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PM freed J&K...**



Union Minister Anurag Thakur during visit to revert Shrine of Mata Vaishno Devi Ji with family and friends.

is going on very fast besides setting up of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) and various other prestigious institutes like the IIM and IIT, new projects which will ensure massive employment generation and large scale investment which is in the pipeline.

Earlier, he said the travel between Jammu and Srinagar used to consume 15 hours but now the travel time has reduced to four to five hours, while the world highest Railway bridge Chenab bridge along Udhampur-Baramulla-Srinagar Railway Line (USBRL) has been completed as the country is inching closer to connect Kashmir with Kanyakumari through railway network.

The Katra-Delhi expressway, which was never thought of by the Congress over the past six decades of its rule, is being built to facilitate the Mata Vaishno Devi pilgrims, he said, highlighting various achievements of the government in space and other fields over the past 10 years.

Thakur said when Prime Minister Modi took over in 2014, the country's economy was in shambles but his hard work ensured India's economy jumping to the fifth spot in the globe and the BJP government is eyeing to take it further up and to the third position during the next five years.

"During India's G20 presidency, Modi made a push for a new economic corridor which will connect India with Europe. This will also facilitate goods from Jammu to reach Europe," he said.

Targeting the Congress, the minister said big seams like 2G and fodder scam came to light before 2014 but after Modi took over, he showed how a clean government is run with the same officials.

Lashing out at Congress for its "arrogance", he said the party is not above law.

Thakur claimed the Congress changed its name from the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) to Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) to hide its corruption.

On alleged criticism of films like Kashmir files' and Article 370, he asked why Congress rejects the atrocities faced by the Kashmiri Pandits.

"The Congress is not accepting the reality. A majority of people did not know the truth but the screening of these movies has made it possible," he said.

Meanwhile, Kishore while asking people to extend their support to him said the country, including Jammu and Kashmir, is "moving fast on the development path" under Prime Minister Modi.

"Modi restored honour of the country, took historic decisions which were pending for decades," he added.

Jammu and Kashmir BJP president Ravinder Raina claimed it is the BJP which has always expressed its deep concern for the sufferings of the people and the Modi government did lot to provide relief to the neglected, discriminated citizens. He said that unprecedented development in J&K has been big gift to J&K from Modi Government.

Seh Prabhari Ashish Sood, while speaking on the occasion said that the nation had to face scams and corruption from 2004 to 2014 under Congress government, while it has been BJP-led NDA, which, from 2014 to 2024, gave good governance with no space for scams, corruption and nepotism. It flooded the discriminated state of Jammu and Kashmir with large number of prestigious health and educational institutions, granted citizenship rights to the West Pakistan refugees and worked for political empowerment of Valmiki samaj, the STs.

NEM and former minister, Priya Sethi, conducted proceedings of the public rally, while Jammu district president Parmod Kapahi presented vote of thanks.

BJP leaders Dr. Narinder Singh, Kavinder Gupta, Sat Sharma, Sham Choudhary, Sham Lal Sharma, Yudhvir Sethi, Chander Mohan Gupta, Aseem Gupta, Surjeet Singh Salathia, Anuradha Charak, Ashok Koul, Vibodh Gupta, Dr. Devinder Kumar Anwar, Priya Sethi, Chander Prakash Ganga, Bali Bhagat, Sukhmandan Choudhary, Ajay Nanda, Devender Singh Rana, Balwant Singh Mankotia, Rajeev Sharma, Shiv Dev Singh, Dr. Krishan Lal, Prof. Gharu Ram Bhagat, Vikram Randhawa, Baldev Singh Billawaria, Sunil Sethi, Prabhat Singh, Bharat Bhushan, Suraj Singh, Narain Singh, Purnima Sharma, Prem Gupta, Arun Prabhat Singh, Parmod Kapahi, Chand ji Bhat, Sunil Shastri, Rekha Mahajan, Rohit Dubey, Kashmiri Singh, Neena Sharma, Omi Khajuria, Prem Gupta, Venu Khanna, Roshan Choudhary, Ramesh Gupta and others were prominent among those who attended this public rally.

