

!! Continuations from Page 1 !! Cong guarantee of...

he said. After the Congress managed to draw a level with the BJP in the Lok Sabha polls as both parties won five seats each, it is hopeful of toppling the ruling party from power in the state after 10 years.

The BJP has run an intense campaign in its bid to retain power in the northern state.

Shardiya Navratra begins...



made following a full review," Garg said.

In response to the heavy rush of pilgrims, crowd management systems integrated with CCTV and RFID surveillance systems have been put in place.

"As many as 650 CCTV cameras are active with integrated cards to monitor all movements and a skywalk has been introduced for crowd management," he said.

Additionally, a new langar will be set up at Ardh Kuwari to provide facilities for the pilgrims, supplementing the three major langars already in place.

The CEO said the board has taken additional initiatives this year.

"We are launching registration counters at Katra railway station, which will start functioning from tomorrow. Eight such counters are operational now," Garg added.

Thousands of devotees are enthusiastically undertaking the pilgrimage, viewing it as a chance to seek the blessings of Mata Vaishnodevi during Navratra.

At Bhawan, prayers marked the onset of the nine-day Shardiya Navratra festival.

Meanwhile, in its endeavour to enhance the overall pilgrimage experience, SMVDSB has launched a free Langar Sewa at Adhkuwari Complex after commencement of Shardiya Navratras.

Anshul Garg, CEO, inaugurated the Langar Sewa facility at Adhkuwari Complex, as per the directions of Manoj Sinha, Chairman, SMVDSB (Lt. Governor) in the presence of Vipin Bhagat, Asstt. CEO, other officers and employees, besides a large number of pilgrims.

Following a sacred Pooja at the site, the Langar facility commenced operations marking the fourth such initiative by the Board. Furthering its mission to serve devotees, this addition joins existing Langar Sewa facilities at Tarakote Marg, Sanjichhat, and Bhairon Ji, which have garnered widespread appreciation from devotees for providing nourishing meals as Prasad aiming to provide complimentary meals to a vast number of pilgrims during their pilgrimage to the revered Shrine.

Located on the terrace of Sheela Bhawan at Adhkuwari Complex, the Langar facility can cater around 150 pilgrims simultaneously while offering a clean and welcoming space.

Earlier, marking the beginning of Shardiya Navratras, the Chief Executive Officer attended the inaugural ceremony of the nine-day long Shatchandi Yagya at the Holy Shrine amidst the vedic hymns, religious chants and performance of other religious ceremonies being organized for peace, prosperity and well-being of humanity which will conclude with Purna Ahuti on Mahanavami. The Yagya ceremony is being telecasted live on MH1 Shradha from 12:00 Noon to 1:30 PM daily during Navratras.

The SMVDSB has beautifully transformed the Bhawan, Atka and surrounding areas into a radiant spiritual oasis for warmly welcoming pilgrims visiting to pay obeisance at the sacred Shrine. The grand decorations feature an exquisite blend of indigenous and foreign fruits, flowers, majestic reception doors and elegantly designed track besides, the Bhawan area has been illuminated with stunning colorful façade lights, creating a mesmerizing ambience for devotees.

The SMVDSB has also made elaborate arrangements for facilitating a large number of pilgrims who are expected to pay their obeisance at the Sanctum Sanctorum during Navratras, which include round the clock water and power supply all along the tracks leading to the Shrine, sanitation, medicare and availability of special "fast related" food at the Board's Bhojanalayas. Besides, all the routes leading to the Holy Cave Shrine are fully maintained for smooth movement of pilgrims. In addition, as per policy in vogue, SMVDSB has been facilitating Divyang pilgrims with free pony, battery car services & darshan assistance and 24/7 Call Centre (18001807212) has also been made available to facilitate the pilgrims as an additional support. As part of the Navratras celebrations, SMVDSB has also lined up captivating Bhajan and Bhaint performances by acclaimed artists during morning and evening Atka arti.

