

!! Continuations from Page 1 !! NC wins three...

and cast their votes in favour of the party candidates for polls to four seats of Rajya Sabha from Jammu and Kashmir.

Jammu and Kashmir Congress chief, Tariq Hameed Karra, in a post on X, congratulated the National Conference for "securing three safe seats and putting up a strong fight for the fourth unsafe seat".

J-K Peoples' Conference chief Sajad Lone, however, described the Rajya Sabha election in Jammu and Kashmir as a "fixed match" between the ruling National Conference and the opposition BJP.

"So the BJP wins the fourth seat. As predicted -- a fixed match; Axis of the evil - - NC and BJP," he said in a post on X.

Lone, the MLA from the Handwara assembly segment of north Kashmir, abstained from voting in the election. "Thank God I abstained. Imagine what my plight would have been. Now mathematically proven that it was a fixed match.

"Why did the NC poll extra votes for candidate three? They didn't need to. They polled 31 votes for candidate three. Only 29 votes would have sufficed, even 28, because the BJP was fighting for seat four. Who cross-voted? Whose votes were rejected? Who was hand in glove?" he asked.

The BJP, with 28 assembly members, had strategically named Sharma in the third notification, and he already got a crucial edge after the Jammu and Kashmir People's Conference (JKPC) led by Sajad Gani Lone, an erstwhile ally of the BJP-PDP government, announced that his party would abstain from the forthcoming Rajya Sabha elections.

The Union territory, with four seats in Rajya Sabha, had been unrepresented in the Upper House of Parliament since February 15, 2021, the day when Ghulam Nabi Azad and Nazir Ahmed Laway finished their term.

Two other members, Fayaz Ahmed Mir and Shamsheer Singh Manhas, had completed their term on February 10, the same year.

8 cops suspended...

suspension of a sub-inspector and seven SPOs for negligence.

An FIR has been registered, and one accused has been arrested, while efforts are underway to nab the remaining suspects, they said.

J&K among first...

ideals will make developed India's dream come true.

"Amalgamation of technological advancement and Indian ethos in higher educational institutions will address the future challenges and spur strong economic growth," the Lieutenant Governor said.

He also mentioned that the National Education Policy aims to reduce inequality and expand opportunity in the higher educational institutions with the focus on a future-focused approach to equip youth with the capability of critical thinking and lifelong learning.

"Our higher educational institutions have embraced interdisciplinary and project-based learning and we are moving away from traditional, siloed subjects to break the barriers between the real-world and academic world. This will empower our youth, enhance skills and knowledge to ensure their professional growth," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor also highlighted the need to establish a monitoring mechanism to ensure that research projects are future-oriented, generating new ideas, and introducing new perspectives into society's knowledge flow.

He observed that all higher education institutions should implement innovative programs like Design Your Own Degree in a time-bound manner. He further called for providing effective resolutions to the challenges and sharing of resources by the educational institutions to bring about a holistic transformation in the higher education sector in Jammu Kashmir:

Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Prof. Dinesh Singh, Vice Chairman Higher Education Council J&K; Shantmanu, Additional Chief Secretary, Higher Education Department; Vice Chancellors of various universities, senior officials, heads of educational institutions, faculty and students attended the inaugural ceremony.

Chugh pays tributes...

integration and selfless service. His unwavering struggle for 'Ek Vidhan, Ek Nishan, Ek Pradhan' (One Constitution, One Flag, One Head) became the moral compass of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh and continues to inspire the BJP today."

Chugh underlined that the abrogation of Articles 370 and 35A by the Narendra Modi government was the realization of Pt. Dogra's life-long dream and the ultimate tribute to his steadfast commitment to national unity. He said that Pt. Dogra's deep connect with the common people and his dedication to the upliftment of every section of society remain a guiding light for inclusive politics in Jammu & Kashmir.

"Pt. Premnath Dogra's legacy transcended regional divides and was rooted in the welfare of the last person in the queue. His vision remains the blueprint for the BJP's governance model in Jammu & Kashmir - a politics of unity, empowerment, and justice," Chugh added.

