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Development of Srinagar...

housing challenges, the Chief Minister said his government is seriously planning for decongestion and vertical housing solutions in Srinagar.

"Land in Srinagar is shrinking, and we must now go vertical. Sustainable housing and city planning are top priorities for us," he stated.

Referring to the footbridge near Silk Factory Rajbagh, Omar Abdullah said that the bridge was originally conceived as a motorable structure during his earlier tenure, but was later downgraded to a pedestrian bridge "for reasons best known to the successive regimes."

"We now plan to make it motorable again - a two-storey bridge with one level for pedestrians and another for vehicular movement," he announced.

Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary said the project will significantly improve road safety and accessibility, benefiting both locals and visitors. Advisor Nasir Aslam Wani remarked that the initiative reflects the government's focus on infrastructure-driven growth, while MLA Ali Mohammad Sagar lauded the government's sustained developmental push in Srinagar city.

Once completed, the project will ease traffic congestion along the picturesque lake-front corridor, offering a smoother, safer and more scenic route for commuters and tourists, further enhancing Srinagar's standing as one of the world's most beautiful destinations.

Police nabs key...

abseonder to be arrested in the case, and the SIA is hopeful to uncover further links in the case with his arrest, the official added.

This year, the SIA has conducted numerous operations aiming to dismantle the narco-terrorism network, leading to arrests of some key operatives of terror organisations, he asserted.

LG calls for...

under the universal health coverage of Rs 5 Lakh. Our health infrastructure is better and we are also attracting private investments in health sector," the Lieutenant Governor said.

He also called for judicious utilisation of the existing resources to meet the needs of patients with compassion, sensitivity and dedication.

Sumil Sharma, Leader of Opposition (LoP) in J&K Legislative Assembly; Dr Darakhshan Andrabi, Chairperson, J&K Waqf Board; Dr Syed Abid Rasheed Shah, Secretary, Health and Medical Education; Dr. Amandeep Kaur, Founder Director, Amandeep Group of Hospitals; Nitin Nag, Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer, Ujala Cygnus Healthcare Services, members of Amandeep Group of Hospitals and Ujala Cygnus Healthcare Services, senior officials, doctors and staff of the hospital attended the inaugural ceremony.

DM Jammu issues...

particulars of tenants and workers as per the prescribed Declaration Form annexed with the order. The form, to be signed by both the owner and the tenant or worker, must be submitted to the concerned Police Station either in person or by registered post addressed to the Station House Officer.

Owners who have already let, sub-let or rented out their properties, or hired workers prior to the issuance of the order are also required to submit the details of such tenants or workers within seven days.

The order clarifies that all arrangements for hiring workers, as well as letting or sub-letting properties, including paying guest and tenancy arrangements are covered under its provisions. Every SHO in Jammu District has been directed to maintain a separate register for this purpose.

Any person found violating the order shall be punishable under Section 223 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023.

Since the notice cannot be served individually to all concerned, it has been issued ex-parte and promulgated for public information through the district website, leading newspapers and notice boards of all concerned offices, including those of the Commissioner JMC, SSP Jammu, Vice Chairman JDA, SDMs, Tehsildars, SDPOs and SHOs of Jammu District.

The order came into effect from October 31, 2025 and will remain in force for eight weeks unless withdrawn earlier. It may be extended or modified as required. Any contravention of the order shall invite legal consequences as contemplated under Section 223 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023.

‘Blackmailer Reporter’ of...

Shivam (mobile number 9149920248) recorded a fabricated video outside the hotel premises and uploaded it on his portal. He then demanded Rs 20,000 to delete the video from public view. The audio evidence submitted to police clearly captures the blackmailing reporter's voice demanding money in exchange for suppressing the post. Police officials confirmed receipt of the complaint and stated that an investigation is underway. "We are examining the recordings and other material evidence. Appropriate legal action will follow," a police officer said, adding we are also verifying Shubham's involvement in other criminal cases besides a serious criminal case already registered by Channi Himmat Police Station.

DM issues strictures...

the NDPS Rules, 1985 and as per the regulations under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940.

The order further directs all courier and parcel companies to strictly verify the identity and credentials of consignors and consignees using valid government-issued identity proof. They must maintain complete records of consignments, including sender and receiver details, parcel description, weight, booking receipt and date of booking. A record of the mode of payment received, whether in cash, digital, cheque, UPI or card form, along with transaction details wherever applicable, must also be maintained.