Police reviews security...

the voters ahead of the Lok Sabha elections, officials said. Of the three Lok Sabha seats in Kashmir, Anantnag-Rajouri will go to polls on May 7, Srinagar on May 13 and Baramulla on May 20.

The marches were conducted by the district police and Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) in various districts, including Ganderbal, Baramulla, Pulwama, Kulgam, Sopore, Shopian, Bandipora and Budgam, officials said.

The flag marches are part of an area domination exercise and saw the participation of senior officers and jawans, they added.

A police spokesperson said the objective of the flag marches was to instil confidence in the voters of a secure and harmonious environment, thereby enabling them to participate in the electoral process without any fear.

Restoration of Martand...

Archaeology and Museums (J-K), superintendent of Archaeologist (incharge) ASI (Srinagar circle). Thousands of pilgrims including Kashmiri Pandits visit the temple every year and have been demanding its restoration.

In May 2022, Lt Governor Manoj Sinha took part in Navgrah Ashtamangala Pooja at the temple which was protested by ASI as "violation of rules" for not seeking required permission. However, J-K administration defended the pooja citing rule 7(2) of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, which states that this should not apply to any event held "in pursuance of a recognised religious usage or custom".

Built on the top of a plateau, the temple ruins and related archaeological findings revealed that it was an excellent specimen of Kashmiri architecture, which had blended the Gandharan, Gupta and Chinese forms of architecture.

The temple has a colonnaded courtyard, with its primary shrine in its centre and surrounded by 84 smaller shrines, stretching to be 220 feet long and 142 feet broad total and incorporating a smaller temple that was previously built.

Farooq to participate...

candidates would be? Which party has announced candidates for the three seats in Kashmir except for Sajad Lone. You are only after the NC as if everyone is waiting for us. "We will announce it when we are in the mood to (do so). It could be after the notification or even on the last day of filing of the nominations," Abdullah added.

Prez confers Bharat...

P V Narasimha Rao was prime minister from 1991 to 1996. Often referred to as the Chanakya of Indian politics, he is known for initiating far-reaching economic reforms and for his skilful political manoeuvring.

He was the first prime minister from the south, the first Congress leader from outside the Nehru-Gandhi family to complete a full five-year term and the man who steered India through the turbulent early 1990s.

Born in an agrarian family at Karimnagar (now in Telangana), on June 28, 1921, Rao had the distinction of holding important non-economic portfolios at the Centre - External Affairs, Defence and Home - at different times in the 1980s. He died on December 23, 2004, at the age of 83.

In another post, the Rashtrapati Bhavan said, "Chaudhary Charan Singh was an ardent patriot. He was imprisoned many times during the freedom struggle. His contribution to zamindari abolition and land reforms, and his deep understanding of the economy, especially rural and agricultural economy are respectfully remembered. His connect with farmers was legendary."

On behalf of Chaudhary Charan Singh, Bharat Ratna was received by Jayant Chaudhary, his grandson, it added.

Chaudhary Charan Singh, a Jat leader from western Uttar Pradesh, was prime minister between July 28, 1979 and January 14, 1980. He died in 1987. Born on December 23, 1902, at Noorpur in Meerut district of Uttar Pradesh in a middle-class family, Singh shifted to Meerut in 1929 and later joined the Congress.

President Murmu conferred Bharat Ratna upon M S Swaminathan posthumously, the Rashtrapati Bhavan said.

"Swaminathan played a major role in making India self-sufficient in food production. He is known as the 'Father of India's Green Revolution'. With his exceptional insight into the entire agricultural value chain, he guided several initiatives for research, education, and development of new varieties and methods," it said.

Swaminathan dedicated his entire life to the goal of food and nutrition security for all.

"He was working on promoting sustainable agriculture with his vision of 'evergreen revolution'," the Rashtrapati Bhavan said.

Swaminathan's daughter Nitya Rao received the award.

Swaminathan, who died on September 28, 2023, at the age of 98, is most widely known for transforming India from a drought-stricken country dependent on the United States for foodgrain imports in the 1960s to being declared self-sufficient in food production in 1971.

