

## !! Continuations from Page 1 !! No one dares...

temple in Ayodhya, he said.  
"No one believed that a Ram temple would be built in Ayodhya. But today, Ram Lalla is sitting in that grand temple. It is PM Modi who has uprooted Naxalism and terrorism from the country," said Shah.

### Six persons detained...

disturb public harmony.  
"(Six) 06 miscreants have been charged under sections 126 & 170 of the BNSS and have been detained at Central Jail, Srinagar, for inciting sectarian unrest through derogatory remarks," Srinagar Police said in a post on its X handle.  
It also warned the public that any individual found engaging in similar unlawful activities, including posting or sharing sectarian content with the intent to create division or disturb public harmony, will meet the same fate.  
"WE ARE WATCHING," it added.  
Last night, taking cognisance of the inflammatory remarks in a purported video, police detained some persons for questioning.  
"Srinagar police has taken cognisance of derogatory sectarian remarks made by certain individuals, who are currently being questioned at the police station," Srinagar Police posted on its X handle late last night.  
They said appropriate legal action will be taken in accordance with the law.  
"Over the past few months, it has been observed that some individuals with malicious intentions have been engaging in sectarian slander on social media, attempting to create division. Legal action, following due process, will be taken against all offenders, and anyone sharing or forwarding such derogatory content against any sect will face strict action under the full force of the law," it added.

### Panel to probe charges...

mineral officer of Kathua, Naveen Kumar, will be completed within one month, the officials added, citing an order issued by Vikramjit Singh, Commissioner Secretary of the Industries and Commerce Department.  
Kumar was placed under suspension on December 3, pending an inquiry into his actions, with immediate effect.  
The officials mentioned that Special Secretary of the Mining Department, Nargis Suraiya; Director of Finance in the Mining Department, Reyaz Hussain; and Deputy Director of Geology and Mining (Jammu), Raj Kumar, have been appointed as members of the inquiry committee.  
They have been directed to submit their report, along with concrete recommendations, to the government within 30 days.

### India emerging as...

modernised defence capabilities and a robust shipbuilding ecosystem, we are opening new doors to economic growth and self-reliance," he said.  
Noting the strategic importance of the Indian Ocean region, he emphasised the need to protect territorial waters, ensure freedom of navigation, and secure trade supply lines.  
Modi drew attention to India's significant contributions as a maritime nation. "In the Indian Ocean region, India has emerged as the 'first responder,' saving hundreds of lives and securing thousands of crores worth of national and international cargo," he said.  
India's vision of a secure and inclusive Indo-Pacific region aligns with its broader global responsibilities, he said.  
"India has always supported an open, secure, inclusive and prosperous Indo-Pacific region," the PM emphasised.  
It may be noted that China has territorial disputes with many countries in the strategic Indo-Pacific region.  
India's defence production has crossed Rs 1.25 lakh crore, with exports reaching more than 100 countries, he noted.  
"In the last decade, 39 of the 40 naval vessels inducted were built in Indian shipyards, reflecting our commitment to 'Make in India'," he said.  
Referring to the Navy's adoption of indigenous symbols inspired by the 17th century Maratha warrior king Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, Modi said, "This reflects our resolve to free ourselves from colonial legacies while embracing our heritage."  
Earlier, the PM witnessed the commissioning of warships INS Surat, INS Nilgiri, and INS Vaghsheer.  
INS Nilgiri, the lead ship of the Project 17A stealth frigate class, is equipped with advanced stealth technology and reduced radar signatures, making it a significant advancement over its predecessors.  
INS Surat, the final vessel of the Project 15B stealth destroyer class, enhances the Navy's surface fleet with improvements in design and capability.  
INS Vaghsheer, the 6th submarine under the Scorpene-class Project 75, is designed for roles such as anti-surface warfare, anti-submarine warfare, and intelligence gathering.  
In the evening, the PM travelled to Kharghar in adjoining Navi Mumbai to inaugurate an ISKCON (International Society for Krishna Consciousness) temple.  
Speaking on the occasion, he said India's spiritual culture is deeply rooted in the spirit of service and his government has been working selflessly for people's welfare for more than a decade.  
Modi, who assumed office for a third time in June last year, emphasised his government has launched a slew of welfare measures like building toilets, homes for the poor and providing LPG connections to poor women and medical insurance to citizens.  
"This spirit of service brings true social justice and is a symbol of true secularism. The main foundation of our spiritual culture is the spirit of service. India is not just a piece of land surrounded by geographical boundaries. It is a living land, living culture. Knowledge is spirituality and if we want to understand India, we have to imbibe spirituality," he underlined in his speech.  
He said followers of ISKCON, a global bhakti movement founded on the Bhagavad Gita teachings, around the world are connected to each other by their devotion to Lord Krishna.