Army will soon...

take over as Director General of Military Operations.

To a question about weaponisation of mobile phones used in Israel-Lebanon conflict, he said, "Every time a new method is employed by any military force across the world, we always take note of it to draw our own lessons, so we can incorporate what is relevant to us and prepare our army and armed forces accordingly."

"What we are seeing unfold in the Middle East is obviously a new trend, and the manner in which it is unfolding is quite unique. Therefore, we will certainly analyze it, put it into perspective, and come to conclusions about what is relevant and how it could affect us," he added.

The Ultra sets were recovered from some of the encounters in the Kashmir valley.

These specialised handsets, exclusively customised by Chinese companies for the Pakistan army, were seized after a gunfight in the intervening night of July 17-18 last year in the Sinderah top area of Surankote in Jammu region's Poonch district and on April 26 this year after an encounter at the Check Mohalla Nowpora area of Sopore in north Kashmir's Baramulla district.

The 'Ultra' handsets, which have also been found in the south of the Pir Panjal region, combine cell-phone capabilities with specialised radio equipment that does not rely on traditional mobile technologies like Global System for Mobile or Code-Division Multiple Access (CDMA).

The device operates on radio waves for message transmission and reception, with each 'Ultra' set linked to a control station located across the border, officials said and added that the two 'Ultra' sets cannot reach out to each other.

They said Chinese satellites are used to carry these messages that are compressed to bytes from the handset to the master server in Pakistan for its onward transmission.

This is yet another help being extended by China to its key ally Pakistan, the officials said.

Ceasefire with Pakistan...

"There are certain tenets to that ceasefire understanding which both the sides follow. Every now and then, if any of the sides has any exception to any activity that may have been prosecuted by the other side, those are brought to notice through various means.

"There are hotlines on the LoC. The two DGMOs (director generals of military operations) have access to each other and these are routinely brought to each other's notice. But the ceasefire understanding has sustained and is still very much in force," he added.

To a question about infiltration attempts being made along the LoC, the GoC said the counter-infiltration grid of the security forces is strong.

He said the fence or Anti-Infiltration Obstacle System (AIOS) is technically enabled and numerous attempts of infiltrations have been rendered unsuccessful.

"This year, we saw that there were people at the launchpads and we had intelligence inputs that they will make attempts, but there were not many attempts this summer. What is the reason for that?"

"It is obvious that infiltration can occur at places other than the LoC and perhaps it has taken place this year. That is why the numbers have increased in Jammu region because the areas were always peaceful," he said.

Acknowledging there might be some change in the strategy by the terrorists,

Lt Gen Ghai said while the Army expected infiltration bids in the valley, "successful bids took place at other places".

"That is why the numbers increased a bit. But I am confident that the number will decrease soon as we have been getting intelligence of those," he added.

The Army officer said the force has the best possible technology which it has embraced in a very big manner and is being leveraged in its operations in the valley.

He said the training of an insurgent or a terrorist can only be as good. He can obviously not be as well-trained as the Indian Army soldier. He said at least he does not have any no doubt about that in his mind.

"You can hand them technology... For instance, I am carrying a rifle or an automatic weapon and you can give me a night sight and I can train you how to use it. So, obviously it is going to enhance the capability a little," he said.

The Army officer said the Indian Army today has at its behest the best possible technology and 2024 is the year of technology absorption in the force.

"So we have embraced the technology in a very big manner and we are leveraging it all across our operations," he added.

The GoC said it does not bother the forces whether the infiltrators could be Pakistani or foreign or that they could be very well trained or that they have great technology.

"That doesn't bother us. We have to do counter terrorist operations and we will go after insurgents whatever shape or size or whatever manner of technology that they maybe utilising," he said.

He said there could be 25-40 foreign terrorists active in the Pir Panjal area. "We have seen in the recent operations in the Pir Panjal range that in all probability, they are Pakistani terrorists. While it is very difficult to say how many there are, they could be anything from 25-40," he added.

However, he said it was not a huge number.