Fondly addressed as MS by his friends and colleagues, Mankombu Sambasivan Swaminathan, in his long career, demonstrated what he advocated -- developing new varieties for food security -- and ensured bumper crops by working side by side with farmers.

Born in Kumbakonam in Tamil Nadu on August 7, 1925, to Dr M K Sambasivan and Parvati Thangammai, Swaminathan played a significant role in changing the trajectory of the agriculture sector when farmers were dependent on archaic farming techniques.

A former Rajya Sabha member (2007-13), Swaminathan received 84 honorary doctorate degrees from universities around the world.

About Thakur, the Rashtrapati Bhavan said. "Shri Karpoori Thakur was a freedom fighter and a champion of equality and inclusive development. He was known for his simple living and selfless actions. On behalf of the late Shri Karpoori Thakur, Bharat Ratna was received by Shri Rannath Thakur, his son."

Working tirelessly to improve the lives of the disadvantaged people, Karpoori Thakur commanded high regard and had earned the honorific, 'Jan-Nayak' (people's leader), it said.

Socialist icon Thakur served as Bihar chief minister from December 1970 to June 1971 and from December 1977 to April 1979. He was a key figure in the struggle against social discrimination and inequality.

A fountainhead of OBC politics in Bihar, Thakur was born on January 24, 1924, in one of the most backward sections of society- the Nai Samaj (barber community). His political journey was marked by his unwavering commitment to the marginalised sections of society.

His tenure as the chief minister is best remembered for the implementation of the Mungeri Lal Commission recommendations, whereby quotas for backward classes were introduced in the state. He died on February 17, 1988.

This year, the government announced five Bharat Ratna awards, including one to Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) stalwart and former deputy prime minister L K Advani.

Udhampur's 10 years'...

foot or in a Palki, particularly in the upper reaches of Udhampur, but the same spots have today been connected with concrete roads and people are seen driving motor vehicles, he said. Dr. Jitendra said, Udhampur was the first district in the country to have achieved almost 100% saturation in issuing AYUSHMAN Card or health insurance. Similarly, almost all the Viksit Bharti initiatives undertaken by the have achieved 100% or near 100 % saturation.

At the same time, Dr. Singh said, the aspirations of the youth have been fulfilled after PM Modi provided them equal opportunity and a level playing field. As a result, today boys and girls from here are going to Metro cities and competing with their counterparts there to make a mark in their careers.

Dr. Jitendra said, there are certain critics and cynics who say they cannot see any development in 10 years but at the same time avail the utility of all the new projects set up in the last 10 years. Dr. Singh said, Modi Govt gave centrally funded Medical College and Mukerjee tunnel from Chenani to Nashri to shorten the travel time by road. The Minister said that earlier, Udhampur was known to be a "place of pedestrians" and there were Dogri folk songs written on "Udhampure diyan Takkiyan" but under the Modi government, Udhampur has emerged as country's top three districts in PMGSY road construction even in remotest areas. He said, "Among over 700 districts in the country, Udhampur has become one of the top three districts. Dr. Jitendra Singh informed, adding that the district has now its own radio station for which a demand was raised in 1965, but this genuine demand was never fulfilled by the earlier government. Not only this, Udhampur has a passport office now, he said. Dr. Jitendra said this constituency is in near future all set to become a tourist-cum-religious pilgrim destination as well as a centre for learning.

Talking about the success of Lavender revolution in Bhaderwah area of district Doda, Dr. Jitendra Singh informed its cultivation is now being taken up in Basantgarh-Dudu area of Udhampur given its success. The Minister exuded confidence that while in the upcoming general elections, Narendra Modi will return to power, with 400 seats, the voters of Udhampur-Kathua-Doda Lok Sabha seat are going to script a new record by bestowing a 4 lakh plus record margin on Dr. Jitendra Singh, and tumble the previous record voter turnout here. In the last election, this constituency had a record victory margin since the Independence, which was the highest in the history of Jammu and Kashmir in 2019", Dr. Jitendra Singh said. Pawan Gupta, former Minister, BJP J&K Vice President Pawan Khajuria, BJP District President Arun Gupta, DDC Chairman Lal Chand, Senior leaders Balwant Mankotia, Akhil Parashar, local Sarpanches , DDC members, PRIs, among others, addressed the different meetings.