Modi said the spirit of service propagated by the ISKCON movement inspires the youth and helps them create a sensitive society which promotes human values.  
The PM expressed confidence the temple complex, spread across nine acres, will become a sacred centre enriching India's consciousness along with faith.  
"ISKCON followers worldwide are united by their devotion to Lord Krishna," emphasised Modi and highlighted that another connecting thread is the teachings of the movement's founder, Srila Prabhupada Swami.  
In the afternoon, the PM met MLAs of the ruling Mahayuti alliance over lunch. The luncheon meeting was held at the INS Angre auditorium, a state government official said.  
Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, deputy CMs Eknath Shinde, Ajit Pawar, and most other MLAs of the coalition of the B-JP, NCP, Shiv Sena and their smaller allies were present, sources said. Mahayuti won 230 of the 288 seats in the November 20 assembly polls.  
**Modi, Shah, Adityanath...**  
Yogi Adityanath, Bhajan Lal Sharma, Nayab Singh Saini and Mohan Yadav.  
All the seven MPs from Delhi are also part of the list. Delhi BJP in-charge Baijayant Panda, co-incharge Alka Gurjar, and the party's state unit chief Virendra Sachdeva will also be star campaigners for the polls.  
The BJP, which has been out of power since 1998, is making concerted efforts to dethrone the Arvind Kejriwal-led Aam Aadmi Party which has been ruling Delhi since 2015. Sources in the party said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi is likely to address two-three rallies in the city while Union Home Minister Amit Shah will address seven poll rallies in each of the Lok Sabha constituencies of the city.  
"There is also demand for roadshows by the Prime Minister in Delhi, but a final decision is yet to be taken by the top party leadership," a BJP functionary said.

### CM stresses on...

various stakeholders would be that the value of land increases for the landowners and better infrastructure gets created as compared to the irregular land plots pooled by the landowners developing that land parcel.  
This would help in creation of infrastructure as a sustainable alternative to conventional land acquisition methods. The scheme is aimed to be a win-win situation for both the government and various stakeholders, including individual landowners and real estate developers.  
The meeting also delved into the Transferable Development Rights (TDR) Policy, focusing on its broad contours, objectives and mechanisms. The potential use of TDR for heritage properties, ensuring their preservation while enabling urban growth was also discussed. Under TDR scheme, for the land surrendered by a land owner or a developer free-of-cost for public purposes such as road widening, public passage, for conservation, heritage and other infrastructure development, shall be granted a non-financial compensation in the form of a TDR certificate specifying the Built-Up Area (BUA) or Floor Area Ratio (FAR) given to a land owner or developer which he can utilize in remaining part of his property or build elsewhere and even monetize by selling TDR to any other developer or user in receiving areas. This

would allow developers to build over and above the permissible Floor Area Ratio (FAR) for the land surrendered in congested areas.  
The concept of Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) was also discussed, with emphasis on its objectives to promote sustainable urban mobility and to ensure planned development around public transport stations. The stipulations of TOD would facilitate compact, walkable urban spaces around transit hubs.  
Separate discussions were held on proposed services under Integrated Solid Waste Management (ISWM) for municipalities and urban local bodies across Jammu and Kashmir. Presentations by Housing & Urban Development department outlined strategies for collection, transportation and processing of solid waste.  
Chief Minister exhorted the Housing & Urban Development Department to initiate implementation by taking up projects under Land pooling, TDR & TOD to create few success stories which would infuse confidence among stakeholders to adopt these urban planning strategies for overall development of our cities.  
Besides, the meeting discussed management of waste disposal facilities, cleaning of roads, drains and waterbodies on Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model.  
A presentation on the challenges of solid waste management in Udhampur district depicted dumping of daily waste at landfills resulting in choking of drains and water channels.  
Proposed solutions discussed included waste segregation, recycling mechanisms, and pollution control machinery to tackle these pressing issues effectively.  
Representatives of the National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID) also delivered a separate presentation. The discussion focused on infrastructure development projects across Jammu and Kashmir.  
The meetings were attended by Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, Additional Chief Secretary to the CM Dheeraj Gupta, Principal Secretary Finance Santosh D Vaidya, Commissioner Secretary Housing & Urban Development Department Mandeep Kaur, and other senior officials. Officers based in Srinagar participated through video conferencing.

