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“National Governance Conference...”

abolishing interviews for certain categories of recruitment to promote transparency and meritocracy.

On grievance redressal, the Union Minister lauded the Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS), noting that around 90 percent of grievances are addressed within a week. He also cited global success stories such as the Digital Life Certificate enabled through face recognition technology and the widespread adoption of the Unified Payments Interface, which has revolutionized digital payments.

Referring to the capacity-building initiative Mission Karmayogi, Dr. Jitendra Singh said the shift is from "rule-based" to "role-based" governance. He also highlighted the annual Swachhata Campaign launched in 2021, which has led to the disposal of electronic scrap worth approximately ₹4,200 crore and the freeing up of nearly 930 lakh square feet of space in government offices.

The Minister further underlined the success of the SVAMITVA Scheme, which was launched in Jammu and has empowered rural landowners by providing legal ownership records. He also detailed key governance reforms in Jammu & Kashmir over the past 11 years, including the introduction of online RTI, establishment of a Central Administrative Tribunal bench, a Civil Services Examination Centre in Leh, integration of CPGRAMS, and specialized training programs for JKAS officers.

As for J&K Dr Jitendra Singh informed that the Department of Administrative Reforms DARPFG in Union Ministry of Personnel had helped J&K government develop e-office, thereby saving crores of rupees incurred in transport of all the office files to and fro between Jammu and Srinagar during each Durbar move.

In the months and years to come, with respect to J&K, Dr Jitendra Singh said, a tripartite MoU finalised among the Govt of J&K, Centre's Capacity Building Commission and SPV of "Mission Karmayogi" has been finalise to take over 3.6 lakh J&K Govt employees on the iGOT platform form for continuous real-time capacity building for the assignment that they take up. Also AI integration of JK-IGRAM redressal system is being taken up.

Dr. Jitendra Singh expressed confidence that Jammu & Kashmir possesses immense merit and potential and can become a torchbearer in India's growth story by fully leveraging central initiatives and opportunities. The minister further elaborated that the Indian Institute of Public Administration is conducting training programs for Jammu and Kashmir councils, corporators, PRI's and also for JKAS officers. He also highlighted that efforts are being made to get about 3.6 lakh employees of the J&K government on IGOT platform for specialised training purposes.

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In her address Union Secretary DoPT Rachna Shah stressed the need for governance systems to "adopt, adapt, and reinvent" in the information age. She observed that today's governance must be data-driven, digital, and delivery-focused, as citizens are empowered, aware, and increasingly vocal about transparency, accountability, and efficiency.

She elaborated on three key pillars of reform, including the strengthening of grievance redress mechanisms through CPGRAMS, with emphasis not merely on disposal but on empathetic, timely, and transparent resolution. She said that the platform is being further enhanced with AI tools for intelligent categorization, prioritization, and faster resolution of complaints.

The conference underscored the importance of districts as key administrative units and provided a valuable platform for exchange of best practices, peer learning, and dissemination of innovative governance models to ensure integrated, equitable, and sustainable development across sectors. The deliberations reaffirmed the collective commitment of the Government of India and the Jammu & Kashmir administration to transform governance frameworks and accelerate progress towards a Viksit Bharat.

‘Viksit Bharat’ hinges...

to a handful of states or regions."

Stressing the importance of balanced growth, he remarked that from Jammu and Kashmir in the north to Assam in the east, Gujarat in the west and Tamil Nadu and Kerala in the south, every region must experience tangible progress. "Unless all of us see that development and that progress, Viksit Bharat will remain a dream and merely a slogan," he cautioned.

Highlighting the pathway to national transformation, the Chief Minister advocated a bottom-up governance model. "India develops through conferences like this and through taking a ground-up approach rather than a top-down approach," he observed.

He underlined that development must be anchored in good governance at the district level. "If our districts perform, our states and Union Territories perform. If our states perform, our country performs. And if our country performs, the goal of Viksit Bharat by 2047 may perhaps be realised even before the timeline we have set for ourselves," he said optimistically.

The Chief Minister noted that such conferences help policymakers and administrators avoid "reinventing the wheel" by facilitating the exchange of successful models and innovations.

"For far too long, we lived in silos where sharing information was discouraged rather than encouraged," he reflected, adding that recent years have witnessed more collaborative and holistic governance practices.

