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Promoting learning beyond...

Dr. Ritu Singh, Pro-Vice Chairperson, DPS Jammu highlighted the initiatives including 'Project Vriddhi' and 'Project Roshni' aimed at fostering inclusivity and technological empowerment, for societal betterment.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor inaugurated Roshni lab dedicated to empowerment of visually impaired students.

He also felicitated the winners of the NHPC painting competition and the girls belonging to rural areas who successfully completed basic course on computer education under the 'Vriddhi' project.

Students of DPS Jammu presented a Book Report to the Lt Governor on their entrepreneurial project of river cleaning using drone technology.

S.S. Sodhi, Director DPS Jammu; Principals, teachers and students of the DPS Jammu, DPS SMVDU-Katra, DPS Nagbani and prominent personalities from different walks of life were present.

Six Kulgam residents...

in Shimla district early Monday after the driver lost control of the vehicle. Six people injured in the incident are undergoing treatment at a hospital, officials said.

"Anguished by the tragic road accident in Shimla, in which six Kulgam residents have lost their lives. Condolences to the bereaved families. May the injured recover soon," Sinha wrote on X.

He directed the Deputy Commissioner of Kulgam to provide all necessary assistance to the next of kin of the deceased.

Meanwhile, CPI(M) leader and former MLA from Kulgam M Y Tarigami said he was pained by the deaths and demanded adequate compensation for the victims.

"Deeply pained to learn about the tragic accident in Shimla in which 6 labourers from Kund area of Kulgam lost their lives and some suffered injuries. Requesting the @CMOFFICEHP to ensure the best possible treatment to the injured and facilitate the early return of bodies," Tarigami, a four-time MLA from Kulgam, said in a post on X.

He also demanded compensation for the next of kin of the deceased labourers.

Meanwhile, Jammu and Kashmir Apni Party leader Altaf Bukhari also consoled the demise of labourers.

"Pained over the tragic death of six persons from Kulgam district and injuries to as many in a road mishap in Himachal Pradesh's Shimla. Extend my heartfelt sympathies with the bereaved families and pray for a swift recovery of the injured persons," he said on X.

"I in the meantime urge the authorities to ensure best possible treatment for the persons injured in the incident," Bukhari posted on X.

Fire breaks out...

the flames were doused, he said, adding the cause of the blaze was being ascertained. According to preliminary investigation, the fire erupted in the house of Ghulam Ahmad Najar at Kanlibagh in Baramulla and spread to nearby house and the mill. Army personnel from a nearby camp helped the locals and police personnel in putting out the fire. "The prompt action prevented the fire from spreading to other houses in the vicinity," the official said.

Don't vent frustration...

don't vent the frustration of defeats suffered outside inside Parliament. There would be frustration and disappointment, also your colleagues would need to show their strength but don't make this temple of democracy that platform," the prime minister said.

"I say on the basis of my experience, I would say change your (opposition) direction a bit, leave the habit of opposing for the sake of opposing. Support constructive things that are in country's interest, debate the shortcomings that are there and you will see that the hatred among the people over such things, that may change into love," he said.

Modi said it is a chance for the opposition and they should extend cooperation in Parliament.

"I want to say from the political point of view that it is in your (opposition) interest also to give a message of positivity to the country. It is not good for democracy that your image is of hate and negativity," he said.

In democracy, the opposition is equally important and should be capable, Modi said.

The prime minister said, "2047 -- the country does not want to wait long for becoming developed. This is the feeling in every section of the society. Respecting this sentiment, all members should take forward Parliament proceedings, this is my request to them".

His remarks come a day after the BJP swept Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh inflicting a resounding defeat on the Congress to tighten its stranglehold in the Hindi heartland.

The Congress ousted the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) in Telangana to make it 3-1 for the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in the latest round of Assembly elections billed as a semi-final before next year's poll showdown.

In his remarks to the media, Modi said winters may be coming late but the political heat is increasing very fast.

"Only yesterday the election results of four states have come, the results are very encouraging. These are encouraging for those who are committed to the welfare of the common person of the country, who are dedicated to the bright future of the country," Modi said.

He asserted that those who move forward on the principles of empowering the four castes -- women, youth, farmers and the poor -- ensure concrete policies for their future and last-mile delivery, receive full support of the people.

