

!! Continuations from Page 1 !!

AC approves Start...

Administrative Secretary, Industries & Commerce.
The policy provides for providing entrepreneurship facilities to students, women and support to the entrepreneurs through Government/ Private/ High Net worth individuals for setting up of start-ups.

The Administrative Council also accorded the administrative approval for the development of seven new Industrial Estates in the Union Territory spread over 5290 kanals of land for an amount of Rs 304.51 Crores.

The estimated investment in these seven new Industrial Estates is Rs. 8700.16 Crores with employment potential of 28376 persons. These 7 new Industrial Estates are situated at Banderpora Budgam, Sempora Medicity, Srinagar, Bhagthali, Kathua, Karandi, Samba, Trenz, Shopian, Hariparigam Tral Pulwama and Khummoh, Pantha Chowk Srinagar.

New Industrial Estate Banderpora Budgam involving 64 kanals of State Land shall be developed at an estimated cost of Rs. 22.74 crore by IRCON. The Project would attract investment to the extent of Rs. 78.12 Crore and generate 735 employments.

New Industrial Estate at Sempora Medicity, Srinagar involving 517 kanals of State land shall be developed at an estimated cost of Rs. 22.60 crore by IRCON. The Project would attract an investment of Rs.1825.45 Crore and has employment generation potential of around 11643 (approx.)

New Industrial Estate at Bhagthali, Kathua involving 2949 kanals of State Land shall be developed at an estimated cost of Rs 83.13 Crore by NBCC. The Project will attract investment of Rs.4599.89 crore and has employment potential of around 8278 (approx.)

New Industrial Estate at Karandi, Samba involving 460 kanals of State/Private land shall be developed at an estimated cost of Rs. 34.45 Crores by NBCC. The Project will attract investment of Rs.756.89 crore has employment potential of around 3965 (approx.)

The new Industrial Estate at Trenz, Shopian involving 500 kanals of State land shall be developed at an estimated cost of Rs. 68.06 crores by NBCC. The Project will attract investment of Rs.850 crore has employment potential of around 900 (approx.)

New Industrial Estate at Hariparigam Tral Pulwama involving of 200 kanals of land shall be developed at an estimated cost of Rs. 28.17 Crores by NBCC. The Project will attract investment of Rs.124.81 crore and has employment potential of around 2500 (approx.)

New Industrial Estate at Khummoh, Pantha Chowk Srinagar involving 600 kanals of land shall be developed at an estimated cost of Rs. 45.36 Crores by IRCON. The Project will attract investment of Rs.465 crore and has employment potential of around 355 (approx.)

Backward Welfare Deptt...

other states in the country", the Lieutenant Governor said while interacting with a delegation of Other Backward Classes (OBCs) at Raj Bhawan here.

The members of the community expressed their profound gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for reservations in Panchayats and Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) of J&K.

He said the Act passed by the Parliament will be implemented in letter and spirit. Rules are being framed and will be published soon, he added.

The Lt Governor reiterated the commitment of the UT Administration towards the empowerment of OBCs to realize the vision of Viksit Jammu Kashmir.

Today, the UT of Jammu Kashmir is witnessing a transformative change in the society. It is a new beginning for the deprived sections of the society, the Lt Governor said.

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, accelerated development, better infrastructure and facilities have boosted the local economy, and established peace and harmony in Jammu Kashmir, he added.

Mohammad Iqbal Ahangar, Chairman, Jammu Kashmir Other Backward Classes (OBCs) Welfare Association, expressed gratitude to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah and Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha for socio-economic and socio-political upliftment of the OBC community. He said, the last four years in the history of J&K have been truly "4 Saal Bemisaal".

Mohammad Shafi Shama, President, J&K OBC Welfare Association, thanked the Government of India and UT Administration for empowering the OBC community in J&K. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has mitigated our decades-old suffering and provided justice to the community, Advocate Shabir Ahmed said.

More than 150 representatives of the OBCs from different walks of life were present during the interaction.

Govt committed to...

Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the inclusion of Paharis, Padari, Koli and Gadda Brahmin in the list of Scheduled Tribes in J&K.

"It is a historic moment for the Pahari population of J&K. The inclusion of Pahari community in the Scheduled Tribes list is the reflection of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas. Paharis were neglected for decades, but now in the next 10 years, we will see a considerable change in our lives," Raja Aijaz Ali, former IGP said.

