

## !! Continuations from Page 1 !! Modi shifts to...

Raisina Hill to Seva Teerth, bringing together the offices of the Cabinet Secretariat and the National Security Council Secretariat that were located at different places.

Since 2014, the Modi government has taken steady steps to move away from symbols of India's colonial past and to usher a shift in mindset, officials said.

They pointed out that the PMO will now be called Seva Teerth, the Central Secretariat buildings have been named as Kartavya Bhawan, and Rajpath has been renamed as Kartavya Path.

In the same spirit, Race Course Road, where the prime minister's official residence is located, has been renamed as Lok Kalyan Marg and Raj Bhavans and Raj Niwas have been renamed as Lok Bhawan and Lok Niwas, respectively.

"The inauguration marks a transformative milestone in India's administrative governance architecture and reflects the Prime Minister's commitment to building a modern, efficient, accessible and citizen-centric governance ecosystem, a statement from the PMO said on Thursday.

For decades, several key government offices and ministries functioned from fragmented and ageing infrastructure spread across multiple locations in the Central Vista area.

This dispersion led to operational inefficiencies, coordination challenges, escalating maintenance costs and sub-optimal working environments. The new building complexes address these issues by consolidating administrative functions within modern, future-ready facilities, it said.

## Omar extends Herath...

brothers and sisters. May this sacred festival bring peace, prosperity and happiness to every home, and further strengthen the bonds of harmony and brotherhood in our society," the Chief Minister said.

The Chief Minister expressed hope that the festival would continue to promote the spirit of Kashmiriyat and communal harmony across Jammu and Kashmir.

## Police attaches property...

the Nipora area in Kulgam, who is allegedly involved in extensive drug trafficking. The action was taken under Section 68-F of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, after establishing that the properties were proceeds of crime acquired through illegal drug operations. The market value of the seized property is approximately Rs 1.5 crore, the police spokesperson said.

This move is part of the ongoing efforts by the Kulgam police to dismantle the financial networks of drug traffickers, they added.

## LA passes grants...

of tribal communities across Jammu & Kashmir.

Elaborating on the Forest, Ecology & Environment Department, Javed Rana emphasised that forests are the life-line of Jammu & Kashmir, covering almost half of its geographical area. He extolled that the UT's has unique distinction of hosting the country's most diverse forest types.

The Minister said that for the fiscal 2026-27, an enhanced allocation of Rs. 242 crore has been proposed, reflecting strong commitment towards conservation and sustainable development. He underlined that under UT Capex 2025-26, Rs. 168.18 crore have been approved, of which Rs. 141.14 crore have been released and works worth Rs. 56.97 crore have already been executed. He added that against the approved allocations of Rs. 175.06 crore under CAMPA, Rs. 155.14 crore have been released.

"Under the flagship initiative 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam', plantation of 71.77 lakh saplings till January 2026 has been achieved, with a target of one crore saplings to be fully achieved. In 2026-27, one crore additional saplings will be planted with active public participation", he said.

Javed Rana asserted that significant progress has been made in forest demarcation with 1.85 lakh boundary pillars installed. Besides, digitization of forest boundaries using CORS-enabled GNSS technology has positioned J&K as a pioneer in advanced forest governance.

Maintaining that Wetland conservation remains a priority with 260 wetlands mapped using GIS and remote sensing, the Forest Minister said that revival of Wular Lake, a Ramsar site, with 5 sq km dredged and 2,952 hectares afforested, has benefited over 5,200 fishermen.

He highlighted that wildlife conservation measures have covered 11.5 percent of the UT's area, with over 3,002 animals rescued and Rs. 214 crore+ compensation disbursed for human-wildlife conflict.

The Minister said that J&K continues to remain carbon positive, with air quality improvement measures resulting in PM10 reduction of 18.5 percent in Jammu and 41.3 percent in Srinagar.

Rana informed that the local communities have been empowered and 171 sale depots established under Sustainable Collection and Utilization of NTFP Policy, notified in 2022. He added that with this 7100 families had been benefited thereby generating an income of Rs. 792.32 lakh.

