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Conduct proactive anti...

water, and telecom facilities be made.

He also stressed for enhancement of mobile connectivity along the yatra route as he directed that earth moving equipment should be placed at vantage points to clear the route in case of landslides.

This is the first yatra after the COVID-19 pandemic and due to the high altitude, adequate arrangements will have to be made for yatris who have any health-related problems, he said.

The Home Minister asked for an adequate number of oxygen cylinders, medical beds at an altitude of more than 6,000 feet and deployment of ambulances and helicopters to deal with any emergency medical situation.

All categories of transport services should be increased during the Amarnath Yatra for the convenience of passengers.

During the meeting, it was also decided to enable WiFi hotspots to ensure connectivity throughout the 39 km of the yatra route from Pahalgam in south Kashmir. The other route is through Baltal in central Kashmir where a pilgrim treks for nearly 15 km.

The yatra, which presents a big security challenge for the government, could not take place in 2020 and 2021 due to the coronavirus pandemic and was cut short in 2019 just before the abrogation of Article 370.

About three lakh pilgrims are likely to take part in the pilgrimage that is expected to end on August 11.

About 12,000 paramilitary personnel (120 companies) in addition to Jammu and Kashmir Police are expected to be deployed along the two pilgrimage routes, one from Pahalgam and the other via Baltal, officials said.

Drone cameras will help the security forces to ensure the protection of the pilgrims.

Besides the Amarnath pilgrimage, the meetings also reviewed the security arrangement especially in the wake of several targeted killings, including of Kashmiri Pandits, in Kashmir.

There has been a spurt in attacks on non-Muslims and outsiders living in the Kashmir valley since the abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution in August 2019 which accorded special status to Jammu and Kashmir.

The security review comes following a spate of killings in the Union Territory.

On May 12, Bhat, a government employee, was killed by terrorists inside his office in Budgam district. A day after, police constable Reyaz Ahmad Thokar was shot dead by terrorists at his residence in the Pulwama district.

Also last week, four pilgrims were killed and at least 20 injured when the bus they were travelling in caught fire near Katra in Jammu. Police suspect a sticky bomb might have been used to trigger the fire.

Bhat's killing triggered protests by members of the Kashmiri Pandit community who staged protests in the Valley demanding enhanced security and transfer of government employees to safer locations.

On Sunday, the Peoples Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD), a conglomerate of major J-K parties, urged Kashmiri Pandit employees not to leave the Valley as it was their home and it would be painful for all.

Top officials of the ministries of health, telecom, road transport, civil aviation and IT took part in the meeting to discuss logistics for the annual pilgrimage to the cave shrine dedicated to Lord Shiva at an altitude of 3,888 metres.

Ram temple construction...

has already begun. Till now, approximately 75,000 cft (cubic feet) stone carving has been completed. The total requirement is about 4.45 lakh cft stone for the super structure alone in the temple," the statement said.

With the phased completion of the plinth, the final super structure construction will commence soon.

After detailed technical discussions with the project monitoring consultant and construction agencies, the design and drawing of the lower plinth was also finalised with the use of plain cement concrete below the ground, layers of granite stone, layers of Mirzapur stone and final topping by granite stone, it said.

The construction work on lower plinth will be undertaken by June 1, 2022.

As per the plan, the design and drawing of foundation of parkota' is also in the final stages of technical scrutiny. Various options are being examined taking into consideration the security and convenience of the pilgrims.

Another important activity is the work relating to Pilgrimage Facilitation Centre. The broad contours of the Centre is being finalised with the understanding that it will provide for a modular addition with the increasing numbers of pilgrims. Accordingly, the utility services within the complex has been planned, the statement said. The temple of Lord Ram is scheduled to be opened for the public by December 2023.

1 dead, 3...

has been cordoned and search in the area is going on.

Police has registered a case in this regard under relevant sections of law and investigation is in progress. Officers continue to work to establish the full circumstances of this terror crime.

Meanwhile, Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress has strongly condemned the grenade attack at a shop in Baramulla in Kashmir and described it as reminder of the grim situation.

JKPCC Chief Spokesperson Ravinder Sharma expressed shock over the loss of a precious life in the attack who belonged to Bakhar area of Sunderbani, in district while three others are also seriously injured. He expressed sympathies with the family of the victims on behalf of the rank & file of the party.

The Congress party is deeply concerned over such repeated incidents of terrorist attacks and targeted killings which need to be checked by an effective strategy by the centre and various security forces.

We are fully with our forces to deal with the deteriorating situation. The govern-

CRIME REPORT

Two women narco-smugglers nabbed; Rs 4.49 cash, 4 Kg Ganja recovered

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Continuing its drive against drug trafficking and substance abuse, Police on Tuesday achieved a major success by arresting two women narco smugglers from Narwal and recovered 4 Kg Ganja & Rs 4,49,000 cash from their possession.