Abdul Majid Zindadil said, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Paharis have got freedom in a real sense after struggling for more than 70 years. Our voice was suppressed for decades, but due to sincere efforts of the Lt Governor, we have been given our due representation, Bashir Ahmad Khan from Anantnag said. Prominent Pahari leaders from different walks of life, community elders and youth of the community were present during the interaction.

SIA files fourth...

arrest, are presently in Pakistan.

The accused were involved in smuggling heroin from PoK in Uri, Hathlanga, Baramulla and further transporting and selling of heroin in Jammu to generate huge proceeds , which was further planned to be delivered to OGWs of HM, a proscribed terrorist organization. The same was deposited in banking channels for further distribution to fuel anti-national activities and other terrorist acts to challenge the sovereignty, integrity and security of India.

By filing the fourth chargesheet and making arrests, SIA has prevented huge amounts of money from entering into the channels of terror activities, a spokesperson said. The SIA crackdown over accused involved has prevented lives of many of our youths from being spoiled.

Out of the total accused, proceedings for attaching their property under section 82/83 have been initiated. This will have a big dent on the property created by the accused using the terror money.

SIA Investigation revealed that there is a well organized drug syndicate, including Farooq Ahmad Naikoo who was operating from Dubai, Mohd Rafiq Najar,Mubashir Mushtaq Pafao, Ainaz Ahmad Sayam, Mohd Sharief Chechi, Farooq Ahmad Jungal , Saif Din, who after hatching conspiracy with HM terrorists Farooq Ahmad Shawl, Hamidullah Khuroo, Tariq Ahmad Malla and Javid Chalkoo operating from Pakistan infused narcotics into the Indian territory and further transported the said narcotics to Jammu for generating huge narco-terror funds to be used for funding secessionist and terror activities.

Russian skier dead...

Kashmir on Thursday, officials said.

The avalanche struck the Khilan Marg on Afarwat Peak near the Army Ridge at around 2 pm, trapping several skiers under its debris, the officials said.

According to police, the group of seven Russians and a local guide ventured into a non-ski zone in the Army Ridge area, which is avalanche prone.

"There was an avalanche warning but they still ventured into that zone and unfortunately one skier died," Gulmarg police station SHO Haroon Kar said.

As the news of the avalanche broke, a joint effort was initiated by the Gulmarg Ski Patrol of the Tourism Department, police and the Army to rescue the trapped skiers.

The deceased was identified as Hanten from Moscow in Russia and his body has been taken to the Tangmarg sub-district hospital for post-mortem, the police officer said.

The rescued persons were treated at a local hospital and one foreigner was being shifted to Srinagar for special treatment.

A government spokesperson said the ongoing 4th Khelo India Winter Games remain unaffected by the incident.

Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council secretary Nuzhat Gull said all athletes participating in the ongoing 4th Khelo India Winter Games in Gulmarg were safe.

"All Khelo India athletes are safe after the avalanche hit Khilanamarg area of Gulmarg... All the fixtures are being run as per schedule," Gull posted on X.

The Winter Games began on Wednesday and will conclude on Sunday.

A spokesman of the Sports Council said all precautionary measures were in place to ensure safety of the players.

National Conference leader Omar Abdullah, who was skiing in Gulmarg till Wednesday, prayed for the safety of the skiers.

"While the details are still sketchy some skiers are reportedly missing after an ava-

lanche was triggered in the area around Gulmarg. It appears the skiers were skiing off the piste or groomed slopes in the 'back country'.

"Days like today remind us that while the skiing is fun, the fresh powder exhilarating & the visuals spectacular, skiing is not without its dangers & risk to lives. Praying that all the missing skiers are found alive & the reports of a casualty end up being unfounded," Abdullah said in a post on X.

The last avalanche in Gulmarg was in February last year, when two Polish skiers were killed and over a dozen were rescued. Avalanches are very common in Gulmarg. In 2010, at least 17 soldiers were killed after an avalanche hit the Army's High Altitude Warfare School.

Successful rescue ops...

but is in stable condition and is receiving treatment at a local hospital.

The response and coordinated efforts of the rescue team, ski patrol, and police played a vital role in ensuring the safety and well-being of those affected by this unfortunate incident.

ACB conducts searches...

formally referred to SHO PS Rajbagh, Srinagar to initiate a separate legal proceeding through an FIR," the spokesman said, adding that further investigation in the case is going on.

