

!! Continuations from Page 1 !! Under PM Modi...

artistic heritage and also preserving and propagating Vedic oral tradition. "Our civilisational heritage represents a culture that is all-embracing and based on the concept of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam', the world as one family. This Mantra continues to be of great significance to the world even today," the Lieutenant Governor said.

He said, in the future, the IGNC Centre at Jammu will further strengthen government's efforts for the promotion, development and enrichment of folk traditions.

Emphasising the role of enlightened citizens and stakeholders to develop artistic mindset in the new generation, the Lieutenant Governor said the creative potential of the youth will benefit other sectors of the society.

He called for committed efforts for dissemination of works of great thinkers and writers like Yogi Lalleshwari, Nund Rishi, Habba Khatoon, Parmanand, Dattu, Thakur Raghunath Singh, Pandit Hardutt, Gangaram, Padma Sachdev, especially to the younger generation.

In this era of rapid change, it is also our collective responsibility to ensure that the articles, monographs, books on regional literature, folk music, drama genre and Pahari art become a part of every household, he added.

The Lieutenant Governor also applauded the IGNC and J&K Council of Educational Research & Training (SCERT) for organising Toyceathon.

He said the Toyceathon provides an opportunity to our youngsters to participate in grassroot innovation and lead them to design and develop toys based on local cultural ethos and life of local heroes.

The Lieutenant Governor also spoke on the revolution taking place in UT of J&K in education sector; in the past few years. "I am proud that Jammu Kashmir is leading the country in implementing the recommendations of the National Education Policy 2020", he said.

On the occasion, the Lieutenant Governor felicitated the students who excelled during the District/School level competitions under Toyceathon 2024.

He also released several publications of IGNC, and visited the stalls put up by different school students exhibiting innovative and creative toy designs, and clay models prepared by artists from various states.

Sakina Ittoo, Minister for School/Higher Education, Health & Medical Education and Social Welfare; Dr Sachidanand Joshi, Member Secretary IGNC; Suresh Kumar Gupta, Principal Secretary Culture and School Education; Dr Rashmi Singh, Commissioner Secretary, Higher Education; Prof. (Dr) Parikshat Singh Manhas, Director SCERT J&K; senior officials; Teachers, Artists and students were present.

Anand Jain, ADGP Jammu; Ramesh Kumar, Divisional Commissioner Jammu; Vice Chancellors of several Universities and Heads of various educational institutions were also present on the occasion.

Record Govt jobs...

is not a barrier by ensuring that youngsters can take recruitment exams in 13 Indian languages, he added.

Noting that former prime minister Charan Singh, whose birth anniversary is being observed on Monday, stood for the development of rural India and for the country's progress, Modi said his government has followed this by creating job and self-employment opportunities in villages.

It was his government's good fortune to bestow Bharat Ratna on Singh earlier this year, he said.

Speaking at the event, Union minister Jitendra Singh said more than 29 per cent of the 71,000 recruited came from the Other Backward Classes category.

The backward classes recruitment has seen a 27 per cent rise under the Modi government compared to the UPA's 10 years in power, he said.

The Schedules Castes and Scheduled Tribes accounted for 15.8 and 9.6 respectively for Monday's recruitments, Singh added.

In his address, Modi said the development of a country relies on the hard work, capability, and leadership of its youth, and India is committed to becoming a developed nation by 2047 as its policies and decisions focus on empowering its talented youth.

He said India is now the world's fifth-largest economy and the third-largest start-up ecosystem. Similarly, youths pursuing careers in sports have confidence that they will not fail because they now are supported by modern training facilities and tournaments. Modi said the country is undergoing a transformation across various sectors, becoming the second-largest in mobile manufacturing.

India is also making strides in renewable energy, organic farming, space, defence, tourism, and wellness, creating new opportunities and reaching new heights in each area, he added.

SIA files charge...

critical data about migrant employees to handlers based in Pakistan, who then issued threats through the 'Kashmir Fight' platform," official said.

"The charge-sheet also names Sheikh Sajjad Ahmad, alias Sajjad Gul, a Srinagar resident now operating from Pakistan, as the mastermind of this plot," official said adding that Sajad is accused of coordinating the campaign to intimidate migrant employees and disrupt communal harmony in the UT.

