

## !! Continuations from Page 1 !!

### Russian forces seize...

plunging it into darkness, isolation and fear. Electricity and phone connections are largely down, and homes and shops are facing food and water shortages.

Without phone connections, medics didn't know where to take the wounded.

In just seven days of fighting, more than 2% of Ukraine's population has been forced out of the country, according to the tally of the U.N. refugee agency released to The Associated Press. The mass evacuation could be seen in Kharkiv, a city of about 1.4 million people and Ukraine's second-largest. Residents desperate to escape falling shells and bombs crowded the city's train station and pressed onto trains, not always knowing where they were headed.

At least 227 civilians have been killed and another 525 wounded in that time, according to the latest figures from the office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights. It acknowledges that is a vast undercount, and Ukraine earlier said more than 2,000 civilians have died. That figure could not be independently verified.

As the toll of war mounted, a second round of talks between Ukrainian and Russian delegations was expected later Thursday in neighboring Belarus though the two sides appeared to have little common ground.

We are ready to conduct talks, but we will continue the operation because we won't allow Ukraine to preserve a military infrastructure that threatens Russia, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said, repeating an accusation Moscow has repeatedly used to justify its invasion.

Lavrov said that the West has continuously armed Ukraine, trained its troops and built up bases there to turn Ukraine into a bulwark against Russia.

The U.S. and its allies have insisted that NATO is a defensive alliance that doesn't pose a threat to Russia. And the West fears Russia's invasion is meant to overthrow Ukraine's government and install a friendly government though Lavrov said Moscow would let the Ukrainians choose what government they should have.

Russian President Vladimir Putin earlier raised the specter of nuclear war, putting his country's nuclear forces on high alert, but his foreign minister shrugged off questions of whether Russia could escalate the conflict with nuclear weapons, saying such talk comes from the West.

In Kherson, the Russians took over the regional administration headquarters, Hennady Lahuta, the governor of the region, said Thursday while adding that he and other officials were continuing to perform their duties and provide assistance to the population.

Kherson's mayor, Igor Kolykhaev, previously said that the national flag was still flying, but that there were no Ukrainian troops in the city. Britain's defense secretary said it was possible the Russians had taken over, though not yet verified.

The mayor said the city would maintain a strict curfew and require pedestrians to walk in groups no larger than two, obey commands to stop and not to provoke the troops.

The flag flying over us is Ukrainian, he wrote on Facebook. And for it to stay that way, these demands must be observed.

Earlier Thursday, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said that Russian land forces have stalled and Moscow is now unleashing air attacks, but that they are being parried by Ukrainian defense systems, including in Kherson.

Kyiv withstood the night and another missile and bomb attack. Our air defenses worked, he said. Kherson, Izium all the other cities that the occupiers hit from the air did not give up anything.

Kyiv Mayor Vitali Klitschko said explosions heard overnight in the Ukrainian capital were Russian missiles being shot down by air defense systems.

From Kherson, Russian troops appeared to roll toward Mykolaiv, another major Black Sea port and shipbuilding center to the west along the coast. The regional governor, Vitaly Kim, said that big convoys of Russian troops are advancing on the city but said that they will likely need to regroup before trying to take it over.

A group of Russian amphibious landing vessels is also heading toward the port of Odesa, farther west, the Ukrainian military said.

Moscow's isolation deepened when most of the world lined up against it at the United Nations to demand it withdraw from Ukraine. The prosecutor for the International Criminal Court opened an investigation into possible war crimes. And in a stunning reversal, the International Paralympic Committee banned Russian and Belarusian athletes from the Winter Paralympic Games.

Russia reported its military casualties Wednesday for the first time in the war, saying nearly 500 of its troops have been killed and almost 1,600 wounded. Ukraine did not disclose its own military losses.

Ukraine's military general staff said in a Facebook post that Russia's forces had suffered some 9,000 casualties in the fighting. It did not clarify if that figure included both killed and wounded soldiers.

In a video address to the nation early Thursday, Zelenskyy praised his country's resistance.

We are a people who in a week have destroyed the plans of the enemy, he said. They will have no peace here. They will have no food. They will have here not one quiet moment.

### ED provisionally attaches...

be filed before the adjudicating authority of the PMLA within six months.

The authority decides on the merit of the attachment and if it okays the ED action, the agency proceeds to confiscate assets.

The accused can further appeal against an order of the adjudicating authority before the appellate authority of the PMLA followed by trial court, high court and Supreme Court.

Abdullah challenged the ED's order, and in his petition, which has annexed over 50 documents with it, highlighted every aspect of the JKCA scam.

It informed the court that it was at the instance of Abdullah that an in-house committee of the association was formed, which found two office bearers guilty of financial misappropriation, and that of a case being registered in the local police station.

Abdullah's petition contended that the ED had nowhere conducted an independent inquiry into the case "rendering it inherently biased".

"Nowhere has the ED satisfactorily offered reasons to believe that the petitioner is in possession of proceeds of crime, or that such proceeds are likely to be concealed," it stated.

Challenging the provisional attachment order of the ED, it contended that the commercial property attached by the central probe agency at Srinagar was shown even in records of the Estate Department as "undivided property held by the entire family of the petitioner (Abdullah). The lease was renewed in 1981."

## Sangram Sena organises 53rd Maharrudra Yagya



Sangram Sena members serving Langar among people.

