

!! Continuations from Page 1 !! PAHALGAM ATTACK: Full...

of national security have heightened expectations of a stringent counteraction from India.

In the past, the Modi government carried out surgical strikes inside Pakistan after the terror attack on army soldiers in Uri in 2016 and the Balakot air strike after the killings of CRPF personnel in Pulwama.

Following the terror strike in Pahalgam, India has taken a series of measures targeting Pakistan, including putting in abeyance the Indus Waters Treaty with the neighbouring country.

Earlier in the day, Union Home Secretary Govind Mohan had chaired a high-level meeting which was attended by chiefs of three paramilitary forces and senior officers of two other security organisations, sources said. There was no official word on its agenda.

Centre notifies appointment...

PO, MACT, Jammu, 3rd Additional District Judge, TADA, Jammu, Member, J&K Sales Tax Tribunal, Principal Sessions Judge, Leh, Additional Sessions Judge, Anti-Corruption, Jammu, Member, J&K Special Tribunal, Jammu, Registrar Judicial, Jammu, 2nd Additional District & Sessions Judge, Jammu, Registrar, Supreme Court of India, Principal District & Sessions Judge, Udhampur, Additional Sessions Judge, Srinagar, Principal Sessions Judge, Baramulla, Director, J&K Judicial, Academy, Principal Sessions Judge Jammu and Member J&K Special Tribunal, Jammu wherefrom he has been elevated as Permanent Judge, High Court of J&K and Ladakh, vide notification No. K.13021/05/2024-US.I dated 29.04.2025 issued by the Government of India Ministry of Law & Justice, Department of Justice (Appointments Division).

Shahzad Azeem obtained his early schooling from Mendhar (District Poonch) and did graduation and LL.B. from Jammu University.

He was enrolled as an Advocate with J&K Bar Council in the year 2001 and started practicing at High Court of J&K and Ladakh and District Courts at Jammu. He was appointed as direct District Judge in 2011 and joined the services as Pr. District & Sessions Judge Kupwara.

Thereafter, he was posted as Pr. District and Sessions Judge, Budgam, Pulwama, and Rajouri. He also served as President Divisional Consumer Forum, Jammu. He also discharged the duties as first Registrar IT and Registrar Inspection, High Court of J&K and Ladakh and thereafter had the privilege to serve as Registrar Vigilance, High Court of J&K and Ladakh and Director, J&K Judicial Academy. He was posted as Registrar General, High Court of J&K and Ladakh, wherefrom he has been elevated as Permanent Judge, High Court of J&K and Ladakh, vide notification No. K.13021/05/2024-US.I dated 29.04.2025 issued by the Government of India Ministry of Law & Justice, Department of Justice (Appointments Division).

With the appointment of these two District & Sessions Judges as Judge of High Court, the total sitting judges of High Court goes to 15 and still three are 10 posts are vacant in which one may be come from District & Sessions Judges and 9 maybe come from Bar.

ACB presents charge...

separate cases/FIRs including the case FIR No. 19/2018 and two other similar cases, i.e., FIR No. 20/2018 and FIR No. 21/2018 were registered at Police Station Vigilance Organization Kashmir (P/S VOK), (Now Police Station Anti-Corruption Bureau Baramulla) against different officers/officials of three different education zones of District Baramulla for misappropriation/embezzlement of scholarship funds and investigations were initiated.

After registration of case thorough investigations were conducted by ACB into the allegations of fraud/ embezzlement in scholarship funds meant for Pahari Speaking and Gujjar-Bakewal students in Education Zone Chandanwari, District Baramulla during academic years 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 by the accused public servants of Education Department, official said.

The investigations conducted revealed that an amount approx. Rs 27 lakh was embezzled/ misappropriated by the accused public servants which was meant for the students belonging to Gujjar & Bakewal community of education zone Chandanwari, District Baramulla during the academic year 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12, official said adding that the vital records i.e. Acquittance Registers for the year 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 were maintained by accused in which fictitious names of nonexistent students were inserted, and huge amount was shown disbursed against fictitious students.

