!! Continuations from Page 1!! 'Gupkar Gang' wants...

in December 1999, and who brought the ISI inside the Pathankot airbase after the terror attack in 2016.

Former Jammu and Kashmir chief ministers Omar Abdullah and Mehbooba also ssued strongly worded tweets alleging that the home minister's "frustration" stems from the political amalgam deciding to contest the forthcoming local body elections and not giving the BJP and its allies a free run.

"We are not a gang Amit Shah Ji, we are a legitimate political alliance having fought and continuing to fight elections, much to your disappointment," Abdullah, who is also vice president of the National Conference, said on Twitter.

In a veiled dig at the newly formed April Party, he said, "I can understand the frustration behind this attack by the Hon'ble Home Minister. He had been briefed that the People's Alliance was preparing to boycott elections. This would have allowed the BJP and newly formed King's party a free run in JK. We didn't oblige them."

Only leaders in Jammu and Kashmir can be detained and called anti-national for participating in elections and supporting the democratic process, Abdullah said. "The truth is all those who oppose the ideology of the BJP are labelled 'corrupt and anti-

Mehbooba said the "BJP's stale tactic of dividing India by projecting themselves as saviours and political opponents as internal and imagined enemies is far too predictable now

"Love jihad, tukde tukde and now Gupkar Gang dominates the political discourse instead of (issues) like rising unemployment and inflation," she said.

The PDP chief also wondered whether fighting elections in an alliance is also antinational now. "BJP can stitch as many alliances in its hunger for power but some-

how we are undermining national interest by putting up a united front," she said. "...Irony died a million deaths since it's BJP itself that violates the constitution day in and day out," she tweeted.

Adding to the chorus of outrage PAGD leaders, CPM leader MY Tarigami said participating in democratic process "maybe a job of 'gangs' for the BJP but is sacred for

fight for the restoration of constitutional rights irrespective of what the authoritarian regime calls us," he tweeted. The JK Pradesh Congress said the party was neither a part of the PAGD nor had

"The consensus and unity of political parties in JK has unnerved the BJP. We will

t participated in any of its meetings or deliberations. "Congress Party has entered seat sharing at certain places that too at local district level," the statement said, adding that it strongly condemns the "baseless allegations'

and urges Shah to refrain from "dirty politics" On August 4, 2019, a day before the central government announced the abrogation of Article 370, political parties in Kashmir, except the BJP, met at the residence of National Conference president Farooq Abdullah at Gupkar Road in Srinagar and

adopted a declaration to defend Article 370. Besides the PDP and the NC, the alliance also comprises the CPI-M, People's Conference, Awami National Conference, the CPI and the People's Movement, which was formed by IAS officer Shah Faesal, who has since resigned from the party.

More than a year later, in October, the political leaders who had been detained for several months met again and resolved to fight legally and democratically for restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's special status.

In November, the seven-party amalgam announced they would contest the local body elections together. The Congress also expressed its willingness for seat sharing

National Conference's Farooq Abdullah is PAGD president and Mehbooba its vice president. Veteran CPI-M leader M Y Tarigami is the convenor while People's Conference leader Sajjad Gani Lone is spokesperson.

Not part of...

in Jammu and Kashmir. "The Congress party is not part of the 'Gupkar Alliance or the 'People's Association for Gupkar Declaration'," he said in a statement.

Surjewala attacked Home Minister Amit Shah and accused him and other ministers of the Modi government of making "mischievous" statements and trying to push a "fake narrative" by making baseless assertions on Jammu and Kashmir.

His reaction came after the BJP targeted the Congress, saying it should make clear if it agrees with the "anti-national" views of the NC and the PDP.

Shah on Tuesday said the People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD) is an 'unholy global alliance" that along with the Congress wants to return to the era of terror and turmoil.

The PAGD which has several Jammu and Kashmir parties as its constituents is pressing for restoration of J-K's special status and statehood.

