!! Continuations from Page 1!! Modi exudes confidence...

is committed to taking tough steps to rid India of corruption, nepotism and law and order challenges

"Full of hate, these people are speaking one lie after another. They have become restless and desperate at the exposure of their corrupt deeds. They can see now only one way out. They are openly saying 'Modi teri kabar khudegi'. They are issuing threats to dig (my) grave," he said.

Modi cautioned party members, who heard his nearly 50-minute-long address at over 10lakh places where it was broadcast live, against complacency, noting that it is already said that no one can defeat the ruling party in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls.

"Despite being the world's biggest political party, we don't have to be complacent. People have already started saying that no one can defeat the BJP in 2024. This is true but as BJP workers we have to win the heart of every citizen of the country," he said.

"We should not be confined to winning polls. Our goal is to win over the hearts of crores of people. We have to fight every poll with the same hard work that we have put in since the time of Jana Sangh," he said and lauded the contribution of the party workers.

With the BJP accusing Congress leader Rahul Gandhi of insulting backward communities, Modi slammed some persons with a "badshahi" mindset for insulting the poor and backward since the party stormed to power in 2014 and accused them of treating people like slaves for decades after independence.

The BJP has empowered these people's voices, he said.

The British might have left in 1947 but they left behind the seeds of treating people as slaves in the minds of some, he said.

"This class of people prospered a lot in the years after independence who considered power their birthright," he added in a clear swipe at the Congress which ruled the country in the

early decades after freedom. Modi also accused the Congress and other political parties of being tied to nepotism,

dynasty, casteism and regionalism. The BJP represents a new culture of taking everyone along, he asserted.

"The BJP has taken birth from the womb of democracy, and has been nourished and nurtured with the nectar of democracy," he said.

A host of opposition parties, including the Congress, the Left and several regional parties, have come together over the alleged targeting of their leaders by central probe agencies in corruption cases and also over the issue of Rahul Gandhi's disqualification from Lok Sabha following his conviction in a defamation case last month.

Without referring to various allegations levelled by these parties against his government, the Prime Minister said they have been "battling an existential crisis" and are resorting to levelling allegations and hatching conspiracies against the ruling party.

The support of the poor, tribals, backward classes, Dalits and women among others will continue to protect the 'lotus' (BJP party symbol) and help it bloom, he said, adding the BJP cannot let people's aspirations and dreams go unfulfilled and will continue to focus on development and welfare.

He drew parallels between Lord Hanuman, whose birth anniversary is being observed by the devouts on Thursday, to assert that the party believed in the ideals of selfless service, something with which the Ramavana character is identified.

India has realised its potential and strength after 2014 just like Lord Hanuman did after eliminating his self-doubt, PM Modi said. "If we see the whole life of Lord Hanuman, he had a 'can-do' attitude that helped him achieve big successes.'

As Lord Hanuman took on demons fiercely, the government will also act stringently in ridding the country of ills like corruption, nepotism and law and order challenges, the prime minister added.

Modi cited the free ration scheme, health insurance and other welfare measures, which have benefitted a huge number of people across the country, to assert that social justice was an article of faith for the BJP while other parties used the plank to advance the interest of particular families without helping society.

While the BJP thought and dreamt big and then set out to dedicate itself to achieving these goals, opposition parties could set small goals and patted each other for achieving even smaller targets.

The Opposition parties never imagined that Article 370 would be history one day and they cannot digest the work BJP has done to usher in peace and development in Kashmir

and the North East, he said. Asserting that 2014 heralded India's journey towards its renaissance, Modi said India after over "800 years of slavery" has stood up to recover its lost glory.

The Prime Minister stressed the need for BJP workers to use technology and asked them to work in accordance with the party's ideology and within the confines of India's

Modi said India has been making development strides under the BJP government.

The GST collection reached Rs 18 lakh crore in a year while the export has hit the record

The defence export at Rs 16,000 crore is a record while steel and coal productions have reached a new high, he said, noting that these are all recent figures.