Moreover, official said, it was also found that the funds for Gujjar and Bakewal students for the year 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 were obtained on the higher side than the actual roll and an excess amount of Rs. 23,15,400 was also embezzled/misappropriated by the accused public servants in conspiracy with each other.

Investigations conducted in this regard, official said, revealed that accused public servants in connivance with one another by abuse of their official position and authority acted in violation of laid down norms of disbursement and also added many fictitious names of students from Gujjar Bakewal/ Pahari speaking categories thereby inflating the actual number of beneficiary students, by this way they not only conferred undue pecuniary benefits upon themselves but also caused commensurate loss to state exchequer.

After completion of investigations, official added, the charge-sheet (Challan) of the case as envisaged under Section 173 CrPC was submitted before Court of Spl Judge Anti-Corruption Court Baramulla against accused public servants Abdul Rashid Mir, the then Zonal Education Officer Chandanwari (Now retired), son of Abdul Gaffar Mir, resident of Hundi Nowshera Uri, at present Gantnulla Bala Baramulla and Bashir Ahmad Lone, the then Junior Assistant in the Office of ZEO Chandanwari (Now retired), son of Wali Mohammad Lone, resident of Bijhama Boniyar Uri under Sections 5(1)(c), 5(1)(d) r/w 5(2) Jammu & Kashmir Prevention of Corruption Act Samvat 2006, and Section 468, 471, 201 & 120-B RPC for judicial determination.

Both the accused were presented before Court who were released by court taking bail bound, official said adding that next date for hearing has been fixed by court as July 15, 2025.

Solidarity in wake...

Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, French President Emmanuel Macron, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres condemned the Pahalgam terror attack and expressed their condolences and solidarity with India.

Last week, the 15-nation UN Security Council issued a Press Statement condemning "in the strongest terms" the terrorist attack in Jammu and Kashmir, stressing that those responsible for these killings should be held accountable and organisers and sponsors of this "reprehensible act of terrorism" should be brought to justice.

The Council members "stressed that those responsible for these killings should be held accountable, and urged all States, in accordance with their obligations under international law and relevant Security Council resolutions, to cooperate actively with all relevant authorities in this regard."

A press statement is a declaration to the media made by the President of the Security Council on behalf of all 15 Members.

France is President of the Council for the month of April and the press statement was issued by Council President Permanent Representative of France to the UN Ambassador Jerome Bonnafont.

Pakistan currently sits in the UN Security Council as a non-permanent member. A press statement requires agreement from all Council members and is a negotiated text.

Patel highlighted that the Council, in its statement, has said that perpetrators, organisers, financiers and sponsors of reprehensible acts of terrorism must be held accountable and brought to justice.

"Acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable, regardless of their motivation, wherever, whenever and by whomever committed. We reiterate that terrorism in all its forms must be condemned unequivocally," she said.

India also termed the establishment of the Victims of Terrorism Association (VoTAN) as a significant step, saying it will create a structured, safe space for victims to be heard and supported.

"India believes that initiatives like VoTAN are essential to strengthening the global response to terrorism, ensuring that victims remain at the centre of our collective efforts," Patel said.

The hybrid launch event commenced with a video showing testimonies of survivors and families of victims of terror attacks around the world, including by survivor of the 26/11 Mumbai terror attack Karambir Singh Kang, Nidhi Chaphekar and the son of a woman killed in the 1985 bombing of Air India flight 182 en route from Toronto to London.

SC refuses to...

multiple FIRs lodged against them in Bengaluru, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu's Thanjavur and Madurai cities.

"The petitioners spoke praising Afzal Guru, a terrorist who was the mastermind behind the attack on the Indian Parliament. They also made remarks against the

legal issues considered in the Ayodhya Ram Temple judgment; the dress being worn by Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh; the festivals being celebrated by Christians; the practice of Hindus in applying holy-ash to their bodies; the religious practice followed by the Sikhs keeping a sword with them and tried to link the same with the Hijab being worn by Muslim women," the bench said.

