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J&K undergoing rapid...

added. The Lt Governor also highlighted the key initiatives of the UT Administration to provide vast opportunities to women entrepreneurs and artisans to showcase their skills and contribute to the local economy.

At India International Trade Fair, the Lt Governor visited the J&K Pavilion and interacted with the exhibitors, entrepreneurs and artisans from Jammu Kashmir.

He said the stalls put up at the Trade fair displaying products from J&K are a must-visit for all.

J&K is part of focus states/UTs this year and more than 122 exhibitors from the Union Territory are offering unique handicraft, handloom and agro-based products. Visitors and buyers can experience creativity of our craftspeople, weavers, and a wide canvas of agricultural products, the Lt Governor added.

A grand cultural programme was also organized to mark the occasion.

Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary; Vikramjit Singh, Commissioner Secretary, Industries & Commerce Department; Khalid Jahangir, Managing Director JKTPQ; officers of J&K Government and India Trade Promotion Organization; members of business and trade fraternity were present.

Court convicts man...

Mushtaq Ahmed Pandith was held guilty under Section 302 of RPC.

All crimes were tried under the Ranbir Penal Code, or RPC, equivalent of the Indian Penal Code, in Jammu and Kashmir before the reorganisation of the erst-while state into two Union Territories in 2019.

According to the case details, Sameera Jan was found dead in her husband's house on May 1, 2011, with a knife stabbed into her back. Her husband absconded soon after the crime. He was found to have fled to Delhi after the crime and then moved to Jammu where he was arrested on May 13, 2011. The court will start hearing the arguments on sentencing of the convict on November 23.

Recruiting for terrorist...

know about it through their parents, friends and teachers, and also masjid committees, the DGP said.

"It is not the job of police alone. If there is a community effort, lives can be saved. Our effort will be to cut off the handlers sitting on the other side...They use money and incite youngsters to join the (terrorist) ranks. There is a need for a planned and sustained battle against it, and we will do it," Swain said.

Expressing concern over narcotics smuggling taking place from across the Line of Control, the DGP said the might of law enforcement agencies will be combined to target the "wholesale" dealers. "We will go after the big fish," he said.

"We will assimilate the power of all agencies such as ED, IT, NIA, SIA and district police against these wholesale dealers. We don't want to create a situation where prosperity of these people lures others. We want to finish this model. They will lose their house and their lands. We are committed to this," Swain said.

The DGP said anyone found facilitating the drug trade will be dealt with sternly.

"Earlier it was charas, which was available locally. It was not as harmful as hero-in and brown sugar that is coming from across (the border). It is a poison which is sold and the money earned from it is used to kill people. If anyone is found involved in it, be it from the police establishment or any section of society, we will act very strictly," he said.

On the meeting with the public, the DGP said it is a new effort towards addressing the grievances of people.

"I was not sure how many people will come and what all issues they will bring. It is an experiment for me also. It has a message value, it's a connection with the people. There will be substantive results as I will be aware of what kind of things affect the police administration," he said.

"There are some issues which can be resolved instantly while some need further examination. We will try to refine it with a follow-up system where the complainant can track their grievances. We will tell the complainants about what we could do or could not do about their issues," Swain added.

Swain said he may not have solutions to all problems but issues related to the police administration will be resolved.

HC seeks details...

Advocate S.S. Ahmed further submitted that the total names mentioned in the status report are 38 but with regard to Sunil Sharma Former Minister, it is mentioned that the said occupant has not filed his reply to the notice issued by the Estates Department to ascertain whether he possesses any alternate residential accommodation at Jammu or Srinagar. Similarly no replies came to be filed by Bashir Ahmed Dar Ex-MLA and Mohd Amin Bhat Ex-MLA meaning thereby only 35 occupants responded to the communications issued by the Estates Department to ascertain as to whether they possess any alternative accommodation at Jammu/Srinagar.

In the status report with regard to Former C.M. Ghulam Nabi Azad, it is submitted that response was filed by him on September, 22, 2023 stating therein that he does not possess any house at Jammu whereas in the list filed by Advocate S.S. Ahmed he has categorically mentioned that Former C.M. has a residential house at Hyderpora Bye-Pass, Srinagar in Survey No.749/1384/727 total area 21600 sqft and built up area 3600 sqft. With regard to Muzzaffar Hussain Beigh Ex-MP/Ex-Deputy C.M. the status report says that the Former Deputy C.M. has stated that he does not possess any house at Jammu whereas in the list filed by Advocate Ahmed it is submitted that the Former Deputy C.M. has a three storied residential house at Brane Nishat, Srinagar.

