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Will not compromise...

had nowhere to go, according to the math website.

Guru gave his consent to the proposal and fixed a date of first of January of every year for the pilgrimage, prior to which pilgrims have to maintain a 10-day long austere life and wear only yellow clothes, the website said.

The Defence Minister, at the event, also condoled the death of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's mother -- Hiraben.

Singh said that when he learned about the tragic news he was contemplating returning to Delhi, but the Prime Minister told everyone that all should fulfill their official commitments before coming back.

"So on behalf of everyone here, the Sivagiri Mutt and myself, I would like to pay tribute to Ma Hiraben," he said.

Thereafter, a one-minute silence was observed by everyone present there.

Earlier, in his speech, he said many allege liberty, equality and fraternity are not part of Indian tradition and ideologies and that it reached us through the French Revolution.

"However, that is incorrect. Sources of liberty, equality, fraternity and world peace can be seen in Indian culture. In fact, the concept of human equality can be seen in our ancient texts and the preaching and literary works of saints, philosophers and poets of the 'Bhakti' period.

"Rather, they took it a step forward by talking of universal equality, equality between all living things or the whole world being one family," he claimed.

Singh also said that it was the far-sightedness of Sree Narayana Guru that he ordered Sivagiri Mutt to spread consciousness among the common people on subjects like education, cleanliness, etc.

"With the grace of Guruji and the blessings of revered saints, our government has also focused its special attention on these subjects," he said.

Sivagiri Mutt is a famous tourist pilgrimage place in Varkala town of Thiruvananthapuram district in Kerala.

The math is also headquarters of Sree Narayana Dharma Sangham, an organisation of Sree Narayan Guru's disciples and followers.

38 IPS officers...

includes Intiaz Ismail Parray of AGMUT of 2009 batch, with effect from January 1, 2023.

Among the others promoted include Monika Bhardwaj (AGMUT:2009), Dr. A Koan (AGMUT:2009), Gaurav Sharma (AGMUT:2009), R. Sathiyasundram (AGMUT:2009), Dr. Ashok Malik (AGMUT:2009), Asif Md. Ali (AGMUT:2009), Pramod Singh Kushwah (AGMUT:2009), Ami Roy (AGMUT:2009), Mangesh Kashyap (AGMUT:2009), Shivendra Kant Tiwari (AGMUT:2009), Umesh Kumar (AGMUT:2009) and H. Ramthlengdiana (AGMUT:2009).

The Ministry in a separate order promoted 18 IPS officers of AGMUT 2010 batch to Selection Grade (LEVEL-13 in the pay-scale matrix) with effect from January 1, 2023, which includes incumbent SSP Baramulla Rayees Mohammad Bhat.

Bhat has been promoted alongside names of Benita Mary Jaiker (AGMUT:2010), Shweta Chauhan (AGMUT:2010), Amit Sharma (AGMUT:2010), Sagor Singh Kalsi (AGMUT:2010),Rajendra Prasad Meena (AGMUT:2010), Patil Shridhar Daulu (AGMUT:2010), Esha Pandey (AGMUT:2010), Brijendra Kumar Yadav (AGMUT:2010), Chandan Chowdhary (AGMUT:2010), Rajiv Ranjan Singh (AGMUT:2010), Sanjay Bhatia (AGMUT:2010), Dinesh Kumar Gupta (AGMUT:2010), Varsha Sharma (AGMUT:2010) and Rakesh Kumar (AGMUT:2010).

"Further, Dr. Esha Singhal, IPS (AGMUT:2010), Rajiv Omprakash Pandey, IPS (AGMUT:2010) and Santosh Kumar Meena, IPS (AGMUT:2010), presently posted on central deputation are hereby granted proforma promotion in the selection grade (LEVEL-13 in the pay-scale matrix) with effect from 01-01-2023 and on actual basis with effect from the date of assumption of charge of their immediate junior in the cadre", reads the order.

