

!! Continuations from Page 1 !!

Despite COVID, Rs...

Lt Governor also highlighted the immense transformation that Jammu Kashmir is undergoing after August 2019.

He said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in August 2019, unchained Jammu and Kashmir from the shackles of regressive laws that deliberately kept it away from the development. The speed with which J&K has progressed in the last one and a half years is unprecedented and unmatched, he added.

The Lt Governor underscored how for decades together; Valmiki, Gorkha, West Pakistani Refugees and tribal communities had been facing discrimination. However; today, under the guidance of Prime Minister; J&K is touching new heights of equitable development and growth.

Exuding confidence in the ongoing system of proactive, development oriented governance, the Lt Governor asserted that Aatm Nirbhar Jammu Kashmir would contribute to the progress of the country. It will compete with the developed States/UTs and J&K's development model would be replicated in other regions of the country, he added.

Along with economic development, we are also committed to the cultural development of Jammu and Kashmir. I would urge the learned people present here to work to further deepen the cultural, spiritual ties between Kashi and Jammu & Kashmir. I am sure that Kashi Academy will take this work forward with its study, research and fieldwork, the Lt Governor said.

"There is a deep connection between Kashi, the age-old city of spirituality and knowledge, the city of Baba Bholenath and the Sharda Peeth of Goddess Saraswati. Both, Kashi and Jammu Kashmir have also been the Land of spiritual salvation for Adi Shankaracharya, the great proponent of the philosophy of Advaita Vedanta, the Lt Governor added.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor also extended invitation to the Sant Samaj, Seers and devotees for the upcoming Shri Amarnathji Yatra starting from June 30th. He also assured full cooperation of the UT administration to the scholars who want to contribute through research on Shri Amarnathji pilgrimage.

Referring to the book, the Lt Governor observed that it will act as a guide and the combined scientific research of astrology, vastu and flora will be immensely helpful in holistic living.

The Lt Governor congratulated Dr Sawhney and the Kashi Academy for the launch of the book, and said that the effort gives a vital message to the world on the significance of Vastu and plants in our lives.

Sudhir Mishra, President, Kashi Academy for Holistic Innovation; Himanshu Rai, Convener, Kashi Academy for Holistic Innovation besides large number of people were present on the occasion.

Sinha launches night...

& Srinagar airports. The new beginning reflects our commitment to strengthen connectivity and fulfill the mobility needs of people", observed the Lt Governor:

It will greatly ease the travelling for those who are looking for single day travel, he added.

While highlighting the transformation taking place in J&K under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Lt Governor said, "we are moving ahead to fulfill Prime Minister's vision of making J&K a vibrant industrial and tourism hub by developing infrastructure, strengthening enabling environment and ensuring better connectivity."

Elaborating on the achievements made in terms of Aircraft and passenger movement to J&K, the Lt Governor said that despite the Covid pandemic, new records have been achieved at Jammu and Srinagar airports.

Record 2460 aircraft operations were recorded at Srinagar Airport in October 2021. Moreover, in February 2021, roughly 2.54 lakh passengers traveled by 1597 flights at Srinagar Airport, while in February 2022 this figure had reached 1917 flights and 2.60 lakh passengers. In March 2021, 1030 flights operated at Jammu airport and more than one lakh passengers traveled, while in March 2022 a record 1346 flights operated at Jammu airport and roughly 1.55 lakh passengers traveled, he added.

Ranjan Prakash Thakur, Principal Secretary, Industries & Civil Aviation; Kaushik Khona, CEO, Go First Airlines; Kuldeep Singh, Airport Director; Srinagar; Sanjeev Kumar Garg, Airport Director; Jammu, besides officials of Jammu and Srinagar airports, members of the Go First team were present on the occasion, in person and through virtual mode.

