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Union Territory. Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; RK Goyal, Additional Chief Secretary, Home Department; Shaleen Kabra, Financial Commissioner, Revenue; Dr Mandeep Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor and Administrative Secretaries attended the meeting.

Helicopter services to...

for this much-anticipated revival.
The Div Com instructed Deputy Commissioners to appoint Nodal Officers and conduct joint inspections with Global Vectra Helicorp's technical team to facilitate the readiness of designated helipads in their respective districts. The discussion delved into the finer details of initiating services, including notifying timings and fare schedules to all designated locations.

Taking a significant step forward, the Div Com appointed Joint Director Tourism as the Nodal Officer to facilitate seamless coordination with the service provider - Global Vectra Helicorp. The Joint Director Tourism has been tasked with establishing a dedicated counter and assembling a team for efficient ticket booking at TRC Jammu.

To keep the public well-informed, the Div Com instructed Deputy Commissioners to widely publicize and notify fares and timings at prominent locations such as hospitals and bus stands. Representatives from Civil Aviation shared details of routes and fares, with the reassurance that this renewed helicopter service will not only bring relief to the locals but also prove invaluable during medical emergencies.

This development is not just about transportation; it's a beacon of hope for the community, promising convenience and swift assistance during medical emergencies. The resumption of regular helicopter services is poised to make a positive impact on the lives of the residents.

The meeting was attended by Additional Commissioner, Pankaj Katoch; Joint Director Tourism, Sunaina Sharma; Representative of Global Vectra Helicorp Pvt. Ltd; Civil Aviation Department and other concerned officers, while Deputy Commissioners of Poonch, Rajouri, Doda and Kishtwar participated in the meeting through Video Conferencing.

LG pays tributes...

Five Delhi Police personnel, a Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) official, two Parliament watch and ward staff and a gardener lost their lives in the attack.
"Tributes to the martyrs who sacrificed their lives during the 2001 Parliament attack," Sinha said on 'X'. He said the nation will always remain indebted to their exemplary courage, valour and supreme sacrifice.

Major security breach....

Alarmed members, including Hanuman Beniwal, Malook Nagar and Gurjeet Singh Anjlia, overpowered and thrashed the intruders, who had come to the gallery with visitor passes facilitated by two-term Lok Sabha member from Mysuru Prathap Sinha of BJP, before handing them over to the security personnel.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi, Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal and several opposition leaders including Rahul Gandhi and Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury were among the over 100 lawmakers present at the time of the incident.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah were not in the House as they were away in Bhopal for the swearing-in ceremony of Chief Minister Mohan Yadav.

Rajendra Agrawal, who was in the chair, adjourned the proceedings immediately for one hour.

Opposition members termed the security breach as the worst since the 2001 terror attack in which 14 persons, including five terrorists who stormed Parliament complex, were killed. They also demanded a statement from Home Minister Shah on the breach.

Trinamool Congress leader Sudip Bandyopadhyay called the security breach the worst since Independence as the attackers had managed to reach the Lok Sabha chamber with smoke canisters which could have been lethal.

Several opposition members sought to link the incident to the threats issued by Khalistani terrorist Gurbatwant Singh Pannun, to attack Parliament on or before December 13, the anniversary of the terror attack.

As the proceedings resumed at 2 pm, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla said a comprehensive security review of Parliament House would be carried out and at the same time made it clear that the preliminary inquiry did not indicate any links to Pannun.

Lok Sabha officials said the issuance of passes for the visitors' gallery in the Parliament House has been suspended with immediate effect.

The Lok Sabha Secretariat has also written to the Union home ministry, seeking a review of the security measures at the Parliament building.

Top police officers including Commissioner Sanjay Arora rushed to Parliament House after the incident.

All four persons Sagar Sharma (26) and Manoranjan D (34), who jumped into the Lok Sabha chamber; and Amol Shinde (25) and Neelam (42) who were nabbed outside Parliament premises were detained at Parliament Street Police Station for questioning. Police have also detained a fifth person from Gurugram.

Sharma is a resident of Lucknow, Manoranjan hails from Mysuru, Shinde from Latur and Neelam from Hisar. Police sources said all four were staying together at a Gurugram house and they had two more accomplices.

After opening the gas canisters that emitted the smoke outside the Parliament building, Shinde and Neelam also raised slogans such as "Tanashahi Nahi Chalegi" (dictatorship will not be allowed), "Bharat Mata Ki Jai" and "Jai Bheem, Jai Bharat", police officials said.

Neelam claimed that she was not part of any organisation and was a student who was unemployed. She said she was protesting against alleged injustice against farmers, small traders and marginalised.

Later, the Lok Sabha Speaker chaired an all-party meeting where opposition members sought immediate tightening of security measures at Parliament and question-

ing of BJP member Sinha, a former journalist and author of Modi's biography.