Search underway along...

on Thursday. Troops also fired dozens of illuminating bombs to keep a close watch on the area to ensure there is no movement of terrorists from across the border, the officials said. A massive search operation was launched with the first light of the day to look for any traces of the suspicious movement on the ground, the officials said. The search operation is underway and further details are awaited.

SIA files chargesheet...

terror activities at the behest of their Pakistan-based handlers, the anti-terror agency said in a statement here.

Shah, a resident of Rajouri, and his Kashmiri associate Faisal Ahmad Dar of Pulwama were overpowered by the villagers of remote Tukson Dhok in Reasi district in July and later handed over to police. Two AK assault rifles, one pistol, seven grenades and a large quantity of ammunition were recovered from them.

"The case was initially registered in Police Station Mahore of Reasi, but later on transferred to SIA Jammu. The investigation has established that Mohd Qasim and Zia-Ul-Rehman, who after joining terrorist ranks exfiltrated to Pakistan, were using drones for supplying weapons and explosives which were collected by Shah and his associates," the statement said.

It said the investigation has also established that on the directions of Pakistan-based handlers, Shah had recruited many youths of Jammu and Kashmir and had revived the terror ecosystem in Chenab Valley and Peer Panjal areas of the Jammu region. "Investigation also proved that the accused persons are also involved in minority killings and creating fear psychosis among the general masses. They have been directed to carry out attacks on security forces and vital installations to meet the objective of secession of J-K from the Union of India," the statement said.

PM Modi's mother...

at the hospital on that day, the PM had left for Delhi after doctors informed him that her health was stable. He had also spoken to doctors at the hospital, a government-funded autonomous medical facility.

Hiraben, also called Hiraba, lived at Raysan village with PM Modi's younger brother. The prime minister regularly visited Raysan and spent time with his mother during most of his Gujarat visits.

Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) chief Sharad Pawar offered tributes to the prime minister's mother.

"Narendra Bhai, I am deeply saddened to know about passing away of your mother. It's an irreparable loss of a irreplaceable person in life ! Please accept my sincere

condolences on her loss. May her soul rest in eternal peace," Pawar said.

Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant said in a tweet, "I am deeply pained by the passing away of Smt. Heera-ba, the mother of our Honourable Prime Minister Narendra Modi Ji. I express my heartfelt condolences to the Prime Minister and his entire family in this hour of grief."

"My deepest condolences to Hon'ble PM Shri @narendramodi ji and family. We offer our tributes to the mother who gave inspiration of Karmayoga to her son, who is working hard to transform the nation. May her soul attain sadgati. Om Shanti," he said in another tweet.

Meanwhile, Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and several politicians in the Union Territory expressed grief over the demise of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's mother Hiraben.

"The passing away of Hiraba, mother of honble PM is very sad. A mother is the universe of affection, the nursery of values and manners, expansion of existence and completeness of life. My heartfelt tributes to the revered mother. My deepest condolences with the PM and his family. Om Shanti," Sinha said in a tweet in Hindi.

BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh also condoled the demise of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's mother Hiraben.

Democratic Progressive Azad Party chief Ghulam Nabi Azad said in a tweet: "Saddened to hear the demise of Smt. Heeraben, mother of PM Shri @narendramodi ji. I know that words are of little solace at such times. However, my heartfelt condolences to Hon'ble Prime Minister: I also pray for the eternal peace of the departed soul".

Jammu and Kashmir BJP spokesperson Altaf Thakur said he equally shares the PM's grief.

"Respected Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji. I am deeply pained over the demise of your mother and equally share the grief. No one can replace the mother. I pray to almighty to grant peace to the departed soul and give you and other family members patience to bear this irreparable loss," Thakur said.

National Conference president Farooq Abdullah and his son Omar Abdullah also expressed grief over the demise of the PM's mother.

"I join my father & @JKNC_ colleagues in sending our heartfelt condolences to PM @narendramodi ji on the sad demise of his mother. May the almighty grant her soul eternal rest & may the family find strength during this difficult time," Omar Abdullah, also the NC vice president, wrote on Twitter.