In the statement, Surjewala said, "The Congress favors democratic elections in Jammu and Kashmir and for this purpose the Congress Party is contesting the District Development Council (DDC) polls to expose the anti-people face of the BJP

Local Congress leaders in J-K have maintained that they are not part of the Gupkar Alliance and are only going for a seat-sharing arrangement for the DDC

Surjewala also said that the Congress leadership has written the tradition of sacrifice for the country with its blood and it does not need lessons on nationalism or sacrifice from the BJP.

"The Congress party will never accept that the identity, integrity or tricolor of the nation will be put to any harm. Nor has the Congress accepted nor will it accept any foreign interference in the internal affairs of India including Jammu and Kashmir. The glorious history of India for 70 years is a witness to this resolve of the Congress,

Surjewala said the Congress was committed to India's identity, integrity and sovereignty, and that of the tricolour.

"Maybe Amit Shah and the Modi government need a new lesson on nationalism because their parental organisation, RSS, did not hoist the tricolour for 52 years after independence at its headquarters," he alleged.

Surjewala said the BJP is criticising the Mehbooba Mufti-led PDP without realising that they had shared power with them in Jammu and Kashmir

The Congress leader also asked Shah who was responsible for the release of Jaishe-Mohammed founder Masood Azhar, released along with two others in exchange for the passengers of hijacked Indian Airlines plane IC-814 in Kandahar in December

"The BJP is trying to spread lies and create illusions and this has become the face and character of the Modi government," Surjewala alleged. Congress leader Ajay Maken also asked why the BJP was attacking the PDP after

it shared power with it in Jammu and Kashmir. He said the PDP was good for the BJP as long as it allied with it and became its

enemy and "anti-national" the moment they broke the alliance.

What moral authority does the BJP have to ask the Congress when they themselves have formed a government with the PDP in Jammu and Kashmir," Maken said. Surjewala said instead of resorting to fake rhetoric, the BJP government should chase out China from Indian land and take responsibility of giving a befitting reply

BRICS adopts new... countries have a combined GDP of USD 16.6 trillion.

In a declaration, the bloc touched upon a variety of pressing global issues including dealing with the threat of terrorism.

"We reiterate our strong condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations whenever, wherever and by whomsoever committed, and that it should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group," it said.

It also stressed the "need for a comprehensive and balanced approach of the whole international community to effectively curb the terrorist activities, which pose a serious threat, including in the present-day pandemic environment."

Underlining the need for reform of the UNSC as well as key global bodies like the World Trade Organisation, the International Monetary Fund and the World Health Organisation, Modi said, "both credibility and effectiveness of institutions of global governance are being questioned. The main reason for this is that these organisations did not change over time and they are still operating based on the 75-year-old think-

"India believes reforms are very mandatory in the UN Security Council. We expect the support of our BRICS partners on this subject," he said, and asserted that multilateralism is undergoing a crisis.

Talking about the COVID-19 crisis and its impact, Modi said the BRICS economies will play an important role in the post-pandemic global recovery and that India's vaccine production and delivery capabilities will work in the interest of humanity.

"We have more than 42 percent of the world's population, and our countries are among the main engines of the global economy. There is a lot of scope for increasing mutual trade between BRICS countries," the Prime Minister said.

"Our mutual institutions and systems - such as BRICS Inter-Bank Cooperation Mechanism, New Development Bank, Contingent Reserve Arrangement and Customs Cooperation - can also make our contribution effective in global recovery,"

Private company cheats...

total of Rs 34,30,000 in the account of the company, according to the officials. A case has been registered against the accused under relevant sections of law and an investigation initiated, the officials said.

ACB presents supplementary...
Hilal Ahmad Mir Chairman and Abdul Hamid Hajam Secretary of aforesaid nonexistent Co-operative Society. Further investigation of the case is under progress.