The exposing of terror plans to disrupt peace underscores the determination of Jammu and Kashmir Police to protect its citizenry and provide a peaceful environment to them.

The charge-sheet was filed before the 3rd Additional Sessions Judge, Jammu, on Monday.

Disinformation, fake news...

threats increase, and obstructive forces emerge. He said that building a robust infrastructure to counter these threats, from headquarters to police stations and constables is the responsibility of young officers.

In order to achieve a fully developed India by 2047, we must visualise all potential threats and prepare a comprehensive roadmap to safeguard the nation from them, he said.

Shah said that inclusive development, along with peace and stability in the country, is only possible if we reshape our work under this expanded definition, prepare anew, and remain vigilant.

Over the past 10 years under the Modi government, significant successes have been achieved in combating terrorism, Naxalism, insurgency, narcotics, and anarchic elements, he said.

He said that under the current government, a major focus has also been placed on improving coordination between states and agencies and they have been strengthened with the backing of the law and amendment to several legislations.

Shah said the Modi government introduced three new criminal laws starting from July 1 after discussing with all the stakeholders in many meetings over the last five years.

He said he was involved throughout in the drafting of the laws. Once they are fully implemented, India's criminal justice system will become the most modern in the world, justice will be delivered within three years of the filing of any FIR, right up to the Supreme Court, the minister claimed.

Winter Vacation in...

Ramban and Bani in District Kathua of Jammu Division in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir as well as all Courts located in the Union Territory of Ladakh shall observe 15 days winter vacations with effect from January 6 to 20, 2025 (both days inclusive).

The Principal District and Sessions Judges and Chief Judicial Magistrates of the concerned Districts shall make the suitable arrangements for disposal of urgent criminal business arising during the period of such vacations in the areas within their respective jurisdictions.

Bangladesh wants Hasina...

ministry to facilitate the ousted premier's extradition from India.

"We have sent a letter to the foreign ministry regarding her extradition. The process is currently underway," he told reporters in response to a query.

Alam said an extradition treaty between Dhaka and New Delhi already exists and Hasina could be brought back to Bangladesh under it.

Last month, in an address to the nation on the completion of 100 days of the interim government, Bangladesh's Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus said it will seek the extradition of Hasina.

"We must ensure justice in every killing... We will also ask India to send back fallen autoer Sheikh Hasina," he said.

Yunus, who assumed office on August 8, claimed that about 1,500 people, including students and workers, were killed while 19,931 others were wounded during the protest against the Hasina government.

In October, Law Adviser Asif Nazrul had reportedly said that Bangladesh would strongly protest if India tried to refuse Hasina's extradition by citing

any provision in the treaty. In an interview with PTI in Dhaka in September, Yunus had said that Hasina making political remarks from India is an "unfriendly gesture", asserting that she must remain silent to prevent discomfort to both countries until Dhaka requests her extradition.

"If India wants to keep her until the time Bangladesh (government) wants her back, the condition would be that she has to keep quiet," he said.

In recent weeks, Hasina has accused the Yunus-led interim government of perpetrating "genocide" and failing to protect minorities, especially Hindus, since her ouster.

Situation in Bangladesh...

challenges and progress in these border states," Verma told reporters here. "The situation in Bangladesh is a matter of concern, but our government and our External Affairs Ministry are closely monitoring it and will continue to do so," he said.

Necessary and justified steps will be taken to address it, the minister added. He took a volley of questions on the situation in Bangladesh, election and EVM fraud alleged by the Congress and the caste census issue, among others.

Responding to a question on Samajwadi Party MLA Suresh Yadav's controversial statement labelling the BJP government as a "Hindu terrorist organisation", Verma said: "Such remarks are deeply unfortunate and have no place in a democratic nation like ours. The public will respond appropriately to such divisive and derogatory comments. The government will also take appropriate action."

"Whether it is the Samajwadi Party or Congress or its INDIA alliance partners, they are focused on appeasing the Muslim community. On the other hand, Prime Minister Modi follows the principle of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas. BJP does not believe in appeasing anyone," the minister said.