"Saddened to know of the passing away of Modi ji's mother. My deepest condolences to him & his family in this hour of grief," Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) president Mehbooba Mufti said in a tweet.

"Heartfelt condolences to @narendramodi ji on the demise of his mother, Smt Heeraben Modi. May she rest in eternal peace," Peoples Conference chairman Sajad Lone said on Twitter.

Apni Party president Altaf Bukhari said his thoughts and prayers were with the bereaved family.

"Deeply saddened to hear about the demise of Heeraben Modi, mother of Prime Minister @narendramodi Ji. I pay my deepest condolences. My thoughts and prayers are with the bereaved family members during this hour of grief," Bukhari said.

No plan to...

this, I am on my own path to serve the people who have given me their trust."

Asked whether he would be joining the Rahul Gandhi-led Bharat Jodo Yatra when it enters Jammu and Kashmir next month, Azad said "I have no such plan. My hands are full with my own work."

Probe ordered into...

from the retiring room of the vice chairperson of the Khadi and Village Industries Board Hina Shafi Bhat. The fire in the room at the top floor of the multi-storey building was controlled within 20 minutes by the fire and emergency services department. The inquiry officer was asked to submit his report to the GAD within seven days, clearly establishing among others the cause of the fire and delay in controlling and extinguishing the fire. "The inquiry officer shall fix the responsibility for failure in activating response at various levels to control the fire in a timely manner," the order said. "He will also see whether the fire safety audit of the building had been carried out, as ordered by the government on May 21 or not and whether the fire extinguishing equipment available on the premises was in working condition," it added.

Cricketer Rishabh Pant...

back home," Dr Nagar told PTI. "He had two lacerations (blunt trauma) on his head but I didn't put stitches. I have recommended him to Max Hospital where a plastic surgeon might see him.

"However reports of X Rays conducted at our hospital suggest that there are no bone injuries. Yes, there is a ligament tear on his right knee. How serious it is can only be detected after further investigation and detailed MRI done."

Ligament injuries have various grades and it can take 2 to 6 months to regain complete fitness.

The reports of CT scan of his brain and spinal cord have returned "normal" as per BCCI officials who are in constant touch with Max Dehradun.

Dr Nagar said the big bruises on his back, pictures of which have gone viral on social media, are not burn injuries.

"The injuries happened because he jumped out of car by breaking the window of his car as soon as it caught fire. As he landed on the side of the road on his rear, the skin was peeled off. But those are not burn injuries and not very serious."

Dr Dishant Yagnik, medical superintendent at Max Hospital, Dehradun said Pant is being evaluated by a team of orthopaedists and plastic surgeons in the emergency ward.

"A detailed bulletin on his condition will be available in around an hour after the evaluation is complete," he said.

Pant played a big role in India's two-Test series win against Bangladesh. He had scored a match-winning knock of 93 in the second Test in Mirpur.

"We are all concerned but thankfully he is stable. We at DDCA are keeping a tab and wish him a speedy recovery," DDCA secretary Siddharth Sahib Singh said in a statement.

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said his government will bear the entire expense of Pant's treatment.

However, Pant is a centrally contracted player and the BCCI will take full care of all his medical expenses.

"Praying for Rishabh Pant. Thankfully he is out of danger. Wishing @RishabhPant17 a very speedy recovery. Get well soon Champ," NCA chief VVS Laxman wrote on his twitter handle.

Pant was left out of the upcoming white-ball series against Sri Lanka beginning on January 3 as he was supposed to join the National Cricket Academy (NCA) in Bengaluru for strength and conditioning programme ahead of February's Border Gavaskar Trophy.

As of now, there is no clarity on his availability for the series against Australia.

Pant has scored 2,271 runs in 33 Tests so far with the help of five hundreds and 11 fifties. He has also represented the country in 30 ODIs and 66 T20Is.

Issues confronting implementation...