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Sangram Sena, Jammu organized 53rd Maharrudra Yagya in Prachin Aap Shambu Temple at Maa Kol Kandoli Mandir, Nagrota.

The Havam was started from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm followed by Bhandara from 1:00 pm onwards. Kanya Puja also performed followed by Buzurg Adar Saman. Prominent persons present in the function include Bhushan Singh Manhas (Inspector), Satpal Sharma Gen Sec, DLF, and other members, Brig. Mehra (President Jammu Pragati Manh), Raju Jamwal, R.K Raina, President Sangram Sena, Kishore Kumar Sharma (Sarpanch Nagrota), Lala Kishore Kumar Sharma (Sarpanch Nagrota), Capt. R.S. Langre, Gen. Secy.

### STATE TIMES NEWS

PURMANDAL: Purmandali Dogri Dramatic club of GDC

Purmandal performed

Nukkad Natak on "Changi Matt"

at Purmandal Bus

stand on Thursday.

The students of the college

performed Nukkad Natak

to spread awareness

amongst local people

of the area about

the value of education

especially education of

girl students.

There was a clear cut

message through 'Changi

Matt' that when a girl is

educated, the whole society

gets educated. There was

huge response from all the

segments of the society.

The play attempted to dispel

doubts and misconceptions

about the Higher Education

of girls. The message was

that every girl has the right

to develop her individuality.

parents

should

come

forward

in enrolment

of their

daughters

in college

which is estab-

lished

in Mandal

Block. Another issue

that was

raised

in the play

was about

gender

inequality

and how to

treat

girls

at par with boys

for the welfare

of the society.

Today's event was attended

by large number of

spectators

and they were over-

whelmed with the performance of 'Purmandali Dramatic Club'. It was thoroughly enjoyed by the people, some of whom even pledged to further spread the message being given by the students of 'Dramatic Club'.

Local Panchayat members of block Purmandal were also present in the event.

The whole programme was given wide coverage by the Take One Channel and JK Updates present over there.

Local Police also supported

the event. All the staff members were the members of the organizing team. The whole programme was co-ordinated by Dr. Deepika Mehra H.O.D (Convener Purmandali Dramatic Club).

Principal of the college Prof. Seema Mir while speaking on the occasion

laid emphasis on the importance of education and

expected full support and

encouragement from the

people of the Block

Purmandal.

The whole programme was given wide coverage by the Take One Channel and JK Updates present over there. Local Police also supported

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A large number of

Engineering students of 1st

and 3rd semesters of various

engineering colleges of

Jammu division on Thursday

staged protest inside the

varsity to demand online

examinations.

The protesting students

have opposed the University's

decision to hold the exams in

offline mode and said they

had attended their classes

through online mode.

"We have attended our

classes online and can't

appear in offline exams," one

## JE RDD caught...

was registered at Police Station ACB Baramulla. During the course of investigation, a trap team constituted which caught Tassaduq Riyaz, Junior Engineer RDD, Block Hardubora, Tehsil Karhama, District Baramulla, red-handed, while demanding and accepting bribe of Rs. 5000 from the complainant," the official said, adding that the accused was arrested and taken into custody. The bribe money was also recovered from his possession in presence of independent witnesses, said official, adding that further investigation of the case is going on.

## Modi blames previous...

government for rescuing them when they had lost all hope.

A strong India is the answer to these troubles, Modi said, expressing his sympathies with the students who, he added, had to go through such an experience at a young age.

"If medical education policies were right earlier, then you would not have to go abroad," he said, adding that no parents want their children to go overseas at such a young age.

His government is working to correct the past mistakes, he added.

There were 300 to 400 medical colleges earlier, and they now number nearly 700, Modi said. The number of seats they offer has now gone up to 1.5 lakh from earlier 80,000-90,000, he said.

"My effort is that every district has one medical college. Probably, there will be more doctors produced in 10 years than the last 70 years," he said.

This will be a big thing as young students would not have to travel abroad, and their families would not have to undergo such stress, he added.

Speaking to the students, Modi said everyone should keep doing something for the country.

"You had to undergo such an experience in life at such a young age in a distant place alone. I can imagine the mental state you would have been through. Now we are able to evacuate people properly," he said.

The students shared their experiences with Modi, who is on a tour of the state as part of the BJP's campaign for the ongoing assembly polls.

Modi represents Varanasi constituency in Lok Sabha.

Sharing their experience, some students said they had left all hopes after Russia launched an attack on Ukraine and could not have returned without support from the government.

Some other students said they faced no difficulties and received adequate facilities from the Indian embassy there.

"After the attack began, it seemed I will not be able to return and saw death from close quarters. I am proud of being an Indian and you as prime minister," a student said, adding that the display of Indian flag on their windows and buses ensured that Russian forces let them go without causing any problem.

Another student conveyed his family's gratitude to the prime minister, saying they believed only he can do something after he was stranded in Ukraine. "You were being remembered only next to God," he said.

Even students of some other countries also used Indian flag to get smooth passage from the Russian army, one said.

## Interacts with students...

to the state as part of the BJP's campaign for the assembly polls.

The Prime Minister represents Varanasi constituency in Lok Sabha.

The government has launched "Operation Ganga" to evacuate Indian citizens, mostly students, from Ukraine which has been attacked by Russia.

The government has already sent four Union ministers to countries neighbouring Ukraine as India's "special envoys" to coordinate