With regard to Former Speaker/Former Deputy Chief Minister Kavinder Gupta, the status report says that the Former Dy CM has admitted that he has a ancestral house at Janipur, Jammu which has been occupied by other family members i.e.

brothers. With regard to Ravinder Raina, State President BJP, the said Ex-Legislator in his response has denied that he does not possess any house at Jammu, whereas in the list filed by Advocate S.S. Ahmed it is submitted that reportedly Ravinder Raina has constructed a new house at Simbal Camp, Jammu. With regard to Former Minister G.M. Saroori, his response says that he does not possess any house at Jammu, whereas in the list filed by Advocate S.S. Ahmed it is clearly mentioned that G.M. Saroori has a residential house at Prem Nagar, Jammu in Khasra No.330 min and at Nowgam, Srinagar a residential house is under construction.

The Legislators Neelam Langeh, Dalip Singh Parihar, Sheikh Ishfaq Jabbar, Sat Sharma (Former Minister), R.S. Pathania, Family of Late Ex-MLA Rajesh Gupta, Moulvi Imran Raza Ansari, Ravinder Sharma (Ex-MLC), Vibodh Gupta (Ex-MLC), Pardeep Sharma (Ex-MLC), Tariq Ahmed Keen (Political Person), Family of Wazira Begum (Political Person), Shilpi Verma (Political Person), Shafiq Mir (Chairman, Panchayat Conference) in their response to the Estates Department have submitted that they do not possess any house at Jammu.

M.Y. Tarigami (Ex-MLA CPIM), Sajad Gani Lone (Ex-Minister), Surinder Ambardar (Ex-MLC), Hakeem Mohammad Yasin (Ex-MLA), Abdul Majid Padder (Ex-MLA JKPC), M.S. Pandithpuri (Ex-MLA PDP), Zaffar Iqbal Manhas (Ex-MLC JKAP), Abdul Gani Vakil (Ex-MLC JKAP), Haji Ab. Rashid (Ex-MLA INC), Ab. Rahim Rather (Ex-MLA JKAP), Shoaib Nabi Lone (Ex-MLA JKAP), Mohammad Abbas (Ex-MLA JKAP), Raja Manzoor (Ex-MLA JKAP), Nizam-u-Din Bhat (Ex-Vice Chairperson JKPC), Zahid Hussan Jan (District President Congress), S.S. Channi (Political Person Congress) all these Ex-Legislators/Politicians in their response to the Estates Department stated that they do not possess any house at Srinagar whereas in the list furnished by Advocate S.S. Ahmed it is clearly stated that Sajad Gani Lone has a residential building in joint ownership at 1, Rawalpura Colony, Srinagar in Survey No.2947/2118.

Advocate S.S. Ahmed submitted that the status report is silent about 13 occupants viz. Sunil Sharma (Ex-Minister), Bashir Ahmed Dar, Mohammad Amin Bhat, Shamsheer Singh Manhas (Ex-M.P.), Chander Mohan Gupta (Ex-Mayor JMC), Bali Bhagat (Ex-Health Minister), Sofi Yousaf (Ex-MLC), Fayaz Ahmed Mir (Ex-M.P), Sonaullah Lone (Political Person), Muzaffar Shah (General Secretary, Awami National Conference), Vikram Randhawa (Ex-MLC), Yasar Reshi (Ex-MLC) and Reyaz Ahmed Mir (Political Person).

Advocate S.S. Ahmed further submitted that Estates Department is deliberately delaying the matter and for this reason incomplete information was submitted to the Court when categoric directions had been issued by the Division Bench vide its order dated September, 13, 2023 whereby the Division Bench had directed both Advocate S.S. Ahmed and Senior AAG S.S. Nanda to furnish the list of 48 occupants with regard to their alternate accommodation/house either in Jammu or in Kashmir.

After considering the submissions of Advocate S.S. Ahmed appearing for the petitioner, the Division Bench headed by Chief Justice N. Kotiswar Singh observed, "S.S. Ahmed, Counsel for the petitioner submits that the report submitted by Nanda, Counsel representing the respondents, pertains to thirty five (35) number of persons only, whereas the actual occupants are forty eight (48), thus in respect of thirteen (13) persons the details are missing. Be that as it may, Nanda, may furnish the additional information about the remaining persons and thereafter the matter be listed on December, 15, 2023."