Home, R K Goyal and Commissioner Secretary, Social Welfare, Sheetal Nanda, also reviewed the pendency of cases before the Juvenile Justice Boards across J-K and ascertaining the reasons for delay in disposal of these cases, he said.

He said the meeting impressed upon the stakeholders to ensure the constitution of juvenile justice boards, child welfare committees, special juvenile police units and appointment of child welfare officers in tune with the Juvenile Justice Act.

It also resolved that the composition of child welfare committees, district child protection units, special juvenile police units and nomination of child welfare police officers and child welfare officers should be reflected on the website of the departments concerned for the information of the general public, the spokesman said.

The meeting also called for an awareness campaign through the officers of legal services, police and social welfare department on the Juvenile Justice Act, so as to educate the public about it and steps being taken by the government for care and protection of children, he said.

Public hearing conducted...

prominent citizens and residents of Belicharan, Basheer Gujjar Basti, Doda Basti, Poonch Basti villages besides officials of the Airport Authority, Cantonment Board and officers of the revenue department, the official said.

A major chunk of the land identified for the airport expansion project belonged to the Animal Husbandry Department, which has been allotted alternative land at Nagrota for relocation of offices and poultry.

The panel comprising Additional Deputy Commissioner, Jammu, Harvinder Singh, Regional Director J-K Pollution Control Committee, Jammu, Sat Paul and Divisional Officer, J-K Pollution Control Committee, Jammu-South, Arshad Nazir Malik, heard the issues raised by the public and answered their questions, the official said.

He said the entire proceedings were video graphed for onward submission to J-K Environmental impact Assessment Authority (JKELAA).

The official said a detailed public discussion and expression of opinions was held on various aspects of the plan and other general issues concerning the public living around the proposed expansion site.

The project proponent proposed to adopt various measures during and after the construction of the project like air pollution control measures, rainwater harvesting, Installation of sewage treatment plant and firefighting equipment, he said.

Centre transforming railway...

audience of themany initiatives taken to clean the Ganges in Bengal and provide safe drinking water in the state.

"India is working towards boosting its Jal Shakti. On January 13, a cruise will set sail from Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh to Dibrugarh in Assam via Bangladesh. The 3,200-km-long journey will be the first-of-its kind in the world and it is a reflection of the growing cruise tourism in the country," he said.

Among other projects, Modi spoke of the Adi Ganga project to clean the river of effluents by spending Rs 600 crore on infrastructure.

He said that the Centre is laying stress on preventing pollution of rivers.

"West Bengal will have 25 new sewage treatment projects, 11 of which have already been completed, while seven will be launched during the day," he said.

The PM said that modern sewage treatment plants are being developed keeping in mind the requirements of future.

"In this year of Azaadi ke Amrit Kaal, we will adopt forward-looking approach to take country ahead. The world is looking at India with great faith; every Indian has to exert himself to live up to this expectation," he added.

The PM flagged off train services along the 6.5-km-stretch of Joka-Taratala section of Kolkata Metro built at a cost of Rs 2,477 crore.

He also dedicated to the nation four railway projects. The 25.8-km-long third line on the busy Boinchi-Shaktigarh route, on which 70 pairs of trains run daily, was developed at a cost of Rs 424 crore. The new line has created additional capacity for 21 pairs of trains.

He also launched the 25.4-km-long fourth line between Dankuni and Chandanpur built at a cost Rs 600 crore.

The PM also dedicated to the nation the 25.4-km double line between Nimtita and New Farakka, constructed at Rs 269 crore, and doubling of tracks between Ambari Falakata and New Maynaguri stations, and New Mainaguri and Gumanihat, built at a total cost of Rs 2,093 crore. The Vande Bharat Express was flagged off in the presence of West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee.

