

!! Continuations from Page 1 !! World looking at...

challenges like traffic-related problems," he said. Modi said over 13 lakh students and over 6,000 institutes have participated in the 'Smart India Hackathon' in the last seven to eight years. Youth have also provided accurate solutions to hundreds of problems, he said while urging the youth to be a part of these hackathons that are organised from time to time.

The prime minister said the youth also put forward their ideas on solutions to challenges like financial frauds, digital arrests and suggestions were extended on Cyber Security Framework for digital banking in villages.

Many youth remained engaged in solving the challenges in the agriculture sector; he added.

The Prime Minister Narendra lauded efforts being made in Fiji to connect the new generation with Tamil language.

He also hailed the efforts by Kannada families living in Dubai to start 'Kannada Pathshala' to teach their children the language.

"I now want to share with you about an endeavour taken thousands of kilometres away from India, which is heart-touching. In Fiji, a commendable initiative is being taken to spread Indian language and culture. Continuous efforts are being made at many levels to connect the new generation there with Tamil language," he said.

The prime minister said last month, Tamil Day was celebrated for the first time in a school in Raki-Raki in Fiji, giving children a platform to openly express pride in their language.

"Children recited poems in Tamil, gave speeches, and confidently showcased their culture on stage," he said.

He said continuous work is also being done within the country to promote the Tamil language.

Modi said a few days ago, the fourth 'Kashi Tamil Sangamam' was held in his parliamentary constituency, Varanasi, and played an audio clip in which children of the city spoke fluently in Tamil.

"Their mother tongue is Hindi, but their love for the Tamil language inspired them to learn Tamil," he said.

During the 'Kashi Tamil Sangamam' in Varanasi this year, special emphasis was placed on learning Tamil and under the theme of 'Learn Tamil - Tamil Karakalam', special campaigns were also run in more than 50 schools in Varanasi.

Highlighting how efforts are being made to stay connected to roots by Indians living abroad, he said in Dubai, Kannada families living there asked themselves an important question: our children are moving ahead in the tech world, but aren't they moving away from their language?

"This is where 'Kannada Pathshale' was born. An initiative where children are taught to teach, learn, write, and speak Kannada. Today, more than a thousand children are associated with it. Truly, Kannada Nadu, Nudi Namma Hemme. (The land and language of Kannada are our pride)," he added.

Innovation, employability, entrepreneurship...

inclusive examination and admission policies were also confirmed.

The Lieutenant Governor appreciated the University's reform initiatives and emphasized the need to strengthen academic quality, student welfare and institutional governance. He instructed the University to ensure implementation of the e-office system before the end of June, 2026 and to conduct the University Council meetings after every six months.

The Lieutenant Governor called for increased students' participation in the Viksit Bharat Yuva Connect programme. He also issued directions for encouraging active engagement of students in Nasha Mukht Bharat and Nasha Mukht J&K campaigns.

Prof. K. S. Chandrasekar, Vice-Chancellor, Cluster University of Jammu, made a detailed presentation on the University's administrative, academic, financial, examination and evaluation reforms, student enrolment status and various academic collaborations in research and education.

The meeting was attended by Vice Chancellor University of Kashmir, Prof Nilofer Khan; Vice-Chancellor, Cluster University Srinagar; Prof. Mohammad Mobin; Additional Chief Secretary, Higher Education Department, Shantmanu; Principal Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor; Dr. Mandeep K. Bhandari; Provost, SGT University, Prof. Madan Mohan Chaturvedi; Registrar, Cluster University of Jammu, Ankur Mahajan, other Council members and senior officials.

RSS Chief urges...

he said. "Human intellect will move towards using technology for welfare of the world. Not the reverse. How it will happen? We have to live by example. This is before the entire Indian society," he added.

Bhagwat stressed the need for India to become a 'vishwa guru', saying it is not merely an ambition of the Hindu society.