All employees engaged in courier or parcel operations, including delivery staff, booking clerks and franchise workers, must undergo local police verification, and an updated register of verified employees should be maintained. Furthermore, courier agencies are required to provide training and sensitisation to employees to help them identify suspicious consignments and report such cases immediately to the nearest police authority.

The order further states that any courier company or agency found violating these directions shall be held personally and legally responsible. Owners, directors, agents and employees involved may face prosecution under relevant sections of the NDPS Act, BNSS and other applicable laws. Penalties may include seizure of consignments, cancellation of licences, fines and criminal sanctions.

The Senior Superintendent of Police, Jammu, has been entrusted to ensure strict enforcement of the order, conduct inspections and initiate legal action against defaulters.

The order takes immediate effect and will remain in force for eight weeks unless withdrawn earlier. It may also be extended or modified as required. For public awareness, it has been published on the district website, leading newspapers and notice boards of all concerned offices. Any contravention of the order shall attract legal consequences as contemplated under Section 223 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023.

Over 11,000 penalised...

Division conducted continuous drives on trains and at stations to curb ticketless and irregular travel in October," Divisional Commercial Manager, Uchit Singhal, said.

"Under this campaign, the divisional checking staff and Chief Ticket Inspectors detected a total of 11,386 cases of ticketless and irregular travel, realising a fine of Rs 67 lakh from them," Singhal said.

Meanwhile, Divisional Railway Manager Jammu, Vivek Kumar, on Saturday conducted a thorough inspection of the Jammu-Katra rail section.

The primary objective of the inspection was to assess the operational status of the Jammu-Katra rail section ahead of the upcoming harsh weather conditions and evaluate critical infrastructure for future development projects, Singhal said.

During the inspection, the Divisional Railway Manager thoroughly examined the railway tracks, signalling systems, tunnels, bridges, and other infrastructure along the approximately 80-kilometre Jammu-Katra rail section.

Stations along this section, including Bajalta, Sangar, Manwal, and Shaheed Captain Tushar Mahajan, were thoroughly inspected, he said.

"Passenger safety is our top priority. This comprehensive inspection drive is part of our regular process to ensure the strength and reliability of our infrastructure," Singhal added.

9 people killed...

police (SP) KV Maheshwara Reddy said it is mandatory for temples (or religious institutions) to take permission from police when they are organising events, irrespective of the strength of the turnout.

"It is definitely mandatory under the Public Safety Act. They can ask for any number of people. It is not that only 200 or 2,000 people. Even if 200 people come, they can inform us and we will assess the situation, based on that we will provide the ban-

dobust," Reddy told PTL. Incidentally, the police provided security to other temples in the North Andhra district today, but the SP said the owner of this particular temple, Mukunda Panda, failed to inform them.

According to Reddy, Panda built the temple without the requisite permissions and opened it.

Meanwhile, the SP said cases are being registered under culpable homicide charges.

Earlier, Reddy said nine people died in the mishap.

"Nine (deaths). Nine only. (Condition of) one person is bit serious. He is not dead. Total nine people. One child is there, a 12-year-old child; the remaining (victims) are all female. And it is a private temple. It is not a government temple. It was constructed recently," said Reddy.

The police official said the incident was a result of railing collapse near the steps, which led to panic.

The public thought that something was falling and panicked. They fell from a height of about six feet. There was no stampede. Since the collapse was from a height of six feet, one person fell on another, and that led to the incident, he added.

"It is purely an accident and due to the owner's negligence. They haven't applied for police bandobust, there were no permissions also."

Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed grief over the incident and announced an ex-gratia of Rs 2 lakh each from PMNRF to the next of kin of those who lost their lives and Rs 2,000 to the injured.

"Pained by the stampede in Venkateswara Swamy Temple in Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh. My thoughts are with those who have lost their near and dear ones. I pray that the injured recover soon," he said in a post on X.

Union Home Minister Anit Shah also expressed shock over the incident.

Reacting to the incident, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu, in a post on X said, "The stampede at Kasibugga Venkateswara temple in Srikakulam district anguished me. It is very sad that devotees have died in this unfortunate incident. I convey my deepest sympathies to the families of the victims."