Five Dy Directors...

has been posted as FA&CAO, Sher-I- Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences Soura Srinagar; Intikhab Ahmad Sheikh, FA&CAO, Sher-I-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences Soura Srinagar as FA/CAO, Lakes Conservation and Management Authority, Srinagar; Shahid Majeed Kakroo, Deputy Director, Local Fund Audit & Pensions, Srinagar as Principal Accountancy Training Institute Srinagar; Irfan-ul-Haq, CAO, FA&CAO, Lakes Conservation and Management Authority, Srinagar with additional Charge of Jt. Director Funds, Kashmir as Deputy Director Audit & Inspection; Pawan Kumar, Treasury Officer District Treasury Officer, Doda as Chief Engineer; Procurement & Material Management, J&K now Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Ltd. (JPDCL). He shall also look-after the financial matters/banking operations of MD, JPDCL, Jammu in addition to her own duties.

Maheen Yaseen, CAO, District Fund Office, Srinagar has been posted as Sr. Instructor, Accountancy Training Institute Srinagar; Ela Choudhary, CAO, District Fund Office, Jammu as Sr. Instructor, NZATI Jammu; Ishfaq Ahmad Pandith, Deputy Director (Central), J&K Funds Organization as Treasury Officer; District Treasury Kupwara; Showkat Ali Rather; District Treasury Officer Ganderbal, under orders of deputation to UT of Ladakh as Chief Accounts Officer; District Fund Office Ganderbal; Nadish Khurshed, CAO, Deputy Director (Hq), Local Fund Audit & Pensions, J&K as CAO, District Fund Office Srinagar; Feroz Ahmad Mir, CAO Directorate of Health Services Kashmir as Deputy Director; Audit and Inspection (Central); Dr. Sareer Ahmad Mir, CAO, Chief Engineer; Electric Maintenance & RE Department (KPDCL), Kashmir. Also looking after financial matters/ banking operation of Managing Directorate of KPDCI Kashmir in addition to his own duties as Treasury Officer; District Treasury Ganderbal; Yasir Arafat, CAO, Directorate of Estates Department, Civil Secretariat as Treasury Officer; Additional Treasury Khanyar; Altaf Hussain Hajam, CAO, Treasury Officer; Additional Treasury, Lal Mandi, Srinagar as CAO, Chief Engineer, Electric Maintenance & RE Department (KPDCL), Kashmir; Reena CAO, Chief Engineer; Procurement & Material Management, J&K (now Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Ltd. (JPDCL). Also looking after the financial matters/ banking operations of MD, JPDCL, Jammu in addition to her own duties since as CAO, District Fund Office Jammu; Arshid Ahmad Lone, CAO, Chief Pay and Accounts Officer, PDC Baramulla as CAO, Directorate of Health Services Kashmir; Shabana Azmin, CAO, District Rural Development Agency, Rajouri with additional Charge of Chief Pay & AO Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University Rajori as Deputy Director Local Fund, Audit & Pension (Central); Muzaffer Ali, CAO, Govt. Medical College, Doda as District Treasury Officer; Doda; and Mohd. Iqbal, CAO/Deputy Director (Central), Accounts & Treasuries, J&K as CAO, Govt Medical College, Doda.

Mohd. Farid Choudhary, CAO Directorate of SMAGRA, J&K under orders of deputation to UT of Ladakh has been posted as CAO, J&K; Vikas Atri CAO, Chief Pay & Accounts Officer, Baglihar Hydro Electric Project, Chanderkote with additional charge of Chief Pay & AO, Sewa Hydel Project Sawalakote as CAO, Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board; Vijay Kumar I/C CAO, attached in the office of Director; Accounts & Treasuries, Jammu as I/C CAO, Chief Pay & Accounts Officer; Baglihar Hydro Electric Project, Chanderkote. He shall also hold the charge of Chief Pay & AO, Sewa Hydel Project Sawalakote in addition to his own duties till further orders.