The event, attended by numerous party officials and workers, served as a reaffirmation of the BJP's resolve to uphold the ideological principles championed by Pt. Dogra - principles centered on national unity, democratic empowerment, and socio-economic justice for every citizen of Jammu & Kashmir.

Never underestimate adversaries...

terrorists was in keeping with both policy precision and human dignity. The operation isn't over. Our mission for peace will continue as long as even a single terrorist mindset remains alive," he said.

In response to the Pahalgam terror attack, India launched Operation Sindoor on May 7, carrying out air strikes on terrorist infrastructure in territories controlled by Pakistan.

The strikes triggered four days of intense clashes that ended with an understanding on stopping the military actions on May 10.

The Army commanders held detailed deliberations on several critical issues including grey zone warfare and roadmap for jointness, self-reliance in defence and innovation.

In his comments, the defence minister underlined that Operation Sindoor has given rise to a new strategic thinking that India responds to any terrorist activity on its own terms.

"This is New India's defence doctrine, which embodies both resolve and courage," he said, while expressing gratitude to the soldiers for standing guard 24X7 to protect the nation's integrity.

He exhorted them to never underestimate the adversaries and remain alert and ready always, according to an official statement.

Chief of Defence Staff Gen Anil Chauhan, Chief of the Army Staff Gen Upendra Dwivedi, Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh, Vice Chief of the Army Staff Lt Gen Pushpendra Singh and all Army commanders were in attendance at the conference.

The defence minister urged the commanders to continue focusing on defence diplomacy, self-reliance, information warfare, defence infrastructure, and force modernisation to ensure a future-ready Army.

He hailed the professionalism, courage, and resilience of the Indian armed forces and reaffirmed the government's unwavering commitment to provide state-of-the-art technology, infrastructure, and support to maintain the highest levels of operational preparedness.

Singh also praised the Army's role in ensuring peace and development in Jammu and Kashmir following the abrogation of Article 370. "The abrogation of Article 370 was historic. Today, the streets there are filled with hope, and not unrest."

"People are confident about their future. Most importantly, the decision-making system is now in the hands of the local people. The Indian Army has played a crucial role in this endeavour," he said.

On the situation along the northern border, Singh stated that the ongoing talks and de-escalation steps with China have demonstrated India's balanced and firm foreign policy.

"Our policy is clear that there will be dialogue and our readiness on the border will remain intact," he said.

Appreciating the will power and discipline of the soldiers, Singh described it as a testimony to the fact that the Indian military is considered one of the most adaptable forces in the world.

"Whether it's the freezing icy terrain of Siachen, or the scorching heat of the Rajasthan desert, or counter-insurgency operations in the dense forests, our soldiers have always demonstrated their capability and commitment."

"Despite the tough conditions and diverse challenges, they adapt to the changes and further strengthen national security," he said.

Singh emphasised that while present-day warfare is technology-driven, the soldiers remain the greatest assets of the country.

He stated that machines multiply strength, but it's the human spirit that possesses the power to deliver results.

Singh asserted that modern-day warfare is fought in invisible domains such as cyberspace, information, electronic disruption, and space control, and what matters, along with adapting to the latest technological advancements, is quick decision-mak-

ing and willpower of the soldiers.

As part of the Army commanders conference, Singh also carried out virtual inauguration of technology enablers including the Edge Data Centres of Konark and Fire and Fury Corps of the Indian Army.

By next year, all corps will have Edge Data Centres across the nation, officials said.

The defence minister also visited Laungewala, and laid a wreath at the iconic Yudh Sthal and paid homage to the bravehearts of the Indian Army.

Singh also inaugurated 'Chandpuri Hall', an audio-visual room, dedicated to the memory of Major (later Brigadier) Kuldip Singh Chandpuri who led the gallant defence during the Battle of Laungewala in 1971. He also felicitated the veterans who had participated in the battle.

The defence minister witnessed a dynamic 'Capability Demonstration Exercise' showcasing integrated employment of new organisations such as the Bhairav Battalion and Ashni Platoon, along with the latest technological assets inducted into the Indian Army.

The display symbolised the seamless blend of legacy and innovation, highlighting the Indian Army's thrust on capability development and force modernisation, the officials said.