The bench observed the duo also condemned the verdict of the Karnataka High Court in the Hijab case.

It came on record that based on the "hate speech", a sub-inspector posted at Thallakulam Police Station, Madurai City filed a complaint following which an FIR was registered on March 18, 2022 for "promoting enmity between two groups, inciting any community to commit offence against another group and other offences".

Similar FIR was lodged in Thanjavur on the same day.

Another FIR was registered on March 19, 2022 at the Vidhana Soudha Police Station, Bengaluru on a complaint by a law practitioner.

Both Tamil Nadu Thowheed Jamath members moved the top court for clubbing of the two Tamil Nadu FIRs and quashing of the Bengaluru FIR.

They argued it was impermissible in law to register multiple FIRs for the same allegations and offences as it would be double jeopardy and violation of rights guaranteed by Article 20(2) of the Constitution of India.

The counsel for Tamil Nadu and Karnataka opposed the submissions while referring to the inflammatory nature of their alleged hate speech and said sentiments of people at Madurai and Bengaluru were hurt.

Though the FIRs registered in both states stemmed from same hate speech, the bench said the only justification given was that the complainants heard the hate speech at their respective locations.

The bench, however, said allowing multiple prosecutions of the petitioners in different jurisdictions could lead to a "serious anomaly" with the possibility of conflicting decisions.

J&K SIA arrests...

narcotics network operating across borders, he said.

According to investigators, Harjit Singh played a central role in connecting Amritpal Singh alias Fouji-already in custody-with Amritpal Singh Baath, a suspected kingpin of the syndicate, currently absconding and believed to be abroad.

Baath is reportedly affiliated with the Khalistan Zindabad Force, he said.

Operating from his shop, Harjit Singh is alleged to have coordinated the movement of drug consignments, the spokesperson said.

On his motivation and assurance, Amritpal alias Fouji joined the network, collected heroin consignments from the border areas in Jammu, and facilitated their handover to Baath's associates in Punjab, he said.

Officials believe this arrest will help uncover deeper layers of the cartel's structure and shed light on its connections to cross-border narco-terror operations.

Further investigations are underway, and more arrests and disclosures are expected, he added.

"Acting on reliable information that a person of Punjab was coming from Akhnoor towards the bus stand with a huge consignment of heroin-like substance. Accordingly, a special checking was conducted by the police party of Police Station Bus Stand and the said suspect was apprehended," Additional Director General of Police (ADGP), Jammu Zone, Anand Jain told reporters.