The CM also said that he directed officials to ensure better treatment for the injured persons. He instructed the authorities and local leaders to monitor the relief work at the stampede site.

30 films from...

evening of November 12 at the historic Tagore Hall, Srinagar.

"This year, TIFFFS received over 100 film entries from 20 countries, out of which 30 projects from 14 countries have been shortlisted by an eminent jury panel for screening. These include 20 short films, six feature films, and four documentaries," it said. TIFFFS has evolved into a symbol of Kashmir's artistic resurgence, drawing filmmakers and audiences from across the world, it said.

"This year's response has been phenomenal, and we are excited to showcase some truly outstanding cinema that bridges cultures and celebrates storytelling," the statement added.

Day not far...

erocodile tears in the name of social justice have committed injustice to you for vested interests," he said.

The Maoist ideology deprived tribal regions of basic facilities, the PM said.

"For years, tribal villages lacked roads, schools and hospitals. The existing ones were blown up with bombs. Doctors and teachers were killed. Those who ruled the country for decades abandoned you while they enjoyed life in their air-conditioned offices," Modi said.

Modi said he could not just stand by and watch his tribal brothers and sisters being destroyed by violence.

"I could not (bear to) see mothers crying for their children. In 2014, when you gave us the opportunity, we resolved to free India from Maoist terror. Today the results are before the nation," Modi said.

Eleven years ago, 125 districts across India were affected by Maoist terror; but today the number has declined to three, he said.

"I guarantee that the day is not far when every corner of Chhattisgarh and India will be completely free from Maoist terror," the prime minister said.

In the past few months, dozens of Maoists, including many carrying rewards of lakhs and crores of rupees on their heads, have surrendered across the country, Modi noted.

"In Kanker, more than 20 Naxals laid down arms recently. Earlier in October, over 200 Maoists surrendered in Bastar. They have now accepted the Indian Constitution and chosen the path of peace," he said.

Where once there was the fear of guns and bombs, the situation has changed, the PM said.

Electricity reached Chikapalli village of Bijapur for the first time in 70 years, while a school opened for the first time since Independence at Rekawayia village in Abujhmad region, he said.

Development work was on in full swing at Puvarti village, once known as a terror hub, and the tricolour flies proudly where the red flag (of the Naxals) once stood, the prime minister said.

"Despite facing the challenge of Naxalism for 25 years, Chhattisgarh kept moving forward. Now, with the end of Naxalism, our pace of development will accelerate," he asserted.

Addressing a gathering after inaugurating the Shanti Shikhar centre for spiritual learning and meditation of Brahma Kumaris in Chhattisgarh's Nava Raipur, Modi said his government's mantra is to ensure the country's development through development of the states.

"Whenever a crisis arises anywhere in the world today, whenever a disaster strikes, India steps forward as a reliable partner to provide help. India is always the first responder," Modi said.

"We are those who see Shiva in every living being," he said. "In our tradition, every religious ritual concludes with the proclamation that may the world prosper and may goodwill prevail among all beings," he added.

Guided by the mantra that the development of the state leads to the development of the nation, the government is engaged in the Viksit Bharat mission to make India developed, Modi said.

"In this crucial journey towards a developed India, institutions like Brahma Kumaris have a very significant role to play.

"I have been connected with all of you for several decades now. I am not a guest here; I am one of you," he told the gathering.

"Today's day is very special. Today, Chhattisgarh is completing 25 years of its establishment. Jharkhand and Uttarakhand are also completing 25 years. Many other states are also celebrating their foundation day today," Modi said.

Earlier, as part of the 'Dil Ki Baat' programme, Modi interacted with 2,500 children successfully treated for congenital heart diseases in the 'Gift of life' ceremony at Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospital in Nava Raipur.

Former India cricket captain Sunil Gavaskar was present.

Modi later participated in Chhattisgarh Rajat Mahotsav, organised to celebrate 25 years of formation of the state.

He also inaugurated and laid foundation stones of Rs 14,260 crore projects across key sectors such as roads, industry, healthcare, and energy in the state.

Modi also inaugurated the new building of Chhattisgarh assembly and unveiled the statue of former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

Chhattisgarh's journey in the last 25 years has been an inspiring one as it has now emerged as a symbol of prosperity, security and stability although it was earlier identified with Naxal violence and backwardness, he said.