Victims and perpetrators...

meaningful reform is obstructed using the reform process itself," he said, adding sustaining the UN even while seeking its re-invention is clearly a major challenge before the world.

"Few examples are more telling about the challenges facing the UN than its response to terrorism. When a sitting Security Council member openly protects the very organisation that claims responsibility for the barbaric terror attack such as at Pahalgam, what does it do to the credibility of multilateralism," Jaishankar asked.

Though Jaishankar didn't directly name Pakistan, it was abundantly clear from his remarks that he was referring to that country.

"Similarly, if victims and perpetrators of terrorism are equated in the name of global strategy, how much more cynical can the world get. When self-proclaimed terrorists are shielded from the sanctioning process, what does it say for the sincerity of those involved," he said.

Pakistan is currently a member of the UN Security Council. It was the chair of the top global body in the month of July.

The Council is composed of 15 members including five permanent members which are China, France, Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

Ten non-permanent member nations are elected for two-year terms by the General Assembly. The presidency of the UNSC is held by each of the members in turn for one month.

The Resistance Front (TRF), a proxy of the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terror group, had claimed responsibility for the Pahalgam terror attack.

TRF found mention in a UNSC report in July for its role in the Pahalgam attack.

Pakistan had attempted to remove references to TRF in the UNSC press statement condemning the Pahalgam attack, according to officials.

Jaishankar's remarks on shielding terrorists from the sanctioning process came against the backdrop of instances of China blocking many initiatives at the UN Security Council to designate Pakistan-based terrorists.

In his remarks, Jaishankar suggested that the UN has failed to address pressing issues.

"If the maintenance of international peace and security has become lip service, the predicament of development and socio-economic progress is even more serious," he said.

"The slowing down of the SDG Agenda 2030 is a significant metric to measure the distress of the Global South. There are many more, whether it is trade measures, supply chain dependence or political domination," he said.

"Yet, on such a notable anniversary, we cannot abandon hope. However difficult, the commitment to multilateralism must remain strong. However flawed, the United Nations must be supported in this time of crisis," Jaishankar added.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a set of goals set to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all.

Jaishankar also reiterated India's commitment to the "ideals of peace and security", as well as development and progress.

"India has always been and will continue to be a strong votary of the United Nations, and indeed, of multilateralism. Our commitment to global peace and security is reflected, amongst others, in our staunch support for peacekeeping," he said.

Jaishankar also released a commemorative postage stamp to celebrate 80 years of the UN.

CM reviews arrangements...

Commissioner Kashmir/Jammu and other senior officers and Heads of Departments connected with Darbar Move.

At the outset, Commissioner Secretary, General Administration Department (GAD) M. Raju made a detailed presentation on the transport arrangements and logistical aspects of the Darbar move convoy.

The Chief Minister directed the Managing Director JKRTC and Traffic Department to arrange additional buses and arrange down convoys for two consecutive days-November 1 and 2, 2025-to ensure safe and efficient movement of employees and equipments.

He emphasized meticulous coordination between departments for hassle-free transportation during the move.

Reviewing the security and traffic management plan along the National Highway and residential accommodation for move employees, the Chief Minister impressed upon the Police Department and other concerned agencies to ensure comprehensive security measures, especially in all residential areas where employees would be located.

The meeting was also informed that medical assistance will remain available along the movement route, with 19 doctors, 40 paramedics, and 10 ambulances each deployed in both Kashmir and Jammu divisions, besides seven ambulances kept on standby mode.

The Chief Minister directed the formation of a committee headed by ACS Estates, with members from GAD, ARI & Trainings, and Housing & Urban Development Department, to resolve accommodation-related issues and ensure readiness of residential quarters. He also instructed the Estates Department to establish a control room in Jammu to address any office accommodation concerns during the move period.

The meeting also reviewed arrangements of essential services, food, hospitality, and other key facilities. Divisional Commissioner Jammu was asked to examine traffic management within Jammu city and around major residential areas, and to identify locations along the convoy route for food and public convenience facilities, including washrooms, to cater to employees and officials during the move.