"And when there is good governance, complete support for people's interest, then the word anti-incumbency becomes irrelevant. And we are continuously seeing that... some people call it pro-incumbency, some call it good governance, some transparency, while some call it concrete schemes in national interest, but this is being experienced constantly," he said.

When the new complex of Parliament was inaugurated, there was a small session and a historic decision was taken but this time there will be an opportunity to work in this House for a longer period, he said.

"It is a new House, perhaps some minor shortcomings in facilities may still be felt. When work goes on for long, the MPs, visitors and media people will also realise that it would be good if some things need to be fixed. And I am sure that under the leadership of the vice president and the speaker, those things are being monitored," Modi said. The Winter session of Parliament is scheduled to have 15 sittings till December 22.

Court rejects bail...

4-5 months, three terrorists had started coming to his home, one among them was Kashmiri and other two were Pakistani. The Kashmiri terrorists told his name as Ravees and he was calling the Pakistani terrorists with the names Qaari Aabaan, Hafiz, and Khalid @ Saifullah, who were coming to his home in late night and he was allowing these terrorist to enter his home by opening window. On 17th December, 2021 the terrorists first time entered his home with weapons and during the intervening night of 18/19th Decenver,2021 when the forces cordoned off the village Darbagh Harwan, all the three foreign terrorist tried to flee from the spot but only two of them managed to escape, while one foreign terrorist namely Khalid @

Saifullah R/o Karachi Pakistan got killed. Offences under Section 19, 20 UAP Act have been added in the case.

Special Judge NIA Srinagar Sandeep Gandotra after hearing both the sides observed that prima-facie there are reasonable grounds to believe that the accusation against the accused person/ applicant for the commission of offence U/s 19 UA P Act are reasonably true because they have deposited incriminating material against the accused/applicant. Charges under section 19 UAP Act have been framed against the applicant on 23rd January, 2023 and 59 witnesses are yet to be examined. Therefore, the embargo contained Section 43-D (5) with regard to offences under chapter IV & VI of UA P Act is clearly attracted to the facts of this case. As such, the accused does not deserve the latitude of bail at this stage. The application is accordingly dismissed. APP shall examine the PWs without unnecessary delay because the applicant is under trial and is in judicial custody.

Fix timeline for...

Rs 2,153.45 crore in the previous fiscal, the spokesman said.

He said the Chief Secretary noted the issues of development of industrial estates and future plans of the department, capex expenditure made to date and directed to fast track its pace and meet the deadlines.

In the meeting, Dulloo urged the department to create a formal mechanism for highlighting and resolution of the concerns of industrialists.

He advised holding periodic sittings of the forum in both divisions and said the objective of the forum should be to advocate and further the interests of stakeholders in the industrial sector.

The chief secretary said due priority should be given for the proper implementation of the PM Vishwakarma scheme that envisages end-to-end support to marginal artisans and craftsmen who work with their hands.

He directed providing every kind of assistance to the applicants for registration as per the approved target and ensure that every such artisan is onboarded on the portal.

Massive searches underway...

Gursai, Jabranwali Gali, Saruti, and Ari villages near the Line of Control (LoC) in Mendhar sector of Poonch district.

The operations were launched following inputs about suspicious movement in the forest areas, officials said.

Searches were intensified in the twin border districts following a fierce gunfight in Dharmasal belt's Bajimaal area of Rajouri on November 22 and 23 that left five soldiers including two captains dead.

Two Pakistani terrorists affiliated with the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) outfit were eliminated in the 36-hour long encounter.

In one such operation on December 2, security forces detected a 5 kg Improvised Explosive Device in Topa Hilltok area of Darhal. It was later destroyed.

Minimum temperatures in...

of the base camps for the Amarnath Yatra, saw the mercury settling at minus 3.4 degrees Celsius, making it the coldest in the Valley on Sunday night.

Gulmarg in Baramulla district recorded a low of minus 3 degrees Celsius, the officials said, adding the minimum temperature in Srinagar was 0.7 degrees Celsius.

Qazigund recorded a low of minus 0.4 degrees Celsius while the Kokernag town in south Kashmir registered a minimum of 0.8 degrees Celsius.