"... the world is looking towards us. We have to do the work of becoming 'vishwa guru' once again. Becoming 'vishwa guru' is not our ambition. We, becoming a 'vishwa guru' is the need of the world. But, it cannot be done just like that. Hard work is needed for it. The hard work is going on in many streams. Sangh is one such stream."

According to him, Sangh volunteers are engaged in character building activities and working across various fields to bring about social change.

"They are praised everywhere and they get trust of the society."

"Why should we do all this? We don't need to prove ourselves. We don't want any certificates also. This is our country. This is our society and this is our dharma. Time has once again come to fulfill the responsibility and for that this society and the country needs to get ready," he said.

The, Vishwa Sangh Shibir, a congregation of international Hindu organisations, began on December 25 at Kanha Shanti Vanam near here.

Members of Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh, Hindu Seva Sangh, VHP and other organisations and their families attended the event.The three-day event was attended by about 2,000 delegates .

It is a forum for the attendees from different countries to meet and exchange their views, a release had said.

The Vishwa Sangh Shibir (VSS) is held every five years. The event was held in 1990 in Bengaluru, followed by Vadodara, Mumbai, Gandhinagar, Pune and Indore, the release had said.

The main theme of VSS 2025 is 'Dharme Sarvam Pratishthitam' (Dharma is the foundation of everything).

The VSS 2025 was organised by Shri Vishwa Niketan, a registered trust based in New Delhi, which is dedicated to promoting Indian culture and heritage among Indians living abroad, including NRIs and Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs).

If you oppose...

from Vanzar village on the banks of the Sabarnati river; but were resettled in Navi Vanzar after losing their homes, land and belongings in the devastating floods of 1973.

On the occasion, Shah also inaugurated the "western trunk line", a drainage network to handle sewage generated by nearly 15 lakh residents living in newly developed areas such as Shela, South Bopal, Shantipura and Thaltej.

He said these 173 persons were shifted to Navi Vanzar when Congress was in power in the state. But, even after the passage of 50 years, they never received the land ownership rights.

"These people were rehabilitated here by you (Congress) in 1973. However, it is Narendra Modi's party that identified them and gave them land ownership certificates. These residents never agitated or told me about their issue. I had visited this area in the past as an MLA but they never said anything and kept giving us votes too," said Shah.

"But, we understood their issue and fulfilled their long-pending demand with a sensitive approach, a hallmark of Modi's development-centric politics. We believe in giving what people want, even before they raise any demand for it," said Shah.

About the trunk line project, Shah said it will benefit nearly 15 lakh people living in western parts of the city and the project will also solve the issues of drainage overflow in some areas.

He said though people had faced issues due to the lack of such a sewer line, no one protested.

"Yet, the government undertook this work and finished it before the deadline. Rahul Gandhi needs to understand this. Instead, he is trying to decode Special Intensive Revision (SIR), which is not his cup of tea," said Shah, who represents Gandhinagar Lok Sabha seat, which covers several parts of western Ahmedabad.

DIG calls for...

narco-support structures, absconders, and other persons of tainted repute, he said.

The officers were directed to ensure regular beat checks, community interaction, and documentation of unit-level intelligence inputs, the spokesperson said.

Earlier, Senior Superintendent of Police, Poonch, Shaftat Hussain briefed the meeting on the prevailing security and intelligence scenario of the district, the spokesman said.

Officers present in the meeting provided a detailed account of their field intelli-



gence networks, existing security arrangements, he said.

They also presented initiatives being undertaken at the level of police stations, police posts, and Special Operation Group (SOG) camps to maintain peace and thwart anti-national and criminal activities, he said.

The DIG, along with SSP Poonch, conducted a visit to Kirni and Qasba villages near the Line of Control (LoC) to strengthen police-public relations and address the issues of border residents on priority.

During the visit, the officers held a public meeting across the border fence and listened to the grievances and concerns of the local residents, the spokesman said.

The issues faced by residents living in forward areas, such as civic amenities, security, border-specific hardships, and movement restrictions, were brought to the notice of the officers, he said

The DIG assured the public of time-bound redressal and necessary follow-ups, while the SSP assured the prompt addressing of grievances falling within the police domain.