96 JKAS officers...

Development Department; Sanjeev Rana, JKAS, Additional Secretary in the J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages, as Additional Secretary, Hospitality and Protocol Department; Sukriti Sharma, JKAS, Deputy Excise Commissioner (Accounts), Jammu, as Registrar; GCET, Jammu; Umar Shafi Pandit, JKAS, Chief Executive Officer, Tourism Development Authority, Wullar-Manasbal, as Principal, Revenue Training Institute, Srinagar; Deepak Dubey, JKAS, Deputy Director (AudioVisual) in the Directorate of Information, J&K, as Joint Director, Information, Jammu; Pardeep Kumar, JKAS, Project Officer, Wage Employment (ACD), Reasi, as Additional Secretary, Tourism Department; Abdul Rashid Dass, JKAS, Programme Officer, ICDS Project, Kulgam, holding additional charge of Chief Executive Officer, Tourism Development Authority, Aharbal, as Registrar, District Anantnag; Syed Naseer Ahmad, JKAS, Project Officer, Wage Employment (ACD), Kulgam, as Secretary, Srinagar Development Authority; Girdhari Lal, JKAS, Additional Secretary, Higher Education Department, as Deputy Excise Commissioner (Distilleries), Jammu; Mir Nasrool Hilal Jeri, JKAS, Additional Secretary, Housing and Urban Development Department, as Chief Executive Officer, Tourism Development Authority, Pahalgam; Kaiser Ahmad Bhawani, JI(AS, Principal, Revenue Training Institute, Srinagar, as Chief Executive Officer, Tourism Development Authority, Kishtwar; Mita Kumari, JKAS, Additional Secretary, Hospitality and Protocol Department, as Additional Secretary, Industries and Commerce Department; Mushtaq Ahmad Chowdhary, JKAS, Additional Secretary, Industries and Commerce Department, as General Manager, DIC, Kathua; Anshuman Singh, JKAS, awaiting orders of adjustment in the Directorate of Employment, J&K, as Additional Secretary, Science and Technology Department; Zaheer Abass Bhat, Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, Anantnag, as Deputy Director, Rural Sanitation, Jammu; Naser Ali, JKAS, Assistant Commissioner, Survey and Land Records, J&K, as Joint Director, Industries and Commerce (M&P), Jammu; Preeti Sharma, JKAS, Assistant Commissioner in the State Taxes Department, Jammu, as Joint Registrar, Cooperatives (Special), Jammu; Bilal Mukhtar Dar, JKAS, General Manager, DIC, Ganderbal, as Chief Executive Officer, Tourism Development Authority; Sonamarg, vice Ghulam Mohammad Bhat, JKAS, who shall await further orders of adjustment in the GAD.

Abhishake Abrol, JKAS, Additional Secretary, School Education Department, has been transferred and posted as General Manager, DIC, Jammu, vice Virender Kumar Manyal, JKAS, who shall await further orders of adjustment in the GAD; Vikas Dhar Bagati, JKAS, Assistant Commissioner (General), Jammu, as Registrar, District Kathua; Shabnam Rashid, JKAS, Assistant Commissioner in the State Taxes Department, Kashmir, as Deputy Commissioner, State Taxes (Stamps), Kashmir; Malik Waseem Ahmad, JKAS, Deputy Director, Tourism, Kashmir, under orders of transfer as Deputy District Election Officer, Ganderbal, as General Manager, DIC, Pulwama; Tinna Mahajan, JKAS, Deputy Director, ICDS, Jammu, as Deputy Excise Commissioner (Accounts), Jammu; Nazia Hassan, JKAS, Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, Kulgam, as General Manager, DIC, Anantnag; Manisha Koul, JKAS, Sub-Registrar, R.S, Pura, as Registrar, District Samba; Mohammad Imran Khan, JKAS, awaiting orders of adjustment in the GAD, as Chief Executive Officer, Tourism Development Authority, Wullar-Manasbal; Zahid Rashid Khan, IKAS, Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, Budgam, as General Manager, DIC, Budgam, vice Waseem Raja, JKAS who shall await further orders of adjustment in the GAD; Varinder Gupta, JKAS, Deputy Director, Information, Jammu, as Registrar, District Reasi; Kuldip Raj, JKAS, Personnel Officer in the office of Principal Chief Conservator of Forest, J&K, as Additional Secretary, Department of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs; Parvaiz Ahmad Naik, II(AS, Sub-Registrar, Vijaypur, as Chief Executive Officer, Urban Development Agency, Jammu, vice Deepika Rana, JKAS, who shall await further orders of adjustment in the GAD; Najwan Nazki, JKAS, Deputy Director, Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Kashmir, as Deputy Labour Commissioner, Kashmir; Mir Zahida, JKAS, Deputy Director, J&K Institute of Management, Public Administration and Rural Development, Kashmir, as Chief Executive Officer, Urban Development Agency, Kashmir; Zaheer Ahmad Kaifi, JKAS, Special Officer, Anqaf, J&K, as Programme Officer, ICDS Project, Kulgam; Deebah Khalid Peer, JKAS, Deputy Director, Tourism, Kashmir, as Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, Srinagar; Mohammad Ashraf, JKAS, Deputy District Election Officer, Anantnag, as Deputy Secretary, Power Development Department; Syed Nadeem Iqbal Andrabi, JKAS, Deputy Secretary, Industries and Commerce Department, as Deputy Secretary, Finance Department; Gulzar Ahmad Bhat, JKAS, Collector, Lake Conservation and Management Authority (LCMA), Srinagar, as Deputy Secretary, Industries and Commerce Department; Vikas Sharma, JKAS, Project Officer, Wage Employment (ACD), Jammu, as Deputy Director, Estates, Jammu; Hilal Ahmad Bhat, JKAS, Personnel Officer in the Directorate of School Education, Kashmir, as Deputy District Election Officer, Bandipora; Mohammad Rafeeq Bhat, JKAS, Deputy District Election Officer, Bandipora, as Deputy Director, Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Kashmir; Mohd. Rafiq, JKAS, Deputy Director, District Employment and Counselling Centre, Poonch, as District Mineral Officer, Rajouri; Shabir Ahmad Hakak, JKAS, Project Officer, Wage Employment (ACD), Baramulla, as Sub-Registrar, Kangan. He shall also hold the charge of the post of Sub-Registrar, Ganderbal, in addition to his own duties, till further orders.