Investigation further revealed that Mujib-Ur-Rehman Ghassi, the then Registrar Co-operative Societies and Ashiq Hussain, Dy Registrar had issued a letter to J&K State Co-operative Bank under the signature of the Registrar despite knowing that such a society did not exist after checking all the relevant office records. On the receipt of said letter, a loan to the tune of Rs. 223 erore was sanctioned in favour of the aforesaid non-existent Co-operative Society by J&K State Co-operative Bank headed by accused Mohd Shafi Dar, Chairman of the Bank, he added

Investigation has further established that the agenda items of non-existent society were also created on January 23, 2019 before sanction and disbursement of loan to the tune of Rs. 223 Crores. The Bye Laws of the said Society were created on November 21, 2019 fictitiously by Mohd Shafi Dar, Ex Chairman of J&K State Cooperative Bank, he said, adding that next date of hearing has been fixed on November 23, 2020.

572 fresh COVID...

operated by government, 5,585 in isolation and 41,623 in home surveillance. Besides, 6,44,472 persons have completed their surveillance period. Providing district-wise breakup, the Bulletin said that Srinagar has 21,685 positive

cases (including 147 cases reported today) with 1,549 Active Positive, 19,737 recovered (including 121 cases recovered today), 399 deaths; Baramulla has 7,003 positive cases (including 35 cases reported today) with 628 Active Positive, 6,217 recovered (including 77 cases recovered today), 158 deaths; Pulwama reported 4,883 positive cases (including 17 case reported today) with 131 active positive cases, 4,667 recovered (including 12 cases recovered today), 85 deaths; Kulgam has 2,556 positive cases (including 04 case reported today) with 73 Active Positive, 2,435 recoveries (including 09 cases recovered today), 48 deaths; Shopian has 2,283 positive cases (including 1 case reported today) with 72 Active Positive, 2,175 recovered (including 09 cases recovered today) and 36 deaths; Anantnag district has 4,441 positive cases (including 06 cases reported today) with 205 Active Positive, 4,160 recovered (including 05 cases recovered today), 76 deaths; Budgam has 6,502 positive cases including 25 cases reported today) with 262 Active Positive and 6,143 re (including 53 cases recovered today), 97 deaths; Kupwara has 4,927 positive cases (including 106 cases reported today) with 520 Active Positive, 4,329 recovered (including 24 cases recovered today), 78 deaths; Bandipora has 4,256 positive cases (including 10 cases reported today) with 164 Active Positive, 4,043 recovered (including 23 cases recovered today), 49 deaths and Ganderbal has 3,984 positive

cases (including 30 cases reported today) with 321 active positive cases, 3,626 recov eries (including 19 cases recovered today) and 37 deaths.

Similarly, Jammu has 19,221 positive cases (including 95 cases reported today) with 597 active positive cases, 18,341 recoveries (including 92 cases recovered today), 283 deaths; Rajouri has 3,327 positive cases (including 06 cases reported today) with 91 active positive cases, 3,188 recovered (including 10 cases recovered today), 48 deaths; Ramban has 1,770 positive cases (including 01 cases reported today) with 115 active positive, 1637 recoveries (including 10 cases recovered today) and 18 deaths; Kathua has 2627 positive cases (including 12 cases reported today) with 76 Active positive, 2,517 recovered (including 14 cases recovered today), 34 deaths; Udhampur has 3,054 positive cases (including 28 cases reported today) with 239 active positive cases, 2,779 recovered (including 33 cases recovered today) and 36 deaths; Samba has 2,294 positive cases (including 10 cases reported today) with 104 Active Positive, 2164 recoveries (including 0 cases recovered today) and 26 deaths; Doda has 2831 positive cases (including 15 cases reported today) with 122 active positive cases, 2,659 recoveries (including 15 cases recovered today), 50 deaths; Poonch has 2,353 positive cases (including 03 cases reported today) with 85 active positive, 2,246 recoveries (including 04 cases recovered today), 22 deaths; Reasi has 1,382 positive cases with 93 active positive, 1281 recoveries and 08 deaths while Kishtwar has 2,202 positive cases (including 13 cases reported today) with 138 active positive cases and 2048 recoveries (including 38 cases recovered today) and 16

'King' parties held...

of English vocabulary at our command, he quipped.