"If you add these suddenly to any area which is stable, then it takes some time for the counter terror grid to mature. I am sure that there will be successful operations in the time to come as we have started getting the intelligence," he added.

SFs, terrorists exchange...

of fire with terrorists in various parts of Kishtwar during the last two months. On September 13, two Army personnel, including a junior commissioned officer (JCO), were martyred in an encounter with terrorists in the Naidgham area of Chatroo.

Ex-Dy CM...

to his life. Tara Chand said the assailants had been hurling threats to him earlier also. Fearing for his life, the former Deputy CM said that on his refusal to accompany them, one of the assailants, Jatinder Singh attempted to pull out the weapon but his supporters intervened and averted the situation getting worst. He said the assailants fled from the scene while issuing threats to his life.

Following the incident, Chand promptly reported the matter telephonically to the Station House Officer (SHO) of Police Station Khour, the Sub-Divisional Police Officer (SDPO) Akhnor, and the Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Jammu. Upon arrival at the scene, the SHO recorded Chand's statement but no action had been initiated against the accused.

Accordingly, Tara Chand formally took up the issue with the Chief Electoral Officer, requesting for registration of First Information Report (FIR) against Jatinder Singh alias Romi, son of Karnail Singh, resident of Chak Malal, Tehsil Khour, District Jammu, Arjun Singh, son of Devi Singh, resident of Danwal, Tehsil Khour, District Jammu and Ashok Singh, son of Devi Singh, resident of Danwal, Tehsil Khour, District Jammu and two more persons, who were not known as they had been standing outside the house. Subsequently, the CEO took up the issue with the SSP Jammu for action.

Tara Chand has called for stern action under relevant legal provisions to uphold justice and maintain the sanctity of the electoral process.

BJP confident of...

the last ten years," Raina told reporters here.

Raina highlighted the BJP's "commitment" to fulfilling the vision of 'Naya Kashmir' as envisioned by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah.

Reflecting on the voter turnout, Raina said, "The overwhelming participation reflects people's endorsement of the BJP's development initiatives over the past decade."

Regarding the chief ministerial candidate, Raina said, "The priority for us is the formation of a majority government by the BJP. The elections were conducted peacefully, reflecting the people's victory in the mission of peace, development, progress, and prosperity."

Raina appreciated the security forces and election authorities for ensuring smooth conduct of the polls.

He also extended Navratra greetings and avoided queries about potential alliances until after the results are declared.

Cabinet approves classical...

(Marathi), Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh (Pali and Prakrit), West Bengal (Bengali) and Assam (Assamese), while the broader cultural and academic impact will extend nationally and internationally, the statement said.

On October 12, 2004, the Government of India decided to create a new category of languages as "classical languages", declared Tamil a classical language and set criteria for according the status.

These criteria were -- high antiquity of its early texts or recorded history over a thousand years, a body of ancient literature or texts which is considered a valuable heritage by generations of speakers, and literary tradition must be original and not borrowed from another speech community.

Sanskrit, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam and Odia were later given the classical language status.

A Linguistic Experts Committee (LEC) was constituted under Sahitya Akademi by the Ministry of Culture in November 2004 to examine the proposed languages for the classical language status. The criteria were revised in November 2005.

About the inclusion of Marathi in this category, the statement said a proposal was received from the Maharashtra government in 2013, requesting classical language status to Marathi and it was forwarded to the LEC.

The LEC recommended Marathi for classical language status.

Assembly elections in Maharashtra are slated to take place soon and this is a major poll issue in the state.

During inter-ministerial consultations in 2017 on the draft note for Cabinet for conferring classical status to the Marathi language, the Home Ministry advised that the criteria be revised and made stricter.

The PMO, vide its comment, said an exercise may be conducted to find out how many other languages are likely to become eligible.

In the meantime, proposals were also received from Bihar, Assam and West Bengal to confer classical language status to Pali, Prakrit, Assamese and Bengali.