Also present on the occasion were Governor C V Ananda Bose and Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw. The seventh Vande Bharat Express started its journey at 11.45 am from platform number 22 of Howrah Station to travel to New Jalpaiguri, the gateway to the Northeast. The blue-and-white train, which covers a distance of 564 km in 7.45 hours, will save three hours of travel time compared to other trains on the route, officials said. It will have three stoppages at Barsoi, Malda and Bolpur. The Vande Bharat Express with modern passenger amenities is likely to be preferred both by regular passengers, tea industry executives and tourists travelling to the Himalayas in North Bengal and Sikkim. The state-of-the-art train has 16 coaches, including two for drivers. Earlier, Banerjee, while speaking on the occasion, condoled the demise of Modi's mother Hiraben. "Your mother is also our mother," she said. The CM also said work on four out of the five railway projects that Modi launched were started during her tenure as railway minister.

Govt hikes interest...

interest rates in the economy.

However, the interest rates on Public Provident Fund (PPF) and the girl child savings scheme Sukanya Samridhhi has not been changed.

National Savings Certificate (NSC) will yield a 7 per cent interest rate from January 1, compared to 6.8 per cent at present. Similarly, the senior citizen savings scheme will give 8 per cent interest against 7.6 per cent currently.

Interest rates on Post office term deposit schemes of duration 1 to 5 years will rise by up to 1.1 percentage points.

The monthly income scheme too will yield 7.1 per cent interest, up from 6.7 per cent.

Snowfall brings cheer to tourists in Kashmir; relief from intense cold

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The prolonged dry spell in Kashmir was broken as the valley received overnight light to moderate snowfall which brought slight relief from the intense cold conditions, even as the flight operations at the Srinagar airport were affected early morning, officials said on Friday.

The snowfall, which was the season's first in the plains of the valley, however led to the closure of the Srinagar-Leh national highway, the officials said.

While the plains of Kashmir received light snowfall, the higher reaches experienced moderate snow.

The snowfall not only broke the prolonged dry spell in the Kashmir valley, it also brought cheers to the tourists.

Sonmarg tourist resort in central Kashmir's Ganderbal district recorded about 20 inches of fresh snowfall, while the famous skiing destination of Gulmarg in north Kashmir's Baramulla district received about seven inches, the officials said.

Srinagar received about 1.5

inches of snowfall, Qazigund six inches, Pahalgam five inches, Kupwara eight inches, and Kokernag two inches, they added.

The officials said the plains in Bandipora recorded 2-5 inches, while its upper areas 5-8 inches. The frontier Gurez sector received about 12 inches, while the Razdan Pass about 18 inches.

The Zojilla Pass on the Srinagar-Leh highway also received about 20 inches of snowfall, leading to the closure of the highway connecting Kashmir with Ladakh, the officials said.

They said the Mughal Road was also closed for traffic due to accumulation of snow.

However, the Srinagar-Jammu national highway was through for traffic, they added.

A thick layer of fog engulfed many parts of the valley which led to decrease in the visibility at the Srinagar airport here, affecting air traffic early in the morning, the officials said. They said several flights were delayed in the morning due to low visibility.

CRIME REPORT

18 vehicles involved in illegal mining seized

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A massive crackdown has been done on the menace of illegal mining whereby 18 vehicles involved in illegal mining have been seized. Local intelligence was generated and accordingly multi-pronged strategy was devised whereby multiple raids were conducted on suspected locations by police teams of Police Stations Khour, Miran Sahib, Channi Himmat, RS Pura, Bishnah, Police Posts Chowki Choura, Phallain Mandal, Chatha and Sidhra acted stringently and seized 18 vehicles involved in illegal mining.

The seized vehicles include Three Tractor trollies i.e two tractor trollies (JK02CB-9266, JK21A-1589) and one tractor trolley without Registration No seized by Khour police; Two Tractor trollies i.e one tractor (JK02CV-8450) and one tractor trolley without Registration No by Miran Sahib police; one tipper (JK02AQ-2425) by Channi Himmat Police; One tractor trolley bearing Chasis No. MBNBEBBAZKNB00464, by RS Pura police; One Tipper (JK 02CQ-3181) by Bishnah police; 4 vehicles i.e one Excavator bearing Chasie No. BCEC140BHC002808, two dumpers bearing Registration Nos. JK20B-6723 and JK02CM-0935, one tractor trolley bearing Chasis No. 78NH11032AB, by Chowki Choura police; 4 vehicles i.e One tractor trolley bearing Registration No. JK02CT-3393 and three tractor trollies bearing Chasis Nos. MBNAAALXBKJH03972, MBNGAALF2NRD00790 and MBNBG55AFLCN07362, by Phallain Mandal police; One tractor trolley bearing Chasis number MBNALALUPMRK0017, by Chatha police and one dumper (JK02CU 6492) by Sidhra police.