HC quashes new...

that under VDGS-1995 the petitioners have a vested right either to continue as SPOs indefinitely or to have unaltered terms and conditions of their engagement. The appointment of petitioners made under the 1995 Scheme was governed by the terms and conditions laid down in the said Scheme. Indisputably, the VDG Scheme of 1995 was issued in the exercise of executive powers of the State. "If respondents, for good reasons, decide to withdraw the Scheme and dispense with the arrangement made there under, this Court may not find any fault with such a decision. Respondents may also be well within their right to alter the terms and conditions of appointment of the petitioners even if such alteration or modification of the terms and conditions adversely affects the petitioners. However, the respondents cannot be permitted in law to act arbitrarily and vary the terms and conditions of appointment of the petitioners to their detriment in the colourable exercise of their powers. The policy decisions of the Government, this Court is well aware, are not to be readily interfered with unless such decisions are found to be mala fide, arbitrary and violative of Article 14 of the Constitution of India. The respondents, being a model employer, are expected to act in a fair, just and transparent manner when it deals with the rights and privileges of its citizens guaranteed by Constitution of India," the Court observed.

Justice sanjeev Kumar found merit in petitions and disposed of the same with the direction that the Village Defence Group Scheme-2022 issued by the respondents vide Government Order No. 287-Home of 2022 dated August 14, 2022, insofar as it has the effect of denuding the petitioners (heads of the Village Defence Groups) of their status as SPOs and the power and privileges conferred on them by the Village Defence Group Scheme-1995 issued by the Government vide Government Order No. Home-293 of 1995 dated September 30, 1995, is set aside and quashed. Court also directed the respondents to treat the petitioners as SPOs having been so appointed under the Village Defence Group Scheme of 1995 with all powers and privileges, in particular, in respect to payment of wages/honorarium. "They shall continue to receive remuneration as is being paid to their counterparts working in the J&K Police Department and the right of the members of the Village Defence Group, who have been held entitled to a monthly honorarium of Rs 4000 under the Village Defence Group Scheme-2022, shall remain unaffected," the Court direct-

LG meets martyr...

during the peak militancy in 1990s in the Valley, migrated to Jammu after Sharma's killing. Later, Anil Sharma, President, All J&K Panchayat Conference called on the Lt Governor and projected various concerning issues of Panchayat Gardeners cum Guards. The Lt Governor assured the former Minister and President, All J&K Panchayat Conference of appropriate redressal of the genuine issues and demands put forth by them during the interactions.

Court rejects bail...

the deserving and competent officers. The acts of the accused are calculated and deliberated design with eye on personal profit regardless of its consequences to aspirant of examination and their parents. If the bail is considered in part of the accused persons it will prejudice the students who have honestly worked hard for round the clock. In my considered view an ordinary crime generally affects the small number of people and usually as an impact upon the physical well being of the victims. An economic offence on the other hand also adversely affects the psyche of honest citizens. Granting the bail to such offenders where the investigation is underway definitely outrage the sentiments of the public at large and also tend towards the frustration of the investigation. The court is not inclined to express the view upon the merits of the case which is owes to be verdict at the conclusion of the trial. At this stage the court has whatsoever expressed is for the sake of considering the question of bail merely. The applicant accused are involved in the serious offence though caries the punishment up to 7 years have no criteria to consider their bail excluding the factors for determination of the bail in favour of the accused at this stage," the Court direct-

Modi took tough....

On the occasion of Lord Hanuman Jayanti, Shah was in Salangpur village of Gujarat's Botad district to inaugurate a newly built mega kitchen at Shree Kashtbhanjan Dev Mandir, the famous Lord Hanuman temple.

"Lakhs of people have made sacrifices since the time of Babur for Ram Janmabhoomi in Ayodhya. Instead of bringing a solution, the Congress kept stretching the issue. One day, a court judgement came and Modiji performed ground breaking for the Ram temple," Shah

Though some people used to say that riots will break out if the issues of Article 370 and Ram Janmabhoomi are touched, nothing of that sort happened, the BJP leader said.