### Wars will become...

strategic autonomy. The defence minister emphasised on the need of a robust security system, strong military and secure borders to realise Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047.  
He asserted that the Ministry of Defence is constantly striving to bolster the strength of the armed forces by equipping them with latest weapons and platforms, and the focus is on modernisation through self-reliance.

### CS asks Municipalities...

JMC, Director ULBs Jammu/Kashmir and other concerned officers.  
Dulloo further advised them to make simultaneous plans for treatment of legacy waste in order to clear the sites of this untreated garbage. He asked them to identify the feasible locations for establishment of Material Recovery Facilities (MRF) for solid waste, Compost Unit/Bio-CNG plants for liquid waste and dumping sites for inert waste.  
He observed that management of waste is of utmost priority for both health and environmental concerns associated with it. He said that this task requires all seriousness and dedication on part of the Department to fully rid our cities and towns of the untreated waste and garbage.  
He enjoined upon the J&K PCC to be proactive in enforcement of environmental protection laws in J&K. He sensitised them about their mandate and asked them to use their writ to act against the violators as per laws in force.  
The Chief Secretary also reviewed the works being carried out by JMC, SMC and Directors of ULBs in both the divisions of Jammu and Kashmir.  
Commissioner Secretary, H&UDD, Mandeep Kaur, presented an overview of different projects proposed and approved by GoI under SBM 2.0 for districts of the UT. She revealed that the facilities for both solid and liquid waste treatment are being created all over J&K in addition to inviting tenders for treatment of legacy waste on scientific lines.  
Commissioner JMC, Devansh Yadav, threw light on the detailed works undertaken by the JMC, SMC and other local bodies in different parts of J&K. He elaborated that the waste is segregated for its treatment and the solid waste is being taken to MRF facility where as the liquid one to compost units for making good soil or Bio-CNG plants for fuel making.  
It was further explained that different components of the waste are treated differently with some producing Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) being used by cement factories. It was added that only the inert waste without any use is sent to landfill sites for its final disposal.  
Regarding the facilities created in various districts, it was divulged that MRF of the capacity of 40 TPD by JMC and 100 TPD by SMC is presently in operation for treating its waste. In addition, the ULBs of Jammu had installed the capacity of 79 TPD 17 locations and ULBs of Kashmir 18 TPD at 9 locations across Kashmir.  
Moreover, for treating the liquid waste STPs of the capacity of 25.29 MLD had been established by SMC, 36.7 MLD by LCMA, 71 MLD by JMC, 13.6 MLD by the ULBs of Jammu and 6 MLD collectively by the ULBs of Kashmir division.  
Regarding the upcoming facilities of waste management, it was informed that an MRF facility of the capacity of 150 TPD would come into operation at Kotbalwal in September this year and one of 55 TPD at Bandurakh for JM. For SMC, an MRF of the capacity of 459 TPD is soon going to be approved by MoHUA under the revised action plan.

As far as upcoming STPs are concerned, it was added that STPs of the capacity of 66.9 MLD are under construction in Srinagar, Sonamarg, Baramulla and Charar-i-Sharif in Kashmir Valley. In Jammu, the STPs of the overall capacity of 109.2 MLD are going to be established at Jammu, Akhnoor, Samba, Kathua and Katra towns.  
Regarding the remediation of legacy waste, it was revealed that a total of 6.16 lakh MT has been tendered out by JMC and 11 lakh MT by SMC for its treatment. Similarly, ULBs of Jammu has tendered 1.87 lakh MT and 2.98 lakh MT of legacy waste by ULBs of Kashmir for its treatment through NAFED.  
The meeting was further apprised that legacy waste of the magnitude of about 1.56 lakh MT by JMC, 1.72 lakh MT by 36 ULBs of Jammu and 0.78 lakh MT by 40 ULBs of Kashmir stands remediated till date. Besides, the PDMC consisting of engineers and design analysts for taking up works of waste management in smaller ULBs of J&K is going to be finalised soon.  
The meeting was also apprised that on an average 450gm/person/day of waste is generated in big cities and 300 gm is generated in smaller towns. The municipal bodies have been tasked to segregate the dry and wet waste and process it on scientific lines to reduce the environmental pollution as per the NGT guidelines.