However, he cautioned that governance challenges rarely have universal solutions. "There is no quick fix solution. What works in one state may not work in another. What works in J&K may not work in Gujarat or Maharashtra. But we can certainly adapt and modify successful practices to suit our local conditions," he said.

The Chief Minister, who was the guest of honour on the occasion, also spoke extensively about the transformative role of technology in governance. Referring to the shift towards digital administration, he said, "One reform that has made a huge difference is the e-office system. Paper files have virtually disappeared. We have come a long way to a point where I rarely see a paper file."

He noted that digitisation has enhanced efficiency and accountability, though it has also introduced new challenges. "Every file is now time-stamped. Technology has made life easier but also more transparent and demanding," he observed.

He further highlighted the use of virtual meetings, which have significantly improved coordination with district administrations. "Earlier, district collectors had to travel to Jammu or Srinagar for meetings, and that would happen once or twice a year. Now it happens at the drop of a hat," he said, while advising disciplined use of such facilities to avoid unnecessary disruptions to field-work.

Emphasising practical reforms, the Chief Minister called for genuine implementation of citizen-centric initiatives. "If we have a single window, it should actually function as a single window," he remarked candidly. "In my experience, sometimes a single window leads to another window and then a wall behind it. That is not what governance should look like."

LG, CM greet...

and social lines.

"My warm greetings to all. May this auspicious occasion fill our lives with colours of joy, strength and good health," he said.

He observed that Jammu and Kashmir has always stood as an example of harmony, mutual respect and brotherhood, where people wholeheartedly participate in each other's festivals and celebrations, reinforcing the spirit of unity in diversity.

Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA), Transport, IT, Youth Services and Sports, Satish Sharma, in his message, said the vibrant festival of colours, symbolizes the victory of truth over falsehood and good over evil. He noted that the festival, celebrated with great enthusiasm across the country, reinforces the spirit of unity, love, compassion and brotherhood among communities and strengthens the bonds of togetherness in society.

Satish Sharma highlighted that Jammu and Kashmir has always been a shining example of communal harmony and composite culture, where festivals of all faiths are celebrated with mutual respect and shared joy.

"May the colours of Holi fill our lives with hope, optimism and renewed ener-

gy. Let this festival inspire us to rise above divisions and work collectively for peace, prosperity and overall development of Jammu and Kashmir," the Minister said.

The Minister also urged the citizens, especially the youth, to celebrate the festival in a responsible and eco-friendly manner, promoting water conservation and avoiding any practices that may cause inconvenience or harm to others.

Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo, in her greetings, said that Holi symbolizes unity, harmony and triumph of goodness, encouraging people to celebrate the festival with mutual respect, compassion and spirit of togetherness. "These cultural festivals strengthen our social fabric by promoting inclusiveness and brotherhood across communities", she said.

The Minister prayed that this festival of colours brings joy, prosperity and renewed positivity to every household and fills lives with colours of optimism and strengthens bonds of unity across regions.

She also prayed for peace, progress and prosperity of entire Jammu and Kashmir.

J&K records 17...

kanals and 1.5 marlas).

The overall grand total across both divisions stands at over 14 lakh kanals under encroachment in the Jammu division and over 3.27 lakh kanals in the Kashmir division.

Giving details about land transferred since 2019 to various government departments, the officials said that 68,190 kanals and 19 marlas of land have been transferred to state and UT government departments and agencies, without charging transfer value in accordance with delegated powers.

Additionally, 7,495 kanals and 10 marlas were transferred to Central government departments and agencies, fetching a transfer value of Rs 10,506.75 lakh, calculated as per prevailing stamp rates, they said.

The year-wise data shows that the Administrative Council approved the transfer of 44,130 kanals and 15 marlas to UT departments and 7,495 kanals and 10 marlas to Central departments between 2019 and 2024.

The Revenue Department transferred 8,103 kanals and 1 marla, divisional commissioners transferred 9,086 kanals and 19 marlas, and deputy commissioners transferred 6,870 kanals and 4 marlas under their respective delegated powers. As per the data, the competent authorities include the Administrative Council for transfers beyond 500 kanals, the Revenue Department for 100 to 500 kanals, divisional commissioners for 10 to 100 kanals, and deputy commissioners for up to 10 kanals.