"Similarly, we have completed the Kashi Vishwanath Corridor, Kedardham, Badrinath, gold plating of Somnath temple and makeover of Pavagadh temple. BJP leader and our PM Narendra Modi, without any confusion, took tough decisions with firmness while simultaneously maintaining peace and tranquillity in the country," he said.

In his address in the temple premises, Shah said it is a coincidence that along with Hanuman Jayanti, today is also the BJP's foundation day. (Former Prime Minister) Atalji and Advaniji founded the BJP on April 6, 1980 on the

basis of principles. The announcement about the BJP's establishment was made at an event held in Mumbai, he noted.

"At that time, many people made fun of the BJP. And when we got only two seats in the subsequent Lok Sabha polls, the then Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi had jokingly said in Parliament 'hum do hamare do'," Shah said. He said thanks to Lord Hanuman's blessings, the BJP now has governments in 16 states

and over 400 members of Parliament. Whenever the BJP came to power at the Centre after independence, be it under Atal

Bihari Vajpayee or Narendra Modi, Indian culture received a huge boost and it became popular across the world, Shah said.

People have been saying since long that India cannot have two Constitutions, two prime ministers, and two national emblems, he said.

When Narendra Modi received full majority, he quietly, with the stroke of a pen, abrogated Article 370 of the Constitution (to revoke the special status of Jammu and Kashmir) Every citizen of this country, be it poor or rich, was happy that PM Modi fulfilled their wish and made Kashmir our own," said Shah.

Budget session concludes...

BJP members countered by demanding an apology by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi for his "democracy in danger" remark made in the United Kingdom.

Rahul Gandhi since stands disqualified as a Lok Sabha member following his conviction in a criminal defamation case by a Gujarat court.

As opposition members raised slogans and displayed placards demanding a JPC probe into allegations of fraud against the Adani Group. Birla said, "You have lowered the dignity of the House. This behaviour is not good for parliamentary system and the country."

This House is always for high level of debate and discussions. But you systematically disrupt the proceedings which is not good," he lamented.

The Budget session of Parliament was held in two parts- from January 31-April 6 and February 14 to March 12. There was a recess in between.

This session, Lok Sabha functioned for only 45 hours as against its scheduled 133.6 hours because of disruptions, according to think-tank PRS Legislative Research that compiles the data.

Rajya Sabha worked for just over 31 hours out of 130 hours in the session, the data said. It said, the productivity, which is the percentage of time the House functioned against the total schedule, was 34.38 per cent for the Lower House in the Budget Session. The only time the Lok Sabha's productivity was lower than this was in the Monsoon

dession of 2021, when it functioned only for 20.93 per cent of the scheduled time. Rajya Sabha could devote just around two minutes to legislative business, while it was

less than an hour in Lok Sabha. Financial Business took 17.25 hours in Lok Sabha and 18.23 hours in Rajya Sabha. Throughout the Session, both Houses witnessed repeated adjournments of the Question

In his concluding remarks, Birla said the House held discussions on the General Budget for 14.45 hours, and 145 MPs participated in it. Discussions on the Motion of Thanks to the President's Address were held for 13.44 hours with participation of 143 MPs.

LeT terrorist associate...

movement of terrorists in Aloosa area of Bandipora, in north Kashmir, a special checkpoint was established near Canal Road Aloosa, by security forces, a police spokesperson said. During checking, one terrorist associate linked with proscribed terror outfit LeT was apprehended, he said.

The spokesperson identified the associate as Jamshed Ahmad Bhat, a resident of Aloosa Bandipora. Incriminating material, ammunition and explosives, including a Chinese grenade and 12 live AK-47 rounds, were seized from him, the spokesperson said. A case has been registered, he added.

when she resisted sexual exploitation by accused.