The recoveries were made by SHO Khour Inspr Rattan

Singh, SHO Miran Sahib Inspr Zaheer Mushtaq, SHO Channi Himmat Inspr Rajesh Khajuria, SHO RS Pura Inspr Pawan Kumar, SHO Bishnah Inspr Vikram Sharma, In-Charge Police Posts Chowki Choura PSI Pankaj Katoch, Phallain Mandal-PSI Ajesh Singh Jamwal, Chatha-PSI Harjinder Paul Singh and Sidhra-PSI Nitish Khajuria in their respective jurisdictions.

Missing woman traced, reunited with family

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

ARNIA: Police on Friday traced a missing woman and reunited her with her family.

As per the details, a missing report was lodged at Police Station Arnia by the husband of a woman stating that she got missing from her home. In this regard missing report was registered and investigation got started.

On this, a team of Police Station Arnia under the supervision of SDPO R.S Pura Surinder Singh led by SHO Arnia Inspr Deepak Katoch did strenuous efforts and with the help of CCTV footages finally traced the missing woman.

Subsequently husband of the missing woman was informed and the traced lady was handed over to her husband after completing all the legal formalities.

4 notorious drug peddlers booked under PSA

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BUDGAM: Continuing its efforts to eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, Police on Friday booked 04 notorious drug peddlers under Public Safety Act (PSA) after obtaining formal detention orders from the competent authority.

The 04 notorious drug peddlers have been identified as Jahangere Ahmad Magloo alias Jai Khandeel son of Abdul Rasheed Magloo & Mohammad Arif Magloo son of Ghulam Mohammad Magloo both residents of Putlibagh Budgam, Mehraj Ahmed Wani alias Mehra son of Mohammad Amin Wani resident of Awanpora Chadoora and Miasar Ahmed Mir son of Late Ghulam Hassan Mir resident of Dalwan Charar-e-Sharief.

It is pertinent to mention that the above drug peddlers were involved in 06 NDPS cases registered in various

Police stations of the district and were promoting drug abuse trade by supplying drugs to local youth of District Budgam.

Despite their involvement in many FIRs, these drug peddlers did not mend their activities.

Subsequently, the cases were duly processed and sanctions were obtained from the competent authority against the arrested drug peddlers for detention under Public Safety Act and have been lodged in District Jail Rajouri.

4 Ic/PPs transferred

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: SSP Samba on Friday transferred four incharge police posts.

As per the order SI Sunil Dutt who was posted at Border Police Post Swankha has been transferred and posted as in-charge Mansar Police Post; PSI Mohammad Aslam from Rajpura to Bari Brahmana Police Station; Nirmal Singh from Mansar TO TO SIDCO and Ankush Sharma from SIDCO to Rajpura.

Man dies in accident

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: A man died in an accident in Kashtigarh area on Friday.

According to the information, Abdul Qayoom son of Ghulam Hasan who was going on his scooty was hit by a tempo in the area in which he got injured. He was shifted to the hospital where he died during treatment. Police reached the spot and took his body into custody. A case has been registered in this regard and investigation started.

Woman found hanging

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A woman found hanging in her maternal home In Chinnore area.

According to the information, Anjana Moza, wife of Sanjay Moza resident of Anand Nagar Bohri who had come to her maternal home Vikas Nagar was found hanging in the room. After getting information police reached the spot and took body into custody. The police is investigating the matter.