LG reviews winter...

on Saturday. Chairing a high-level meeting virtually on Friday, the LG inquired if adequate stocking of essential commodities has been done to ensure that it lasts till the Srinagar-Leh and Manali-Leh national highways are re-opened.

The heads of various government departments and representatives of oil companies briefed the meeting about the stocking of essential commodities for the winter months, the spokesperson said.

He said they also briefed the LG about the supply of essential commodities to the nearest sub-divisions and blocks, particularly in remote areas such as Zanskar and Changthang, to make these essential commodities available to the local residents after the snowfall.

The spokesperson said Mishra inquired about the installation of mobile towers in uncovered areas of Ladakh and the appointment of liaison officers to take care of the situation in case passengers from Ladakh are stranded in winter.

He also inquired about the progress of distributing pashmina kid shelters to beneficiaries from Changthang, along with the distribution of feed and milk replacers, the spokesperson said.

He said Mishra instructed his advisor to monitor and review the progress of stocking of essential commodities on a weekly basis.

He also instructed that there should not be any pilferage of food supplies or damage of essential food supplies by snow and rodents, and asked the head of the department concerned to sensitise the employees to avoid such damage, the spokesperson said.

Instructing that telecommunication networks and drinking water taps should remain functional in the winter months, the LG highlighted the need to take counter-measures to stop freezing of taps in the winter months for the ease and convenience of the public, especially those living in remote areas, the spokesperson said.

75 pc of...

The meeting decided to establish small traffic booths and install CCTV cameras and cat's eye equipment along the roads, the officials said, adding the direction to dismantle the encroachment along the highway and other roads were also passed.

The officials said strict directions were passed to establish 'nakas' (checkpoints) in sensitive areas to stop over-speeding and overcrowding.

The DC also directed the Assistant Regional Transport Officer (ARTO) to enforce the compulsory installation of CCTV cameras in every passenger vehicle, particularly in minibuses and buses.

Meanwhile, Inspector General of Police, Jammu zone, Anand Jain visited

Wednesday's accident site at Assar.

Money laundering case...

December 1. The court directed the superintendent of the district jail in Amphalla to provide basic amenities to the accused in line with the jail manual.

The former minister was arrested from a house here on November 7 within hours of the special judge dismissing his anticipatory bail application.

He is under investigation by the ED in connection with the case against an educational trust run by his wife and former legislator Kanta Andotra.

In a related development, the arguments on the main bail application in the court of principal sessions judge, Jammu remained inconclusive and will resume on Monday.

Special public prosecutor Ashwani Khajuria filed a detailed objection in the court and sought a direction to the petitioner to present the bail application before the special judge in the interest of justice and fair procedure of law.

The money laundering case stems from an October 2021 charge sheet filed by the CBI in this case which alleged criminal connivance in the issuance of land between January 4 and January 7, 2011, without mentioning details in respect of violation of the ceiling limit of 100 standard kanals imposed under Section 14 of the Jammu and Kashmir Agrarian Reforms Act, 1976, thereby giving undue pecuniary advantage to trust.

Based on this, the trust acquired multiple pieces of land of about 329 kanals vide three gift deeds executed on January 5 and January 7, 2011, the CBI charge sheet claimed.

In 2015, Lal Singh was inducted into the Mufti Mohammad Sayeed-led PDP-BJP government. He quit the BJP in 2019 amid a controversy over the Kathua rape and murder case.

Singh was elected as MP from Udhampur Lok Sabha seat in 2009 and 2004 on Congress ticket. He was elected to the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly in the 1996 and 2002 polls and was then appointed minister for health and medical education in the Sayeed-led Congress-PDP government.

WORLD CUP FINAL...

shifted long back and everyone needed to take a bow and accept Indian domination.

Circa 2023, Indian cricket team will not just be looking to win a third ODI global title but also look at saving the '50-over format' which has been battling identity crisis for at least five years now.

An Indian victory will give the format the injection it needs.

Australia is the only team to have achieved title triumph with 11 wins in a row - in 2003 and 2007 -- and Rohit indeed has a date with history since if the team gets the win on Sunday, it will only be the second side ever side to do so.

A near flawless effort

The skipper (550 runs @124 SR) has led from the front, literally walking the talk, with his aggressive in-your-face batting that has set the platform for Virat Kohli (711 @90 plus SR) to be the 'run machine' that everyone is so used to seeing.

Shubman Gill has battled dengue and corresponding fatigue to show his class time and again. Shreyas Iyer has fought his short ball demons to score a semi-final hundred. He has conquered his head and thus was able to win hearts.

