

**!! Continuations from Page 1 !!  
While world is...**

by 2026. We also need to focus on production of critical goods to reduce the dependence on the external market and at the same time meet the requirements of our aspiring economy. To become a manufacturing colossus by 2029, we must have a long-term strategy on foreign investment and strong domestic supply-chains".

The Lieutenant Governor urged the business leaders to focus on creating rural enterprises connected to the global market.

"I want to see a new partnership between Panchayats and Industry across the country. This is the only way to accelerate inclusive development of our country and a prosperous society where all sections will enjoy the fruits of economic growth.

Our villages need to match the modern cities in infrastructure, healthcare, education and economic opportunities and this can be achieved through Panchayat and Industry partnership," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor also spoke on India's remarkable development journey, under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and revolutionary changes taking place across the sectors in the country, especially in the UT of Jammu Kashmir.

He also observed that Kanpur, earlier known as the "Manchester of the East" for its leather and textile industry is witnessing complete revival and major industries in textiles, leather and defence manufacturing sectors are setting up the units in the Kanpur region. The Lieutenant Governor said the groundwork for accelerated industrial development of Kanpur has been laid and soon the city will reclaim its lost glory. The Lieutenant Governor pointed out that exports from Kanpur have substantially increased and this old industrial hub will power the journey of Viksit Bharat.

He commended the collective initiative of the Rotary Club of Kanpur Gaurav, Confederation of Indian Industries and Prout Solicitors LLP to provide a meaningful platform for impactful discussions, strategic collaborations and future oriented insights that will contribute to India's all-round progress.

**HIGHLIGHTS...**

This is only way to accelerate inclusive development of our country and prosperous society where all sections will enjoy fruits of economic growth.

Our villages need to match modern cities in infrastructure, healthcare, education and economic opportunities and this can be achieved through Panchayat and Industry partnership.

I urge our business leaders to focus on creating rural enterprises connected to global market.

Power of IIT- Innovation, Industries and Technology will ensure India's steady economic growth to achieve target of \$5 trillion economy by 2026.

**No proposal to...**

"No proposal to change the retirement age of government employees is under consideration of the government," Singh said.

Asked whether any government employees' union or organisations had demanded changes in the retirement age, the minister said, "No formal proposal has been received from staff side of National Council (Joint Consultative machinery)."

Asked to share details of the retirement age of the employees of central and various state governments and the reasons for non-uniformity in their retirement age, Singh said, "No such data is centrally maintained in the government as the subject matter falls in the State List."

**Two IEDs recovered...**

In another incident, security forces detected a pressure cooker IED on the roadside at village Ghat Tokuna in Avantipora area of south Kashmir's Pulwama district, the official said.

A quick action team along with BDS squad dismantled the device, the official said.

The official said the dismantled parts have been taken for further investigation.

**NIA raids 12...**

passage, the probe agency said.

The terrorists were then believed to have made their way to the hinterland districts of Kathua, Udhampur, Doda, Kishtwar, Reasi, Rajouri, Poonch, and also to the Kashmir valley, it added.

**J&K Bank wins...**

recognizing excellence and innovation within the public sector.

The Indian PSU Achievers' Awards 2025 marks a significant milestone, celebrating excellence in the public sector while recognizing innovative contributions from PSUs nationwide. And the Bank's achievement in the digital lending category reflects its growing stature among the country's premier financial institutions.

**Govt to announce...**

six lanes. I am making a lot of bridges from the Brahmaputra. We are raising funds from the market. So without a toll, we cannot do it. But still, we are very considerable. We are only charging toll on four lanes, not on the two-lane paved shoulder."

According to the rules of 2008, toll plaza on the same section of the national highway and in the same direction cannot be established within 60 kilometers.

"So actually, there are some exceptions. After completing this session, we are going to declare a new policy for the toll, where the problem will be resolved and we will give reasonable concession to the consumer, and there will be no debate on particularly about the toll," he said, adding that the problems would be resolved.

All user fee plazas on National Highways are established as per the provision of National Highways Fee (Determination of Rates and Collection) Rules, 2008 and the respective Concession Agreement.