The Poonch District Police remains accessible and responsive to the needs of the people, especially those residing in vulnerable and border areas, the SSP said.

The officers also appealed to the public to extend cooperation to the police and other security agencies in maintaining peace, law and order, and overall security in the border belt.

'They want turmoil'...

announced their intention to join the agitation against the delay in rationalising the quota policy, a year after Chief Minister Omar Abdullah formed a committee to address the issue.

Jammu police raids...

including operators and workers have also been detained for questioning as part of the investigation. The entire operation was conducted under overall supervision of SSP Jammu.

Advised to 'hide'...

but remains fully prepared to defend itself," Zardari said, while making claims about what he called Pakistan's "decisive stance" during the four-day conflict.

President Zardari also praised Army chief Asim Munir for what he called a "befitting reply to India" in the armed conflict in May.

The Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) top leader claimed that the international community is now acknowledging Pakistan's stance and even US President Donald Trump had praised Munir.

He also claimed that it was PPP that made Munir the Field Marshal. "We, the PPP, made Gen Munir Field Marshal," he said.

Zardari's son and PPP chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari also spoke on the occasion.

J&K Police organises...

been consistently organising sports and community-oriented programmes in the winter capital under its Civic Action Programme. These initiatives have received an encouraging response, particularly from the youth. The primary objective, he said, is to identify and nurture sporting talent while promoting a healthy, positive, and disciplined lifestyle among citizens. He also appreciated the ADG Armed and his team for organising the marathon in a smooth, professional, and befitting manner.

The marathon saw the enthusiastic participation of more than 8,000 runners, including men, women, children, senior citizens, students from various educational institutions, members of sports bodies, and police personnel. Participants ranged in age from as young as 8 years to as old as 80 years, reflecting the inclusive spirit of the event.

The flagging-off ceremony commenced at 7:30 AM from Gulshan Ground. The marathon passed through various routes of Jammu city before culminating at the starting venue. Large crowds lined the routes, cheering and motivating the runners, creating a vibrant and energetic atmosphere throughout the city.

Earlier, Chairman of the event, Anand Jain, briefed the gathering about the aims and objectives of the marathon, stressing the importance of unity, fitness, and active community participation.

At the conclusion of the marathon, winners in different categories were awarded cash prizes and certificates by the ADG Headquarters, who also presided over the prize distribution ceremony. All participants were presented with commemorative T-shirts, finishing medals, and refreshments as a token of appreciation.

Prize Distribution - Selected Categories
21 km Half Marathon (Men): 1st: Manjit Singh, R/O Ferozpur, Punjab (Rs 50,000); 2nd: Kailash Chaudhary, R/O Bharatpur, Rajasthan (Rs 30,000); 3rd: Neeraj, R/O Panipat, Haryana (Rs 20,000).

10 km Run (Open for Boys, Under-18 Years): 1st: Mohan, R/O Charkhi Dadri, Haryana (Rs 25,000), 2nd: Ravi Choudhary, R/O Muzaffar Nagar, UP (Rs 15,000); 3rd: Sagar Malik, R/O Lissar Shamli, UP (Rs 10,000).

10 km Run (Open for Girls, Above 18 Years): 1st: Rubi Kashyap, R/O Rohana Khurd, UP (Rs 25,000); 2nd: Anjali, R/O Uttarakhand (Rs 15,000); 3rd: Veerpal Kour, R/O Faridkot, Punjab (Rs 10,000).

10 km Run (Junior Girls, Under 18 Years): 1st: Gargi, R/O Sikanderpur, UP (Rs 25,000); 2nd: Archana, R/O Bandpur, UP (Rs 15,000); 3rd: Himanishi, R/O Shamli, UP (Rs 10,000).

10 km Run (Junior Boys, Under 18 Years): 1st: Ankit, R/O Bharatpur, Rajasthan (Rs 25,000); 2nd: John, R/O Jalandhar, Punjab (Rs 15,000); 3rd: Adarsit Bamila, R/O Rajouri (Rs 10,000).