Last Thursday saw an end to the three-week-long dry spell in Kashmir as the middle and higher reaches of the Valley witnessed snowfall while rains lashed the plains.

The meteorological office said the skies would remain partly to generally cloudy but the weather would be dry till December 10.

Azad releases Hindi...

"In our times, agreeing to disagree was our guiding principle but disagreeing never meant losing person or showing hatred towards the person," he said.

Darda popularly known as Babuji, was an Indian freedom fighter and a senior politician. He was the founding editor of Lokmat group of newspapers.

He was a pioneering journalist and a prominent politician of his time.

Azad said that Darda was a great politician who worked to integrate the nation and strictly followed the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi.

He said Darda, apart from being a politician, was also a true freedom fighter, social activist and a journalist who through his services and writings enlightened the people and nation.

The DPAP chairman said that being close to him, he knew how sincere and visionary was Darda and how he positively impacted millions of people in the country.

Azad said that Darda was writing and working to keep the country united and people from all walks of life respected him for his thought process.

He said Darda was a true Gandhian who devoted his life and energy in spreading and promoting his ideology of humanity.

Among those who were present on the occasion were senior journalists, Members of Parliament from INC, BJP, TMS, AAP, BSP, Shiv Sena, NCP, RPI, Forward Block and some independent MPs.

Over 75 pc UAPA...

report showed. In 2022 as well as 2021, 55 FIRs were registered under the Official Secrets Act while 39 such offences were registered in 2020, according to the NCRB, which is tasked with the collection and analysis of crime data.

A total of 5,610 cases were registered in 2022 as compared to 5,164 cases in 2021, and 5,613 in 2020 under the wider category of 'Offences against the State'.

Of the total cases in 2022, 78.5 per cent were registered under the Prevention of Damage to Public Property Act (4,403 cases) followed by 1,005 (17.9 per cent) cases under the UAPA, the NCRB stated in its report.

The crime rate per lakh population in this category was logged at 0.4 while the charge sheeting rate was 80.8 last year, it showed.

The maximum cases under the wider category of 'Offences against the State' were registered in Uttar Pradesh (2,231) followed by Tamil Nadu (634), Jammu and Kashmir (417), Assam (298) and Kerala (297). The national capital Delhi registered 22 such cases in 2022, according to the report.

Across the country in 2022, 48 cases were lodged under IPC sections 121-123, 79 under 'Imputation, assertions prejudicial to national integration' and 4,524 under the Prevention of Damage to Public Property Act, it showed.

In 2021, a total of 73 cases were lodged under the IPC sections 121-123 and 57 under 'Imputation, assertions prejudicial to national integration' and 4,089 under the Prevention of Damage to Public Property Act, while the figures for the same in 2020 were 99, 82 and 4,524, respectively, the NCRB data showed.

In a note of caution about the annual report, the NCRB said the primary presumption that the upward swing in police data indicates an increase in crime and thus a reflection of the ineffectiveness of the police is fallacious.

"Rise in crime' and 'increase in registration of crime by police' are clearly two different things, a fact which requires better understanding. Thus an oft-repeated expectation from certain quarters that an effective police administration will be able to keep the crime figures low is misplaced," it stated.

Increase in crime numbers in a state police data may in fact be on account of certain citizen-centric police initiatives, like launching of e-FIR facility or women helpdesks," it said.

"The increase or decrease in crime numbers, however, does call for a professional investigation of underlying factors pertaining to the local communities to suitably address the pertinent issues," it added.

SC seeks details...

tentative proposal that once the Jammu bench of the high court shifts to the new complex, the high court building may be utilised by the tribunal.

"It may also be placed on record as to what is the progress being made on the high court Jammu bench as the two aspects are inter-linked," the bench said, while posting the matter for hearing on February 20 next year.

During the hearing, the ASG referred to the September 25 order passed by the apex court in the matter and said it was noted that over 16,000 cases were pending before the two benches of the tribunal.

She said the current status report indicates that the pendency has come down marginally to around 15,000.

"On the issue of the sanctioned strength and position of the staff at CAT, Jammu and Srinagar benches, also much remains to be desired as stop gap arrangements have been made. It is stated that the Staff Selection Commission has been asked to complete the task which is expected to be filled up by March, 2024," the bench had noted in its September 25 order.