Total toll collection in India touched Rs 64,809.86 crore in 2023-24, a 35 per cent rise over the previous year. The collection was Rs 27,503 crore in 2019-20.

**Govt enhances outlays...**

a total outlay of Rs 6,190 crore.

Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the revised RGM to boost growth in livestock sector, the minister said.

Implementation of revised RGM, as central sector component of development programmes scheme, is being done with an additional outlay of Rs 1,000 crore, taking the total to Rs 3,400 crore during 15th Finance Commission cycle from 2021-22 to 2025-26.

The revised NPDD, a central sector scheme, has been enhanced with an additional allocation of Rs 1,000 crore, bringing the total budget to Rs 2,790 crore for the period of the 15th Finance Commission cycle (2021-22 to 2025-26).

The initiative focuses on modernising and expanding dairy infrastructure, ensuring the sector's sustained growth and productivity.

With the implementation of the Rashtriya Gokul Mission and other efforts of the government, milk production has increased by 63.55 per cent in the last ten years, an official release said.

Also, the availability of milk per person, which was 307 grams per day in 2013-14, has increased to 471 grams per day in 2023-24. Productivity has also increased by 26.34 per cent in the last ten years, it added.

**Investigation in Badhal...**

viscera samples of all the 17 deceased.

The Minister informed the house that the total number of patients admitted in GMC Rajouri was 64, out of these, 41 have been discharged after treatment and 17 patients have been referred to GMC Jammu and 01 patient to PGI Chandigarh. She said that 06 patients had died in GMC Rajouri while 11 patients died in GMC and SMGS Hospitals, Jammu.

The Minister said that a standard treatment policy and discharge procedure is being adopted for the patients of Badhal area, prepared by the expert team of AIIMS New Delhi/PGI Chandigarh. She added that all the SOPs laid down by these teams are being adopted during stay of the patients in the hospital and simultaneously at the time of discharge and follow-up.

The Minister said that with regard to the patients in Government Medical College and Hospital, Jammu, proper SOPs and protocols are being followed for all the three patients admitted in GMCH Jammu after being referred from GMCH Rajouri. She added that 2 patients are being kept in the Isolation ward while 1 patient after being shifted from PGI Chandigarh is being kept in a separate room in the Sir Colonel Chopra Nursing Home.

The Minister said that the deceased family members of village Badhal of Rajouri district have been paid an amount of Rs. 1 lakh and 50,000 Red Cross

Fund by the Deputy Commissioner, Rajouri.

While replying to the supplementary, the Minister informed the house that the samples of 3500 people have been taken for examination and investigation is underway.

M Y Tarigami and Choudhary Mohammad Akram raised supplementaries to the question.

**Danesh Rana posted...**

held several key positions throughout his career. He previously served as IGP Jammu, and played a crucial role in maintaining law and order in the region.

His vast experience in counter-insurgency and security operations is expected to bolster CoBRA's operational effectiveness, further strengthening CRPF's role in tackling internal security challenges.

**Under Modi Govt...**

the members. The minister also dismissed complaints against the NIA, terming them baseless.

"I do not agree with the charge that there are complaints against NIA. If at all there are complaints, these are concocted and baseless made by such people who are having problems with stern action being taken against terrorists," he said after CPI MP Sandosh Kumar raised the issue of alleged complaints against the federal agency.

The Minister of State for Home informed the members that the NIA has also spoken to some illegal immigrants who were deported by the United States and cases of human trafficking have also come out and serious investigation is being carried out in such cases after registration of FIRs.

On terror-related cases, he said special courts have been set up in Jammu and Ranchi, and 23 such courts are elsewhere in the country that exclusively deal with such matters.

On the number of undertrials and convicts charged under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act or other terror cases, the minister said, "So far 157 cases have been decided by courts, which is 95.544 per cent of total cases. In cases of terror financing, there is 100 per cent success."

Rai also took a dig at Congress member Digvijaya Singh who raised the issue of bomb blast cases since 2011 which are still pending.

"The incidents referred by the member, it is important to mention the timeline of such incidents which was during their tenure.

"There are zero incidents taking place now in the hinterland," he asserted.