Such divisive statements, like those dubbing "Hindus as 'malaria and mosquitoes' or abusing Sanatan Dharma, are unacceptable", he said, adding that the government and the people will take note of such remarks.

On allegations of electoral fraud made by the Congress, Verma slammed the opposition party for its inconsistency. "Congress ruled the country for nearly 55 years but failed to deliver the development we have witnessed in the past decade under Prime Minister Modi. Elections are now conducted in a completely free and fair manner."

"However, Congress only accepts election results as fair when they win. When they lose, they blame EVMs and allege fraud," he said.

On Rahul Gandhi's call for a caste census, Verma asked why the Congress which ruled for decades did not conduct it while it was in power.

"The Gandhi family ruled the country for nearly 55 years, often through remote control, yet never felt the need for a caste census. It is Prime Minister Modi who has ensured dignity and respect for OBCs, SCs, and STs. Congress stalled the first report in 1955 and the Mandal Commission, denying OBCs their rightful reservations. Today, OBCs have a constitutional board, and I, as an OBC, serve as a Minister. This shows the change brought by the BJP," he said. Verma participated in the Rozgar Mela organised by the BSF in Jammu, where 636 appointment letters were distributed to new recruits, with Verma personally handing out 26.

"As many as 71,000 appointment letters are being distributed across 45 locations nationwide today, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi," he said. "Since 2014, India has been advancing rapidly on the path of development, with a notable increase in employment opportunities. Over the past nine years, 10 lakh jobs have been provided by the prime minister. I congratulate all the appointees," he added.

CM reviews Kashmir's...

percent increase in electricity supply compared to the previous year, the extreme cold has caused a significant rise in the load profile, exceeding available resources. This situation is further aggravated by record-low power generation due to minimal water discharge in hydroelectric power plants, the meeting was informed.

Officials also apprised the Chief Minister of the department's interventions to reduce the demand-supply gap.

It was reported that substantial capacity additions have been made since the last winter to meet increased demand.

The Chief Minister directed officials to rationalize the load curtailment program based on the loss profile of feeders and explore options to enhance the allocation of power.

He also stressed the importance of equity in providing electricity to all while incentivizing law abiding consumers but ensuring adequate power supply, especially during this period of severe cold, is made available to the general public. Chief Secretary Atal Duloo attended the meeting virtually, the meeting was also attended by Additional Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister Dheeraj Gupta, Principal Secretary PDD Rajesh H Prasad, Managing Director JKPTCL, Managing Director KPDCCL and Chief Engineers of various wings of the Power Development Department. The Chief Minister emphasized the urgent need for the smart metering of Distribution Transformers (DTs) and feeders to improve the monitoring and efficiency of the power distribution system. Later, the Chief Minister inspected the Sub Load Dispatch Centre (SLDC) at Bemina to review the load monitoring system.

He was provided with division- and district-wise details of power load and consumption and he directed officials to allocate electricity with maximum efficiency or minimize disruptions. Reaffirming his commitment to addressing the hardships caused by the severe winter conditions, the Chief Minister urged PDD authorities to prioritize uninterrupted power supply for essential services and to remain proactive in managing the challenges posed by the ongoing cold wave.

Met advises tourist...

of minus 4.8 degrees Celsius while Konibal, a hamlet in Pampore area, was the coldest recorded place in the valley at minus 6.0 degrees Celsius, it said.

The meteorological department has predicted a dip of two to three degrees in minimum temperatures over the next 48 hours. "In view of sub freezing temp and icy conditions over roads of important higher reaches, tourists/travellers are advised to follow advisory issued by the administration," it added.

First meeting of...

The Constitution (129th Amendment) Bill and the Union Territories Laws (Amendment) Bill were introduced in the Lok Sabha last week and referred to the joint committee of Parliament on Friday, the last day of the Winter Session. The government decided to increase the committee's strength from 31 to 39 as more political parties expressed the desire to be part of the exercise to examine the two draft legislations on simultaneous elections.

Former Union ministers Anurag Thakur, Parshottam Rupala and Manish Tewari and several first-term lawmakers, including Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, Bansuri Swaraj and Sambit Patra, are members of the committee. The panel has 27 members from the Lok Sabha and 12 from the Rajya Sabha.