He informed that Firewood and timber supply mechanisms have been strengthened with transparency through e-auctions and digital systems with 8.69 lakh quintal of free fodder distributed in the past five years.

He said that Pollution Control Committee has integrated all services into a single-window system and auto-renewal for green category industries. He added that third-party certification frameworks have reduced procedural delays while maintaining environmental safeguards.

Regarding recruitment and promotion processes, he said that the same has been fast-tracked, with multiple Departmental Promotion Committees (DPCs) meetings convened and significant number of promotions finalized.

He maintained that in the coming year, the government will intensify efforts to further strengthen the forest conservation, biodiversity protection and eco-tourism across Jammu and Kashmir. Key initiatives like plantation of one crore saplings with the community participation, completion of survey and demarcation of forest areas, identification and development of new forest trek routes and eco-huts, promotion of eco-tourism in identified locations through local involvement would be taken up, he added.

The Forest Minister said that the year will also witness completion of SASCI projects, installation of sensor-based air quality monitoring systems, upgradation of Jambu Zoo, establishment of conservation breeding centres for endangered species and creation of wildlife protection infrastructure to mitigate human-wildlife conflict.

Rana said that vision of the government is to ensure ecological security, climate resilience, biodiversity conservation and community prosperity. Forests are not just about trees; they are about water security, livelihoods, disaster mitigation and the future of our children, he said.

He said that with the support of this august House, we shall continue to protect, preserve and enhance the natural heritage of Jammu & Kashmir for our future generations.

Speaking on grants for Public Health Engineering Department, Javed Rana said that government is committed to provide drinking water to every rural household in Jammu & Kashmir through convergence of Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), NABARD, and UT Capex resources.

He asserted that under JJM, the government is committed towards ensuring universal Functional Household Tap

Connections (FHTCs), adding that 15.64 lakh households have already been provided tap water supply and remaining will be covered through completion of ongoing schemes and upgradation of existing connections.

He said that for 2026-27, a Capex Budget of Rs. 1561.9 crore has been proposed, reflecting a 10.4 percent increase over the revised estimate of Rs. 1399.5 crore.

Highlighting the progress made in the last year, he said that 69 projects, costing 302 crore were commissioned, benefiting nearly 29,000 households. He mentioned that Union Finance Minister has announced the extension of JJM till December 2028 with enhanced outlay and the Omar government is committed to complete the mission within the extended timeline.

Asserting that water quality monitoring is a core element of JJM, he said that 98 water testing laboratories are functional and over 2.64 lakh water quality tests were conducted this financial year, while third-party inspections and surprise checks are being regularly conducted.

He also laid down targets for next financial year like completion of 850 ongoing JJM schemes, full operationalization of completed schemes through rationalization of existing departmental manpower and 100 percent Har Ghar Jal certification for all villages. The Minister stated that under NABARD RIDF 57 schemes costing Rs. 740.49 crore are under execution, of which, seven have been completed while the remaining schemes have been targeted for completion during 2026-27. He said that under UT Capex, 1,136 drinking water works are under execution with 419 already completed and 550 schemes targeted for completion in 2026-27.

He informed that two major water supply projects are underway to ensure uninterrupted supply to AIIMS Awantipora and AIIMS Vijaypur. The Rs. 54 crore water supply scheme for AIIMS Awantipora is being implemented in two phases, with Phase-I completed and Phase-II slated for completion in 2026-27. The scheme for AIIMS Vijaypur has achieved 95 percent physical progress, he added.

To address the water shortages, Jal Shakti Minister said that the tanker fleet has been strengthened with addition of 20 new tankers, supplementing 123 departmental and 85 private tankers.

The Minister further said that under SASCI, 42 projects worth Rs. 163 crore have been approved, Rs. 155.38 crore released and Rs. 47 crore spent so far, while flood damage works worth Rs. 430 crore for the year 2025 have also been identified for restoration.

Rana further said that the government's response to the devastating floods of August-September 2025 reflected effective crisis management with restoration works commencing within 24 hours.