"The Modi government adopts the policy of zero tolerance against terrorism and work is seriously being carried out and the government is working to deal with terrorism sternly which has helped reduce cases of terror.

He said that 57 individuals have also been "declared terrorists and since 2014 as many as nine organisations have been designated as terror organisations under the UAPA".

So far, 23 organisations have been named as unlawful, he informed the house. Nityanand Rai said that during investigation in some cases where the accused had their presence outside the boundaries of India, the need to amend the NIA Act in 2019 was felt and the same was done to deal with cases of terror and use of cyber technology.

**NASA astronauts Butch...**

a little early, given the iffy weather forecast later this week. They checked out with NASA's Nick Hague and Russia's Alexander Gorbunov, who arrived in their own SpaceX capsule last fall with two empty seats reserved for the Starliner duo.

Wilmore and Williams ended up spending 286 days in space - 278 days longer than anticipated when they launched. They circled Earth 4,576 times and traveled 121 million miles (195 million kilometers) by the time of splashdown.

"On behalf of SpaceX, welcome home," radioed SpaceX Mission Control in California.

"What a ride," replied Hague, the capsule's commander. "I see a capsule full of grins ear to ear."

Dolphins circled the capsule as divers readied it for hoisting onto the recovery ship. Once safely on board, the side hatch was opened and the astronauts were helped out, one by one. Williams was next-to-last out, followed by Wilmore who gave two gloved thumbs-up.

Wilmore and Williams' plight captured the world's attention, giving new meaning to the phrase "stuck at work" and turning "Butch and Sui" into household names. While other astronauts had logged longer spaceflights over the decades, none had to deal with so much uncertainty or see the length of their mission expand by so much.

Wilmore and Williams quickly transitioned from guests to full-fledged station crew members, conducting experiments, fixing equipment and even spacewalking together. With 62 hours over nine spacewalks, Williams set a record: the most time spent spacewalking over a career among female astronauts.

Both had lived on the orbiting lab before and knew the ropes, and brushed up on their station training before rocketing away. Williams became the station's commander three months into their stay and held the post until earlier this month.

Their mission took an unexpected twist in late January when President Donald Trump asked SpaceX founder Elon Musk to accelerate the astronauts' return and blamed the delay on the Biden administration. The replacement crew's brand new SpaceX capsule still wasn't ready to fly, so SpaceX subbed it with a used one, hurrying things along by at least a few weeks.

Even in the middle of the political storm, Wilmore and Williams continued to maintain an even keel at public appearances from orbit, casting no blame and insisting they supported NASA's decisions from the start.

NASA hired SpaceX and Boeing after the shuttle program ended, in order to have two competing U.S. companies for transporting astronauts to and from the space station until it's abandoned in 2030 and steered to a fiery reentry. By then, it will have been up there more than three decades; the plan is to replace it with privately run stations so NASA can focus on moon and Mars expeditions.

**Welcome back: Prez...**

Earth! Their historic journey is a tale of determination, teamwork and extraordinary courage. I salute their unwavering resolve and wish them excellent health!" she said.

The prime minister said in his post that it had been a test of grit, courage and the boundless human spirit for the astronauts.

"Their unwavering determination in the face of the vast unknown will forever inspire millions. Space exploration is about pushing the limits of human potential, daring to dream, and having the courage to turn those dreams into reality..."

Sunita Williams, a trailblazer and an icon, has exemplified this spirit throughout her career..." he said.

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) termed Williams' extended stay in space a "remarkable achievement".

"A testament to NASA, SpaceX, and the USA's commitment to space exploration! Your resilience and dedication continue to inspire space enthusiasts around the world," ISRO said.

Former ISRO scientist Nambi Narayanan praised the public-private partnership of NASA and SpaceX to bring back the astronauts.

"I was watching, it was excellent. With private partnership, we can learn from this experience... This kind of operation can be successful with only private partnership." Ramesh Kapoor, professor at Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), said he hopes for the quick recovery of the astronauts.