Enthusiasm in public...

Maharashtra, BJP Seh Prabhari Ashish Sood said, "Rahul Gandhi is looking at India through the eyes of a foreigner from Italy. He is trying to defame the country and create confusion. He has been continuously making nefarious attempts." "Congress sometimes insults the army, sometimes the religion, sometimes the country, sometimes the institutions of the country," Ashish said.

"Maa Shakti is the strength of the country... Since time immemorial, we have revered her. Unfortunately, he (Rahul Gandhi) is consistently disrespecting Maa Shakti, Sanatan Dharma, religion, and central institutions," stated BJP leader Ashish Sood in the interview with STATE TIMES.

Sood further accused the Aam Aadmi Party of peddling a bundle of lies on the issue of its leader Arvind Kejriwal's arrest, asserting that those who are corrupt will go to jail. Politicians used to scratch each other's back to help each other while indulging in scams but this has changed in the last 10 years under the government headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"Should he (Kejriwal) be let off because he is a chief minister and not a common man," he asked, alleging that the Delhi Chief Minister is a main accused in the corruption case being probed by the Enforcement Directorate (ED).

With opposition parties, including the Congress, rallying to Kejriwal's defence and describing his arrest as part of the Union government's crackdown on their leaders, the senior BJP leader and J&K BJP Seh Prabhari Ashish Sood said, "It is an example of gang of corrupts displaying brotherhood."

Fresh snowfall in...

the night, they said. The Pahalgam tourist resort, in south Kashmir's Anantnag district, received about three inches of fresh snowfall. Some other areas, including Gurez in north Kashmir's Bandipora district, also received fresh snowfall, they said. There was fresh snowfall in the Drass town, along the Srinagar-Leh Highway, in Ladakh Union Territory as well, they added.

The plains of the Kashmir valley, including the summer capital Srinagar, were lashed by rains which continued till morning, the officials said.

The Meteorological Department, in a statement, said the weather would remain partly to generally cloudy with light to moderate rain or snow (in higher reaches) at most places with heavy rain or snow at isolated places during the night. There is a possibility of intermittent light rain or snow at a few places on Sunday, after which the weather is likely to stay dry till April 5, they said.

Lt Governor's greetings...

and love over hatred. The celebration of Christ's resurrection inspires us to follow the path of love, compassion, sacrifice, righteousness and forgiveness. May the Easter strengthen the bonds of brotherhood and fill our hearts with joy, hope and happiness".

J&K DoE de-recognises Budgam school for its management's anarchist, rebellious attitude'

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Authorities in Kashmir have de-recognised a private school in Budgam district for "anarchist and rebellious attitude" of the management of the institute. In an order, Directorate of School Education (DoE) has withdrawn the recognition order issued in favour of Foundation World Mammam Budgam, which was issued on November 23, 2021.

The order said Chief Education Officer (CEO), Budgam, had constituted an inquiry committee to look into various complaints against the school.

However, when the committee approached the school management to ascertain the factual position, the school management kept the enquiry officers,

alongwith CEO Budgam, waiting from 10 am to 5:30 pm on February 24, it said.

The CEO Budgam has also intimated that the concerned school management provided documents/material not upto the mark and without seal and signature due to which the committee could not ascertain the factual position owing to the non-cooperation of the school management.

The order said the school has not shown any inclination towards considering or implementing suggestions and has never taken the departmental representative on board for the official business of the school till date which is mandatory as per standing norms.

The CEO Budgam and other officers of the department have recommended

strict action against the Foundation World School, Mamat, Budgam, it said.

It has been frequently observed that the management of the school does not implement the instructions issued by competent authorities from time to time "thus reflecting an anarchist and rebellious attitude of the school management", the order said. "The delinquent attitude exhibited by the Management of Foundation World School, Mamat, Budgam is highly objectionable and has been taken seriously by the undersigned," the order by the DoE Kashmir, said.

It said the "persistent delinquency" by the school authorities necessitates immediate action to be initiated against the said institution.