10 km Run (Veteran Women, Above 45 Years): 1st: Neha, R/O Uttarakhand (Rs 25,000); 2nd: Manninder Kour, R/O Jammu (Rs 15,000); 3rd: Tinasahi, R/O J&K (Rs 10,000).

10 km Run (Veteran Men, Above 45 Years): 1st: Jagga Singh, R/O Punjab (Rs 25,000); 2nd: Mangat Singh, R/O Jammu (Rs 15,000); 3rd: Sunderpaul, R/O Haryana (Rs 10,000).

5 km Run (Sub-Junior Boys, Under 14 Years): 1st: Vinit, R/O Muzaffar Nagar, UP (Rs 15,000); 2nd: Parul Kumar, R/O Bishmah, Jammu (Rs 10,000); 3rd: Ronak Kumar, R/O Shamli, UP (Rs 5,000); 4th: Summer Choudhary, R/O Sohanjana, Jammu (Rs 3,000); 5th: Tyab Kabir, R/O Kurhad, Rajouri (Rs 2,000).

4 km Run (Sub-Junior Girls, Under 14 Years): 1st: Sneh, R/O Meerut (Rs 15,000); 2nd: Taniya Dhamra, R/O Meerut (Rs 10,000); 3rd: Radhika Gupta, R/O Kishtwar (Rs 5,000); 4th: Irtiza Ishfaq, R/O Baramulla (Rs 3,000); 5th: Aleena Singh, R/O Jammu (Rs 2,000).

2 km Open Category (Senior Citizens & Children): Youngest Female Participant: Hurmat Jahan (3 years); Youngest Male Participant: Aarnaw Bandral (3 years); Oldest Female Participant: Uttama Punjabi (64 years); Oldest Male Participant: Wolfhard Goetzle (81 years).

At the conclusion of the prize distribution ceremony, a raffle draw was also held using participants' chest numbers. Three bicycles were distributed as prizes. First Prize: Token No. 3559; Second Prize: Token No. 0177 - Pankaj Sharma, R/O Ramnagar, J&K; Third Prize: Token No. 10511.

Two booked for...

apprehended, he said, adding a cognisable report was forwarded to Doda police station, leading to the registration of an FIR.

Similarly, Irfan of Tendla village of Chilli was spotted at Shali Pul, Gandoh, using a VPN application in violation of the orders.

An FIR has been registered at Gandoh police station against Irfan, and further investigation is underway, the spokesman said.

The police appealed to the general public to strictly adhere to the orders issued by the district administration and cooperate with the police in maintaining law and order.

Senior Citizens tune in to 'Mann Ki Baat': J. D. Singh hosts inspiring year-end interaction

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A meaningful and inspiring gathering of senior citizens was held today at the residence of J. D. Singh, where participants came together to listen to the last episode of the year 2025 of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's popular radio programme "Mann Ki Baat." The event reflected strong civic engagement and the enthusiasm of senior citizens to remain connected with national discourse and development narratives.

The programme was organised under the leadership of J. D. Singh, Convenor; and Dinesh Maini, Co-Convenor of BJP J&K UT Senior Citizens Cell. A large number of senior citizens from Jammu participated, creating an atmosphere of attentiveness, reflection, and patriotic fervour as they collectively listened to the Prime Minister's address.

During the broadcast, Prime Minister Modi highlighted several key achievements



and initiatives that marked India's progress during the year. He commended the success of Operation Sindoor, acknowledging the dedication and courage of those involved. The Prime Minister also spoke at length about India's remarkable strides in space exploration, underscoring the nation's growing stature on the global scientific and technological stage.

Special emphasis was laid on women's empowerment initiatives, with PM Modi celebrating the increasing role of women across sectors, from governance and entrepreneurship to sports and innovation. He further shared India's successes in international sports, applauding players for bringing pride to the nation through their dedication and discipline.