"They have been exposed to the harmful radiations in space and muscle atrophy and bone density loss also takes place... Normally it takes several months to recover they would get almost 95 per cent of the bone efficiency of the body strength. Lets all hope that they recover very fast. It was very pleasant surprise to see them very cheerful and waving hands at everybody who was around," he told PTI. Union ministers Amit Shah, Rajnath Singh and Piyush Goyal as well as Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and the Trinamool Congress were among those who congratulated Williams. "The successful splashdown of #Crew9, accomplishing a challenging space expedition, is a testament to the power of human resilience. It is an inspiring demonstration of how even the toughest hurdles can be overcome with sheer courage, patience, and dedication," Shah said. Expressing his delight at the safe return of the crew, Singh said, "India's daughter Sunita Williams and other astronauts have rewritten the history of human endurance and perseverance in Space". "Welcome back to Earth, Sunita Williams!" Kharge said, adding that the safe conclusion of the extended mission has brought a sense of relief and elation to 1.4 billion citizens of India.

**Police seize 40...**

Upon inspection, police found 40 kg of poppy hidden in the bags, they added. The driver of the vehicle, identified as Haseen, was arrested from the spot, police said, adding that a case has been registered at the Udhampur police station and further probe is underway.

**Baramulla shines as Champion of Change; Pioneering Financial Inclusion, Skill Development**

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Baramulla District of Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir is emerging as a beacon of progress under the Aspirational Districts Programme (ADP), making significant strides in financial inclusion, skill development, and digital empowerment.



Recognized for its outstanding efforts, the district has been awarded Rs 3 crore to further accelerate its transformation journey.

This achievement highlights Baramulla's commitment to fostering inclusive growth and ensuring economic opportunities reach even the most remote communities.

One of the key focus areas has been financial inclusion, with targeted awareness campaigns driving increased registrations under the Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY). These initiatives are providing a safety net to thousands, ensuring financial security for families and individuals across the district. By bringing more people under the umbrella of formal financial systems, Baramulla is empowering its citizens to build a more stable future.

In parallel, the district has expanded skill development programs, particularly aimed at empowering women and persons with disabilities. By providing specialized training and vocational education, these initiatives are enhancing employability and fostering economic independence. The focus on inclusive development ensures that every individual, regardless of their background, has the opportunity to contribute to and benefit from the region's growth.

Digital literacy has also been a major priority, with camps organized across the district to equip citizens with essential technological skills. This effort is particularly crucial in remote areas, where access to digital resources remains limited. By bridging the digital divide, Baramulla is enabling its people to access government schemes, financial services, and employment opportunities in the digital economy.\*\*

To ensure that these interventions have a lasting impact, Baramulla has implemented a strong on-ground monitoring mechanism. Regular inspections and evaluations help in assessing progress and making necessary improvements, ensuring that the benefits of these programs reach the intended beneficiaries. This proactive approach enhances transparency and accountability, making governance more effective and responsive. Baramulla's remarkable progress has earned well-deserved recognition from NITI Aayog, which commends its commitment to inclusive growth and transformative governance.

The district's achievements serve as a model for other regions striving for economic empowerment and social development.

**Bovine smuggling bid, vehicle seized**

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**

DODA: In a significant blow to cattle smugglers, Doda Police have successfully foiled a bovine smuggling attempt, rescuing 05 cattle and seized the vehicle involved in the illicit activity.

Acting on a tip-off, a team of Police Station Thathri intercepted vehicle bearing regd. No jk14A/1270 carrying the smuggled cattle at Thathri during the intervening night of 18/19-03-2025. The police team swiftly swung into action, rescuing the cattle and seized the vehicle while as driver of the vehicle escaped from the spot taking advantage of darkness whose search is going on. In this connection case FIR No. 15/2025, U/S 223,bns, 11,PC Act stands registered at PS Thathri and investigation of the case has been taken up.

**Theft cases solved; 4 thief arrested, stolen vehicles, property recovered**

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**

KATHUA/ARNIA: In continuation to a drive launched by J&K Police Kathua against the thieves/vehicle lifters operating in this district Kathua Police under the overall supervision of SSP Kathua has solved one more theft case by recovering 01 stolen Ciaz Car & 01 thief arrested within 72 hrs who was involved in the offence in the limits of PS Kathua.