NIA arrests key aide of Khalistani terrorist

■ STATE TIMES NEWS NEW DELHI: In a major breakthrough in the Punjab terror conspiracy case, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Monday arrested a key aide of Khalistani terrorist Lakhbir Singh alias Landa and gangster Bachitar Singh alias Pavitar Batala, according to an official statement.

Jatinder Singh alias Jyoti of district Gurdaspur; Punjab, had been absconding since the arrest of weapons supplier Baljit Singh alias Rana Bhai in July 2024.

He was arrested on Monday from Mumbai after extensive technical and on-ground efforts by the NIA.

The anti-terror agency has identified Jatinder as a member of the terror gang formed by foreign-based Landa of the banned terrorist organisation, Babbar Khalsa International (BKI), and an aide of Batala, a close associate of Landa.

Jatinder Singh was providing weapons to on-ground operatives of Landa and Batala in Punjab, as per NIA investigations.

He was procuring weapons from Madhya Pradesh-based supplier Baljit Singh alias Rana Bhai, who was recently chargesheeted in the case, said the statement issued by the NIA.

Investigations also revealed that Jatinder Singh had brought ten pistols from MP and delivered them to operatives of Landa and Batala in Punjab.

He had planned to smuggle more weapons from MP into Punjab but his plans were scuttled by NIA's search operations over the past several months, the statement said. Jatinder's arrest marks a major step forward in NIA's efforts to dismantle the terror-gangster nexus by preventing smuggling of arms, ammunition, explosives etc. and raising of funds for carrying out terrorist acts on the Indian soil, it added.

Quality education imperative for honing intellectual capacity of youth: Dy CM

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Underlining the importance of imparting quality education, Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary, on Monday, said that it imparts a sense of discipline besides honing the intellectual capacity of youth.

"Education not only brings discipline but also supports spiritual growth of youth making a nation developed and prosperous," maintained the Deputy Chief Minister.

The Deputy Chief Minister was speaking at the annual day of Sainik School Nagrota on Monday.

Complimenting the school for imparting quality education for decades, the Deputy Chief Minister said that the institution has been contributing immensely in shaping future of our younger generation. He said that the pass outs of the institution have created a niche for themselves in various spheres of life.

While asking the youth to contribute their best in pursuing academic pursuits, the Deputy Chief Minister said



Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary speaking at annual day of Sainik School Nagrota.

that they should not get carried away by the tendencies that are detrimental to their health and future. He said that instead, they should channelize their energies and time in making their nation developed and prosperous.

The celebration commenced with a ceremonial Guard of Honour presented to the Chief Guest in the distinctive style of Sainik School Nagrota, reflecting discipline and precision.

The Deputy Chief Minister also inaugurated the art, photography and science exhibition in the academic block, showcasing the creativity and scientific acumen of the cadets.

Cultural programme pre-

PCC remembers Madan Lal Sharma on death anniversary

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Rich tributes were paid to former Member Parliament and veteran Congress leader Madan Lal Sharma on his 4th death anniversary, on Monday at PCC HQ Shaheedi Chowk, Jammu.

Working President JKPC Raman Bhalla chaired the meeting which was attended by senior leaders of PCC, DCC and frontal wings of the party.

Floral tributes were paid to the veteran leader in the meeting and the senior leaders remembered his contributions in different capacities to the party and the people during his public life spread over to around five decades. He was a humble personality and always remained associated with the people at the grass root levels especially poor and the downtrodden.

They described him as a great leader of the party who



was liked by one and all because of his humbleness and qualities of leadership. He saw many ups and downs in his public life but remained a determined soldier of the people and the party.

Prominent among those who paid tributes include Ravinder Sharma, Yogesh Sawhney, Ved ahajan, Th. Mammoan Singh, Arvinder Singh Micky, Nizam-ud-din Bhat (MLA Bandipora), Shashi Sharma, Suresh Dogra, Shiv Kumar Sharma,

Vijay Sharma, Vijay Shastri, A.P. Singh Lucky, Rajesh Sharma, Dr R.K. Khajuria, Rajeev Saraf, Sandeep Dogra, Praveen Singh, Bimla Sathia, Th. Hoshiyar Singh, Anuradha Sharma, Rashida Begum, Bharat Bhushan, Ranjeet Singh Manhas, Sat Paul Sapolia, Ram Prakash Magotra, Jugal Sharma, Anuradh Rakesh Sharma, Manjeet Singh Bedi, Raj Kumar Sodhi, Ranjit Chopra, Narinder Sharma (Happy) and others.