Further, the Chief Minister instructed the Estates Department to establish a dedicated control room for addressing accommodation and logistical issues, while the General Administration Department (GAD) shall set up the Winter Secretariat at Srinagar with minimal staff presence.

The Chief Minister directed the issuance of monthly rosters for Ministers and administrative secretaries to be stationed at the Winter Secretariat in Srinagar, beginning with the November roster.

The Chief Minister stressed that the Darbar Move, being a unique administrative tradition, demands flawless coordination, security, preparedness and public ease.

He directed all departments to work in synergy to ensure that the 2025-26 session begins seamlessly in Jammu.

Court demands accountability...

the complainant to approach the court.

After examining the complaint, the Sub-Judge observed that the applicant had complied with the mandate of Sections 173(1) and 173(4) of BNSS, 2023 by filing the necessary applications before the police authorities.

However, with more than six weeks passing without any action, the Magistrate directed the SSP Reasi and SHO Bhawan to submit an ATR before the court within two weeks. The case has been listed for further hearing on October 30, 2025.

Working to empower...

letters have been issued so far through Rozgar Melas.

The prime minister said the government has started a new initiative -- the 'Pratibha Setu Portal' -- which offers opportunities to candidates who reached the final list of UPSC but were not selected.

"Their efforts will not go in vain, as both private and public institutions are now engaging with these talented individuals through the portal," PM Modi said.

He said such optimal utilisation of youth talent will showcase India's potential to the world.

"Empowering the youth is a priority of the BJP-led NDA government," the prime minister said.

PM Modi said India has entered into investment partnerships with several European countries, creating thousands of new job opportunities.

"We have also signed multiple agreements with nations like Brazil, Singapore, South Korea, and Canada to boost investment and support startups and MSMEs.

These collaborations will strengthen exports and open up new avenues of growth and opportunity for India's youth," he said.

"Even our foreign policy is being shaped with the interests of India's youth in mind. Our diplomatic engagements and global agreements are increasingly focused on youth training and employment generation," Modi said.

The prime minister said the recent reduction in GST rates has marked a major reform in the country and its impact went far beyond just increasing people's savings.

"The next generation GST reforms are also expanding opportunities for employment and growth," the prime minister said.

He said when everyday goods become cheaper, demand rises, which accelerates production and supply chains.

The higher factory output leads to the creation of new jobs, he said, adding that the GST Bachat Utsav is also transforming into an "employment festival".

The prime minister said record-breaking sales witnessed during Dhanteras and Diwali demonstrate how GST reforms have given a fresh momentum to the nation's economy.

He noted the positive impact of these reforms on the MSME sector and retail trade, which are now generating new employment opportunities in manufacturing, logistics, packaging, and distribution.

Destiny of J&K changed...

Constitution and reservation policies were not applicable in J-K.

Many central schemes could not reach the people before but after the removal of Article 370, a lot of work has been done, he said.

Rijiju said that during his time as the sports and law minister, sports facilities, auditoriums, multi-sports centres, training centres, court infrastructure projects, including high court buildings, were initiated in various places.

Commenting on political developments in Bihar, Rijiju said "Today, the prime Minister is beginning his campaign from the birthplace of (former Bihar chief minister and Bharat Ratna) Karpooi Thakur ji in Chhapra.

"This will send out a very strong message. The entire Bihar knows that only under the leadership of Modi ji can Bihar reach new heights. No one wants to see the return of 'Jungle Raj'."

On RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav being named the INDIA bloc's CM face in Bihar, the minister said, "Just naming someone doesn't mean anything. Public acceptance is what truly matters.

"This is a democracy, and people are supreme. Today, there is a wave of Modi ji across the country, and everywhere people believe that India's future is safe and bright under his leadership."

When asked about National Conference leader Omar Abdullah's demand for full statehood for Jammu and Kashmir, Rijiju said he cannot offer his comment on it.

Rijiju extended his greetings to the 51,000 youths who were given government jobs. "Many congratulations to all the youths who have received appointment letters in various government departments. When someone gets a job, it is not only the person but the whole family and society that share the joy," he said.

He urged the youth to view government service as a chance to serve the country. "The 51,000 appointment letters given today are government jobs - which means an opportunity to serve the nation.