Facing flak, Sinha's office said Parliamentarians generally entertain requests for visitors' gallery passes from members of their constituency to witness Parliamentary proceedings.

According to the Parliament rulebook, the MP has to certify that the "visitor is my relation/personal friend/known to me personally and I take full responsibility for her/him".

A large number of visitors have been coming to the new Parliament building ever since it began hosting sessions in September.

Members who overpowered the two persons inside the Lok Sabha chamber said,"one of them was saying I am a patriot and came here to protest."

Many Lok Sabha members beat up the intruders before handing them over to security.

JD(U) member Rampriti Mandal said the intruders had hidden the gas canisters in their shoes and sprayed yellow-coloured gas in the Lok Sabha chamber.

Mandal, who was near the intruder, said RLP member Hanuman Beniwal and other members overpowered the person.

"One of the two was raising slogans 'Tanashahi nahi chalegi'," Mandal said.

"Suddenly there was a commotion in the House. One person was seen jumping from one bench to another. It was a very tense moment, anything could have happened. I thought, what if he has a bomb or fire equipment in his pocket? It is a serious security lapse," Sudip Bandyopadhyay, Trinamool Lok Sabha leader, said.

"Two people jumped from the public gallery, there was smoke and everyone ran. They have been caught by some MPs and security personnel. One of them is Sagar. He was the guest of Mysuru member Prathap Sinha," Lok Sabha member Danish Ali said.

"It is a big security lapse. It is the anniversary of the Parliament attack. This is a matter for probe," said Ali.

Congress member Karti Chidambaram said the two persons pulled out canisters that were emitting yellow smoke. "The smoke could have been poisonous. It is a serious security breach," he added.

"They started advancing and rushing towards the well of the house and they lit up smoke sticks. Security was compromised," DMK member D N V Senthil Kumar said on X.

"Certainly, there is a loophole. At first, I thought a person might have fallen but when the second person started coming down, all of us became cautious," BJP member Rajendra Agrawal said.

"Home Minister Amit Shah gives big speeches but can't maintain security in Parliament, he must resign," TMC MP Kalyan Banerjee said.

In a post on X, Congress leader Gaurav Gogoi said, "Saw two young men unleash foul smelling yellow coloured gas from canisters inside Parliament gallery. MPs rushed to grab these men. One person was raising some slogans. This raises serious questions on another aspect of the new Parliament building- security." Security has been beefed up in the area following the incident.

Terrorists of the Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jaish-e-Mohammed outfits attacked the Parliament complex on this day in 2001, killing nine people.

Meanwhile, Devaraje Gowda, father of Manoranjan, said hang my son if he has done something wrong but maintained that his son was a "good boy."

"My son is a good boy. He is honest and truthful. His only desire is to do good for the society and sacrifice for the society. He used to read Swami Vivekananda's books. I think he developed such thoughts after reading these books," Gowda told reporters.

"It is difficult to understand what was running through his mind. My son completed his BE (Bachelor in Engineering) in 2016 and was looking after the farm. He also worked in some firms in Delhi and Bengaluru," he added.

Parliament clears bill...

to power in 2014 has repealed 1,486 defunct laws in order to improve ease of living for common man.

With the 76 more added, the list now stands at 1,562 such laws, he added.

"Modi Ji has a principle of minimum government maximum governance, we are moving swiftly in this direction. It will improve ease of doing business and living," Meghwal said.

He noted that no such initiative was undertaken by the previous government.

During the UPA rule between 2004-2014, not a single law was repealed, Meghwal said.

He also said that a sunset clause is under consideration of the government.

The law minister was responding to DMK member P Wilson who had stated that as far as repealing bills are concerned there should be a sunset clause in all the bills. GV Narasimha Rao of the BJP termed the repealing of the obsolete laws as a "massive clean-up" exercise taken by the Modi government.

Mahesh Jethmalani of BJP termed the bill as a case of legal house cleaning. "Our legal godown had become overfull with laws that are obsolete...so there was a need for legal house cleaning," he said.

Supporting the bill, Muzibulla Khan of BJD noted that there is a need to look at existing laws so that justice is delivered to the public in a swift manner.

KR Suresh Reddy of BRS said dynamism doesn't mean just removing outdated laws, it also means bringing in legislation which is beneficial for the general people.

Naresh Bansal (BJP), M Thambidurai (AIADMK), Masthan Rao Beeda of YSRCP also spoke during the discussion.

SIA conducts searches...

and other consignments of arms and ammunition at different locations in Jammu and Kashmir through his network of associates.

He said HM, its handlers and terror group Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) have worked out a detailed plan of systematically and regularly financing their active and arrested terrorists, families of killed terrorists and their associates.

An amount of Rs 15,000 is given to every member to sustain terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir, he added.