"On the issue of infrastructure, some progress has been made for Srinagar but none for Jammu," it had said.

RS passes Bill...

services, which necessitated the repeal of the Indian Post Office Act, which was enacted in 1898 primarily to address the mail services provided through the post offices. The enactment of a new law in place of the Indian Post Office Act, 1898 is with a view to govern the functioning of the post offices in the country and provide for a simple legislative framework to facilitate the evolution of the post offices into a network for delivery of citizen-centric services. The bill seeks to empower the director general of postal services to frame regulations in respect of activities necessary to provide those services and fix the charges for such services.

Retired school principal...

then Principal, Higher Secondary School Panorma in District Rajouri, was chargesheeted in the court of law after an investigation by the crime branch found him guilty of cheating the complainant, a spokesperson of the agency said.

The official said the case stems its origin from a written complaint lodged by Ghulam Sadeeq of Rajouri alleging that accused who was working as a principal in a private institute in the district took an amount of Rs 1.54 lakh from him after assuring him to provide a government job to his daughter in lieu of his deceased wife on compassionate grounds. On receipt of the complaint, a preliminary verification was initiated and during probe the allegations were prima facie substantiated, leading to the registration of formal case for indepth investigation. During the course of investigation relevant record was seized, statement of witnesses recorded, Scientific, Circumstantial and other material evidence was gathered and offences U/S 420/IPC P/S Crime Branch Jammu were established against the accused for having cheated and duped the complainant of his hard earned money. Charge sheet was produced in the Court of law against the accused persons for judicial determination.



Davindra Singh

Mizoram polls: ZPM...

who secured the Serchhip seat defeating his MNF rival J Malsavnuzuala Vanchhawng by 2,982 votes.

Chief Minister and MNF chief Zoramthanga lost to ZPM's Lalthansanga by 2,101 votes, the Election Commission said. He later called on Governor Hari Babu Kamhampati and submitted his resignation, officials said.

In the 2018 assembly elections, the MNF had won 26 seats. This will be the first time in the history of Mizoram that the northeastern state will be ruled by a non-Congress and non-MNF government since its creation in 1987.

Nine out of 11 MNF ministers who contested the polls lost. Home Minister Lalchamliana did not contest the elections.

Prominent among them are Deputy Chief Minister and MNF candidate Tawnhnia who lost to ZPM candidate in Tuichang, Health Minister and MNF candidate R Lalthangliana who was defeated by ZPM's Jeje Lalpekhlua in South Tuipui and Rural Development Minister Laruatkina who lost to ZPM nominee Lalinghnglova Hmar in Aizawl West II, according to the Election Commission.

The 73-year-old ZPM chief Lalduhoma first contested the Mizoram assembly polls on a Congress ticket in 1984, but lost to People's Conference party nominee Lalthmingthanga by a margin of 846 votes.

The same year, he contested the Lok Sabha polls as a Congress candidate and was elected unopposed.

The ZPM leader resigned as state Congress president and withdrew his primary membership from the party in 1986, after he was accused of conspiring against then chief minister Lal Thanhawla and some cabinet ministers.

Lalduhoma, an ex-IPS officer who served as the in-charge of former prime minister Indira Gandhi's security, had earned the dubious distinction of being the first MP to be disqualified under the anti-defection law.

He was also disqualified by Mizoram Assembly Speaker Lalrinliana Sailo in 2020, after 12 Mizo National Front (MNF) legislators filed complaints, alleging he defected to the ZPM by actively participating in party activities, though being elected as an independent in the 2018 polls.

Besides the Congress, he was also once part of the MNF. He had floated his own party, the Zoram Nationalist Party, and was also instrumental in the formation of the ZPM.

Meanwhile, ZPM working president K Sapdanga said it will stake claim to form the government after holding a consultative meeting of newly elected MLAs and senior party leaders on Tuesday.

"A meeting of newly elected MLAs and Val Upa Council, the decision-making body of the party, will be held most likely on Tuesday to decide on claiming stake to form the government in Mizoram," Sapdanga told PTI.

