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'The Kashmir Files'...

which is under attack from the BJP over its comment on the film, alleged that the Sangh Parivar forces "misinterpreted and misused" its tweet on the issue.

The union home minister posted on Twitter his picture along with the film's team and congratulated the members.

"Today, met #TheKashmirFiles team. The truth of the sacrifice, unbearable pain and struggle of Kashmiri Pandits who were forced to leave their home in their own country has come to the notice of the whole world through this film, which is a very commendable effort," Shah tweeted in Hindi.

Shah said "The Kashmir Files" is a bold representation of truth and it will work to make the society and the country aware in the direction that such historical mistakes are not repeated.

Later, Kher expressed his gratitude to the home minister for abrogation of Article 370, which gave special status to J and K.

"Respected Home Minister @AmitShah sir! Not only on behalf of the #KashmiriPandits community but also on behalf of the team #TheKashmirFiles, I got the opportunity to express gratitude to you at your residence for your tireless efforts to remove #Article370," the actor tweeted in Hindi.

Agnihotri also thanked Shah for his encouragement.

"Your consistent efforts for the human rights of Kashmiri people and security forces is commendable. Your vision for a peaceful and prosperous Kashmir will strengthen humanity and brotherhood. #RightToJustice," he tweeted.

In Srinagar, Mehbooba Mufti said instead of healing old wounds and creating a conducive atmosphere between two communities, the Centre is deliberately tearing them apart .

The manner in which GOI (government of India) is aggressively promoting Kashmir Files & is weaponising pain of Kashmiri Pandits makes their ill intention obvious, Mehbooba wrote on Twitter:

Congress leader and Leader of Opposition in the Kerala Assembly, V D Satheesan, said the tweet by the party's state unit on Kashmir was meant to say that all sorts of atrocities in the Valley should be ended and the issue should not be handled in the name of religion or caste.

"But it is being misused in Delhi. The Sangh Parivar forces misinterpreted it," Satheesan told reporters in Thiruvananthapuram, responding to a query on the BJP's attack on the Congress in Parliament over its controversial tweet through the twitter handle of the party's Kerala unit.

An association of Kashmiri students in Uttarakhand expressed apprehensions that the "disturbing video clips" emerging from different theatres screening 'The Kashmir Files' could lead to targeting of students of a particular community, especially those from J and K studying in different parts of the country.

"The onus of any unprovoked attempt of hate, physical, verbal abuse aimed at students from the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir will be on the director of the film," the spokesman of J-K Students Association Nasir Khuehami, who studies in a college in Dehra Dun, said in a statement.

Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar rejected the demand of BJP legislators to make the film tax-free in the state, saying if the Centre waives GST on the movie, it will apply to the entire country.

Replying to a debate on the state Budget in the Legislative Assembly, Pawar, who is also the state's finance minister, said the central Goods and Services Tax(GST) and the state GST are 50 per cent each.

"The issue in the film is about Kashmir: Prime Minister Narendra Modi has spoken about the film in Parliament. If the central GST is waived, the tax waiver will apply to the entire country," he said.

Enraged by Pawar's statement, the BJP legislators staged a walkout.

The BJP on Tuesday had submitted a memorandum signed by 92 of its MLAs to declare the movie tax-free.

Amid the opposition BJP's demand for a tax break to the film in Chhattisgarh, Chief Minister Baghel said the Centre should waive the GST on the movie so that it becomes tax-free in the country.

3 LeT terrorists...

been identified as Adil Nabi Teli resident of Galechbal Chandhara, Pampore, Shaker Ahmad Tantray resident of Ronipora Shopian and Yasir Ahmad Wagay resident of Kujur Frisal, Kulgam, the police said.

As per police records, the killed terrorists were affiliated with proscribed terror outfit LeT (TRF) and active since year 2021. They were part of groups involved in several terror crime cases including attack on Police/SF and civilian atrocities.

IGP Kashmir said that all the three killed terrorists were involved in the recent killing of Sarpanch Sameer Ahmad Bhat at Khanmoh Srinagar; adding, they used to carry out attacks on Panchayati Raj institution members and protected persons. Besides they were planning to attack on security forces on the NIHW.

He termed the elimination of wanted terrorists as a big success and congratulated the joint forces for conducting successful anti-terrorist operation without any collateral damage.