Vivek Atri, CAO, J&K Industries Ltd has been posted as CAO, Directorate of Estates; Sajad Ahmad Kumar; I/C CAO, District Fund Office Anantnag under orders of deputation to UT of Ladakh as Treasury Officer; Additional Treasury Lal Mandi; Javed Maqbool Khanday, CAO Budget Division Finance Department, under orders of transfer as Treasury Officer Additional Treasury Khanyar shall continue in Budget Division, Finance Department; and Sheikh Abid Manzoor; CAO Government Medical College Baramulla shall hold the charge of Chief Pay and AO PDC Baramulla in addition to his own duties till further orders.

As per another order, Mohammad Shafi Wani, CAO District Fund Kupwara had been assigned the charge of Chief Pay and AO DUDA Kupwara in addition to his own duties till further orders with immediate effect.

AI's Srinagar-Jammu...

from the plane, the officials said, adding the delay due to the incident was of about two hours.

The scheduled time of departure of flight AI822 was 2.15 pm. Due to the incident, it departed around 4.10 pm, they said.

Air India did not respond to PTI's request for a statement on this matter.

The Tata Group took over the operations of Air India on January 27. The Centre sold

the airline to the Tata Group on October 8 last year after a successful bidding process.

Rajnath asks Army...

consideration while planning and formulating strategies.

"Addressed the Army Commanders Conference today. Complimented the Indian Army for their operational preparedness and capabilities. Exhorted the Military leadership to prepare for every possible challenge in future, including the challenge of unconventional & asymmetric warfare," Singh tweeted.

In his address, he reaffirmed the faith of the billion-plus citizens in the Indian Army as one of the most trusted and inspiring organisations in the country, the ministry said in a statement.

It said he highlighted the stellar role played by the Army in guarding the country's borders and fighting terrorism apart from providing assistance to the civil administration whenever called for:

"I compliment the excellent synergy between the CAPF/ Police forces and the Army in tackling the menace of terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir. The synergised operations in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir are contributing to increased stability in the region and the same should continue," he said.

The defence minister also complimented the Indian Army for its operational readiness to deal with any possible eventualities.

The commanders carried out an extensive review of India's national security challenges along the borders with China and Pakistan as well as assessed possible geopolitical implications of the Russia-Ukraine war for the region.

They also focused on issues pertaining to organisational restructuring, logistics, administration, human resource management, modernisation through indigenisation, and induction of niche technologies. The five-day conference will come to an end on Friday.

Formal order issued...

Urban Development Department shall designate a nodal agency which shall be responsible for collection of Adhaar-based data of first-time buyers of above properties, it said. However; It is subject to the condition that the value of the property does not exceed Rs 1 crore, the notification said.

The fresh directive will come into effect from April 21 and remain in force till March 2024. The decision is aimed at giving a boost to the real estate sector in Jammu and Kashmir and motivating the new buyers to participate in the market, officials said. The remission is also expected to provide momentum to property sale and registration by making the purchase of property attractive and affordable, they said.

Top LeT commander...

(Hizbul Mujahideen) outfit and was arrested in 2005. He was released in 2008, but he again joined terrorist ranks in 2017 and started killing innocent civilians, policemen and political workers. Later on, he switched from HM to LeT terror outfit, the official said.

The identification of other slain ultras is being ascertained, the spokesman said.

He said the injured policeman has been shifted to Army's base hospital in Srinagar.

As per police records, the three were categorised terrorists and part of groups involved in several terror crime cases including attacks on police/security forces and civilian atrocities, the spokesman said.

Kantroo was involved in dozens of civilian atrocities and security forces personnel killings, including the killing of SPO Mohammad Ishfaq Dar and his brother Umer Ahmad Dar, residents of Chatabugh Budgam, in March this year. He was also involved in the killing of BDC chairman Sardar Bhupinder Singh in September 2020 at Khag, Budgam, the spokesman said.

He (Kantroo) was also involved in the killings of NC Block president at Natipora Chanapora, Srinagar; Tajamul Mohidin Dar, a resident of Guttapora Budgam in March; Gulzar Ahmad of Lawaypora at Narbal; Tanveer Zargar of Chewa at Narbal; Nazir Ahmad Dar (an employee of health department) and resident of Warihama at Warihama; sarpanch Manzoor Ahmad of Pattan, the spokesman said.