"I want to tell the youth not to consider this merely a job, but to see it as a responsibility to serve the country," Rijiju said.

DC Ramban inaugurates 3-day Mobile Passport Van Service Camp

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAMBAN: As part of the Public Outreach Programme aimed at improving citizen services, the Regional Passport Office (RPO) Jammu, under the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, today launched a three-day Mobile Passport Van Service Camp in the premises of the District Administrative Complex, Ramban.

Deputy Commissioner R a m b a n , M o h a m a d A y a s Khan, formally inaugurated the camp in the presence of T e h s i l d a r Ramban Deep Kumar and Section Officer Sunil Kher and other officers.



Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner said that residents of Ramban district can avail themselves of this facility by booking an appointment through the official website - www.passportindia.gov.in. Applicants need to select the Passport Van service and choose a convenient slot between October 24 and October 26, 2025.

The Deputy Commissioner appealed to the residents of Ramban district to take full advantage of this unique opportunity to apply for their passports without the need to travel long distances. He said that such initiatives bring government services closer to the people, especially those living in hilly and remote areas.

The Deputy Commissioner expressed gratitude to the Regional Passport Office Jammu and the Ministry of External Affairs for organizing the Mobile Passport Van Service Camp in Ramban and appreciated their efforts in promoting citizen-friendly governance and doorstep service delivery.

This outreach effort has been undertaken under the leadership of Regional Passport Officer Jammu Rajesh Kumar, who emphasized that similar camps will also be conducted in other districts of Jammu Province in the coming months to extend passport-related services to citizens residing in far-flung and remote areas.

The Mobile Passport Van is fully equipped for biometric enrolment and on-site document verification, ensuring convenience and efficiency for applicants.

This citizen-friendly initiative is expected to enhance accessibility, save time, and make passport services more efficient for residents of remote areas.

Op Sindoor's BSF heroes to greet PM at Ekta Diwas parade in Gujarat

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will receive a ceremonial salute during the Rashtriya Ekta Diwas parade in Gujarat from 16 BSF personnel who won gallantry medals for their participation in Operation Sindoor, officials said on Friday.

This parade will take place in Kevadia, Gujarat, on October 31 to commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel, the nation's first deputy prime minister and home minister. Patel is remembered for his pivotal role in unifying the country after Independence.

"The Rashtriya Ekta Diwas event to be held on October 31 at Ekta Nagar in the Narmada district of Gujarat is going to be extremely special this time. The day and the event are symbolic of the unity and harmony of our great country," BSF Director General (DG) Daljit Singh Chawdhary said during a curtain raiser press conference here. As with previous years, the events will be held against the backdrop of the statue of Sardar Patel, the world's tallest statue at 182 metres, which was inaugurated by Modi in 2018.

Chawdhary stated that the prime minister will officiate as the chief guest of the event, where the 16 Border Security Force (BSF) personnel, who were part of Operation Sindoor, besides the five Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) personnel honoured with the Shurya Chakra, will participate in the parade.

Officials noted that these personnel will be sitting atop a moving vehicle during the parade. The BSF personnel were decorated with the police medal for gallantry (GM) on Independence Day for displaying "conspicuous bravery" and "unmatched valour" during Operation Sindoor.

Operation Sindoor was carried out by the three defence forces along with the BSF along the western border, targeting terrorist and military facilities in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir from May 7 to 10. This operation was in retaliation for the April 22 terror attack in Pahalgam that resulted in the deaths of 26 people, mostly tourists.

Two additional BSF personnel were posthumously awarded the military-issued Vir Chakra for their bravery during Operation Sindoor.

BSF chief Chawdhary mentioned that a total of 10 tableaux from various central, state, and Union Territory police forces will be featured in the parade, along with brass bands from different police forces, highlighting "unity in diversity." The prime minister will also receive a guard of honour from a contingent led by a woman officer, he added. A special highlight of the event will be a demonstration by two Indian breed BSF dogs - Riya, a Mudhol hound, and Lily, a Rampur hound. These dogs have been trained for high-risk operations, such as descending from a helicopter with a commando and river rafting.