Terrorist Adil Teli, along with his associates, was also involved in martyrdom of Inspector Pervaiz Ahmad Dar at Manganwari Nowgam on June 22, 2021, killing of Javid Ahmed Malik at Lurgam Tral. Besides, he was also involved in grenade attack on joint party of Police and CRPF at Barbarshah Srinagar in which one civilian was killed and three civilians were injured.

Similarly, terrorists Shaker Ahmad and Yasir Ahmad were also involved in several terror crime cases including martyrdom of ASI Mohammad Ashraf near PS Bijbehara, Anantnag on December 22, 2021.

Incriminating materials, arms and ammunition including 01 AK rifle, 03 AK Magazines, 14 AK rounds, 02 Pistols, 04 Pistol Magazines, 06 Pistol rounds were recovered from the site of encounter. All the recovered materials have been taken into case records for further investigation.

In this regard, a case under relevant sections of law has been registered and investiga-

tion has been initiated. People are requested to cooperate with Police till the area at encounter site is completely sanitized and cleared of all the explosive materials, if any.

Pakistani handlers pushing...

Sarpanches Sameer Bhat and Shabir Ahmad Mir were killed in Srinagar and Kulgam districts on March 9 and March 11, respectively, while an independent panchayat member, Mohammad Yaqub Dar, was gunned down by terrorists in Kulgam on March 2.

"Pakistani handlers are pushing them (terrorists operating in J&K) to harm innocent people by targeted killings and grenade throwing. Two civilians, including a girl, were killed in one such grenade attack in Srinagar (on March 6), the police chief said.

On counter-terrorist operations, he said, "Over the past few days, we have carried out over half-a-dozen successful operations, including the one in Srinagar which resulted in the killing of three terrorists (on Wednesday). These three terrorists were involved in the killing of Kannoh sarpanch (Bhat)."

Eleven terrorists have been killed in seven encounters in different parts of Kashmir Valley since March 10. While two militants were killed in Pulwama and Srinagar's Hazratbal on March 10, three encounters in Pulwama, Ganderbal and Kupara left four terrorists dead and one more arrested. Another militant was killed in Pulwama on March 15.

The DGP said the culprits behind the killing of a sarpanch in Kulgam, a CRPF personnel in Shopian and an Army jawan in Budgam were also arrested.

CRPF jawan Mukhtar Ahmad and soldier Sameer Ahmad Malla were killed by terrorists in Shopian and Budgam districts on March 12 and 10, respectively. Both of them had come home on leave when they were attacked by the terrorists.

"Those behind the killing of a sarpanch in Kulgam were arrested and the main terrorist was identified and is being chased. The module behind the CRPF jawan's killing was busted and similarly, the culprits involved in the killing of army jawan were also arrested and the terrorist identified and he too will be neutralised, Singh said.

He said, The operations against terrorists will continue so that the people can live in a peaceful atmosphere and the killings at the hands of Pakistani terrorists and local terrorists at the behest of Pakistani agencies is stopped.

Asked about fear among Panchayati Raj Institution members in the wake of recent attacks, the DGP said there is no need to panic.

"Providing security to every individual is not possible everywhere but we are making efforts to provide a peaceful atmosphere through area security... We are providing security (to individuals) following intelligence input, he said.

'G-23' leaders meet...

at the crucial Congress Working Committee meeting on Sunday.

Two prominent G-23 members Azad and Sharma would also apprise the other members of the developments at the CWC and what they spoke on strengthening the party in the wake of the party's drubbing in the assembly polls in five states, they said.

The Congress performance in these states was poor as it failed to win back any of the four BJP-ruled states including Uttar Pradesh, Goa, Uttarakhand and Manipur; while it lost Punjab to the AAP.

The G-23 grouping has been critical of the party leadership and has been demanding organisational overhaul, after they wrote a joint letter to Sonia Gandhi in 2020.

The sources said invitations were also extended to the Congressmen who don't constitute the bloc but feel changes are required, including at the leadership level, to revive its electoral fortunes.

The decision to convene a meeting of the G-23 came a day after Sonia Gandhi sought the resignation of Congress presidents of Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Manipur and Goa following the party's dismal performance there.

Sibal, in his latest salvo targeting the leadership had said the Gandhis should step aside and give some other leader a chance to helm the party, provoking a backlash from Gandhi family loyalists who accused him of speaking the language of the BJP and the RSS.

The G-23 has, however, got weakened over time with senior leader M Veerappa Moily distancing himself from the group, Jitin Prasada joining the BJP, and Mukul Wasnik not attending its meetings in recent times.