Kantroo was also involved in grenade throwing incidents, including the killing of CRPF personnel Riyaz Ahmad Rather, a resident of Navgam Anantnag, at Kanihama in December 2017, abduction and killing of constable Mohammad Ashraf Rather alias Ishfaq, a resident of Archanderhama Magam, abduction and killing of Army personnel Mohammad Sameer Malla, a resident of Lokipora Khag in March this year; killing of SPO Mohammad Altaf during an encounter at Peth-Zanigam, killing of ex-SPO Naseer Ahmad Khan, a resident of Buchipora Kawoosa, Khalisa, he added.

He was also involved in snatching four AK rifles from the residence of former legislator Muzafar Parray. Furthermore, on his directions Abrar Nadeem (neutralised terrorist) carried out an attack on CRPF at Lawaypora Srinagar in which three CRPF personnel attained martyrdom in March last year, the spokesman said.

The slain commander was also involved in recruiting innocent/gullible youth into terror folds, which included the recruitment of Faisal Hafeez Dar of Aaripanth Magam into terrorist ranks, he said.

Incriminating material and arms and ammunition were recovered from the site of the encounter. All the recovered materials have been taken into case records for further investigation, the spokesman said.

He said two more terrorists are still inside the cordon and the exchange of firing was going on. Further information will be shared accordingly, the official added.

Inspector General of Police, Kashmir; Vijay Kumar congratulated the forces for conducting a successful anti-terrorist operation by eliminating the top most wanted terrorist.

Commenting on a video in which the mother of a trapped terrorist in mourning near the encounter site is heard saying "come back my son, you are too young and innocent, these old cruel terrorists have deceived you, they are pick-pocketers and goons who are enticing innocent and young boys , the IGP Kashmir appealed to parents of other terrorists to ask their wards to shun the path of violence.

Terrorism biggest form...

Amit Shah said on Thursday.

Addressing the 13th foundation day of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) here, Shah said strong action has been taken against terror funding in Jammu and Kashmir and against those who had helped terrorism and were living respectfully in society.

Terrorism is the biggest curse for the society, he said, adding that if there is any country which bore the maximum brunt of terrorism, it is India.

"I have some differences with human rights organisations. Whenever there is an anti-terror action, some human rights groups come forward to raise the issue. But I strongly believe that there cannot be a bigger human rights violation than terrorism. It is the biggest form of human rights violation.

"Action against terrorism cannot be contradictory to human rights. It is absolutely necessary to root out terrorism to protect human rights," Shah said amid an applause from officers of the NIA and other security organisations.

The home minister said the Narendra Modi government has adopted a zero-tolerance policy towards terrorism and was working to root out the menace from India.

He said the NIA had registered terror funding cases and these cases helped to a great extent to root out terrorism from Jammu and Kashmir.

Shah said that earlier, there was no proper action against terror funding. In 2018, cases were registered against terror funding for the first time, and because of that, there is no smooth road for funding terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir; he added.

"In 2021-22, the NIA registered many cases which helped in destroying sleeper cells in Jammu and Kashmir. It has taken strong action against the logistics and supply chain and those who had helped terrorism and were living respectfully in society. They were exposed by the NIA and brought to justice. This is a big thing," he said.

In Jammu and Kashmir, fighting against terrorism and terrorists is one thing and action taken to root out terrorism is another thing, Shah said.

"We have to root out terrorism from Jammu and Kashmir. So, we have to destroy the mechanism of terror funding. Because of the terror funding cases of Jammu and Kashmir registered by the NIA, it has become very difficult now to provide funds for terror acts there," he said.

The home minister said there is a realisation worldwide that without India, no goal can be achieved – be it with regards to environment, economic growth, equal development or ending terrorism.

Without India, such goals cannot be achieved, and hence, it is absolutely necessary to ensure and strengthen the country's internal security mechanism, he said.