### SC deliberates on...

from April 1, 2019. What happens to the earlier period?" the bench asked.  
One of the lawyers said even for vehicles registered prior to April 1, 2019, the third registration mark has to be affixed.  
"Let us be very clear. This requirement comes for the first time on April 1, 2019.... How do we direct that owners of vehicles, which are registered prior to April 1, 2019, should get this hologram affixed?" the bench asked.  
The amicus flagged the issue of non-compliance of the PUC certificate norms.  
The bench asked the amicus to also deal with the PUC aspect in her note, so that the norms could be implemented more effectively.  
"This also is very crucial. If that rule is not complied with, then there are so many polluting vehicles on the roads," it said.  
The court added that public sector undertakings and government agencies can be asked to purchase electric vehicles as far as possible.  
The bench, which deliberated over the schedule for hearing various aspects related to pollution, including stubble burning, said the matter relating to hologram-based colour-coded stickers for vehicles would be considered on January 27.  
Earlier this month, the apex court had stressed the need for hologram-based colour-coded stickers for vehicles to tackle air pollution, saying it was considering making the stickers mandatory in states and Union territories beyond the NCR.  
In 2018, the court had accepted a proposal of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH), which envisaged that hologram-based light blue stickers would be used in vehicles using petrol and CNG in the NCR, whereas diesel-run vehicles would have orange stickers.  
These stickers, which facilitate in identifying vehicles based on the fuel used, were also supposed to include the dates of registration of the vehicles.

### Maha Kumbh: 21...

The tour will end at 1:30 pm after which the delegation will head to the airport, it added. The Maha Kumbh is held once every 12 years at the Triveni Sangam -- the confluence of the rivers Ganga, Yamuna and the mythical Saraswati -- in Prayagraj.  
One of the largest spiritual gatherings in the world, the Maha Kumbh began on January 13 and will continue till February 16 with the state government estimating a footfall of 40 to 45 crore pilgrims during the period.

### Rajouri deaths: Health...

happens, it spreads. But there is no health-related issue found till date", Sakeena said.  
The Minister continued that the matter is under investigation now and the police department and district administration will investigate further what the

real issue is.  
Sakeena Itoo also expressed deepest condolences with the families of the deceased and assured the public that the government is treating this matter with the utmost urgency and seriousness. "The well-being of our citizens is our top priority and we will leave no stone unturned in uncovering the root cause behind these tragic deaths", the Minister maintained.  
She appealed the public to remain calm and extend full support to the district administration during investigation being carried out to ascertain the actual cause of deaths.  
**SIT to probe...**  
Sushma Thakur, Inspector Rajeev Kumar, Sub-Inspector Pankaj Sharma and Assistant Sub-inspector Pawan Sharma have been included as members of the SIT, the order stated.  
The SIT also included experts from the Forensic Medicine and Toxicology Department, Microbiology Department, Paediatrics Department and the Pathology Department.  
According to the order, the SIT in charge will also use the service of experts from food safety, agriculture, Jal Shakti (Public Health Engineering) Departments and experts of the FSL team, Jammu, for investigation.  
The team has been directed to share the progress of the investigation with the district police office on a weekly basis.

### Cold wave intensifies...

Qazigund, minus 6.4 degrees Celsius at Konibal in Pampore town, minus 4.7 degrees Celsius in Kupwara and minus 4.6 degrees Celsius in Kokernag.  
The weather in the valley will be mostly cloudy but dry till January 18, with the possibility of light snow at isolated places in the higher reaches on January 16, the meteorological department said.