Special NIA court...

the manufacturer GoPro B V, seeking details regarding the supply chain and activation of the said device.

"In its official response, GoPro B V has informed that the said camera was supplied to AE Group International Limited, a distributor based in the People's Republic of China; and the camera was activated on January 30, 2024, at Dongguan, People's Republic of China.

"The manufacturer has further stated that it does not possess downstream transaction details or end-user records of the device. The activation, initial use and commercial trail of the said device lie within the territorial jurisdiction of the People's Republic of China, and the information necessary to trace the purchaser, end-user and associated technical records can only be obtained through judicial assistance of the Chinese authorities," the application read.

The court said since India and China are not signatories to any mutual treaty, i.e. Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty/Agreement (MLAT), on the subject, in such an eventuality, assistance as requested can be sought under the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) as both the nations have ratified the UNTOC.

The order said the Ministry of Home Affairs has given its concurrence for the issuance of the Letter Rogatory to China for seeking legal assistance in the investigation of the case.

The information sought is very important for "establishing the chain of custody, user, attribution and evidentiary linkage of seized device which was supplied to AE Group International Limited, a distributor based in the People's Republic of China", the judge said.

"All the requisites are complied by the applicant as such in exercise of powers under section 112 BNSS, I allow the application and the Letter Rogatory is issued to the competent judicial authority of the People's Republic of China for seeking assistance and tracing the purchaser, end user and associated technical records to unearth the larger conspiracy," the order read.

The court also laid down procedural directions for uploading and forwarding translated copies in Chinese through the appropriate diplomatic channels.

The application has been disposed of and made part of the main case file, with a copy of the order forwarded to the NIA for compliance.

West Asia conflict...

Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia, and condemned recent attacks on the two countries in violation of their sovereignty and territorial integrity, asserting that India stands in solidarity with their people in this difficult hour.

The prime minister has also spoken to King Abdullah II of Jordan and conveyed deep concern over the evolving situation in the region.

Modi has also spoken to United Arab Emirates (UAE) President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Around 90 lakh Indians live in the Gulf and West Asia. About 10,000 Indian citizens live, study and work in Iran, while more than 40,000 live in Israel.

Currently, the airspace of West Asia is almost closed. With flight services disrupted due to the military escalation in West Asia, hundreds of Indians are stranded in Dubai, Doha and other key hub airports.

The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS), which met on Sunday, expressed concern over the safety and security of the large Indian-expatriate community in the region.

The CCS also directed all departments concerned to take necessary and feasible measures to assist Indian nationals affected by the developments.

"It (CCS) expressed serious concern over the safety and security of the large Indian expatriate community in the region," an official statement issued after the CCS meeting said. India has in the past successfully evacuated thousands of Indians from different parts of the world, including West Asia, amidst conflicts. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has said Indian missions across the region are in continuous contact with Indian citizens and helpines have been activated. Khamenei was killed in a major attack on Iran launched by Israel and the United States on Saturday. His death was confirmed on Sunday. US President Donald Trump has said the heavy and pin-point bombing on Iran would continue through the week or for as long as necessary.

LG reviews law...

DG (Coordination); Anand Jain, ADGP Armed; Nitish Kumar, ADGP CID; VK Birdi, IGP Kashmir; Anshul Garg, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; Rajiv Pandey, DIG, CKR, Akshay Labroo, Deputy Commissioner Srinagar and other senior officials. The Lieutenant Governor directed the officers to remain on heightened alert and take all necessary measures to ensure public peace and tranquillity. The Lieutenant Governor also appealed to the citizens and community leaders to uphold harmony and contribute to an atmosphere of calm and goodwill in society. "Preserving peace and sustaining the progress of society is a shared responsibility that rests equally upon each one of us," he said. The Lieutenant Governor Shared on X: "Chaired a meeting of senior police & civil administration officials at the Police Control Room, Kashmir, to review the law & order situation. Directed the officers to remain on heightened alert and take all necessary measures to ensure public peace and tranquillity. I also appeal to the citizens and community leaders to uphold harmony and contribute to an atmosphere of calm and goodwill in society. Preserving peace and sustaining the progress of society is a shared responsibility that rests equally upon each one of us."