Kiru Hydropower corruption...

the CBI spokesperson said in a statement.

Premises linked to Malik at R K Puram, Dwarka and Asian Games Village in Delhi, besides those in Gurugram and Baghpat, were searched, officials said.

A team of CBI officials reached Malik's ancestral village Hisavda in Uttar Pradesh's Baghpat district, where they went to his home seeking to know about his properties in the village, local officials said.

They opened the rooms of his ancestral home, did some videography and left.

They were told by his relatives that Malik does not have any property and has some share in the house which is also in decrepit state, they said.

The searches also covered the premises of alleged associates of Malik, associates of former chairman of Chenab Valley Power Projects Private Limited Navin Kumar Chaudhary and officials of Patel Engineering Limited, they said.

In a post on X, Malik said, "I have been ill for the last 3-4 days and am admitted to the hospital. Despite this, my house is being raided by the dictator through government agencies. My driver and my assistant are also being raided and harassed unnecessarily. I am a farmer's son, I will not be afraid of these raids. I am with the farmers."

He said his residence was raided by the CBI instead of investigating the people he had complained about and who were involved in corruption.

"They will not get anything except 4-5 kurtas and pyjamas. The dictator is trying to scare me by misusing government agencies. I am a farmer's son, I will neither be afraid nor bow down," he posted.

The case relates to alleged corruption in awarding a civil-work contract related to the Kiru Hydro Electric Power Project (HEP) worth Rs 2,200 crore, the officials said.

Malik, who was the governor of Jammu and Kashmir from August 23, 2018 to October 30, 2019, had claimed that he was offered a Rs 300-crore bribe for clearing two files, including the one pertaining to the project.

"The case was registered on allegations of malpractices in the award of the contract worth approximately Rs 2,200 crore of civil works of the Kiru Hydro Electric Power Project (HEP) to a private company in 2019," the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) had said after the registration of case on April 22, 2022.

The agency has booked Chaudhary and other former officials of the Chenab Valley Power Projects Private Limited -- M S Babu, M K Mittal and Arun Kumar Mishra -- and Patel Engineering Limited. "Though a decision was taken in the 47th board meeting of CVPPL (Chenab Valley Power Projects (P) Ltd) for re-tender through e-tendering with a reverse auction after the cancellation of the ongoing tendering process, the same was not implemented (according to the decision taken in the 48th board meeting) and the tender was finally awarded to Patel Engineering Limited," the FIR has alleged. The agency had conducted searches on the premises of five people in January in connection with the case.

Construction worker killed...

They said the deceased was moving towards the mess of the company for breakfast when the incident occurred. His body was retrieved and shifted to hospital for postmortem.

An official of the traffic department said the 270-km long highway, the only all weather road linking Kashmir with the rest of the country, remained closed for the fourth day following a fresh landslide at Kishtwari Pather near Banihal.

"The restoration work is in progress and will take some time," he said.

The traffic on the strategic highway was suspended on Monday following multiple landslides triggered by heavy rains at over a dozen places between Ramban and Banihal. The highway was cleared for partial one-way traffic on Wednesday but the fresh landslide at Kishtwari Pather blocked the road again, the officials said.

Chief Justice launches...

judicial system in the UT of J&K. The Advocate General, while speaking on the occasion, also remarked on the evolving demands of present society in the intersection of law and technology.

Notably, the website has been developed by two lawyers, Adv. Faheem Nisar Shah & Advocate Ilyas Nazir Laway. The event was attended by Justice Atul Sreedharan, Justice Rajnesh Oswal, Justice Vinod Chatterjee Koul, Justice Rahul Bharti, Justice Moksha Khajuria Kazmi, Justice Waseem Sadiq Nargal, Registrar General, Principal Secretary to the Chief Justice, Registrar Judicial, other members of the registry, senior advocates, and members of the bar.

Kaun Hai Tumhara...

"Cricket and Kashmir: Match made in heaven," posted Tendulkar on X along with a short video in which he can be seen facing nine balls, watched in awe by the locals.

His wife Anjali can also be seen smiling in the clip which starts with Tendulkar asking the boys, "Hum Khelein? (Shall we play?)"

"Kaun hai tumhara bowler (Who is your bowler)?" he probed further as he gripped a bat.

Dressed in a brown jacket Tendulkar, who retired from cricket in 2013, played nine deliveries, hitting straight drives and also a scoop shot.

