map to help businesses particularly MSMEs get equipped with beneficial, convenient and efficient management solutions, through collaborative banking with our fintech partners, so that these enterprises sustain growth and enjoy prosperity", he added.

Northern Railway plans...

extra trains per day from Delhi, making available 1.20 lakh extra berths.

According to NR officials, last year, during the same period, 59 trains were operated. Besides, regular trains will also make 123 special trips to ease the passenger rush and facilitate comfortable journeys.

The NR said above all these, 49 extra coaches will be added to important trains from October 26 to November 7.

"Special trains have been planned to connect major destinations across the country on railway sectors like Delhi (DLI)/New Delhi (NDLS)/Anand Vihar Terminal to Patna, Danapur, Muzaffarpur, Joghani, Saharsa, Jaynagar, Katihar, Darbhanga, Gorakhpur, Raxaul, Varanasi, Gaya, Shri Vaishno Devi Katra," Verma said. He said a total 1,70,434 extra berths will be available during this period (including Special trains and Extra coaches) as compared to 1,48,750 during the same period in 2023. Verma said that a total of approximately 54,000 (41,000 last year) unreserved passengers additional capacity will be available in special trains. The NR maintained that there are also plans to run unannounced special trains depending on the situations. Talking about crowd management at the New Delhi Railway Station during Diwali and Chhath Puja, Verma revealed some "game changing innovations." For instance, highly patronised East bound trains like 12566 Bihar Sampark Kranti, 12394 Sampoom Kranti, 12554 Vaishali, and 12802 Purushottam Express trains will be operated from Platform Number 16, he said. The platform at NDLS will have a separate entry for queuing for unreserved passengers for the first time, Verma said.

"A well equipped mini-control to be manned by nominated staff of all Departments to be setup at New Delhi (NDLS), Old Delhi (DLI), Anand Vihar Terminal (ANVT) & Hazrat Nizamudin (NZM) Railway Stations," he added.

According to NR, to ease the crowd management, temporary waiting area with pandals, Enquiry-cum-Reservation-cum-May I Help You Counters, mobile toilet blocks, catering stalls, medical/first aid facility, additional sufficient facility for tickets, water, toilets and food among various other facilities have been created.

New Delhi, Old Delhi, Anand Vihar Terminal, and Hazrat Nizamudin railway stations will see special security arrangements with deployment of dog squads, baggage scanners/metal detectors at all entry gates. "Hand-held metal detectors, manning of all the entry gates, mega mikes and nylon ropes at FOB and platforms have been made available," Himanshu Shekhar Upadhyay, Chief Public Relations Officer, NR said.

Man injured in landmine blast

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

MENDHAR/JAMMU: A man was injured in a landmine blast in Poonch district on Friday, officials said.

The 40-year-old man, identified as Haneef, was gathering wood on his land in the border belt of the Shahpur area when he accidentally stepped on a landmine, they said.

Haneef sustained injuries in the incident, they said, adding that he has been evacuated and sent to a hospital for treatment.

Theft incident worked out; 2 arrested, property acquired through stolen money seized

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: Police has worked out a theft case recovering the property acquired through stolen money and arresting two accused.

Police said that a case was registered in police station Rajouri on written application of a complainant that unknown individuals stole two lakh rupees, which was kept in a bag.

Acting on this report, a case was registered under FIR No. 441/2024, Section 303(2), at Police Station Rajouri. During the investigation, CCTV footage from the scene provided vital evidence, leading to the identification of two suspects.

The suspects were apprehended, and upon questioning, they confessed to the commission of theft. They disclosed that they had used the stolen money to purchase two vehicles, which have since been recovered and seized as evidence in the case.

The two suspects were identified as follows Sayed Asif, son of Wazir Hussain, resident of Kandi Barjala, Tehsil Boniyar District Baramulla and Sayed Bedar Ali, son of Nazir Hussain, resident of Kandi Barjala Tehsil Boniyar , District Baramulla.

Both accused were arrested in the Instant Case. Additionally, further investigation revealed that they have a history of criminal involvement, being linked to multiple cases across both Kashmir and the Union Territory of Ladakh.

A police team headed by SHO Rajouri and IC PP City worked out this case under the supervision of DySP Hqrs Rajouri.

CCIU Kishtwar recovers online defrauded amount of Rs 2.5 lakh

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KISHTWAR: District Police Kishtwar has once again demonstrated its commitment to fighting cybercrime by successfully solving a major case and recovering online defrauded funds amounting to Rs 2,54,00 (Two lakh Fifty-Four thousand).

In this recent breakthrough, the Cybercrime Investigation Unit led by PSI Moin Khan resolved multiple online fraud cases, recovering a total amount of 2,54,00 (Two lakh Fifty-Four thousand). as mentioned in the headline. The scams included mobile recharge frauds, unauthorized third-party app installations, malicious Telegram links promoting fake Aadhaar card updates, as well as fraudulent trading apps like Aviator, Happybet, 11winner, and Skywinner.