Ex-SC judge V Ramasubramanian appointed new NHRC Chief

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Former Supreme Court judge V Ramasubramanian has been appointed the new chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission, the rights panel said on Monday.

The post of NHRC chairperson had been lying vacant since Justice (ret'd) Arun Kumar Mishra completed his tenure on June 1.

Mishra served as the eighth chairperson of the rights panel and was appointed to its top post in June 2021.

On December 18, a high-powered committee led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a meeting to select the next chairperson of the NHRC, sources earlier said.

A former chief justice of India or a retired judge of the top court are appointed as NHRC chairperson by the president on the recommendation of the selection committee. Justice (ret'd) Ramasubramanian, a former judge of the apex court, has been appointed the chairperson of the NHRC, a senior official said, adding "the NHRC received the communication about the appointment today". Former CJIs H L Dattu and K G Balakrishnan are among those who have headed the rights body in the past. The NHRC, in a post on X, said, "Hon'ble President of India appoints Shri Justice V. Ramasubramanian (Ret'd.) as the Chairperson, and Shri Priyank Kanoongo and Dr. Justice Bidyut Ranjan Sarangi (Ret'd.) as the Members of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India."

Kanoongo earlier served as a chairperson of the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPDR).

"And now as member of the

NHRC, I will try to fulfil the responsibilities expected of me," he told on Monday.

Mishra, a former Supreme Court judge, was also the first non-CJI to be appointed to the NHRC chief post since the amendment of the Protection of Human Rights Act in 2019. He had succeeded former Chief Justice of India H L Dattu. Vijaya Bharathi Sayani, a member of NHRC, had become its acting chairperson with effect from June 2 after Mishra had demitted office.



NORTHERN RAILWAY			
ESTENDER NOTICE			
Sr.DEN-IV/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on www.irps.gov.in with closing date: 14.01.2025 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through only payment modes available on www.irps.gov.in portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker cheque, Deposit receipt, FDR etc. are not allowed. For more information logon to www.irps.gov.in			
Tender Type	Tendering Section	Bidding System	
Open	Works	Single Bid System	
Date of Uploading Tenders	Bid Starting Date	Bid Closing Date/Time	
20.12.2024	31.12.2024	14.01.2025/15:00 Hrs	
S.No.	Tender No.	Details of Tender	
1.	276-2024-25-BDGM-DRM-FZR	Annual maintenance of water treatment plants and supply of Consumables at various stations and colonies (Qazigund, Sadura, Anantnag, Bijbehra, Panjgam, Awantipura, Kakapora, Pampore) on BAHL-BRML section under ADEN/BDGM.	
	Advertised Value (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Validity of offer
	4088546.86	81800	60 Days
			Period of completion
			12 Months
Similar nature of work: Nil			
2.	276-2024-25-BDGM-DRM-FZR	Annual maintenance of water treatment plants and supply of Consumables at various stations and colonies (Budgam, Mazhrom, Pattan, Hamre, Sopore & Baramulla) on BAHL-BRML section under ADEN/BDGM	
	Advertised Value (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Validity of offer
	4411077.02	88200	60 Days
			Period of completion
			12 Months
Similar nature of work: Nil			
3.	277-2024-25-BDGM-DRM-FZR	Repair to Civil work such as flooring, wood work, sanitary, sewerage, roofing and other allied work at ORH/BDGM,SRH/BDGM & running room BDGM under ADEN/BDGM & Civil work required i.c.w Renovation upgradation of badminton court at BDGM	
	Advertised Value (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Validity of offer
	7432211.74	148700	60 Days
			Period of completion
			06 Months
Similar nature of work: Any civil work other than track work			
Note: 1. Before bidding bidders to check for any corrigendum issued against tender. Tender Notice No:-770-W/169/WA/FZR/2024-25 Date: 20.12.2024			
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 3920/24			