There was also an attempted paddle sweep before he turned the bat upside down and jokingly stated, "Ye out karna padega (you will have to dismiss me)."

But even with an upside down bat, Tendulkar was not to be dismissed as he signed off with a smooth drive, fetching a round of applause and several smiles.

He wasn't done enthralling the gathered crowd with just his cricket. The iconic former captain, who played six World Cups, took selfies with the fans, giving them a memorable few minutes to cherish.

"Mera dhyan aapke upar hai (I am focussed on you)," he told the group.

Tendulkar arrived here last week and visited a cricket bat manufacturer in the Sangam area in South Kashmir before heading to Pahalgham where he stayed at the Pine and Peak hotel.

Floored by the hospitality at the hotel, Tendulkar left a signed note for the staff thanking them.

"I would love to come back and spend more time over here," he wrote.

On Wednesday, he visited the Aman Setu bridge -- the last point on the Line of Control in Uri sector of Jammu and Kashmir.

Tendulkar interacted with soldiers at the Kaman Post, near Aman Setu, during his visit that lasted around one hour, officials said.

Tendulkar is also accompanied by his daughter Sara in this trip. He visited a cricket bat manufacturing unit at Chursoo on Srinagar-Jammu national highway and also went to Pahalgam in south Kashmir.

Gupkar alliance always...

Rs 32,000 crore by Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the people of Jammu and Kashmir, Chugh said the BJP is committed to taking the Union Territory to new heights of peace and development.

Elect Modi once...

"The incompetent (Congress) government neither controlled Naxalism, nor did it ensure justice to the people. It committed corruption and did injustice to the people, who then ousted it from power," Shah said.

"The Modi government provided tap water connections to 60 crore poor people in the country including 38 lakh households in Chhattisgarh in the last ten years. Modi government has been bearing the entire cost of treatment up to Rs 5 lakh for 60 crore people under the Ayushman Bharat scheme. More than ten crore toilets were built in ten years, out of which 38 lakh were constructed in Chhattisgarh," he said.

India has become the fifth largest economy in the world from the 10th position, and Prime Minister Modi himself is a "guarantee" and should be elected once again so that India becomes the third largest economy, Shah said.

"Modi worked to ensure respect for Dalits, tribals and backward class people. For the first time in 75 years of independence, daughter of a poor tribal

family, Droupadi Murmu, became President of the country," he said.

"Modi also protected the country. Article 370...had been the cause of trouble in Kashmir for years.

On August 5, 2019, the Modi government abrogated Article 370 and merged Kashmir with India forever. The Modi's government also punished terrorists by entering Pakistan's territory and carrying out surgical strikes and air strikes," he added.

Describing Chhattisgarh as Lord Ram's "nanhihal" (place of one's mother's parents), Shah targeted Congress for not resolving the Ayodhya issue.

"Congress did not allow the issue which had been pending for 550 years to be resolved for 75 years. But Modi solved it and performed consecration of Ram Lalla (lord Ram's idol) in Ayodhya on January 22," he said.

Army rescues over...

University, Udaipur hailed the Indian army for its rescue feat.

"I have no words to express my thanks to the Army which came forward for our rescue in such inclement weather and provided food and shelter to us...Hats off to Army," Professor Nikawat said.

He said the students and the staff had a wonderful trip to Kashmir but got stranded in Qazigund for three days due to closure of Jammu-Srinagar national highway amid heavy snowfall.

"A landslide occurred just 500 metres in front of our vehicle after crossing Banihal, leaving us frightened," one of the students said.

Praising the army, Professor Priyadarshi Nagda said the personnel responded to their desperate call for help within a couple of hours and provided blankets, food and shelter to the students and the staff.

One of the students, Ashutosh Shastri, who was also caught in the snow storm, said he was thankful to the army for their support, calling his stay at the army camp home-like.

'HCC played pivotal role in reshaping transportation landscape of J&K through its involvement in Railway Tunnel projects'

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: India Prestigious railway project completed except one part of the alignment which is inaugurated by Narendra Modi, Prime Minister.

With this citizens of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) can travel comfortably anywhere in India by using this railway this is one more header added to the Indian railway for connecting Kanyakumari to Kashmir, with its picturesque landscapes and challenging terrain, has long been a focal point for infrastructure development projects, particularly in the realm of transportation.

Among the various initiatives aimed at bolstering connectivity in the region, railway tunnel projects stand out as vital endeavors.