Bhagwant Mann sworn...

Arvind Kejriwal, deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia, and other leaders wearing yellow turbans took part in the ceremony.

The AAP romped home winning 92 seats in the 117-member Punjab Assembly, decimating the Congress and the SAD-BSP combine.

State Marriage Assistance...

being provided. Earlier, the benefits under the scheme were limited only to the girls of marriageable age who figured in the poor girls survey, especially conducted for this purpose by the Social Welfare Department.

DGHS New Delhi...

mention that a three member experts' team from Director General Health Services, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi had inspected the Eye Bank, Corneal Transplantation and Retrieval facility in the month of February in the Department of Ophthalmology as per the prescribed parameters of Govt. of India under the THOTA, 1994.

Earlier, GMC Jammu had got the provisional registration from the Licensing Authority of Directorate of Health Services, Jammu under the J&K transplantation of Human Organ Act, 1997. The department has already conducted 21 corneal transplants. But after conversion of J&K State to Union Territory, the department had to apply for a new registration to DGHS, New Delhi through State Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (SOTTO) J&K .Now this will open up a facility for eye donation and corneal transplant for the people at GMC Jammu.

India's COVID vaccination...

ensure those at the forefront of the fight against Covid get proper protection at the earliest, he said.

In March 2021, vaccination was opened to those above 60 and those over 45 with

comorbidities, he pointed out. Later, the vaccination opened for all those above 18, he said.

Modi said it should make every Indian proud that the vaccines are free of cost for those who want it.

"Today, India has administered over 180 crore doses, which includes over 9 crore doses in age group of 15-17 and over 2 crore precaution doses. This forms an important protective shield for our citizens against COVID-19," he said in another tweet.

Over the last year, India's vaccination drive has been people-powered, he said.

Unlike other nations where we are witnessing a lot of vaccine hesitancy, people here have not only taken their doses but also urged others to get vaccinated as soon as possible, the prime minister said, adding that this is "heartening to see".

"I would like to appreciate our state governments for their support towards India's vaccination drive. Several states, especially the hill states and those where tourism is important, have achieved near total vaccination coverage and several big states have also done well," he said.

Situation in J&K...

of him chairing a high-level security review meeting here on Friday, the CRPF DG said, He has no idea about it."

He said this is for the first time that the CRPF Day is being celebrated outside Delhi. The central government has directed different forces to organise annual day parades at different places in the country and display show of strength to the people.

"It will act as an inspiration and motivation for the personnel as well as the civilian population, especially the youth. It will also help in the national integration work, he said.

Asked about the killing of a CRPF personnel who was at home on leave in Kashmir Valley recently, he said this was the first such incident this year and added the security agencies acted promptly and arrested the culprit within the shortest possible time.

Terrorists shot dead CRPF jawan Mukhtar Ahmad at his home in Check Chotipora village of Shopian district on March 12.

"Terrorists also keep a watch who is coming and who is going. He was on leave and was killed but the culprit behind the murder was arrested and the law will take its own course and he will be punished as per the law, he said.

To a question on terrorists using religious places to hide, he said, Terrorists do not have any religion...wherever they are, security forces will reach and neutralise them.

On the annual Amarnath Yatra, the CRPF DG said it is not appropriate time to comment on the pilgrimage. When the orders will come, we will act on those orders.

Asked whether he will arrange special screening of 'The Kashmir Files' film for his troops deployed in Jammu and Kashmir; he said, "I have not seen the picture so far. Any picture which is good and works as an inspiration and motivation needs to be watched.

Addressing the parade earlier, the CRPF chief lauded the bravery and courage of his personnel and said the year 2021-22 witnessed the force eliminating 162 terrorists and Maoists, arresting 1,500 others and forcing 750 more to surrender in various operations across the country.

A huge quantity of arms and ammunition, including 415 weapons, 13,000 rounds, 1400 kg of explosives, 225 grenades, 115 bombs, 615 IEDs, 2400 detonators and 5336 gelatin sticks, worth Rs 3.27 crore and 25,775 kg of narcotic substances were seized during the same period, he said.

He said 12 personnel of the force laid down their lives, while 169 others were injured during the period.

In the past 82 years, the CRPF received 2,309 gallantry awards which is the highest among forces, he said, adding 272 awards, including four Kirti Chakra and nine Shaurya Chakra, were given to the personnel for their service to the nation in 2021-22.