2 notorious drug smugglers booked under PIT NDPS Act

STATE TIMES NEWS

BARAMULLA: Acting tough against drug peddlers and to eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, Police booked two notorious drug smugglers under PIT NDPS Act in Baramulla after obtaining formal detention orders from competent authority.

The notorious drug smugglers namely Irshad Ahmad Wani son of Ghulam Rasool resident of Pandithpora Bala Tangmar, Baramulla & Mohd Tajamal Masoodi son of Badar-ud-Din Masoodi resident of Bagander Pampore, Pulwama have been booked under PIT-NDPS Act after obtaining formal detention orders from the competent Authority. The booked drug smugglers have been detained and subsequently lodged in Central Jail Kot-Balwal Jammu.

Pertinent to mention here that many cases are registered against these drug smugglers and were involved in promoting drug abuse trade by supplying drugs to local youth of Solinda, Khaipora, Tangmar & other areas of District. Despite their involvement in many FIRs, they did not mend their activities and were again involved in promoting drug abuse trade by supplying drugs to local youth.

Police attaches residential property of hardcore narco smuggler

STATE TIMES NEWS

URI: Continuing its action against drug smugglers, Police in Baramulla attached property (double storeyed residential house worth approx. Rs. 30.00 lacs) belonging to notorious drug smuggler namely Azad Ahmad Mir son of Ab Aziz Mir resident of Dardkote Uri, District Baramulla.

The action was taken under sections 68-E read with 68-F (1) of NDPS Act of 1985 & is linked with case FIR No.222/2021 u/s 8/21,29 NDPS Act of PS Uri.

The property was identified as illegally acquired property during the course of investigation/enquiry conducted by Police. The property was prima facie acquired from illicit trafficking in Narcotic drug and Psychotropic substances by the drug smuggler.

2 drug peddlers arrested, contraband substance recovered

STATE TIMES NEWS

HANDWARA: Continuing its efforts to eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, police have arrested two drug peddlers in Handwara and recovered contraband substance from their possession.

A Police party led by SDPO Handwara accompanied by SHO PS Handwara and Incharge PP Chogul at a checkpoint established at Kulangam near Tutigund crossing intercepted a vehicle bearing registration No. JK09-5672 with two persons on board. During search, 40 grams of Charas like substance was recovered from their possession. The accused persons have been identified as Sajad Ah Bakshi (Driver) son of Gh Mohd Bakshi resident of Maidan Chogal and Nisar Ah Khan son of Mohd Yousuf Khan resident of Tutigund. They have been arrested and shifted to Police Station where they remain in custody. Vehicle used in the commission of crime has also been seized.

Accordingly, a case vide FIR No. 55/2024 under relevant sections of law has been registered in Police Station Handwara and further investigation has been initiated.

Miscreant nabbed with sharp edged weapon

STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: Samba Police on Saturday nabbed a miscreant with sharp edged weapon (Toka) in the jurisdiction of Police Station Ramgarh.

A police party of Police Station Ramgarh headed by SHO PS Ramgarh during vehicle checking at main bazar Ramgarh, intercepted a motorcycle bearing registration no. JK21H 9529 for checking. During checking, a sharp edged weapon (Toka) has been recovered from the possession of motorcyclist.

The accused identified as Nikhil Kholi S/o Subash Lal R/o Vijaypur has been arrested and the bike has also been seized. A case FIR No. 28/2024 u/s 4/25 Arms Act has been registered at Police Station Ramgarh and investigation started.

Notorious thief arrested within 24 hours

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Police on Saturday nabbed a notorious thief arrested within 24 hours As per details, Police in Bus stand area of Jammu worked out a case of theft and arrested one accused namely Ashfaq Ahmed Mir, son of Abdul Hamid, resident of Baramulla, Kashmir involved in crime on the written complaint of Vijay Gupta at Police Station Bus Stand.

In this connection case FIR No. 16/2024 u/s 457/380 was registered at Police Station Bus Stand and a Police team led by SHO PS Bus Stand Inspector Vikas Dogra under the supervision of SP North Shivam Siddarth-IPS and SDPO City North Devinder Singh Bhandral did strenuous efforts and with technical assistance alongwith timely human intervention traced and arrested the accused within 24 hours of lodging FIR.