"The prime minister has set a target of a USD 5 trillion economy for India. To achieve this goal, it is necessary to ensure the country's internal security," Shah said.

The minister said the 2008 Mumbai terror attack was an incident which necessitated reforms in institutions.

Adopt 'nation-first'...

country's democratic set-up, "we should be committed to three goals".

"The first goal is that there should be a change in the life of the common people in the country; their life should be easy and they should also be able to feel this ease. The common people should not have to struggle in their dealings with the government, benefits and services should be available to them without hassle," he said.

Secondly, given the growing stature and changing profile of India, it is imperative that things should be done in the global context, he said.

"If we do not follow the activities at the global level, it will be very difficult to ascertain our priorities and focus area.

"We need to develop our schemes and governance models keeping this perspective in mind," he added.

Thirdly, Modi said, "Wherever we are in the system, our prime responsibility is the unity and integrity of the country; there cannot be any compromise. Even local decisions should be measured on this touchstone".

Every decision should be evaluated on the basis of its capacity to strengthen the country's unity and integrity, Modi said, adding "nation-first (approach) should always inform our decisions".

The prime minister also underlined the need to update systems and governance models regularly, saying "we cannot deal with the challenges of today with systems of the last century".

Anantnag bags PM's...

(DC) Anantnag for the year 2021.

Dr. Singla has been awarded for implementing Digital payments and Good Governance in PM-SVANidhi Scheme.

The Scheme facilitates working capital loans up to Rs 20,000 to street vendors. It is in place to mention that three vending zones were set up in Municipal Council Anantnag accommodating 381 Vendors. A single window service delivery system was put in place for easy registration of vendors.

The scheme was particularly helpful to the vendors in resuming and rekindling their business in view of the COVID pandemic. Many vendors utilised the working capital loans during this period. A wall of fame was also set up in the Municipal Hall to reward vendors for timely repayment of loans.

Several workshops for Capacity building of Street vendors were organised to familiarise them with digital transaction mechanisms. The Scheme helped formalize the street vendors and opened up new opportunities for them.

PM SVANidhi scheme is helping the Street vendors to run their business with dignity. This award recognises extraordinary and innovative work done which results in effective implementation of identified priority programmes and innovations facilitating public good.

Two killed, 28...

The injured persons were shifted to Ramnagar hospital. Twelve with critical injuries were referred to Udhampur hospital, they added.

The deceased have been identified as Rajjo Devi (66) and Vimla Devi (48), the officials said.

Meanwhile, Vice Chairperson District Development Council Reasi Adv. Sajra Qadir condoled the sad demise of people who died in a tragic road accident at Angrala of district Reasi.

Adv. Sajra offered her deepest condolences to the bereaved family and prayed for eternal peace to the departed souls and courage for the bereaved families to bear these irreparable losses She also prayed for the speedy recovery of the injured.

Next generation governance...

Singh said. The minister said that similarly in the last eight years, the government has done away with around 1,500 rules which had become obsolete.

He said that in 2014, at the time of formation of the government at the Centre, the grievance cell of the government of India used to receive two lakh complaints in a year, but today this has gone up to 25 lakh, which means that the government is prompt and follows a timeline and our disposal rate is 95-98% per week.

Apni Party Women...

from many people, fled away from the area. Today evening on specific information, Jammu police team detained her. Further investigations are being conducted, police said. As per senior leaders of Apni Party, the FIR has been registered on a false complaint and she was released late in the night. Police was, however, tight-lipped over the matter.

CBI raids IAS...

and 2018 and thereby in this manner cheated the Government of Jammu and Kashmir," the FIR alleged.

It was alleged in different quarters that there were glaring deviations from the government norms in the contract awarded to Reliance General Insurance like absence of an online tender, removal of an original condition that the vendor should have experience of working in the state and companies having turnover of Rs 5,000 crore among others.