Sheetal Pandita, JKAS, Deputy Secretary, Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, has been transferred and posted as Deputy Secretary, School Education Department; Bashir Ahmad Bhat, JKAS, Project Officer, Wage Employment (ACD), Ganderbal, as Special Officer, Anqaf, J&K; Muzaffer Hussain Wani, JKAS, Deputy Secretary, Labour and Employment Department, as Deputy Secretary, Public Works (R&B) Department; Danish Rasool Mir, JKAS, Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, Kathua, as Project Officer, Wage Employment (ACD), Jammu; Riaz Ahmad, JKAS, Deputy Secretary, Culture Department, as General Manager, JKTDCC, Jammu; Mohd. Hanief, IKAS, presently posted in the J&K Sports Council, has been transferred and shall await further orders of adjustment in the GAD; Mudasir Hussain Fanda, JKAS, Deputy Secretary, Public Works

(R&B) Department, as Project Officer, Wage Employment (ACD), Baramulla; Sham Lal Abrol, JKAS, General Manager, JKTDCC, Jammu, as Collector, ERA, Jammu; Aijaz Ahmad Shigon, JKAS, Deputy Secretary, Jal Shakti Department, as Personnel Officer in the office of Principal Chief Conservator of Forest, J&K; Tarun Sharma, JKAS, Development Officer, Handicrafts (Non-Textiles), Jammu, as Deputy Director, Motor Garages, Jammu; Hamidullah Mir, JKAS, Deputy District Election Officer, Kupwara, as Sub Registrar, Kulgam; Altaf Hussain Bhat, JKAS, Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, Srinagar, as Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, Ganderbal vice Mushtaq Ahmad Maqdoomi, JKAS, who shall await further orders of adjustment in the GAD; Fayaz Ahmad Bhat, JKAS, Administrative Officer, Government Medical College, Srinagar, as Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, Anantnag; Shaffiq Ahmad Wani, JKAS, OSD in the office of Administrative Secretary, Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, as Project Officer, Wage Employment (ACD), Anantnag; Iqbal Hussain Mir, JKAS, Assistant Director in the Directorate of Industries and Commerce, Kashmir, as Personnel Officer in the Directorate of School Education, Kashmir; Irfan Ali Khan, JKAS, BDO, Tangdhar, Kupwara, as Deputy Secretary, Public Works (R&B) Department; Arshad Hussain Ganai, IKAS, BDO, Frisal, Anantnag, as Deputy Secretary, Public Grievances Department; Ch. Mohd. Nawaz, JKAS, DPO, Rajouri, as Deputy Director, District Employment and Counselling Centre, Rajouri; Suhayb Ahmad Wani, JKAS, BDO, Hardboora, Baramulla, as Deputy Secretary, Social Welfare Department; Diksha Bamba, JKAS, Tehsildar/HQA to DC Udhampur, as Deputy Secretary, Tribal Affairs Department; Naved Hussain Badroo, JKAS, awaiting orders of adjustment in the Revenue Department, as Custodian Evacuee Properties, Kashmir; Javaid Ahmad Malik, JKAS, Administrative Officer, J&K Services Selection Board, Kashmir, as Deputy Secretary, Department of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs; Saima Sharief Khan, JKAS, BDO in the Directorate of Rural Sanitation, J&K as Assistant Commissioner in the State Taxes Department, Jammu; Abdul Majeed Rather, JKAS, Tehsildar (Headquarter Assistant) in