For long-term sustainability, the Minister stated that a high-level inter-departmental committee is being constituted to ensure water security and effective flood control. The State Specific Action Plan (SSAP) on water, prepared under the National Water Mission with technical support from NIH Roorkee and IIT Jammu, has received draft approval from the Union Government and is in the final stage of approval, he said.

He maintained that the government has also strengthened the human resource management within the Jal Shakti Department. He added that all vacant posts of Chief Engineers are being filled up, Superintending Engineer posts have been fully staffed in April 2025 and a dedicated Design, Inspection and Quality Control (DIQC) wing has been established.

Rana further said that two DPCs have been held, promoting 47 Junior Engineers besides 62 compassionate appointment orders have been issued in the past three years. Over 1,000 non-gazetted posts have been forwarded to JKSSB for recruitment, he added.

He said that these initiatives reflect the government's firm resolve to ensure safe drinking water, resilient infrastructure and sustainable water management for the people of J&K.

Regarding Irrigation & Flood Control sector, the Minister announced a substantial enhancement in capital expenditure, with Capex for 2026-27 proposed at Rs. 996 crore, marking a 62 percent increase over the revised allocation of Rs. 612 crore in the previous year. The enhanced investment reflects the government's commitment towards strengthening the irrigation infrastructure, improving agricultural productivity and ensuring robust flood management across Jammu and Kashmir, he said.

He added that concerted efforts are underway to bring 3.96 lakh hectare under assured irrigation through major and minor irrigation projects being implemented under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana.

Under the Har Khet Ko Pami programme, the Minister stated that 143 irrigation schemes are currently in progress, of which, 50 are targeted for completion during the coming year, adding irrigation potential for nearly 13,000 hectares.

The government is also leveraging institutional support, with NABARD backing 45 ongoing irrigation projects, including 12 projects scheduled for completion in 2026-27. In addition, 20 new RIDF-31 projects amounting Rs. 156 crore have been approved to further expand irrigation coverage, he said.

He also highlighted that major flagship projects are nearing completion with Shahpur Kandi Dam Project in its final stage. The project is expected to provide irrigation benefits to over 32,000 hectare of land in Kathua and Samba districts.

The Minister said that the Tawi Barrage Project in Jammu, being executed at a cost of Rs. 64 crore, has achieved about 90 percent physical progress.

Under the Comprehensive Flood Management Project of River Jhelum, the Minister stated that flood-carrying capacity between Sangam and Padshahbagh in Srinagar has been enhanced from 31,800 cusecs to 41,000 cusecs, significantly improving the flood safety. Further, under PMDP Phase-II (Part A), 31 bank protection works worth Rs. 276.61 crore are under execution, with 17 works already completed, he added.

He further said two regulatory gates at Hokersar wetland have been completed at a cost of 28.45 crore, aiding ecological restoration.

To address long-term flood risks, the Minister said that floodplain zoning measures are being implemented in line with recommendations of the Central Water Commission.

Under the UT Capex programme, the Minister said that over 1,000 irrigation and flood control works are presently under execution, of which, nearly 350 works have already been completed during 2025-26.

He reiterated his call for collective responsibility, urging the citizens to conserve water, protect natural resources and support sustainable development. He emphasised that every drop of water saved today secures the future for generations to come.

Regarding the grants for Tribal Affairs department, Javed Rana said that Omar Abdullah government has made the inclusive and dignity-centric development of tribal communities a top priority. "Our government is focused on bridging the developmental gaps, ensuring socioeconomic empowerment and safeguarding the rights of tribal populations," Rana said.

He said that Jammu and Kashmir is home to a significant tribal population including Gujjars, Bakerwals, Gaddis, Sippis, Pahari Ethnic Group, Paddaris and other indigenous communities. He said that government is abreast with the geographical problems faced by the tribal communities. He reiterated that difficult geography and mobility must not become barriers to education, healthcare, infrastructure and economic opportunities.

The Minister said that for 2026-27, the Tribal Affairs Department will focus on four key pillars: Education and Human Development, Livelihood and Economic Strengthening, Infrastructure and Migration Support besides Cultural Preservation and Institutional Strengthening.