The legislative assembly is not merely a place for framing laws but a vibrant centre for shaping the state's destiny, he said, after inaugurating the new Chhattisgarh legislative assembly building.

"The true significance of the new assembly building's inauguration lies in our collective resolve to perform our duties with sincerity and uphold the spirit of democracy," he said.

"All of us need to remember that this legislative assembly is not just a place for making laws, but a vibrant centre and a powerful force in shaping the destiny of Chhattisgarh.

"Therefore, we must ensure that every idea emanating from here reflects the spirit of public service, the resolve for development, and the belief in taking India to new heights," Modi said.

At the Chhattisgarh Rajat Mahotsav event, Modi said that in the last 11 years, houses have been provided to four crore poor people. "Our resolve is to give them three crore more houses," he added.

Modi also handed over house keys to some beneficiaries of the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana in Chhattisgarh at event in Nava Raipur.

Chhattisgarh is moving rapidly on the path of development, the PM said.

"I have seen poverty from close quarters, and that is why I focussed on the welfare of the poor after becoming the prime minister," Modi said.

He inaugurated the Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh Memorial and Tribal Freedom Fighters Museum in Nava Raipur.

The museum will preserve and showcase the legacy of courage, sacrifice, and patriotism of the state's tribal communities.

Modi launched the museum portal and e-book Aadi Shourya, honouring freedom fighters and unveiled the horse-mounted statue of Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh.

Modi inaugurated 12 new Start-Up Village Entrepreneurship Programme blocs

across nine districts of Chhattisgarh.

He released Rs 1,200 crore instalment to three lakh beneficiaries under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Gramin).

Modi laid the foundation stone of the four-lane greenfield Pathalgaon-Kunkuri highway, being developed under the Bharatmala project by the National Highways Authority of India at a cost of Rs 3,150 crore.

Modi also laid the foundation stone for the Narayanpur-Kasturmeta-Kutul-Nilangur-Maharashtra border highway, spanning segments across Bastar and Narayanpur districts.

Army conducts drone...

multi-domain command and control centres in a realistic, electronic warfare and contested operational environment," the defence ministry said.

The two-day exercise focused on developing and testing doctrinal precepts for drone and counter-drone operations, "strengthening the Indian Army's response capability against evolving aerial threats", it said in a statement.

The desert terrain and weather conditions provided an ideal testing ground for the operations. The exercise also showcased joint interoperability between the various arms of the Army, reinforcing coordination for technology-enabled operations in the "sensitive frontier regions".

The exercise enabled troops to experiment with indigenous technologies under an operational environment, the officials said.

Lt Gen Dhiraj Seth, General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Southern Command, complimented the success of the exercise.

Lessons from it will directly contribute to capability development and accelerated induction of drone and counter-drone systems in the Army, the statement said.

The exercise is a significant step in the Army's efforts to embrace modern technology in a multi domain environment. "The Indian Army remains committed to modernising its operational capability, fostering innovation and ensuring readiness to counter emerging threats across all domains," the statement said.

This exercise reaffirms the Army's vision to build a technology-driven, agile, and future-ready force capable of "dominating the evolving battlespace," it added.

Press Club Kashmir...

(DIPR) and media houses. "Ensure that press releases, media invites, and official briefings are shared only with verified and recognised journalists or media outlets through email and social media channels. Keep a close watch and immediately report any person or entity misusing media credentials, indulging in coercion, or attempting to malign officials, institutions, or private individuals for personal or financial gain." It is heartening to learn that the Press Club demand has been partially met by the issuance of the communique, which instructed DIOs to sensitise local media houses and advise editors to Exercise due diligence while engaging correspondents, freelancers, or stringers in the field, and engage only qualified, credible, and verified correspondents, ensuring issuance of proper verifiable authorisation letters and ID cards.

Govt warns against...

of Information and Public Relations (DIPR) and media houses. "Ensure that press releases, media invites and official briefings are shared only with verified and recognised journalists and media outlets through e-mail or social media channels. Keep a close watch and immediately report any person or entity misusing media credentials, indulging in coercion, or attempting to malign officials, institutions or private individuals for personal or financial gain," the directive said.