Traffic Police issues...

the same causes unnecessary jamming and congestion.

Further, the motorists have been informed that strict action shall be taken against drunken driving, over-speeding, Stunt biking, reckless driving, dangerous driving, without Crash Helmet riding.

"Special focus shall be given to prevent Stunt biking. The riders shall not perform stunt biking which endangers their life as well as of other people. In addition to this, all the Holi event organizers in City Jammu shall ensure to follow traffic rules and regulations during the event so that safe and hassle-free movement of traffic can be ensured during the celebration of festival," the Traffic Authorities have advised. In case of any exigency and for any traffic related assistance people can contact Traffic Control Unit (TCU) Jammu on the numbers 0191-2459048, 9419147732.

Jammu South Police tightens vigil ahead of Holi; crackdown on traffic violations

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: To ensure public safety and maintain law and order during the forthcoming Holi celebrations, Jammu Police, South Zone, conducted a comprehensive enforcement drive across various parts of the zone.

Special nakas (checkpoints) were set up at strategic locations, including busy market areas, residential colonies, and major road junctions, to regulate vehicular movement and curb rash driving, stunt riding, triple riding, drunken driving, and other traffic violations commonly witnessed during festive occasions.

During the drive, a total of 135 challans were issued, of which 82 were booked under various provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act, while 53 vehicles were seized for serious violations. The offences included riding without helmets, tampering or concealing number plates, non-possession of valid documents, use of modified silencers causing noise pollution, and other breaches of traffic regulations.

Apart from enforcement, police personnel conducted on-the-spot counselling to sensitise citizens about road safety and the importance of strict adherence to traffic norms.

Senior officers supervising the operation reiterated that the initiative aims to ensure a safe, peaceful, and orderly celebration of Holi.

"Festivals are meant to be celebrated with joy and harmony. However, safety cannot be compromised. Strict action will continue against those violating traffic norms or disturbing public order," official said.

CRPF personnel suffers gunshot injury in Rajouri

STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: A Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) personnel was hospitalised after he sustained a gunshot injury under suspected circumstances at a camp in Rajouri district on Tuesday, according to sources.

The incident allegedly occurred at a CRPF camp in the Tandwal area near Rajouri.

The sources mentioned that the jawan sustained a gunshot injury and was immediately moved to the Government Medical College (GMC) Associated Hospital, Rajouri, where he is currently undergoing treatment. Police have taken cognisance of the incident and initiated necessary legal proceedings to ascertain the circumstances surrounding the firing, sources added.

Aeroplane-shaped balloon with Urdu text found in Rajouri

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Police on Tuesday recovered an aeroplane-shaped balloon marked 'PIA' in Rajouri district, officials said.

A red and white aeroplane-shaped balloon bearing the text 'PIA' with Urdu was found in Sarhothi village under the Dharamsal Police Station, they said.

Locals alerted authorities after spotting the object.

Cops from Police Post Teryath reached the site, secured the balloon, and seized it, they added. Earlier, on February 23, two balloons with a Pakistani Rs 5,000 currency note and a US dollar attached were recovered from Gunara village in the Akhnoor sector near Jammu.

Two leopard cats, black bears dispatched for Chennai from Jammu by train

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a first-of-its-kind initiative, the Jammu Division of Northern Railway has undertaken transportation of rare zoo animals from Jammu to Chennai by train, marking a significant milestone in long-distance wildlife transit.

Two leopard cats and two black bears were dispatched from Jammu Railway Station on Tuesday in a special parcel van attached to train 16032, railway officials said.

The consignment will cover nearly 2,800 km to reach MGR Chennai in Tamil Nadu in about 54 hours, a duration which officials said is shorter and safer compared to road transport.

Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Jammu, Uchit Singhal, said the initiative reflects the division's growing logistical capabilities and commitment to safe animal transportation.

"The Jammu Division is moving forward with new initiatives every day. Earlier, 23 exotic bulls were transported from Bengaluru to Kashmir by rail. Now, in another landmark step, zoo animals are being transported to MGR Chennai by train," Singhal said.

He further said rail transport ensures a comparatively stress-free journey for animals, even in adverse weather conditions.

"We have deployed a team of experienced veterinarians and animal keepers to monitor the health and safety of the animals throughout the journey," he added.