He enumerated major gains during 2025-26 in education, infrastructure and livelihood support. Under scholarship schemes, Rs. 8.75 crore have been disbursed to 4,552 Scheduled Tribe students under the Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme, Rs. 41 lakh supported 1,328 students under the Pre-Matric Scheme for Classes IX and X while Rs. 10.20 crore have been released through DBT to 1.95 lakh students from Classes I to VIII, he said. To support the students from remote and migratory families, Javed Rana said that 28 Scheduled Tribe hostels are currently operational, 26 new hostels are under construction and 10 are nearing completion. Additionally, six Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) are functioning across the Union Territory, demonstrating strong academic outcomes for tribal students when provided quality facilities, he added. The Minister said that under UT Capex 2025-26, Rs. 78 crore have been released and around 2,000 infrastructure works have been undertaken, including livestock units, hand pumps, bore wells, power lines, rural roads, bridges, culverts, milk villages and transit accommodations. Under PM Van Dhan Yojana, Rs. 14.57 crore have been released for establishment of 1,000 Van Dhan Vikas Kendras, he said. He added that Rs. 40 crore have been proposed for Post-Matric Scholarships to support over 17,000 students, while Rs. 30.23 crore have been proposed for Pre-Matric Scholarships covering about 2.82 lakh students from Classes I to IX.

## Jammu Master Plan...

Organisation on January 28, 2021," he said. Urban planners and GIS (Geographic Information System) experts were engaged and base maps were prepared using satellite imagery and existing land-use surveys, he said. "Traffic and transport surveys and a socio-economic survey were conducted through the All India Institute of Local Self Government, followed by detailed sectoral analysis and preparation of technical reports." The planning boundary was rectified and the local planning area increased from 652.33 sq km to 777.84 sq km,

covering 350 revenue villages, he added.

The revised draft master plan was placed in the public domain for 80 days from October 14, 2024, to January 3, 2025, during which 143 objections and suggestions were received, he said.

"A board of inquiry was constituted vide government order dated January 16, 2025, and public hearings were conducted on January 23, 2025," the chief minister said, adding that the exercise of holding public hearings has been completed.

However, BJP MLA Yuvvir Sethi contended that despite one-and-a-half years of the government being in office, the Jammu Master Plan-2032 is yet to be approved. "When the entire exercise has been completed by the government, why is the cabinet sitting over it? They have failed to approve it," he said.

## Northern Army Commander...

troops deployed on the LoC at Naushera sector, where he was apprised of their high state of readiness, intensive training regimen and enhanced measures to sharpen surveillance, precision engagement and combat effectiveness, the Army said.

## Red Fort blast...

PTI had earlier reported that the sophisticated terror module spearheaded by a group of doctors was actively scouting for a suicide bomber since last year, with Umar being the alleged key planner.

## Police seizes heroin...

identified as Jatin, a resident of Pathankot in Punjab, the officials said. On further probe, the second accused, Danish Dogra alias Sajjan, a resident of Jakhbar in Kathua, was arrested as part of the forward linkage, they said.

Preliminary investigation revealed that the accused were in contact with a Pakistan-based smuggler through VoIP calls and had received the heroin for selling it to vulnerable youth for monetary gain, they added. Around 150 gm of heroin was seized during the operation, the officials said.

## KIND ATTENTION RAIL PASSENGERS!

**MORE HOLI FESTIVAL SPECIAL TRAINS-2026**  
In order to clear extra rush of passengers during the upcoming Holi Festival, Northern Railway has decided to run the following additional Holi Festival Special Trains as per details given below :-

04054/04053 New Delhi-Barauni Jn-New Delhi Reserved Special Express (Daily)						30
Train No. 04054		STATIONS		Train No. 04053		Trips
ARR.	DEP.	↓	↑	ARR.	DEP.	
---	19:50		New Delhi		03:50	---
22:00	---		Barauni Jn.		---	00:45

Days of run : 04054 Ex. New Delhi from 20.02.2026 to 06.03.2026 (Daily) and 04053 Ex. Barauni Jn. from 22.02.2026 to 08.03.2026 (Daily).  
Composition: Sleeper & General.  
Stoppages: Ghaziabad, Aligarh Jn., Tundla Jn., Etawah Jn., Kanpur Central, Unnao Jn., Aishbagh, Badshahnagar, Barabanki Jn., Gonda Jn., Basti, Khallabad, Gorakhpur Jn., Deoria Sadar, Siwan Jn., Chhapra, Sonpur, Hajipur Jn. & Shahpur Patoree Stations.