To the Congress Party, Dr Jitendra said, we are ready to go to people in the ensuing District Development Council (DDC) elections in Jammu & Kashmir as well as the Assembly and Lok Sabha elections later with Article 370 as an election issue and let the Congress party also stand the test of the ballot by making its stand clear on Article 370 and 35-A.

As for the National Conference and PDP, Dr Jitendra Singh said, its leaders have still not explained to the people as to why they beycotted the Panchayat elections when they had taken the stand that they would not contest any election unless the constitutional changes were reversed and Statehood of Jammu & Kashmir restored. What has changed overnight, he asked, that they have now jumped into the fray in a bid to capture power through DDC elections, he asked.

The more the Gupkar Gang sings its swan song, said Dr Jitendra Singh, the better it would be for the country because the more they would thus be exposing themselves before the people of Jammu & Kashmir and India

Storage of Pfizer's...
developments. They have announced the preliminary results and have not got the regulatory approvals.'

The official expressed hope on the success of the five vaccines that are under differ ent phases of trial in the country. The doses of these vaccines will be available in sufficient numbers

Giving an update, he said the phase-3 trial of the Oxford vaccine of the Serum Institute is almost near completion, while the phase-3 clinical trial of the indigenously-developed vaccine candidate of the Bharat Biotech and the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has already started.

Another indigenously-developed vaccine candidate of the Zydus Cadila has completed the phase-2 clinical trial, Paul said.

Dr Reddy's Laboratories will soon start the combined phase 2 and 3 clinical trials of the Russian COVID-19 vaccine, Sputnik V, in India. Also, the Biological E Limited has started early phase 1 and 2 human trials of its COVID-19 vaccine candidate.

Pfizer Inc. and BioNTech SE last week said their vaccine candidate was found to be more than 90 per cent effective in preventing COVID-19.

Moderna on Monday said the independent National Institutes of Health-appointed Data Safety Monitoring Board (DSMB) for the Phase 3 study of mRNA-1273, its vaccine candidate against COVID-19, found it to have an efficacy of 94.5 per cent. Asked if the government is working on a draft scheme on COVID-19 vaccine distribution, Union Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan said one of the mandates of the National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for COVID-19 is to have a timebound scheme to ensure the fulfilment of the commitment that the prime minister made to the nation from the ramparts of the Red Fort on August 15, where he said the citizens will be inoculated as soon as the vaccine becomes available

"A document in this regard is in its final stages of preparation. We have shared it with the state governments and have taken their inputs. We are also in the process of finalising the database of the priority population groups, who will be administered the vaccine if and when it becomes available, and there also, we are in collaboration with the states and other central ministries," he said.

PAGD announces seat-sharing...

Mehbooba Mufti-led PDP will contest on eight of the 16 seats in the third phase, and the NC on seven.

The Awami National Conference (ANC) will contest on one seat.

Details of seats to be contested by the alliance partners were released by PAGD spokesperson and Jammu and Kashmir Peoples Conference (JKPC) chairman Sajad

The list was approved by PAGD chairman and National Conference president Farooq Abdullah, he said.

The last day for filing nominations for the third phase of the polls is Wednesday.

Ladakh records 97...

reported from Leh district, they said.

Of the total 93 deaths recorded so far in the union territory, 53 are from Leh and 40 from Kargil district, according to the officials.

The number of active COVID-19 cases in Ladakh stands at 944. Of these, 833 are in Leh and 111 in Kargil, the officials said.

Seventy-one people were also discharged. With this, the number of those who have recovered has gone up to 6,456, the officials said.