Singh said with 246 battalion and over 3.15 lakh personnel, CRPF is the largest paramilitary force in the world which is performing various duties for the nation like maintaining law and order; providing security during elections and religious festivals.

"New challenges do come with the passage of time and we are focused on modernisation of the force and providing our personnel with latest weapons, bullet-proof vehicles and other equipment to enhance operation capabilities, he said, adding medical assistance compact ambulance were also provided to evacuate injured personnel during anti-terrorism operations.

He said CRPF is also making continuous attempts to provide better living facilities to the personnel and their families. The central government is alive to the problems being faced by the personnel and providing adequate assistance to ensure better facilities to them.

He also referred to the handling of the situation in the aftermath of the abrogation of Article 370 that provided special status to the state of Jammu and Kashmir and its bifurcation into two union territories in August 2019 and said both central and J&K governments have lauded the force for maintaining peace in the region.

The force has also six women battalions which are deployed across the country, a glaring example of women empowerment, he said.

Jammu records season's...

while Banihal town in Ramban district recorded a low of 14.2 degrees Celsius which was 10 degrees above normal.

Srinagar recorded a minimum of 7.9 degrees Celsius, which was 3.7 notches above the normal. Baderwah town in Doda district recorded a maximum of 30.4 degrees Celsius, surpassing the previous high of 30 degrees Celsius on March 31, 2018.

The rising temperature over the past few days, especially in the snow-bound areas of Jammu and Kashmir; has caused early melting of the snow causing concern among the people, especially the agriculturists who fear water shortage in the coming months.

Putin says 'economic...

has failed to wage an economic blitzkrieg against Russia.

In effect these steps are aimed at worsening the lives of millions of people, Putin said of the sanctions that have delivered a crippling blow to Russia's economy.

One should clearly understand that the new set of sanctions and restrictions against us would have followed in any case, I want to emphasize this. Our military operation in Ukraine is just a pretext for the next sanctions, Putin told a government meeting Wednesday. (AP).

DLSA Udhampur organises awareness programs for PLVs, under-trials



DLSA Secy, Rajni Sharma (Sub-Judge) imparting awareness.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: District Legal Services Authority Udhampur organised an online awareness programme for Para Legal Volunteers District Udhampur via Virtual Mode on Gender Sensitization and Sexual Harassment of women at work place.

The programme was supervised by Secretary DLSA (Sub-Judge) Rajni Sharma, who is also the presiding officer of Gender Sensitization Committee along with committee members Advocate Vijay Lakshmi and Advocate Malik Arjun Singh Salathia.

The training programme was attended by all the Para Legal Volunteers of District Udhampur. The Secretary DLSA and the Committee members made the Para Legal Volunteers of District Udhampur with regard to the Gender Sensitization Committee and the procedure for filing any complaint/grievances of the women.

Meanwhile, the DLSA, Udhampur; under the guidance of Chairman Y. P. Bournay and overall supervision of Secretary (Sub-Judge) Rajni Sharma, also organised

an awareness programme on the rights and providing free legal services to under trial Prisoners and ensuring their representation before the Courts.

The Programme was inaugurated by the Secretary DLSA. She interacted with the Prisoners and informed them about their fundamental and Legal rights enshrined in the constitution of India.

The Secretary also inquired about the grievances of the Prisoners.

Panel Lawyers of DLSA, Udhampur Balwan Singh, Akhil Dubey and Mallikarjun Singh Slathia, besides Ritu Sharma Head Assistant DLSA Udhampur, Ankita Sharma a Law Student of National Law University Shimla (Popular Speaker of India awardee, National & International Debator & Mooter) and Komal Prabhakar also a law student of the University of Jammu were also present. The panel lawyers and Law student Ankita Sharma also interacted with the jail inmates and made them aware of the Legal provisions provided to them by the Criminal Procedure Code.

CRIME REPORT

13 passengers injured in fierce Winger-Dumper collision

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHMAPUR: At least 13 passengers were injured in a road accident at Malad area of Udhampur district on Jammu-Srinagar National Highway.

According to information, a Tata Winger (JK06-6137) which was on its way from Jammu to Kashmir Valley collided with a Dumper (JK02CS-1872) in Malad area of Udhampur; due to which 13 passengers got injured. Soon after the accident, Udhampur police rushed to spot and injured were shifted to Udhampur district hospital for treatment. Police has registered a case in this regard and started investigation.