04060/04059 New Delhi-Supaul-New Delhi Reserved Special Express (Daily)						30
Train No. 04060		STATIONS		Train No. 04059		Trips
ARR.	DEP.	↓	↑	ARR.	DEP.	
---	21:35		New Delhi		16:10	---
04:00	---		Supaul		---	07:00

Days of run : 04060 Ex. New Delhi from 20.02.2026 to 06.03.2026 (Daily) and 04059 Ex. Supaul from 22.02.2026 to 08.03.2026 (Daily).  
Composition: Sleeper & General.  
Stoppages: Ghaziabad, Aligarh Jn., Tundla Jn., Etawah Jn., Kanpur Central, Unnao Jn., Aishbagh, Badshahnagar, Barabanki Jn., Gonda Jn., Basti, Khallabad, Gorakhpur Jn., Deoria Sadar, Siwan Jn., Chhapra, Sonpur, Hajipur Jn., Shahpur Patoree, Barauni Jn., Begusarai, Khagaria Jn., Mansi Jn., Simri Bakhtiyarpur & Saharsa Jn. Stations.

04066/04065 Anand Vihar(T.)-Khurda Road Jn.-Anand Vihar(T.) Reserved Special Exp. (Daily)						10
Train No. 04066		STATIONS		Train No. 04065		Trips
ARR.	DEP.	↓	↑	ARR.	DEP.	
---	00:30		Anand Vihar(T.)		08:15	---
12:30	---		Khurda Road Jn.		---	15:30

Days of run : 04066 Ex. Anand Vihar(T.) from 27.02.2026 to 03.03.2026 (Daily) and 04065 Ex. Khurda Road Jn. from 28.02.2026 to 04.03.2026 (Daily).  
Composition: 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & General.  
Stoppages: Ghaziabad, Govindpur, Subedarganj, Mirzapur, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Bhabua Road, Sasaram, Dehri On Sone, Anugrah Narayan Road, Gaya Jn., Paharpur, Koderma, Hazaribagh Road, Parasnath, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Gomoh, Chandrapura, Bokaro Steel City, Purulia Jn., Barabhum, Chandil Jn., Tatanagar Jn., Ghatsila, Hiji, Balasore, Bhadrakh, Jajpur Keonjhar Road, Cuttack & Bhubaneswar Stations.

04070/04069 Anand Vihar(T.)-Sheikhpura-Anand Vihar(T.) Reserved Spl Exp. (Bi-Weekly)						10
Train No. 04070		STATIONS		Train No. 04069		Trips
ARR.	DEP.	↓	↑	ARR.	DEP.	
---	00:20		Anand Vihar(T.)		19:00	---
20:30	---		Sheikhpura		---	22:30

Days of run : 04070 Ex. Anand Vihar(T.) and 04069 Ex. Sheikhpura from 20.02.2026 to 06.03.2026 (every Friday, Tuesday).  
Composition: 1st AC, 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC.  
Stoppages: Govindpur, Prayagraj Jn., Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Buxar, Ara, Danapur, Patna Jn., Rejendranagar Terminal, Bakhtiyarpur Jn., Bihar Sharif Jn., Asthan & Barbigha Stations.

04081/04082 New Delhi-Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra-New Delhi Reserved Spl. Exp. (Daily)						32
Train No. 04081		STATIONS		Train No. 04082		Trips
ARR.	DEP.	↓	↑	ARR.	DEP.	
---	23:45		New Delhi		10:00	---
12:00	---		Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra		---	21:20

Days of run : 04081 Ex. New Delhi from 21.02.2026 to 08.03.2026 (Daily) and 04082 Ex. Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra from 22.02.2026 to 09.03.2026 (Daily).  
Composition: 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, Sleeper and General.  
Stoppages: Panipat, Kurukshetra Jn., Ambala Cantt., Ludhiana Jn., Jalandhar Cantt., Pathankot Cantt., Jammu Tawi & Martyr Captain Tushar Mahajan Stations.