Gang of thieves busted; 20 stolen bikes recovered, 9 held

BISHNAH: In a major success, Jammu Police in Bishnah recovered 20 stolen bikes and arrested 9 thieves involved in stealing motorbikes in Jammu district.

Giving details, SP Hqrs Jammu Aadil Hamid said that gang of thieves was



Kumar, son of Madan Lal, resident of Deoli was asked to show registration certificate of motorcycle. Ashwani produced the RC and an affidavit of sale/purchase for aforesaid vehicle. After confirmation and cross checking, the paper produced by Ashwani Kumar turned out to be fake.

Subsequently a case vide FIR no. 176/2020 under Sections 379, 420, 467, 468 & 120-B IPC was registered at Police Station Bishnah.

During course of investigation, a team of police was constituted which raided different places in search of other accused as well as stolen vehicles. A special team led by SHO Bishnah Tahir Yousuf under supervision of SDPO R S Pura Shabir Khan swung into action, and after collaborating technical and human intelligence, succeeded in rounding up two more accused namely Deepak Kumar, son of Yashpaul, resident of Tanada and Vimal Kumar, son of Tara Chand, resident of Chak Waizru.

On further investigation, the team arrested six more persons namely Joginder Kumar, son of Mulkh Raj, resident of Deoli, Bishnah; Arjun Dass, son of Thoru Ram, resident of Marhoal Tehsil Arnia; Shashi Kumar, son of Jagan Nath, resident of Jinder Khurd, Bishnah; Rakesh Kumar, son of Mulkh Raj, resident of Gharana Tehsil Chakru; Sikander Kumar, son of Chajju Ram, resident of Kool, Arnia and Pawan Kumar, son of Manna Ram, resident of Chowala Kothey, R S Pura.

On their disclosures, 20 two wheelers were recovered. Police is also looking for the affidavit-maker, who was also hand in glove with the gang.

11 bovines rescued; 2 smugglers arrested **■ STATE TIMES NEWS**

SAMBA: Police on Tuesday foiled attempt to smuggle bovines by rescuing 11 bovines and arresting two smugglers at Mansar Morh.

Details revealed that, a team of Samba Police headed by Dy SP DAR Samba Chabbil Singh during surprise checking, intercepted a truck (UP12AT-7042) at NH Mansar Morh, which was coming from Kathua side and moving towards Jammu. During checking, 11 bovines were found laden inside the vehicle without any permission. The accused driver identified as Zulfar, son of Irfan, resident of Tand Badli, Rampur, Uttar Pardesh along with associate Naushad, son of Mohd Sadiq, resident of Nagaina, Bijnor, Uttar Pardesh have been arrested on spot and a case vide FIR No. 310/2020 under Sections 188 IPC & 11 of PC Act was registered against them at Police Station Samba.

Thieves burgled house in broad daylight ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Thieves on Tuesday burgled a house in broad daylight at Talab Tillo area.

As per details, Bhupinder Singh, resident of Talab Tillo lodged a complaint with police that thieves targeted his house when the family was out for some work. He further disclosed that thieves have decamped with over Rs 1 lakh cash and jewellery. Police has registered a case and started investigation.

Woman found hanging **■ STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: A woman was found hanging in her house at Gharota area on Tuesday.

As per details, Afasana, wife of Jitesh, resident of Kerala, presently staying at Malpur Akhnoor, was found hanging in her room. She was shifted to hospital where doctors declared her as brought dead. Police is further investigating the matter. He husband is working with Army

Man assaulted over parking issue ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

R S PURA: A man was assaulted by his neighbourer over parking issue at village Bada Marh area of R S Pura.

As per details, Devender Sharma, son of Bhrahm Dutt, resident of Bada Marh had a brawl with Atish of same area over car-parking issue after which Atish attacked Devender with sharp-edged weapon, due to which Devender got injured and was rushed to hospital. Police was also informed which arrested the accused.