The Prime Minister also spoke about developmental strides in Kashmir, highlighting many aspects, while stressing the importance of peace and inclusive progress in the region. These references resonated strongly with the audience in Jammu, who expressed satisfaction at the focus on regional growth and national integration.

The episode concluded with Prime Minister Modi extending warm New Year 2026 wishes to citizens across the country. He called upon all Indians to remain motivated, united, and committed to the ideals of self-reliance, harmony, and collective progress.

Speaking on the occasion, J. D. Singh noted that such interactions strengthen democratic values and encourage senior citizens to actively engage with nation-building. The gathering ended on a positive note, with participants expressing renewed optimism and pride in India's journey forward.

Langar organised to commemorate martyrdom of Sahibzadas

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Pal Peace Foundation today organised a Langar at Indira Nagar, Miran



Sahib to commemorate the Safar-e-Shahadat of the Sahibzadas and Mata Gujri Kaur Ji, revered mother of Guru Gobind Singh Ji Maharaj.

A large number of people from civil society participated in the programme and paid rich tributes to the supreme sacrifices of the Sahibzadas and Mata Gujri Kaur Ji. MLA Bishnah, Dr. Rajeev, SDPO R.S. Pura Gurmeet Singh, along with several prominent personalities of civil society, actively took part and offered their services in the Langar.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Rajeev, MLA Bishnah, said that the unparalleled sacrifices made by Guru Gobind Singh Ji Maharaj and his family for the cause of religion and the nation will be remembered forever. He said that there is no parallel in world history to such selfless sacrifices, which continue to inspire humanity to live with pride, dignity and moral courage, and to dedicate oneself to the service of society.

Highlighting the principles for which the Sahibzadas laid down their lives, the speakers said that their martyrdom stands as a shining example of steadfast faith, resistance against tyranny, protection of religious freedom, and the defence of human dignity. The Sahibzadas chose martyrdom over submission, thereby upholding the eternal values of truth, justice, righteousness and sacrifice, and teaching the world that oppression must be resisted even at the cost of one's life.

A large number of people attended the programme and partook in the Langar.

Gurjeet Singh, Chairman, PAL Peace Foundation, said that the sacrifices of the Sahibzadas remain an eternal lesson for generations to stand firmly against injustice, religious intolerance and oppression, and to follow the path of courage, compassion and humanity shown by the Guru Sahib.

Others who spoke on the occasion included Surinder Singh Bunt, Chairman, Sikhs For Humanity Foundation; Charanjit Singh; Surinder Singh (Kala), President, Vegetable and Fruits Market, Jammu; Balvinder Singh; Ranjodh Singh, Advocate, and several other dignitaries.

Rusted mortar shell defused in Poonch

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A rusted mortar shell was defused in a village near the Line of Control (LoC) in Poonch district, officials said on Sunday. The mortar shell was noticed by some locals in forward Bandi Chechian village of Haveli tehsil on Saturday evening, the officials said. They said the area was immediately cordoned off by police and later the explosive shell was safely defused by the army experts.

Lecturer's suspension recommended over prayer platform in Rajouri school

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Authorities in Rajouri district have recommended the suspension of an Arabic lecturer of a government higher secondary school for allegedly ordering the construction of a platform on the school building to be used for offering prayers, officials said on Sunday.

Quoting a letter issued by the Chief Education Officer (CEO), Rajouri, the officials said Munnawar Hussain, Lecturer (Arabic), posted at Higher Secondary School, Chingus, was prima facie found to have directed the construction of the platform on the roof of a newly constructed block of the institution.

The CEO in the letter to the Director, School Education Jammu, on Saturday has recommended suspending the lecturer, they said.

"A large number of people also gathered at the school to protest against the construction, and demanded strict action against Hussain," the official said.

The CEO said he, along with the district education planning officer, visited the school at the direction of the deputy commissioner and met the people of the area.

The lecturer was directed to report to the office of the chief education officer for further duties, the officials said.