Accordingly, the LEC, under Sahitya Akademi, in a meeting on July 25, 2024, unanimously revised the criteria. Sahitya Akademi has been appointed as the nodal agency for the LEC.

The committee recommended Marathi, Pali, Prakrit, Assamese and Bengali languages to be fulfilling the revised criteria and be considered as a Classical Language, the statement said.

The Education Ministry has taken various steps to promote classical languages. Three central universities were established in 2020 through an Act of Parliament for the promotion of Sanskrit language, it added.

The Central Institute of Classical Tamil was set up to facilitate the translation of ancient Tamil texts, promote research and offer courses for university students and language scholars. To further enhance the study and preservation of Classical Languages, the Centres for Excellence for Studies in Classical Kannada, Telugu, Malayalam, and Odia were established under the auspices of the Central Institute of Indian Languages in Mysuru.

63.88 pc turnout...

Election Commission said it stood at 63.88 per cent with male participation recorded at 64.68 per cent. The overall women turnout was recorded at 63.04 per cent and that of the third gender at 38.24 per cent.

The final votes polled will be available post-counting with counting of postal ballots.

Postal ballots include postal ballots given to service voters, absentee voters (those above 85 years of age, persons with disabilities, those part of essential services) and voters on election duty, the EC noted.

Daily account of such postal ballots received, as per established guidelines, are given to all candidates, it said.

GRP Jammu recovers 7 kg Ganja

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Railway Police J&K (GRP Jammu) has recovered 7 kg Ganja like banned narcotic substance. The seized contraband is worth Rs 7 lakh rupees market price.

Accordingly, a case FIR No. 10/2024 under relevant sections has been registered at Police Station GRP Kathua and investigation initiated. Thorough investigation will be conducted to dig out the backward and forward linkages of source of the banned drug. This is the ninth case of seizure of banned drugs made by GRP Jammu in the last 02 months. The market price of these seized banned drugs is worth Rs 1cr 4 lakh.

Two miscreants nabbed with sharp edged weapons

STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: Police has arrested two miscreants in the jurisdiction of Police Station Bari Brahmana and recovered two sharp edged weapons (Tbka) from their possession.

A written complaint was lodged at Police Station Bari Brahmana by one Rander Singh S/o Surinder Singh R/o Birpur Bari Brahmana stating therein that two unknown persons attacked the complainant with the sharp edged weapons near KikriMorh and injured him while he was returning home from Bari Brahmana.

Acting over the complaint, a case FIR No. 117/2024 u/s126(2)/115(2)/351(2)/3(5)BNS, 4/25 Arms Acthas been registered at Police Station Bari Brahmana and investigation started.

During the course of investigation, a police team of Police Station Bari Brahmana headed by SHO PS Bari Brahmanaarrested the accused persons namely Narinder Pal Singh S/o DalerSingh R/o Jawhar Nagar Rajouri and Lakhbir Singh S/oSohan Singh R/o Nanak Nagar Jammu in the instant case and recovered two sharp edged weapons (Tbka) from their possession. Further investigation of the case is going on.



2 drug peddlers arrested; psychotropic substance recovered

STATE TIMES NEWS

SOPORE: Police in Sopore have arrested two drug peddlers and recovered psychotropic substance from their possession.

A Police party of Police Post Fruit Mandi headed by IC PP Fruit Mandi during patrolling at Nowpora Bypass Road apprehended two persons in a suspicious condition. During search, officers were able to recover 540 banned tablets (Alprazolam) from their possession.

Accordingly, a case vide FIR No. 223/2024 under relevant sections of law has been registered at Police Station Sopore & investigation has been initiated.

Sensational snatching case solved; 3 hardcore criminals nabbed, weapon, motorcycle seized

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Police in Akhnor received one complaint on 19.09.2024 from Suresh Kumar, son of Milkhi Ram, resident of Sungal Akhnor that three unknown persons snatched sale of wine shop Approx. Rs 150000/- and beaten his salesman by putting him fear of death using firearms. On this complaint a Case FIR No. 167/2024 U/S 126(2)/115(2)/307/3(5)BNS has been registered in Police station Akhnor and investigation started.