Drug peddler nabbed with heroin ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: Anti-Drug team on Tuesday arrested a drug peddler and recovered 10 gm heroin from his possession.

As per details, a team of Anti Drug Unit Kathua along with Kathua police laid a special Naka and apprehended a person namely Romi Kumar alias Kugga, son of Ashok Kumar, resident of Chak Drab Khan along with his bike. During frisking, 10 gm of heroin like substance (Chitta) and electronic weighing machine was recovered from his possession. He was arrested and a case vide FIR No 397/2020 under Sections 8, 21, 211 of NDPS Act was registered against him at Police Station Kathua.

Youth dies under mysterious circumstances **■ STATE TIMES NEWS**

SRINAGAR: A youth died under mysterious circumstances at Sopore area on Tuesday.

As per details, Javed Ahmed, resident of Badam bagh, Sopore was found unconscious in his room and shifted to hospital, where doctors declared him as brought dead. Police has registered a case and started investigation.

Army defuses live shells recovered from house

SRINAGAR: Army defused two live shells in Kamalkote sector of border town Uri in Baramulla district, which landed from other side of Line of Control (LOC) in recent border shelling

The shells were lying in lavatory of one namely Sageer Ahmad of Kamalkote sector of Uri. Details revealed that two mortar shells were found lying

unexploded in a house in Uri after which Army's Bomb Disposal Squad (BDS) was called, which rushed to the spot

Govt employee dies after hand gets stuck in machine ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

DODA: A Government employee died after his hand got stuck in a machine in Doda area on Tuesday.

As per details, Abdul Lateif, son of Ghulam Mir, resident of Trangul, Assar area, was posted with PWD. He was repairing a motor, when his hand got stuck in it, due to which he died on spot. Police has registered a case and started investigation.

Two suspected JeM terrorists held

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Delhi Police's Special Cell has arrested two suspected Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) terrorists from Southeast Delhi's Sarai Kale Khan area who wanted to cross border to Pakistan, officials said on Tuesday.

Abdul Latif Mir (22), a resident of Doru village in Baramulla district, and Mohd Ashraf Khatana (20), a resident of Hat Mulla village in Kupwara district, were nabbed on Monday night, they said. Ashraf was studying at a Madarssa in Sopore where he came in contact with Abdul, a police officer said. He claimed that the duo is 'highly radicalised' and has planned to cross the border to Pakistan for training.

According to police, the two had tried to cross border several times from Kupwara and Keran sector of Jammu and Kashmir along with a few others but always failed due to tight

vigil at Line of Control (LoC). Deputy Commissioner of Police (Special Cell) Sanjeev Kumar Yadav said they got a tip- off that a group of newly recruited terrorists of Jaish-e-Mohammed would be coming to Delhi for their onward journey to Uttar Pradesh, where they were seeking basic terror training. "On basis of information received, manual surveillance was mounted and a trap was laid near Millennium Park, Sarai Kale Khan. The two suspected terrorists, who are residents of Jammu and Kashmir, were apprehended at around 10.15 PM," he said.

Two killed, four injured in mishap ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

AKHNOOR: Two persons were killed while four others go injured in a car accident in

Akhnoor area on Tuesday. As per details, an Alto car (JK02AE/6774), which was on its way from Mendhar to Jammu, rolled down 140-150 ft from road near Tungi Morh, as the driver lost control over



the vehicle. In mishap, two women died on the spot who were identified as Sarwar Bi, wife of Mohd Hussain, resident of Banola Mendhar and Zumart Bi, wife of Mohd Naseer, resident of Kas Blari Mendhar.

All four injured were shifted to SDH Akhnoor, who were identified as Mukhtar Ahmed (driver), son of Mohd Hussain resident of Banola; Parveen Akther, wife of Mohd Azad, resi dent of Banola; Ansh Mukhtar, son of Mukhtar Ahmed, resident of Banola and Alesha Naseer, daughter of Mohd Naseer resident of Kas Blari Mendhar.