the office of Additional Inspector General Registration, Kashmir, as Project Officer, Wage Employment (ACD), Ganderbal; Ashwani Hansa, JKAS, OSD in the office of CEO, Mission Youth, J&K, as Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, Udhampur, vice Tanveer-ul-Majid Wani, JKAS, who shall await further orders of adjustment in the GAD; Ashu Kumari, JKAS, Information Officer in the Directorate of Information, J&K, as Deputy Director, Information, Jammu; Anissa Nabi, JKAS, State Project Manager, Rural Livelihood Mission, J&K, as Chief Sports Officer, J&K Sports Council; Angel Kotwal, JKAS, BDO in the office of ACP, Jammu, as Sub-Registrar, Akhnoor; Shalini Raina, IKAS, Administrative Officer, Mubarak Mandi Heritage Society, Jammu, as Sub-Registrar, Marh; Arshi Rasool, JKAS, DPO, Shoplan, as Sub-Registrar, Srinagar (East). She shall also hold the charge of the post of Sub Registrar, Srinagar (West), in addition to her own duties, till further orders.

Tahira Tabasum, JKAS, Assistant Director in the Directorate of Social Welfare, Kashmir, has been transferred and posted as Deputy Secretary, Cooperatives Department; Murtaza Rashid, JKAS, OSD in the office of CEO, Mission Youth, J&K, as Deputy Secretary, Health and Medical Education Department; Bilal Ahmad Mir, JKAS, ARTO, Kupwara, as Sub-Registrar, Khansahib. He shall also hold the charge of the post of Sub Registrar, Budgam, in addition to his own duties, till further orders; Kavita Pandoh, JKAS, DPO (Publicity), Jammu, as Sub-Registrar, Jammu (North-I); Sania Haq Khan, JKAS, DPO, Budgam, as Assistant Commissioner (General), Jammu; Arjumand Yaqoob, JKAS, Assistant Director in the Directorate of Social Welfare, Kashmir, as Deputy Director, Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Kashmir; Mahvika Sharma, JKAS, Functional Manager, DIC, Udhampur, as Deputy Director, ICDS, Jammu; Syed Namaz Nahin Tabasam Shah, JKAS, Tehsildar/HQA in the office of DC, Samba, as Assistant Commissioner in the State Taxes Department, Jammu; Sugandhi Banotra, JKAS, Assistant Director in the Directorate of Tourism, Jammu, as Assistant Settlement Officer, Jammu vice Anju Anand, JKAS, who shall await further orders of adjustment in the GAD; Tahir Ahmad Magray, JKAS, Tehsildar in the office of Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir, as Deputy Secretary, Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj; Syed Farhana Asgar, JKAS, ARTO (Hqr), Srinagar, as Deputy Secretary, Culture Department; Auqil Nuvaid, JKAS, BDO, Surankote, as Project Officer, Wage Employment (ACD), Rajouri vice Vijay Kumar, JKAS, who shall await further orders of adjustment in the GAD; Tanvi Gupta, Jr. Seale JKAS, Under Secretary, Higher Education Department, has been transferred and her services are placed at the disposal of Finance Department for her posting as ETO/CTO; Shivana Akhter, Jr. Seale JKAS, Administrative Officer, Government Medical College, Udhampur, as Under Secretary in the State Election Commission, Jammu; and Disha Gupta, Jr. Seale JKAS, BDO, Kulwanta, as Administrative Officer, Government Medical College, Udhampur.