On 16/03/2025 on the written complaint of complainant namely Darshan Kumar Sharma S/o Nand Lal Sharma R/o Ward No. 03 krishna Marg near Dream Land Park Kathua reported at P/S Kathua regarding to Theft of his Car (Ciaz) bearing Reg. No. JK08E-2222 for which a case was registered at PS Kathua viae FIR No. 139/2025 U/S 303(2) BNS. Following a thorough investigation, today 19/03/2025 police team of PS Kathua led by PSI Rajat Kotwal under the guidance of Addl. SP Kathua Sh. Rahul Charak JKPS, DySP Hqrs Kathua Sh. Ravinder Singh & SHO PS Kathua Insp. Sandeep Chib arrested one suspect namely 1. Beeru Lakhotra @Labu S/o Pritam Chand R/o Chak Gadhadhar Badala Kathua.

Upon interrogation, the accused confessed his involvement in the said theft case and disclosed the location of the stolen car.

Thereafter recovered vehicle was seized and one accused person was arrested on the spot.

Meanwhile On March 15, 2025 on the written complaint of complainant namely Jagdish Singh S/o Chagger Singh R/o Seswan Morh Tanda stated at PP Chadwal regarding to Theft of his Tractor for which a case was registered at PS Rajbagh viae FIR No. 53/2025 U/S 303(2) BNS. Following a thorough investigation, the police team led by IC PP Chadwal under the guidance of SDPO Border & SHO PS Rajbagh arrested two suspects namely 1. Shoukat Ali S/o Nazir Din R/o Ghatti 2. Mohd Ali S/o Nawab Din R/o Ghatti.

Upon interrogation, the accused confessed their involvement in the said theft case and disclosed the location of the stolen tractor. Moreover one Mixture Machine was also recovered from their possession which also got seized on spot.

Thereafter the recovered vehicle was seized and two accused persons were arrested on the spot. In a swift action, Arnia Police also solved a theft case, arrested the accused and recovered the stolen property.

On March 17, 2025, a complaint was lodged by Karnial Singh S/O Vakeel Chand R/O Nekowal, Tehsil & District Jammu, regarding the theft of cash and Pooja Samagri from Devsthal of Chouhan Bradari -Raja mandleek situated at Nekowal.

Acting promptly, a case under FIR No. 15/2025 U/S 331(3)/305 BNS was registered at Police Station Arnia and an investigation entrusted to PSI Harjinder pal Singh.

\* Through relentless efforts and the use of technical assistance, the police apprehended Ashok Kumar S/O Butti Ram R/O Nekowa, Tehsil Suchetgarh & District Jammu

During questioning, the accused confessed to his involvement in the theft, leading to the recovery of the stolen cash Rupees 29299 and Pooja equipments.

The entire operation was led by SHO P/S Arnia, Insp.Sunil Dutt, under the close supervision of SDPO RS Pura and SP Headquarters Jammu.

**Hardcore criminal booked under PSA**

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: A hardcore criminal has been detained under the stringent Public Safety Act (PSA) by Police Station Ranbir Singh Pura, Jammu on Wednesday.

The hardcore criminal identified as Balwinder Kumar @ Pandey S/O Daya Ram R/O Chakrohi Tehsil Suchetgarh District Jammu has been booked under Public Safety Act for his continuous involvement in criminal activities in an organised manner, thus posing a threat to public peace and order.

The accused did not mend his behaviour in refraining his involvement in criminal activities in spite of being booked in multiple FIR's that were registered by various Police Stations of Jammu District.

The hardcore criminal was arrested by Police in number of cases but the substantive law was not enough to tame him down and he continued with his criminal activities, thereby posing a serious threat to the public at large. He was involved in such activities which were likely to disturb public order & tranquility, particularly in R. S Pura area of Jammu District. The subject is involved in the multiple FIR's registered at various Police Stations.

Keeping in view the activities of aforesaid accused as these amounts to propagating the criminal activities, thus accused was ordered to be detained under Public Safety Act (PSA) by the orders of the District Magistrate Jammu.

The arrest was made by a team of Police Station R.S Pura headed by SHO Police Station R.S Pura under the supervision of SDPO R.S Pura & SP Headquarters Jammu.