4 vehicles seized, 3 arrested for illegal extraction and transportation of minerals

KULGAM: Acting tough against the persons involved in illegal extraction and transportation of mineral, police on Thursday seized 4 vehicles and arrested 3 persons in Kulgam. As per the details, a Police party led by SHO Police Station Qazigund at a checkpoint established at Bonigam Crossing arrested three drivers identified as Ikhlaq Ahmad Malla son of Mohammad Amin Malla resident of Adigam Devsar, Mohd Iqbal Chopan son of Mohammad Akram Chopan resident of Mandhole and Sajad Ahmad Khanday son of Mohd Akram Khanday resident of Sangran and seized four vehicles including 3 tractors & a tipper involved in illegal extraction and transportation of minerals. However, taking advantage of the dark ness, one driver managed to flee from the spot and efforts are on to effect his arrest In this regard, FIR No. 60/2023 under relevant sections of law was registered at Police Station Qaziound and investigation started.

Police launches drive to destroy poppy cultivation & wild Bhang

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

GANDERBAL: Continuing its efforts to eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, Police on Thursday launched poppy cultivation & bung destruction drive in Ganderbal. On the directions of SSP Nikhil Borkar, Police carried out destruction of poppy cultivation and wild Bhang on massive scale in Watalbagh, Yenihama, Repora & Kranihama areas of district Ganderbal. The drive was carried out by the Police Party of Police Station Lar led by SHO Lar Ruksana, along with the team of Revenue & Excise Department.

4 smugglers of bovines & illicit liquor arrested ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: Samba police under the guidance of SSP Samba Benam Tosh and Additional SP Samba Surinder Choudhary on Thursday arrested smugglers of bovines and illicit liquor, rescued bovines and recovered illicit liquor. The arrested smugglers of bovines and illicit liquor were as Rafakat Ali, son of Mohd Shamin, resident of Village Sail, tehsil Majalta, district Udhampur; Suba, son of Late Lal, resident of Kali Purani Sikri, Tehsil & district Samba; Iqbal Singh, son of Dewan Singh, resident of Rakh Jhang, Ramgarh and Sunil Kumar, son of Raj Kumar, resident of Radwan, Ramgarh. Three separate FIRs under relevant sections of have been registered at Police Station Samba through Police Post Mansar & Police Station Ramgarh and investigations started. Out of four arrested smugglers of bovines and illicit liquor, two bovine smugglers were arrested and 7 bovines were rescued at Mansar by a police team comprising Chowki Officer Mansar, Deepak Sharma, SHO Samba Rajeshwar Singh under the supervision of DySP Garu Ram whereas two smugglers of liquor were arrested and 10 lts illicit liquor & 10 bottles of JK Special Whisky were recovered from their possession by a team comprising PSI Anjum Hussain, PSI Vikrant Kotwal, SHO Ramgarh Sudesh Kumar under supervision of SDPO Vijaypur Priyanka Kumari.

Poonch police goes tough against wrong parking ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: As a part of special drive against traffic violators, Traffic Police Poonch initiated stern action against all those parking their vehicles wrongly thereby obstructing smooth movement of traffic in Main Bazar Poonch and vicinity. It was observed that wrong parking is one of the major reasons for traffic congestion and

slow movement of vehicles particularly in Main Bazaar Poonch. The Traffic Police has been consistently taking action against those indulged in wrong parking from past one month. As per a communication, DTI Mohd Qasim alongwith SI Mohd Shafiq and Mohd Saleem Challaned many wrongly parked vehicles and collected revenue of around Rs



35,000. They also warned commuters not to wrongly park their vehicles, especially during pious month of Ramadan, which causes many hardships for public.

CRÎMEREPÇ Huge cache of ammunition recovered in Kupwara

SRINAGAR: Security forces on Thursday recovered a huge cache of ammunition from a forest area in Kupwara district, police said. Based on reliable input, security forces carried out a search in Haphruda Forest in Kupwara district early morning, a police official said. He said that searchs resulted in the recovery of a huge cache of ammunition, including 720 rounds of 7.62 mm, most likely of Chinese ori-

The ammunition was concealed in two locations with adequate packaging, the off cial said, adding, a few of the ammunition were found in sealed packages. A thorough search was launched in Haphruda forest for any more caches of arms/ammunition or for any militant hideout, official said.