The injured were identified as Mehfooz, son of Din Mohammad, resident of Muzaffarnagar; Nazira Begum, wife of Abdul Latif, resident of Doda; Abdul Latif, resident of Doda; Abdul Rehman Tantre, resident of Doda; Riyaz Tantre, son of Abdul Latif, resident of Doda; Mudassar Hussain, son of Sadaullah, resident of Doda; Ashok Kumar, son of Ram Lal, resident of Doda; Mohammad Arshad, son of Shaukat Ali, resident of Muzaffarnagar; Raj Devi, wife of late Krishna Lal, resident of Doda; Syed Akhtar Hussain, son of Nizamuddin, resident of Doda; Gulfam Akhtar, wife of Syed Akhtar, resident of Doda; Rohit Rakhwal, son of Narendra Singh, resident of Doda and Shakumla Devi.

28 bovines rescued, 5 smugglers nabbed

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU/RAMBAN: Police on Wednesday foiled several bovine smuggling bids by rescuing 28 bovines and arrested 5 smugglers. As per details, two Nakas were laid by teams of Police Stations Nagrota & Pacea Danga, where 13 bovines were rescued from three vehicles viz 9 bovines from two vehicles at Ban Toll plaza Naka and 4 bovines from a vehicle at Manda Naka. Police also rescued 9 bovines from two different vehicles (HP38F 7222 and JK02BU 1848) at Ban Toll Plaza naka in the jurisdiction of Police Station Nagrota.

In this regard, FIR Nos. 104 & 105/2022 under sections 188 of IPC, 11 of PCA Act were registered at Police Station Nagrota and an accused was arrested who was identified as Wasim, son of Abdul Rehman, resident of Bharat Nagar, Udhampur. The arrests and recoveries were made by SHO Nagrota Inspr Vishav Pratap Singh under supervision of

SDPO Nagrota Pardeep Kumar.

Similarly at another Naka by police team of Police Station Pacea Danga at Manda Naka, police rescued 4 bovines from a vehicle (JK02CB6307) and arrested a smuggler namely Boshu Mohd, son of Mohd Hanif, resident of Sarthala Kote, Arnas Reasi. FIR No 31/2022 under sections 188 of IPC, 11 of PCA Act was registered against him at Police Station Pacea Danga. The arrest and recoveries were made by SHO Pacea Danga Insp Raghuraj Singh under the overall supervision of SDPO North Sharad Kahu.

Meanwhile, Ramban Police also rescued 15 bovines and arrested 3 smugglers. Acting on specific inputs regarding transportation of bovines, a party from Police Station Ramban intercepted a Load Carrier (JK19-8423), which was on its way towards Srinagar. During checking, three bovines were rescued from it. The driver fled away from spot taking advantage of darkness. FIR No. 78/2022 under sections 188 of IPC, 11 PCA of Act was registered in Police Station Ramban. In a similar incident, during routine checking, a party of Police Station Chanderkote intercepted one Tata Mobile (JK19 7161) driven by one Tilak Raj, son of Chur Chand, resident of Rajgarh. During checking, four bovines were found laden in it which were rescued. The accused was arrested and FIR No 43/2022 under sections 188 of IPC, 11 of PCA Act was registered against him at Police Station Chanderkote. A party of Police Post Ukhal intercepted one Khurshed Ahmed, son of Gh Mohd, resident of Bankoot, Banihal, District Ramban, who was taking two bovine animals by foot. On questioning, he failed to produce any valid permission. Accordingly, bovines were rescued and accused was arrested. FIR No. 23/2022 under section 188 IPC, 11 PCA Act was registered against him at Police Station Ramsou.

In another incident, a party from Police Post Jawahar Tunnel intercepted a Tata Mobile (JK19A 0336). During checking of vehicle, six bovines were found laden in it which were rescued. The driver of vehicle, identified as Bashir Ahmed, son of Sher Mohd, resident of Pernote, Ramban was arrested and FIR No. 40/2022 under sections 188 of IPC, 11 of PCA Act was registered against him at Police Station Banihal. The overall arrests and rescue operations were made by police parties of different police posts/police stations under overall supervision of SSP Ramban Mohita Sharma.

Missing minor girl reunited with family

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Police on Wednesday reunited a missing minor girl with her family.

As per details, information was received at Police Station Bahu Fort that a minor girl was wandering near railway station. On this, a team of Police Station Bahu Fort brought girl