Officials said the translocation of animals was undertaken with strict compliance to Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) norms to ensure proper arrangements for food, water and welfare during transit. Railway authorities termed the operation one of the longest wildlife transits undertaken in India, and said the successful execution will set a new benchmark for organised and safe animal transportation by rail. Raghvender Singh, Public Relations Inspector, Jammu Division, said the initiative demonstrates the evolving capabilities of the railways in handling specialised cargo with precision and care.

11 AOs get addl charge in Finance Deptt

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Government on Tuesday assigned additional charge to eleven Accounts Officers in the Finance Department.

According to the order issued by Shailendra Kumar, Financial Commissioner (ACS), Finance Department, Naseer Ahmad Rather, Accounts Officer (AO), Directorate of Animal Husbandry, Jammu shall hold the charge of the post of AO, RTO, Jammu; Farooq Ahmad Shah, AO, Kokernag Tourism Development Authority shall hold the charge of the post of AO, Sr. Superintendent of Police, Awantipora; Satender Singh, AO, Deputy Commissioner Office, Doda shall hold the charge of the post of AO, Deputy Commissioner Office, Kishtwar; Ravinder Kumar Raina, AO, District Fund Office, Jammu shall hold the charge of the post of AO, Relief Commissioner (Mig.), Jammu; Tawseef Ahmad Thoker, AO, Adtl. District Development Commissioner, Anantnag shall hold the charge of the post of AO, Islamic University of Science & Technology, Awantipora; Mudasir Zaman Drabu, AO, JKPCIL Kashmir shall hold the charge of the post of AO, Deputy Commissioner Office, Budgam; Amandeep Singh, AO, Custodian General Office shall hold the charge of the post of AO, Directorate of Disaster Management (erstwhile Emergency Relief Organization); Raja Umer, AO, Economic Reconstruction Agency shall hold the charge of the post of AO, Chief Executive Officer J&K CAMPA; Irfan Rashid, AO, Sr. Superintendent of Police, Rajouri shall hold the charge of the post of Pay & AO, Municipal Council, Rajouri; Ajay Singh, AO, J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages shall hold the charge of the post of AO, State Health Agency; and Syed Arif Yaseen I/C AO, Directorate of Animal Husbandry, Kashmir shall hold the charge of the post of AO, Directorate of Floriculture, Kashmir in addition to their own duties, till further orders.

Northern Army Commander reviews security situation in Kashmir

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Northern Army Commander Lt Gen Pratik Sharma on Tuesday reviewed the evolving security situation in Kashmir.

In a post on X, the Northern Command said Lt Gen Sharma engaged with Formation Commanders and representatives of sister agencies to deliberate on the prevailing security situation.

"Lt Gen Pratik Sharma, #ArmyCdrNC, chaired a meeting in #Srinagar to review the evolving security situation in Kashmir Valley. #NorthernCommand remains resolute in its commitment to ensure safety & security of citizens of #JammuKashmir," the Army said.

Protests have rocked many parts of the valley after the assassination of Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
**E-Tender Notice**  
 Sr. DEN-III/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) with closing date- 25.03.2026 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against these tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through only payment modes available on [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft Banker Cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed. For more information logon to [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)

Tender Type	Tendering Section	Bidding System	
Open	Works	Single Packet System	
Date of Uploading Tenders	Bid Starting Date	Bid Closing Date/Time	
03.03.2026	11.03.2026	25.03.2026 15:00 Hrs.	
S.No.	Tender No.	Details of Tender	
1.	238-2025-26-SrDEN-III-FZR	Supply, installation, commissioning and maintenance of track based Electronic type rail guage face lubricator 32 nos. in the jurisdiction of Sr.DEN-III/FZR for 5 years.	
Advertised Value (Rs.)	Earnest Money	Validity of Offer	Period of Completion
55442456.00	427200.00	90 days	60 Months
<b>Similar nature of work:-</b> "Only RDSO Approved Vendors for Track based Lubricators, can participate with this tender. Copy of approval certificate with validity date is to be submitted along with the tender."			
Note 1. Before bidding, bidders to check for any corrigendum issued against tender.			
Tender No: 238-2025-26-SrDEN-III-FZR Date: 03.03.2026			
735/2026			

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