But the man who has made a huge difference to India's campaign is Mohammed Shami. The 'Amroha Express' has made this team enjoy an aura of invincibility with his 23-wicket show after initial exclusion from the playing XI.

Shami is once again proving that old adage correct that batters win you games but bowlers can win you tournaments. Shami has put this team right there.

There is KL Rahul's composure, Ravindra Jadeja's invaluable all-round game, Suryakumar Yadav's x-factor and Kuldeep Yadav's innate ability to create self-doubts in the minds of the batters. And there is Jasprit Bumrah, who is toe-crusher on call' and can pluck a David Warner or Steve Smith out for fun.

The pitch, made of black soil, will be a slow turner but expecting Indian team to go with a third spinner in Ashwin looks like utmost luxury as of now.

Not ugly Aussies but lethal as always

Post Sandpaper Gate, Australians team has undergone a tectonic cultural shift but five-time World champions know the art of winning on big days. Australia is possibly the only team that can actually put India under immense pressure.

"They've certainly played really well this World Cup. I think we certainly didn't - I don't think we scored par in that first game but we're one catch away from potentially being in front of that game," Cummins referred to the dropped catch of Virat Kohli which became the turning point during the league game between two teams, which was also their opening match.

Cummins knows that 130,000 one-sided spectators would be rooting for India but he would harp on the fact that his team won an ODI series in India, earlier this year.

"We won an ODI series here early on in the year. There's lots of moments we can draw on where we've had success against, you know, a really good Indian side."

So who will win tomorrow? Ruthless Indians or nice Australians. It remains a multi-billion dollar question.

Squads:

India: Rohit Sharma (captain), Shubman Gill, Virat Kohli, Shreyas Iyer, KL Rahul (vc and wk), Suryakumar Yadav, Ravindra Jadeja, Kuldeep Yadav, Mohammed Shami, Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Siraj, Ravichandran Ashwin, Shardul Thakur, Ishan Kishan and Prasidhi Krishna.

Australia: Pat Cummins, David Warner, Travis Head, Mitchell Marsh, Steve Smith, Marnus Labuschagne, Glenn Maxwell, Marcus Stoinis, Mitchell Starc, Adam Zampa, Josh Hazlewood, Cameron Green, Josh Inglis (wk), Alex Carey (wk), Sean Abbott.

Match Starts 2pm.

ITBP jawan's martyrdom in Naxal attack: Hundreds gather in Samba village to console family

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: Hundreds of villagers assembled at the house of an ITBP jawan who lost his life in a Naxal attack in Chhattisgarh in a border village in Samba district as the family waited for his mortal remains to arrive on Saturday.

According to officials, the body of the slain jawan is reaching his home later in the day and the cremation is likely to take place on Sunday.



Martyr Head Constable Joginder Kumar

Head Constable Joginder Kumar was killed in a blast in Gariahband district on Friday after the conclusion of the second phase of assembly elections in Chhattisgarh when a polling team being escorted by security personnel was returning after conducting voting.

The news of Kumar's death in an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) explosion near Bade Gobra village left his village in a state of mourning.

Kumar (45), a resident of Abtal Katalan village in Ramgarh sector of Samba, belongs to a family of security personnel with his father and elder brother retiring from the Army, while his two other younger siblings are serving in the ITBP (Indo-Tibetan Border Police) and Central Industrial Security Force (CISF).

Villagers gathered at Kumar's house, just two km from the International Border, to console the grieving family members, including his mother and wife, who were

election process. He gave up his life to uphold democracy, Singh said. "Naxalism is nothing new and has been going on for the last many decades. The government should find a permanent solution to the problem," Singh added. Everyone is proud of Kumar for the ultimate sacrifice, his elder brother Jagdish Raj said, but questioned the persistent problem of Naxalism.

"We are here (in the service) ready to sacrifice. But it hurts more when the one loses his life in internal security duty. They were picked up from elsewhere and deputed on election duty without any knowledge of the topography and challenges," the grieving brother said.

He said it was unfortunate that the government has so far failed to deal with the Naxal problem effectively.

"They are talking about the readiness to tackle the threat of enemy nations but we are unable to overrun the small camps run by Naxals and secure the forests," he said.

Remembering his brother's efforts, Jagdish Raj said Kumar had secured the first position during his selection and served the country for over two decades.

Director General of ITBP and all other ranks salute the braveheart who made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty, the force said in a post on X.