It asked the district information officers to coordinate closely with the concerned deputy commissioner and police authorities wherever such instances are reported, and to provide full factual details to the office of the joint director without delay.

"Advise all district-level offices and district departments to verify credentials before sharing information or hospitality with any person claiming to represent a media outlet," it read.

Bukhari also asked the district information officers to submit a periodical vigilance note to his office highlighting such incidents, field inputs, and preventive measures taken.

He also asked them to sensitise local media houses and advise editors in their respective districts to exercise diligence while engaging correspondents, freelancers or stringers in the field, engage only qualified and credible correspondents, and ensure issuance of proper verifiable authorisation letters and ID cards.

Media houses should be also be asked "to take disciplinary and legal action against any of their representatives found indulging in unethical, coercive or defamatory practices, and to disassociate publicly from individuals misusing their organisation's credentials for personal gain," the communication said.

The communication advised editors to refrain from lending legitimacy to individuals facing credible allegations of extortion or blackmail under the guise of journalism. "Uphold the code of journalistic ethics as laid down by the Press Council of India and the DIPR accreditation or empanelment guidelines," it added.

Anti-insurgency ops...

formations earlier, and has extensive experience in counter-terrorism operations, he added. The defence spokesperson said on assuming command, Maj. Gen. Sharma paid homage to the bravehearts of the unit who made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty and exhorted all ranks to reaffirm their resolve to uphold the legacy of the formation through steadfast commitment and devotion to duty.

"He further emphasised the critical importance of combat readiness to effectively thwart all hostile and nefarious designs of inimical forces in north Kashmir," the spokesperson said.

Cattle smuggler among 2 detained under PSA

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Two men, including an alleged cattle smuggler, were detained under the stringent Public Safety Act on Saturday, J-K Police said.

Rehman Ali, a resident of Marh tehsil in Jammu district, who was found repeatedly involved in cattle smuggling with multiple FIRs registered against him, has been lodged in the district prison in Poonch after police executed a PSA warrant against him, a spokesman said.

In another action, Raj Kumar from Bantalab was detained under the PSA for his involvement in activities prejudicial to the maintenance of public order, the spokesman said. Multiple FIRs were registered against Kumar, who has also been shifted to the Poonch jail, he said.

DHSJ chairs District-Level review meeting at Doda

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

DODA: Director Health Services Jammu Dr. Abdul Hamid Zargar today chaired a district level review meeting at Town Hall Doda to assess the health services scenario and the progress of the National Health Programmes under the National Health Mission (NHM) in the District.

The meeting was attended by Chief Medical Officer Dr. Om Kumar; Medical Superintendent AH GMC Doda, Dr. Tanveer Ahmed; Deputy CMO Dr. Sat Lal; District Health Officer Dr. Raj Kumar Sharma, besides all Block Medical Officers (BMOs), Divisional ASHA Coordinator, DAC, ASHA Facilitators and staff from DPMU and BPMU of the district. At the outset, CMO Dr. Om K u m a r briefed the meeting on the status of healthcare scenario and implementation of National Health programs.

The DHSJ took a detailed, scheme-wise review of the progress achieved under the centrally sponsored health programmes, including RBSK, DVDMS Portal, NTEP, AAM, Screening for NCDs, TB Mukht Abhiyan, Scan and Share, PMJAY-SEHAT and other ongoing initiatives under NHM.

Dr. Zargar appreciated the efforts of the district health administration in implementing the national health programmes and emphasized the importance of teamwork, accountability and timely reporting. He urged the BMOs and programme officers to work with dedication and ensure that every health service reaches the last mile. "Our collective goal is to strengthen the healthcare delivery system at all levels, ensuring that the benefits of government schemes reach every citizen, especially in remote and far-flung areas," said Dr. Zargar. He further added that focus should be laid on improving the quality of services, increasing public awareness, and enhancing data-driven monitoring to achieve better outcomes under NHM.

The Director also reviewed indicator-wise performance of each programme and stressed upon all officers to ensure effective and timely implementation of schemes in letter and spirit for improved health outcomes at the grassroots level.

The proceedings of the meeting were conducted by Mohd Shafi Attu (HE).

Later, all participants, led by the Director Health Services Jammu, took a pledge under the ongoing Tobacco-Free Youth Campaign 3.0, reaffirming their commitment to building a healthier, tobacco-free society.