Kashmiri along with his associates spread across Kashmir is raising, collecting, receiving, transporting, distributing and delivering the money to active and arrested terrorists of HM and their families to further terrorist, unlawful, subversive and secessionist activities in Jammu and Kashmir and other parts of India, the

spokesperson said. A close associate of Kashmiri, Majid Aziz Lawey, was arrested in the terror funding case in November with Rs 5 lakh.

Anand Marriage Act...

District Gurudwara Parbandhak Committee, Jammu Balvinder told PTI.

He said the implementation of the Anand Marriage Act has made the community happy as they "were facing an identity crisis due to the non-availability of a separate Sikh marriage act".

The emergence of the Anand Marriage Act dates back to 1909 when the British Imperial Legislative Council passed a legislation for the recognition of the Sikh wedding ceremony Anand Karaj. The Act aimed to acknowledge and respect the customs and practices of the community.

In 2012, the Parliament passed the Anand Marriage (Amendment) Bill, bringing Sikh traditional marriages under the purview of legal recognition.

While the central government approved the amendments, it was left for individual states and Union territories to frame respective rules for the registration of Anand marriages.

Azad hails Ibrahim...

featured 50 personalities from Jammu from various walks of life, who have contributed to the society.

Azad, while launching the magazine, said that it is the duty of every citizen to promote, remember and teach our future generations about the people and personalities who have contributed and sacrificed for us.

"The way this magazine has been carried out where the names of all our heroes in various and diverse fields have been profiled is a greatest thing that we can do to acknowledge their services. I congratulate you for this great endeavour," he said.

Prominent among those present on the occasion included former minister and Gen Secretary R S Chib, Provincial President Jugal Kishore, Sohail Kazmi, senior journalist and member Waqf Board, Salman Nizami Chief Spokesperson and Swaran Chowdary, Managing Director IDPS Jammu.

India rejects OIC's...

even more questionable.

Though Bagchi did not name any country, it was clear that the reference was towards Pakistan.

"India rejects the statement issued by the General Secretariat of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) on a judgement of the Indian Supreme Court. It is both ill informed and ill intended," Bagchi said.

"That OIC does so at the behest of a serial violator of human rights and an unrepentant promoter of cross border terrorism makes its action even more questionable. Such statements only undermine OIC's credibility," he said.

Bagchi was responding to a media query.

On Tuesday, the General Secretariat of the OIC expressed concern over the Supreme Court verdict. In a statement, the General Secretariat also reaffirmed its solidarity with the people of Jammu and Kashmir. The Supreme Court had on Monday upheld the Centre's August 5, 2019 decision to abrogate Article 370.

DB grants four...

by the outsiders and many ancient temples mosque and Gurudwaras were being destroyed or dismantled during that era. After the independence, some of the temples were again built, renovated and repaired but many temples in the UT of J&K remained unrepaired and at present those ancient temples are in dilapidated condition. Admittedly the erstwhile state of J&K continuously remained in militancy for more than a decade in the nineties and during that era, many temples which were already in dilapidated condition were mostly destroyed and their land has been illegally encroached upon and the other temple which were renovated and repaired were also destroyed. The petitioner by way of representations and RTIs also asked the authorities to provide information about the temples which were destroyed or damaged due to militancy attacks or by abandonment or by any other mean. The respondents in their reply to the RTI filed by the petitioner also gave the details of all the temples which were damaged, destroyed, partially damaged good condition.

The petition filed the present Public Interest Litigation (PIL) for a direction to the respondents to take appropriate recourse to protect, rebuild, renovate the ancient temples of the UT of J&K and retrieve the land of the temples encroached by the Mafia and other property Dealers. That the main objective of the petitioner in filing the present Public Interest Litigation is to protect and preserve the ancient and old temples which are existing in the UT of J&K and to also rebuild/reconstruct the damaged religious Hindu temples which are currently in a dilapidated condition. The land mafia and people with vested interest are encroaching the land of the temples and no authority and statutory body is existing at present after the coming into force of the J&K Reorganisation Act, 2019.

Kashmir continues to...

down from the previous night's minus 1.5 degrees Celsius, officials said.

They said last night was the coldest night of the season so far in Srinagar -- the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir -- lower than the previous low of minus 4.8 degrees Celsius recorded on Sunday night. Pahalgam in south Kashmir's Anantnag district, which serves as one of the base camps for the annual Amarnath Yatra, recorded a minimum temperature of minus 5.3 degrees Celsius, while Gulmarg in Baramulla district recorded a low of minus 5.5 degrees Celsius, they said.

Qazigund recorded a low of minus 3.2 degrees Celsius, Kokernag town minus 2.1 degrees Celsius and Kupwara minus 3.7 degrees Celsius. The meteorological office said the weather would remain mainly dry till December 15 but mild precipitation is expected over the weekend.