gin, five rounds of RPGs (rocket-propelled grenade), nine booster tubes of RPGs,

and 10 UBGLs (under barrel grenade launcher) that are likely to be of Russian ori-

Conman Kiran Patel handed-over to Gujarat Police

SRINAGAR: Alleged conman Kiran Patel, who was arrested in Jammu & Kashmir for posing as a senior PMO official, was handed-over to Gujarat Police on Thursday, officials said. They further said that Gujarat Police had sought his custody which was granted by the Court of the Chief Judicial Magistrate in Srinagar, after which Patel was handed-over to them late afternoon. He will be taken to Gujarat on Friday,

Patel was arrested by police from a five-star hotel here last month for allegedly posing as an 'Additional Secretary' in the Central Government and enjoying security cover, besides other hospitality. He was on his third visit to Valley when got nabbed by alert security officials on March 3. Patel had claimed to have been given a mandate by the Government to identify buyers for apple orchards in south

7 drug peddlers nabbed; 119.5 gm heroin recovered

JAMMU: Continuing its drive against drug trafficking and substance abuse, Jammu Police achieved major success by recovering 119.5 gm heroin i.e., 100 gm heroin near New Plot Jammu from three accused, 6 gm heroin in jurisdiction of Police Station Gandhi Nagar and 3.5 gm heroin in jurisdiction of Police Station

As per details, a team of Police Post Sarwal led by SDPO West Vikram Singh assisted by SHO Bakshi Nagar Inspr Vishal Shoor and Incharge Police Post Sarwal PSI Baljeet Singh Parihar intercepted three suspects on vehicle (JK12C-3517). During search, 100 gm heroin was recovered from the three accused later identified as Tariq Hussain Shah, son of Bashir Hussain Shah, resident of Mora Bachari Tehsil Surankote, Poonch (10 gm); Tasadiq Hussain, son of Mohd Hussain, resident of Bandi Chachian Tehsil Haweli, (90 gm) and Maqsood Hussain Shah, son of Sharafat Hussain Shah, resident of Nagali Tehsil Haweli, Poonch. Trio was arrested and FIR under relevant sections of NDPS Act was registered against them at Police Station Bakshi Nagar.

Similarly, a team of Police Station Gandhi Nagar led by SDPO South Sachit Sharma assisted by SHO Gandhi Nagar Inspr Pankaj Sharma while on Naka duty at Balmiki Chowk rounded up a suspect coming from Bahu Plaza side towards Green Belt Park side. During search, 6 gm heroin was recovered from accused namely Ravi Kumar, son of Babu Ram, resident of Dhalwass Tehsil & District Ramban. Accused was arrested and FIR No. 81/2023 under section 8/21/22 NDPS Act was registered against him at Police Station Gandhi Nagar.

Also another team of Police Station Arnia led by SDPO RS Pura Surinder Singh assisted by SHO Police Station Arnia Inspr Deepak Katoch while on Naka duty at Rakh Arnia rounded up one person namely Amit Raj, son of Krishan Lal, resident of Rakh Arnia. During search, 3.5 gm heroin was recovered from his possession. He was arrested and FIR 18/2023 under sections 8/21/22 of NDPS Act was registered against him at Police Station Arnia. A police party from Pargwal Chowki also recovered 40 gms of heroin and arrested two persons. The arrested drug peddlers were identified as Imam Hussain, son of Mohd Shafi resident of Gadkhal Jammu and Liaqat Ali, son of Hashim Din, resident of Gajansoo Jammu. Police spokesman said, during a routine checking at Sujwal Chowk Pargwal, police intercepted a bike bearing registration number JK02CT 8967 and while searching it recovered 22 gm heroin from the possession of Imam Hussain and 18 gm from Liaqat Ali. Police

arrested drug peddlers and seized recovered drugs. The consignment was recovered by police team led by Incharge Police Post Pargwal Deep Sharma, under the supervision of SDPO Akhnoor Mohan Sharma and SP Rural Rahul Charak. FIR under NDPS Act has been registered at Police Station Khour and investigation has start-

Theft case solved; 4 arrested, stolen items recovered

JAMMU: Police on Thursday solved a theft case by arresting 4 accused and recovered stolen items worth Rs 1,50,000.