04010/04009 Delhi Jn.-Sitamarhi-Delhi Jn. Reserved Special Express (Weekly)						04
Train No. 04010		STATIONS		Train No. 04009		Trips
ARR.	DEP.	↓	↑	ARR.	DEP.	
---	23:05		Delhi Jn.		23:20	---
22:30	---		Sitamarhi		---	23:55

Days of run : 04010 Ex. Delhi Jn. on 26.02.2026 & 05.03.2026 (Thu.) and 04009 Ex. Sitamarhi on 27.02.2026 & 06.03.2026 (Friday).  
Composition: 1st AC, 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC Economy, Sleeper & General.  
Stoppages: Ghaziabad, Hapur, Moradabad, Bareilly, Shahjehanpur, Sitapur, Gonda Jn., Gorakhpur, Bagaha, Narkataganj Jn., Sikta, Raxaula Jn. & Baragnia Stations.

04014/04013 Anand Vihar(T.)-Laukaha Bazar-Anand Vihar(T.) Reserved Special Exp. (Daily)						16
Train No. 04014		STATIONS		Train No. 04013		Trips
ARR.	DEP.	↓	↑	ARR.	DEP.	
---	15:40		Anand Vihar(T.)		03:40	---
20:15	---		Laukaha Bazar		---	21:30

Days of run : 04014 Ex. Anand Vihar(T.) from 27.02.2026 to 06.03.2026 (Daily) and 04013 Ex. Laukaha Bazar from 28.02.2026 to 07.03.2026 (Daily).  
Composition: 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, Sleeper and General.  
Stoppages: Ghaziabad, Moradabad, Bareilly, Lucknow, Gonda Jn., Gorakhpur Jn., Kaptanganj Jn., Siswa Bazar, Bagaha, Harinagar, Narkataganj Jn., Sikta, Raxaula Jn., Baragnia, Sitamarhi, Shisho, Sakri Jn. & Jhanjharpur Jn. Stations.

04022/04021 New Delhi-Gorakhpur-New Delhi Reserved Special Express (Weekly)						06
Train No. 04022		STATIONS		Train No. 04021		Trips
ARR.	DEP.	↓	↑	ARR.	DEP.	
---	14:00		New Delhi		23:10	---
05:00	---		Gorakhpur		---	07:00

Days of run : 04022 Ex. New Delhi from 20.02.2026 to 06.03.2026 (every Friday) and 04021 Ex. Gorakhpur from 21.02.2026 to 07.03.2026 (every Saturday).  
Composition: 1st AC, 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & General.  
Stoppages: Ghaziabad, Hapur, Moradabad, Bareilly, Shahjehanpur, Hardoi, Lucknow, Gonda Jn. & Basti Stations.

04203/04204 Lucknow-New Delhi-Lucknow Reserved Special Express (Weekly)						04
Train No. 04203		STATIONS		Train No. 04204		Trips
ARR.	DEP.	↓	↑	ARR.	DEP.	
---	08:05		Lucknow		06:35	---
18:30	---		New Delhi		---	20:20

Days of run : 04203 Ex. Lucknow and 04204 Ex. New Delhi on 23.02.2026 & 02.03.2026 (Monday).  
Composition: 1st AC, 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & General.  
Stoppages: Shahjehanpur, Bareilly, Moradabad & Ghaziabad Stations.

04209/04210 Varanasi-Delhi Jn.-Varanasi Reserved Special Express (Daily)						22
Train No. 04209		STATIONS		Train No. 04210		Trips
ARR.	DEP.	↓	↑	ARR.	DEP.	
---	22:30		Varanasi		09:40	---
13:30	---		Delhi Jn.		---	19:25

Days of run : 04209 Ex. Varanasi from