SSF personnel dies...

of Jammu's Nagrota area, was coming out of the Raj Bhavan when the incident occurred. He was rushed to the Government Medical College Hospital, where he succumbed to his injuries, they said.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has condoled the death of the SSF personnel in the "unfortunate" road accident and expressed deepest sympathies with the bereaved family. Sinha also prayed for eternal peace of the departed soul.

Baru calls on Dr. Jitendra, demands J&K hostel in Delhi University

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Representing a long pending demand of the numerous students from the region of Jammu & Kashmir for a residential hostel in Delhi University, BJP Senior leader former JMC Councillor Sanjay Baru on Wednesday called on Dr Jitendra Singh MoS PMO at Delhi.

Sanjay Kumar Baru discussed various development and other local issues of Jammu and Kashmir while he called upon the Union Minister at his office. He said that the Modi government and the LG administration have taken many unprecedented steps for the welfare of the youth and the student community after the abrogation of controversial Articles 370 and 35(a). He also



BJP Senior leader Sanjay Baru calling on MoS PMO Dr Jitendra Singh at New Delhi.

thanked the Union Minister for highlighting the issues of the population of Jammu & Kashmir and especially the issues of the youth and taking proactive measures through Science and Technology and promoting the innovative start-ups, which have given the edge to the nation through the youth energy.

Sanjay Baru, on the occa-

sion, highlighted the need for a hostel in Delhi University for students coming from Jammu and Kashmir. He said that numerous students, from the region of Jammu & Kashmir come to Delhi to pursue the higher education with the aid of PM Scholarship scheme. He cited many problems and issues faced by the student commu-

nity especially the female students in getting cordial and peaceful atmosphere to concentrate on their studies without worrying for the security or the other issues. He requested the Union Minister to take the necessary steps to help the students with the residential hostel in the Delhi University itself.

Dr. Jitendra Singh said that earlier also, talks were being carried out between Union government and the LG administration. He assured Sanjay Baru that needful would be done for the benefit of the student community belonging to the region of Jammu & Kashmir and prompted him to share the youth friendly schemes and policies of Modi government with the youth.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: "Please come to Kashmir, it is fantastic," said Bollywood star John Abraham after he concluded a shooting schedule of his upcoming movie "Vedaa" in the valley.

Abraham arrived in the union territory last week for the shooting of the movie, which also features Sharvari Wagh. The film was shot in Srinagar and Anantnag district in south Kashmir.

In a video released by Jammu and Kashmir Tourism Department on microblogging site X on Tuesday evening, Abraham said his experience in Kashmir was fantastic.

"We are shooting in Ashmuqam. It is an absolutely fantastic place. We have got 240 extras. You



can see it is absolutely outstanding, where I am, in the outskirts of Anantnag. It is such a beautiful place, Kashmir," the actor, who was wearing the traditional Kashmiri cloak pheran, said.

The "Pathaan" star he wants more people to visit Kashmir and witness how

beautiful the place is.

"I want people to come to Kashmir not only for shoot but also for a holiday to see how beautiful place this is. We had a great welcome here. Kashmiri people are absolutely fantastic. Everybody wants to work, they want to work and they just want to be happy work-

ing. They are always smiling," he said.

At the same time, the 50-year-old actor encouraged people to keep the place clean.

"When you come here, just do not dirty the place or throw plastic because it is such a beautiful place, it has to be kept clean. That is my only advice to everyone. Please come to Kashmir, it is fantastic," he added.

Also featuring Abhishek Banerjee and Tamanaah Bhatia, "Vedaa" is being directed by Nikkhil Advani.

The movie, which will feature high-octane sequences and gripping action, is produced by Zee Studios, Advani's Emmay Entertainment and Abraham's JA Entertainment.

GDC Neeli Nallah organises Essay Writing Competition on 'Environmental Sustainability'

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: Government Degree College Neeli Nallah Udhampur today organised an Essay Writing Competition on the theme "Environmental Sustainability" here under Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra @2047. The programme started with a keynote



Faculty and students during the programme.

address by the principal of the college Prof. Hans Raj. A number of students took part in the essay writing competition with zeal and enthusiasm. Principal of the college asserted that such types of awareness programs create awareness among students regarding such burning issues. "Under Viksit Bharat,

India has 25 years to leverage the demographic dividends, so, we must put in all the resources to ensure that India will become a developed nation by 2047, when it celebrates 100 years of independence", he added.

Rimjim Sharma bagged 1st Position, Himanshi Sharma got 2nd Position and Suhani

Rajput stood 3rd. They were awarded with certificates.

The convener of the programme was Dr. Sunil Tanoch. The members of the organizing committee were Prof.Rekha Sharma, Prof.Shaista Yasmeen, Dr. Akhter Hussain, Dr. Zahoor Ahmad Mir, Dr.Mahima Bhagat, and Swati Sharma.