Hindustan Construction Co. Ltd. (HCC) lead by Sharanappa Yalal Cluster Head Jammu and Kashmir has played a pivotal role in reshaping the transportation landscape of Jammu and Kashmir through its involvement in Railway Tunnel projects. With a reputation for engineering excellence and a commitment to innovation, HCC has spearheaded several transformative initiatives aimed at enhancing connectivity, bolstering infrastructure, and fostering socio-economic development in the region.

The responsibility of leading Jammu and Kashmir region was given to Sharanappa Yalal in the year 2005 considering his vast experience in the field of underground work.

Yalal took this as challenge to complete the Udhampur-Srinagar Baramulla-Rail (USBRL) HCC Projects and completed Banihal-Qazigund Railway link successfully as on June' 2013, by handling administrative and technical challenges in execution of such mega Projects in the state of Jammu and Kashmir where terrorism activities were also present in the vicinity of Project.

Subsequently, S. Yalal took up the challenge to execute the T49A tunnel on behalf of HCC, which was successfully completed on Jan' 24.

Accordingly, the Sangaldan-Banihal section of the Katra-Banihal link is connected with the Banihal-Qazigund link of the Northern Railway in conjunction with the completion of other adjacent projects.

Sharanappa Yalal, with his Project management skills, handled all the issues successfully without any delay.

Glimpse of Railway Projects operated by HCC in J&K include Banihal-Qazigund Railway Tunnel (11.2 km); T49A Railway Tunnel (5.1 Km); T-13 & Part T-14 (11.04 Km); and Anjikhad Cable Stayed Bridge (290 m tall, 725.5 m Length).

Jammu gears up for Mahashivratri celebrations

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In anticipation of the Mahashivratri festival scheduled for March 8 this year, Additional District Development Commissioner, Sher Singh, presided over a comprehensive meeting to assess the preparations for the upcoming celebrations.



ADDC Sher Singh chairing a meeting in Jammu on Thursday.

Attended by various sectoral officers and representatives from religious bodies, including the J&K Dharmarth Trust and prominent temples, the meeting covered crucial aspects of the festival's arrangements.

Discussions focused on the festive procession, Shobha Yatra, slated to traverse the city's heart a day before the festival. Coordination with police and Jammu Municipal Corporation officials was emphasised to ensure a smooth and secure event. The festivities in major temples like Ranbireshwar Temple, Peer Kho Temple and Har Ki Pouri were also deliberated upon.

To address basic amenities, the meeting detailed the provision of drinking water supply and tanker facilities, overseen by the Jal Shakti and JMC. The Power Development Department committed to guaranteeing uninterrupted power supply and street lighting at prominent venues, while cleanliness in the city was entrusted to the JMC.

In terms of health services, plans were outlined for medical facilities by the Chief Medical Officer, during the celebrations, ensuring the well-being of attendees.

Transport, traffic management, road improvements and fire safety were among the key areas discussed. The Tourism Department is set to organise cultural programs, adding a vibrant touch to the festivities.

To enhance coordination and response, a joint control room will be established for close supervision and efficient conduct of the Mahashivratri celebrations.

The meeting saw the presence of SDM Jammu North Nitish Rajora, SDM Jammu South Atul Dutt Sharma, Assistant Commissioner General Manisha and other sectoral officers.

Seven CEOs transferred

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Government on Thursday transferred seven Chief Education Officers (CEOs) in the School Education Department.

According to the order issued by Dr Piyush Singla, Administrative Secretary, School Education Department, Mushtaq Ahmad, 1/c Chief Education Officer (CEO), under orders of adjustment in the Administrative Department has been posted as CEO Reasi; Mohd Mushtaq, 1/c CEO Poonch has been transferred and posted as 1/c CEO Rajouri.

Prahlad Bhagat, 1/c CEO Kishtwar has been transferred and posted as 1/c Principal DIET Kishtwar; Parkash Lal Thappa, Look After (1/LA) Principal DIET Doda has been transferred and posted as 1/LA CEO Doda; Bishamber Dass, 1/LA CEO, Rajouri as 1/LA CEO, Poonch; Romi Kumar, 1/LA Principal DIET, Kishtwar as 1/LA CEO Kishtwar; and Purshotam Dass Gouria, 1/LA CEO Doda has been transferred and posted as 1/LA Principal DIET Doda.