As per details, complaint was lodged at Police Post Chinore regarding theft of 50 iron shuttering from Chinore area. On this, FIR No. 84/2023 under section 379 IPC was registered in Police Station Domana and investigation started. After this, a teams of Police Post Chinore under the supervision of SDPO Domana Sunil Singh led by SHO Police Station Domana Insp. Kunal Singh Jamwal assisted by In-Charge Police Post Chinore PSI Rajesh Kumar did strenuous efforts and with the help of CCTV footage police teams finally arrested a suspect namely Tallib Hussain alias Shammu, son of Mohd Ashraf, resident of Takku Chakk Domana and during sustained questioning, he confessed his involvement in crime along with his associates namely Mohd Asgar, son of Mohd Akbar Jan; Vishal Jamwal, son of Sudarshan Singh both residents of Nardani Bantalab and Raqib who had stolen Iron Shuttering plates from Chinore area. The stolen material was recovered from their possession. The overall recoveries are made under the supervision of SP Rural

5 vehicles seized for illegal mining **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: In a quest to stern menace of illegal mining, a multi-pronged strategy was devised by Jammu Police in which teams of Police Stations Gharota, Bishnah, Police Posts Chinore and Phallain Mandal acted stringently on specific inputs and raided at a location in their respective area and seized 5 vehicles involved in illegal mining. The seized vehicle included a Dumper (JK14E1877) and a tractor (JK02CV7516) seized by Gharota Police; a tractor trolley without registration number seized by Bishnah Police; a tipper (JK02DD 7231) seized by Chinore Police and a tractor trolley bearing Chassis number MBNBG55AENCA31192 seized by Phallain Mandal Police. The recoveries were made by SHO Gharota Inspr Joginder Singh Chib, SHO Bishnah Inspr Vikram Sharma, Incharge Police Posts Chinore PSI Rajesh Kumar and Phallain-Mandal PSI Ajesh Singh Jamwal in their respec-

Missing minor among 2 traced, reunited with family

JAMMU: Police on Thursday traced a missing minor girl and a woman and reunited them with their families

As per details, a complaint was lodged at Police Post Phallain Mandal by father of a minor girl stating that she went missing from her house. On this, FIR No. 54/2023 under sections 363 of IPC was registered in Police Station Satwari and investigation started. A team of Police Post Phallain Mandal led by SDPO South Sachit Sharma assisted by SHO Satwari Inspr Sumeet Sharma and Incharge Police Post Phallain Mandal PSI Ajesh Singh Jamwal, after putting in strenuous efforts, sent a special police team to Punjab and raided at various locations after which minor girl was recovered from Punjab. Similarly, a missing complaint was received at Police Station Jhajjar Kotli by legal heirs of a woman stating that she went missing from her home. In this regard a missing report was registered at Police Station Jhajjar Kotli and investigation started.

A team of Police Station Jhajjar Kotli led by SDPO Nagrota Mirza Sultan assisted by SHO Jhajjar Kotli Inspr Azad Manhas, after putting in strenuous efforts and with the help of CCTV footages of the area finally traced missing woman from Udhampur area. Subsequently families of the both missing persons were informed and they were handed-over to their family members after completing all the legal formalities.

Charge-sheet produced against accused in murder case

AWANTIPORA: Police on Thursday produced a charge-sheet in murder case before court of law. As per details, FIR No. 05/2023 was registered on January 9, 2023 in Police Station Pampore regarding murder of one Rozy Jan, wife of Muzafar Ahmad Ganie, resident of Kadlabal Pampore and investigation was assigned to SDPO Pampore Imtivaz Ahmad Mir.

During investigation, all cogent evidence (s) including oral, documentary, circumstantial, medical & technical were collected by Investigating Officer and chargesheet against accused was presented before the Court against accused Altaf Ahmed Ganie. Pertinent to mention here that deceased was murdered by her brother-in-law