Pair of Royal Bengal tigers brought to Jambu zoo

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A pair of Royal Bengal tigers arrived in Jammu from Tamil Nadu on Friday and they have been put in quarantine for a week at the Jambu zoo here, officials said.

On November 8, a pair of Asiatic lions -- a male and a female -- had been brought to the zoo from Gujarat.

The tigers -- a male and a female -- were brought from the Arignar Anna Zoological Park, Wildlife Warden Amit Sharma said.

The tigers have been brought here in exchange of a pair of Himalayan Black

Bears. This was done as part of an animal exchange programme, officials said.

"Earlier, we have brought an Asiatic lions, which will be under quarantine for the next three days. Today, there was a new addition of the Royal Bengal tigers," Sharma said.

He said that as far as acclimatisation in concerned, their quarantine initially will be in room heater conditions.

The tigers are housed in a naturalistic and enriched enclosure having a space of more than 4,500 square metres, according to Central

Zoo Authority norms, the officials said.

Sharma said that they will be integrated in the zoo after their quarantine ends on November 25 or 26.

Not just infra work, but health, educational facilities too urban development parameters, says SC judge

Thane, Nov 18 (PTI) Supreme Court Judge Abhay Oka on Saturday said urban development must not be just about high-rises, massive flyovers and roads but also parameters like affordable medical facilities and educational institutions.

Justice Oka said the time

had come to decide about what constitutes the parameters of development of any city.

Speaking at the launch of a book titled 'Thane- The Eternal City' written by Joe Alavares, the SC judge said Thane city has a rich heritage and history.

He, however, said the lakes and industries in the city have vanished over time.

He appreciated the lecture series started by Thane municipal commissioner Abhijit Bangar and said it helps educate citizens on topics like customs and tradition besides history.

Addressing the gathering, Vinay Sahasrabudde, president of the Indian Council of Cultural Relations, said a day earmarked for Thane city should be celebrated in keeping with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of observing the foundation day of cities.

The coffee table booked launched at the event has in depth detail of the history of Thane, its trade and activities and heritage.

Others who attended the event were civic chief Bangar and Vijay Bedekar of the Institute of Oriental Study.

They are only pretending to join hands due to elections, Modi targeting Congress on Gehlot-Pilot tussle

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAIPUR: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday took a swipe at the Congress over the tussle between Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and his former deputy Sachin Pilot, saying the two are only pretending to join hands for elections and there has been no reconciliation despite a hundred handshakes.

"Delhi Darbar was been busy trying to loot the chair of its own CM and the CM has been busy in dealing with them. These people had left the people of Rajasthan to fend for themselves," Modi alleged while addressing a public meeting in Nagaur.

"Now when the time of elec-

tions has come, these people are reluctantly getting themselves photographed together... Big leaders from Delhi come here and make the chief minister and another leader who wants to become the chief minister shake hands in front of the camera.

"A century of handshakes in five years, but there is no reconciliation. These people are pretending to join hands but there is bitterness in their hearts," Modi said.

He alleged that the Congress in Rajasthan has given nothing but betrayal to the people for five years.

"On one side is the Congress with a licence to loot, while on the other side

it's Modi's guarantee card. Whom do you trust? If the whole country trusts Modi's guarantee card, there are some solid reasons for it," Modi said and added, "I am devoting every moment of day and night to fulfil the promises made to you".

The BJP and the Congress have been attacking each other during the high-pitch campaign for the November 25 Assembly polls in Rajasthan.

Modi said, "BJP had guaranteed that Article 370 would be removed from Jammu and Kashmir. Did Modi fulfil the guarantee or not?"

He also spoke about the

building of the Ram temple in Ayodhya, the ban on triple talaq and the reservation to women in Lok Sabha and assemblies. Modi alleged, "In Rajasthan, Congress has given you nothing but betrayal at every step in the last five years. Congress gave you a government of misrule, corruption and scams."

"Every mafia, every bully, every rioter in his area considered himself no less than the chief minister of the Congress government," he alleged.

Again targeting the Congress over the 'Red Diary', Modi said, "Congress' own leader has written the saga of Congress' misgover-

nance in full detail. That is why the chief minister's son is ready to give it in writing that his father's government will not come this time."

Salgotra Biradari congregation on Nov 24

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Annual congregation of Salgotra Biradari is being celebrated at Holy Shrine of Bua Dati Ji, Sohal Tanda (Akhnoor) on November 24, 2023.

The festivity will start at 6 AM onwards. All Salgotra Biradari has been requested to participate along with families and take blessings of Bua Dati Ji.