"The case was registered on the request of Jammu and Kashmir government on the allegations of malpractices in award of contract of J&K Employees Health Care Insurance Scheme to private company and release of Rs 60 crore (approximately) in the year 2017-18," CBI Spokesperson R C Joshi said.

After allegations of irregularities surfaced, the scheme, which was rolled out on September 30, 2018, was scrapped, officials said.

"The governor has approved foreclosure of the contract with M/s Reliance General Insurance Company (RGIC) for implementing group mediclaim health insurance policy for the employees and pensioners in the state," a Raj Bhavan spokesperson had said on October 27, 2018.

He had said the matter was referred to the Anti-Corruption Bureau for examining the entire process to see whether it was conducted in a transparent and fair manner.

In the scheme which was initially signed up with RGIC for one year, the employees and pensioners would have got Rs 6 lakh cover for themselves and five dependent family members by paying an annual premium of Rs 8,777 and Rs 22,229 for employees and pensioners, respectively.

In its FIR pertaining to the alleged malpractices in the award of contract for civil works package of Kiru hydroelectric power project, the CBI said guidelines related to e-tendering were not followed.



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"The case was registered on allegations of malpractices in award of the contract worth Rs 2,200 crore (approximately) of civil works of Kiru Hydro Electric Power Project(HEP) to a private company in the year 2019," Joshi said.

The agency has booked Navin Kumar Chaudhary, former chairman of Chenab Valley Power Projects (P) Ltd, M S Babu, former MD, M K Mittal and Arun Kumar Mishra, former directors and Patel Engineering Ltd.

"Though a decision was taken in 47th Board meeting of CVPPPL (Chenab Valley Power Projects (P) Ltd) for re-tender through e-tendering with reverse auction after cancellation of ongoing tendering process, but same was not implemented (as per decision taken in 48th board meeting) and tender was finally awarded to Patel Engineering Ltd," the FIR alleged.

Malik, who was the Governor of Jammu and Kashmir between August 23, 2018 and October 30, 2019 had claimed that he was offered Rs 300 crore bribe for clearing two files.

After going to Kashmir, two files came to me (for clearance), one belonging to Ambani and another to an RSS-affiliated man who was a minister in the previous Mehbooba Mufti-led PDP-BJP coalition government and claimed to be very close to the Prime Minister (Narendra Modi), he had said.

"I was informed by secretaries in both the departments that there is a scandal and I accordingly cancelled both the deals. The secretaries told me that 'you will get Rs 150 crore each for clearing the files but I told them that I have come with five Kurta-Pyjamas and will leave with that only," Malik had told a gathering at an event in Jhumjhum in Rajasthan in October last year.

Zubair gets addl...

earlier," reads an order issued by Manoj Kumar Dwivedi, Principal Secretary, General Administration Department.

Two J&K BJP...

The woman had approached the BJP leaders seeking their intervention for the release of her brother who is serving detention, they said. The duo had allegedly taken Rs 1 lakh for getting the detainee released, the officials said. BJP spokesman Altaf Thakur while confirming the development said the law will take its own course. Jammu and Kashmir BJP president Ravindra Raina has relieved Tikri of his post as district president and other party responsibilities with immediate effect.

Govt constitutes committee...

Development Institute," reads an order issued by Manoj Kumar Dwivedi) IAS Principal Secretary, General Administration Department. As per order, the committee will be headed by Principal Secretary, Industries and Commerce Department as its Chairman while Director, JKEDL will be its Member Secretary and Commissioner/Secretary, Labour and Employment Department; Director, Skill Development Department; representative from Finance Department (not below the rank of Additional Secretary); and Subject Experts from JKEDL will be its Members. The committee shall revisit the Vision Document 2030, frame a revised salary structure and promotion norms and revisit the involvement of Institute in Non-Banking Financial Business rind Lending Business. It shall also suggest measures for release of Grand-in-Aid and frame guidelines regarding utilisation of funds on account of repayment under YSLs (Youth Start up Loan Scheme) besides examining the Audit Report of the Institute for further necessary action.