ZPM has emerged winners in Kolasib, Chalfilh, Tawi, Aizawl North-I, Aizawl North-II, Aizawl North-III, Aizawl East I, Aizawl East II, Aizawl West-I, Aizawl West-II, Aizawl West-III, Aizawl South-I, Aizawl South-II, Aizawl South-III, Lengtung, Tuichang, Champai North, Champai South, Tuikum, Hrangturzo, South Tuipui, Lunglei North, Lunglei East, Lunglei West, Lunglei South, Lawngtlai East and Serchhip seats.

The MNF won in Hachhek, Mamik, Tuirial, Dampa, Serlui, Tuivawl, East Tuipui, West Tuipui, Thorang and Tuichawng seats and was leading in one.

Counting of votes, which began at 8 am, was being held in 13 centres. Postal ballots were counted first, and from 8.30 am, the counting for votes polled in the EVMs began.

In some of the seats that have a fewer number of voters, only two rounds of counting will be held, but in most of the constituencies, five rounds will be counted.

More than 4,000 personnel were involved in the counting process. In all, there are 399 tables for the EVMs and 56 for the counting of postal ballots.

Polling was held on November 7, and over 80 per cent of the state's 8.57 lakh voters exercised their franchise. A total of 174 candidates, including 18 women, were in the fray. The MNF, ZPM and Congress contested 40 seats each, while the BJP fielded candidates in 23 seats. The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), which contested the assembly polls here for the first time, fought in four seats. Also, there were 17 Independent candidates.

More women to be inducted in armed forces: PM

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

MALVAN (MAHARASHTRA): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday asserted his government is committed to increasing the strength of women in the armed forces and said Indian Navy ranks would be renamed according to the country's culture.

Paying tributes to Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj for his vision and warfare strategy, he noted the 17th century Maratha king knew the importance of naval power.

The PM was speaking at a Navy Day event held at Malvan in coastal Sindhudurg district of Maharashtra, around 500km from Mumbai.

"We are emphasising on increasing the number of women in the armed forces," he said.

Modi lauded the Navy following the announcement that a woman officer would be commanding a Naval ship for the time.

He said ranks in the Indian Navy would be renamed according to the Indian culture.

Modi also announced the epaulettes (rpt epaulettes) adorned by naval officers will have reflection of Chhatrapati Shivaji, credited for building the country's first modern Navy.

The legendary Maratha Empire founder knew the importance of naval power for a country and built a strong maritime force during his

reign, said the PM.

Taking inspiration from Chhatrapati Shivaji, India has left behind the mentality of slavery and racing forward on all fronts, he asserted.

Modi maintained today, India is setting bigger targets for itself and utilising its full potential to achieve those goals.

The world is seeing India as a 'Vishwa Mitra' (universal friend) the prime minister said.

Modi said India is giving an unprecedented support to port-led development.

"Merchant shipping is also being encouraged. India is moving towards utilising the potential of its oceans," he said.

Shortly before taking part in the Navy Day event, Modi unveiled a statue of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj at Rajkot Fort in Sindhudurg district.

Modi later witnessed 'operational demonstration' conducted by Indian Navy ships, submarines, aircraft and Special Forces from the Tarkarli beach.

The small coastal town of Malvan also witnessed an impressive demonstration of the Navy's prowess. The Navy deployed an array of its assets -- frontline warships, submarine, aircraft and helicopters for the drill.

Warships INS Vikramaditya, INS Kolkata, INS INs Kochi, INS

BSF School shines at Judo Nationals

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Young students of BSF Primary School, here excelled in the just concluded National CBSE Judo meet at Modern School Noida in Uttar Pradesh.

Judokas from the school won two bronze medals in different weight groups in this competition, a handout issued by the School, here on Monday informed.

Ruhi Katoch and Simarjot Kour bagged bronze medals in 40kg and open weight respectively in under-11 age group.

Many a Kandhari of the school also excelled with a Silver medal in 67th School National Judo Championship which was



Faculty along with winner students.

hosted by the Department of Youth Services and Sports, J&K at Jammu.

Meanwhile, Head Master of the School, Sonia Gupta felicitated the medal winners in special morning assembly. She appreciated the efforts of Rameshwar Singh Jamwal, NIS Judo Coach, of the School for training raw stuff into medal winners at the national level.

He hoped that in future, the school will continue to excel in sports thus bring laurels at the National level.