During investigation Police party of P/S Akhnor headed by SHO Akhnor analysed CCTV Footage minutely & based on the information gathered from CCTV footage Police party did hectic efforts and with timely human intervention rounded up suspects .

During questioning suspects namely Amit Pawa alias Sundi, son of Late Ashok Kumar, resident of Gijrial Khour at present Devipur Teh.Jourian and Ashok Singh alias Raja, son of Devi Singh, resident of Danwal Tehsil Khour and Vishal Sharma alias Vishu son of Vijay Kumar, resident of Galwade Chak Tehsil Marh confessed their involvement in above said case and on their disclosure recoveries including one Illegal firearm (Desi katta) used in offence; motorcycle Glamour bearing regn. No.JK02AV/9058; one wooden Lathi and one Black Colour Bag were recovered. It is pertinent to mention that all the three accused are hardcore criminals and involved in a series of criminal cases with past history of many crimes committed.



Juvenile thief apprehended, stolen items recovered

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Police on Thursday apprehended a juvenile thief and recovered stolen items from his possession.

On September 2, 2024 one complainant namely Angad Raj, son of Girdhari Lal, resident of Pali Morh Tehsil Bishnah, District Jammu, lodged a written complaint at police station bishnah regarding the theft of his purse in which some Debit/Credit Card along with cash of ₹5000 from his Car by breaking Mirror of Car parked near Ravi Dass Mandir, Bishnah by unknown thieves.

In this connection case, FIR No. 156/2024 under Section 305(C) BNS was registered at Police Station Bishnah, and the investigation was started.

During the investigation, designated team of the police headed by SHO Bishnah collected CCTV footage from various locations and gathered technical intelligence. further upon analyzing the evidence gathered a suspect name withheld(juvenile) R/O Tehsil Bishnah, District Jammu* was identified.

Later above said suspect was apprehended for the thorough investigation in connection with FIR No. 156/2024 under Section 305(C) BNS.

During questioning, the suspect confessed his involvement in the theft. Based on his disclosure one stolen Purse along with Some Debit/Credit Cards are recovered.

Ramban's cyber cell solves financial fraud, recovers Rs 4.23 lakh

STATE TIMES NEWS

RAMBAN: Cyber Cell of DPO Ramban solved a Financial Fraud cases amounting to Rs4,23,000/(Rupees Four lakh twenty three thousand).

Continuing its efforts to extend services to the general public and address their grievances, Cyber Cell DPO Ramban recovered and successfully refunded an amount of Rs 4,23,000 in a complaint.

Brief fact of the cases are that Cyber Cell DPO Ramban received a complaint regarding the online financial fraud.

After receiving the Complaint, Cyber Cell DPO Ramban immediately swung into the action and started the enquiry into the matter and made hectic efforts which ultimately recovered the defrauded amount of Rs 4,23,000/- which was swindled by online scams.

RSS' centenary year aims to build disciplined, strong Hindu society: Bhagwat

STATE TIMES NEWS

KOTA (RA-JASTHAN): RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat on Thursday said the primary goal of the organisation's centenary year is to build a disciplined and strong Hindu society.

Bhagwat emphasised that the centenary year should not be celebrated as a festival, but rather focus on realising the dream envisioned by the founder of a united, strong, and disciplined Hindu society, Ramesh Chandra Mehta, the Sangh's Baran division head, said in the release.

To achieve this, RSS chief urged expansion of the organisation's work to every village and urban

motors the plans for expansion and consolidation in view of the centenary year, according to a press release.

A comprehensive review of the planned work expansion was also conducted during the meeting, the release said.

Upon Bhagwat's arrival at the Dharmada Dharmashala, he was welcomed by the organisation's members with a traditional tilak and coconut, it added.

The RSS will complete its 100 years in 2025.