Pakistan resorts to...

and Islamabad following last week's terror attack in Pahalgam.

"During the night of April 28-29, the Pakistan Army resorted to unprovoked small arms firing across the LoC in areas opposite Kupwara and Baramulla districts, as well as the Akhnoor sector," a defence spokesperson said.

The Indian Army responded in a measured and effective manner to the provocation, he added.

There were no immediate reports of any casualties.

Starting with unprovoked small arms firing at several posts along the LoC in Kupwara and Baramulla districts of north Kashmir, Pakistan expanded its cease-fire violation to the Poonch sector and subsequently to Akhnoor.

CM emphasizes proactive...

He further stressed the importance of a swift response mechanism amid rising temperatures and the possibility of heatwave, water shortages or power outages.

"Response time to any kind of exigency should be minimised," he asserted.

Engaging directly with Deputy Commissioners, the Chief Minister reviewed district-level preparedness and urged them to prioritise timely, effective response to weather-related challenges.

He emphasised the need to keep personnel ready and machinery in working condition to ensure the uninterrupted functioning of essential services.

"Preparedness is not just about having systems in place but ensuring that those systems work seamlessly when put to the test," Omar Abdullah noted, adding that preparedness must be proactive rather than reactive.

While commending field-level officers for their proactive planning, he called upon them to maintain a constant state of readiness and ensure grievance redressal mechanisms remain accessible and effective for public facilitation during emergencies.

Divisional Commissioner Jammu delivered a detailed presentation highlighting preparations for the upcoming summer season, with a focus on the availability of drinking water, electricity supply management, and medical emergency response strategies.

The meeting was informed that in respect of forest fire management, high-risk districts like Nowshera, Jammu and Reasi have been prioritized with 175 control rooms and awareness drives. Water supply preparedness would include vulnerability mapping, infrastructure maintenance, and deployment of tankers, while IEC campaigns to deal with heatwave effect are being conducted.

It was informed that Power infrastructure is being strengthened through transformer upgrades, pruning of tree branches and activation of emergency teams. It was given out that the Health Department has stocked essential supplies, operationalized Heat Stroke Rooms, and mandated daily reporting of heat-related illnesses.

Divisional Commissioner also informed the meeting that Schools in the summer zone will follow revised timings from May 1, and the school bag policy is in effect. Irrigation canals have been desilted, and flood control rooms activated, with mitigation plans in place for vulnerable districts, he said.

JMC has readied monsoon rescue units, upgraded drainage equipment, and deployed water sprinklers and coolers for heatwave relief, he told the meeting.

He added that BRO and PMGSY have mapped landslide and flood-prone sites, ensuring machinery is in place for rapid response.

The Chief Minister directed departments to activate control rooms, maintain buffer stocks of essential supplies, and deploy quick response teams to vulnerable areas.

He also instructed the deployment of an adequate number of water tankers in areas prone to shortages.

Additionally, he directed the ACS Jal Shakti to install GPS trackers on all water tankers to ensure accountability and oversight of their field operations.

The Chief Minister also called for timely maintenance of key roads, particularly the Srinagar-Jammu National Highway, Mughal Road, and other vital routes.

NSG, police conduct...

terror attack in Pahalgam, aimed at addressing potential threats. As part of these measures, security around the temple has also been increased and patrols intensified.

Tuesday's drill simulated real-life emergency scenarios to assess the response and coordination of multiple security forces in handling potential threats, the official said. He further said the exercise was aimed at strengthening the existing security framework and promote seamless collaboration among agencies to protect critical infrastructure and public spaces.