### Awareness programme on Road Safety held at GDC Basohli

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
BASOHLI: The road safety month is being observed across the nation as well as in J&K. An awareness programme regarding Road Safety was conducted in the premises of Govt. Degree college (GDC) Basohli in which students along staff members participated. During the programme, Girdhari Lal Sharma, SSP Traffic Rural Jammu interacted with students and awared them about road safety measures being taken by different government department which includes traffic police, motor vehicles department executive police & other stakeholders. The programme was conducted in collaboration with motor vehicle department in which Shami Kumar Sharma-ARTO Kathua along with his team participated, I/C Principal GDC Basohli, Dr(Prof) Ravinder Kour attended the function and provided full support in organizing the function. Sukhdev Singh, Dy. SP Traffic Samba-Kathua also attended the function.  
During the interaction facts & figures regarding numbers of accidents and deaths in J&K as well as in India were shared with the students to highlight the gravity of the situation and importance of the road safety measures which need to be taken by the stakeholders and the civil society. Since students and teachers in the education institutions are an important part of the society and can act as ambassadors for road safety measures to prevent the accidents and loss of the precious human lives. The students were also suggested to involve their parents, family members and social circle in propagating road safety measures. Main cause of the accidents is the driver driving the vehicle. When they drive without wearing helmet, seat belt and after drinking. Over speeding, overloading, overtaking, driving the unfit vehicles and rash driving by the minors are other major causes which lead to the accidents.  
Although enforcement measures are being taken by the traffic, executive police, motor vehicle department etc but the prevention is only possible when a common man would come forward and abide by the rules and regulations.



Girdhari Lal Sharma, SSP Traffic Rural Jammu (Inset) addressing participants during the programme.

different government department which includes traffic police, motor vehicles department executive police & other stakeholders. The programme was conducted in collaboration with motor vehicle department in which Shami Kumar Sharma-ARTO Kathua along with his team participated, I/C Principal GDC Basohli, Dr(Prof) Ravinder Kour attended the function and provided full support in organizing the function. Sukhdev Singh, Dy. SP Traffic Samba-Kathua also attended the function.

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### ABVP delegation calls on MLA Kishtwar, submits memo

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
KISHTWAR: A delegation of ABVP Vinay Aryan led by District Convenor Kishtwar met MLA Shagun Parihar on Wednesday and submitted a memorandum for various demands of District Kishtwar.



The delegation demanded hostel facilities to students as about 65-70 percent of the colleges are from remote areas who live in rented rooms to complete their studies due to which students have to spend twice as much and some students who cannot afford it are deprived of education. Due to lack of hostel, students have to face problems.

Establish a special school for special students in our district. The lack of dedicated educational infrastructure for special children in Kishtwar has resulted in these students being deprived of their fundamental right to education. We believe that every child, regardless of their abilities, deserves access to quality education.

ABVP demanded to establish a special school in Kishtwar, equipped with necessary infrastructure and staff. Provide adequate resources and funding for the school. Ensure that the school is accessible and inclusive for all special students.

### BJP slams NC-led Govt for its response to 'mysterious' deaths in Rajouri

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir unit of the BJP launched a scathing attack on the National Conference-led government in the Union Territory on Wednesday for its "inaction" over the "mysterious" deaths of 13 people, including 11 children, in a remote village in Rajouri district.  
It urged the Centre to rush experts to properly investigate the cause of the fatalities in Badhaal village of Kotranka Sub-Division over the last month and a half.  
"The mysterious deaths in the village in Rajouri is a cause of concern for everyone and shows the (Chief Minister) Omar Abdullah-led government's apathy and failure to address the crisis-like situation," Jammu and Kashmir BJP spokesperson Tahir Choudhary told reporters at the party headquarters here.  
He accused the government of not taking any concrete steps or on-ground measures to tackle the situation.

Calling for immediate intervention, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader appealed to the Centre to deploy a team of experts to collect samples from villages, water sources and local markets in Rajouri.

He also urged police to initiate a probe to rule out any potential foul play contributing to the deaths.

"The Omar Abdullah-led administration has failed to prioritise the health and safety of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. Such negligence is unacceptable and the government must take immediate responsibility to ensure that this crisis is brought under control," Choudhary said.

Thirteen people, including 11 children, have died in Badhaal (eight in December and five this month). The victims hailed from three families that live in close vicinity and are related to each other.

Jammu and Kashmir Health Minister Sakeena Masood said on Wednesday that the deaths were not caused by any mysterious disease as tests conducted both within and outside the Union Territory have returned negative results.

"The health department could not find any disease, virus or infection that caused the deaths," the minister, who visited the village last month to take stock of the situation, said. She said the real cause of the deaths is a matter of investigation. The victims were not suffering from any illness or infection, the minister added.