Since its inception, the Cybercrime Investigation Unit Kishtwar has recovered a total of ₹46,10,618 (Forty-Six lakh Ten thousand six hundred eighteen rupees) from various online scams, reaffirming its effectiveness and dedication to combating cybercrime.

CCIU Samba refunds/liens defrauded amount of over Rs 11 lakh

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: Cybercrime Investigation Unit of Police in district Samba has refunded/liened defrauded amount of eleven lakh seven thousand six hundred fifty four rupees (Rs.11,07,654/-) in seven different cyber complaints received via online mode.

The Cyber Crime Investigation Unit (CCIU) of Samba Police has received seven online cyber complaints lodged by the citizens on National Cyber Crime Portal involving a total amount of Rs.11,07,654/- that was defrauded through various online scams and fraudulent activities by the fraudsters.

The team of Cybercrime Investigation Unit under DySP Hqrs Samba headed by Inspector rank officer displayed relentless efforts and advanced technical skills, leading to the successful refunding of Rs.2,00,216/- and liening the defrauded amount of Rs.9,07,438/- in above said cyber complaints. Further investigation is going on.

CCIU Doda traces, recovers 49 smartphones valuing Rs 7.5 lakh

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

DODA : Continuing its efforts to extend services to the General public and address their grievances, Cyber Crime Investigation Unit Doda received various complaints about missing of mobile phones and after hectic efforts, the Cyber Crime Investigation Unit of Doda Police with the technical help of ESU Doda traced and recovered 49 lost mobile phones whose estimated value is around Rs.7,53,973/- from different states/UTs of the country like Rajasthan, Punjab, Delhi, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh etc.

SSP Doda Mohd. Aslam handed over the recovered mobile phones to their rightful owners at District Police office Doda. SSP Doda appealed the general public to take utmost care of their mobiles as they contain personal data and there is every possibility of misuse of Mobile Phones. Upon receiving their missing/lost mobile phones, the owners felt elated and expressed their gratitude towards the District Police Doda for their arduous effort in tracing their missing mobiles.

Police conducts anti-drug raids against suspected drug peddlers

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: As part of Operation Sanjeevani, Jammu and Kashmir Police on 24.10.24 launched a concerted effort to combat drug smuggling and peddling in Sub Division East of South zone Jammu A raid was conducted on a suspected drug hotspot in Rajeev Nagar, within the jurisdiction of Police Station Bahu Fort (PP Narwal), in the presence of EMIC Bahu.

Police teams Led by SP South Jammu and SDPO East, along with concerned SHO's and IC PP's participated in the operation. The drive involved rigorous checks of suspected houses, pedestrians and vehicles,

Consequently, FIR was registered under relevant sections of law, and investigation is underway.

Additionally, a counseling session was organized to educate residents and youth about the detrimental effects of drug abuse, promoting community awareness and prevention.

Vehicle lifter arrested, stolen tractor recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A Vehicle lifter was arrested and stolen Tractor was recovered from his possession at Bishnah.

That on August 8, 2024 complainant namely Girdhari Lal, son of Sani Dass, resident of Ward No 02, Bishnah District Jammu lodged a written complaint stating therein that in the intervening night of August 8, 2024 he parked his Tractor at his house and later found that his Tractor was stolen by some unknown thieves.

On this case FIR No. 111/2024 U/S 303(2) BNS was registered in this police station.

Acting swiftly, to nab thieves a special team was constituted by SHO PS Bishnah under the supervision of SDPO RS Pura and SP HQ Jammu. Based on input from own sources and with the help of technical assistance apprehended suspect namely Altaf Ahmed S/o Mohd Ibrahim R/o Kothey Sainin Tehsil Bishnah District Jammu and put on sustained questioning. During sustained questioning he disclosed his involvement in the commission of crime and on his disclosure stolen Tractor has been recovered.

2 drug peddlers nabbed with 8.60 grams heroin

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: Police has arrested two drug peddlers and recovered approximately 8.60 grams of heroin like substance from their possession in the jurisdiction of Police Station Samba. A Police Party of Police Post Supwal led by Incharge Police Post Supwal under SHO PS Samba during vehicle checking naka near Tata Showroom Barian Supwal, intercepted a motorcycle bearing registration No. JK02AJ-7220 coming from Tata Showroom side towards NHW for its checking.

During checking, approximately 8.60 grams of heroin like substance has been recovered from the illegal possession of accused identified as Ashwani Kumar S/o Surinder Kumar R/o Vijaypur and Gulshan Verma S/o Ram Dass R/o Vijaypur.

Both the said accused persons have been arrested and the contraband item has also been seized. A case FIR No. 279/2024 U/S 8/21/22/29 NDPS Act has been registered at Police Station Samba and investigation started.