As per details, a team from Police Post Narwal constituted under the supervision of SDPO East Syed Zaheer Jaffrey, led by SHO Bahu Fort Inspri Nayat Ali assisted by Incharge Police Post Narwal SI Achal Rana while on Naka duty at Rajeev Nagar rounded up two women suspects. During search, 4 Kg Ganja and Rs 4,49,000 cash was recovered from accused namely Poppy, wife of Madan & Asha, wife of Late Rocky, both residents of Rajeev Nagar, Narwal.

Duo was arrested and FIR No. 135/22 under sections 8/20/27/29 of NDPS Act was registered against them at Police Station Bahu Fort. It is pertinent to mention that Poppy was already wanted in FIR No. 56/2021 registered under sections 8/20/29 of IPC. The whole operation was done under supervision of SP South Mantra Sharma.

3 gamblers arrested; stake-money seized

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Acting tough against social crimes, Police on Tuesday arrested 3 gamblers and seized stake-money from their possession.

As per details, acting on specific information about gambling activities at Rawatpora Baghat, a party from Police Station Sadder raided a suspected location and arrested three gamblers, identified as Nazir Ahmad Paray, son of Mohd Yousuf Paray, resident of Rawatpora; Hakeem Mushtaq Ahmad, son of Late Mohd Sadiq, resident of Natipora and Manzoor Ahmad Chat, son of Gh Nabi, resident of Shah Faisal Colony, Soura. Stake-money amounting to Rs 53,000 and playing cards were also recovered from gamblers. Accordingly, FIR No. 50/2022 under relevant sections of law was registered at Police Station Sadder and investigation started.

Poppy cultivation destroyed

STATE TIMES NEWS

SOPORE: Continuing its efforts to eradicate menace of drugs from society, Police along with Executive Magistrate and Excise department destroyed poppy cultivation at Seelo area of Sopore. As per details, a party from Police Station Sopore along with officials of Excise Department and concerned Executive Magistrate destroyed poppy cultivation spread over vast area of land at Seelo area of Sopore. Accordingly,

ment must ensure safety and security of common man in Kashmir and de-al with the situation effectively for which all sorts of cooperation is with the forces and the government.

Meanwhile, security forces have arrested two Over Ground Workers (OWGs) of Lashkar-e-Taiba from Budgam district, police said.

"Police, along with security forces, have arrested two terrorist associates of proscribed terror outfit LeT in Budgam. Incriminating materials, explosives and ammunition were also recovered from their possession," a police spokesman said.

He said the security forces set up a checkpoint at Chandpora in Budgam and arrested the two terrorist associates, who were identified as Zahid Ahmad Sheikh, son of Jalal-u-Din Sheikh, resident of Alamnag Poshkar Khag and Sahil Bashir Dar, son of Bashir Ahmad Dar, resident of Mamath Budgam

"Incriminating materials of LeT, explosive material and ammunition, including one hand grenade, two pistol magazines and 15 AK-47 rounds, have been recovered from their possession," he added.

Accordingly, a case FIR No. 153/2022 under relevant sections of law has been registered at Police Station Budgam and investigation has been initiated.

Gyanvapi: SC directs...

Judge Ravi Kumar Diwakar came on an application moved by Special Advocate Commissioner Vishal Singh who informed the court that Mishra had "deployed a personal cameraman RP Singh who was giving the wrong byte in the media on a regular basis".

In its order, the civil court said when any advocate is appointed as an advocate commissioner his position is that of a public servant and it is expected of him that he will discharge his duties with honesty and impartiality, and will not issue any irresponsible statement.

The top court which took up the matter at the fag end of the day's scheduled cases listed for the day said, it needed to balance the rights of contesting parties and clarified that the order of the civil judge (senior division), hearing the plea of petitioner Hindu devotees, directing authorities to ensure the protection of the area would not restrict and impede the rights of Muslim to offer Namaz and to perform religious observances.

This is an interim arrangement till counsel for the plaintiff is here. We need to balance the rights of contesting parties. The order of May 16, 2022, to the extent that DM, Varanasi shall ensure the protection of area where Shivling' is said to be found will not impede upon the rights of the Muslims to offer Namaz' and perform religious observances , the bench said in its order.

The apex court order came after it was informed by solicitor general Tushar Mehta, appearing for the UP government, that the plaintiff's lawyer Hari Shankar Jain had suffered some cardiac issues and was hospitalized in Varanasi.

Senior advocate Huzeifa Ahmadi, appearing for the Gyanvapi mosque committee, said the Muslims need to perform wazu' or ablution as without that namaz' would have no meaning under Islam.

Mehta, submitted though he is not a party to the civil suit the place where Shivling' is said to be found is a place where Muslims perform wazu' and any damage may create a law and order problem.

They can perform 'wazu' somewhere else if it is necessary but the area where Shivling is said to be found needs protection, the law officer said.

Ahmadi said that a series of orders, which are unconstitutional, has been passed by the Civil judge and the latest of which was passed on Monday ordering the sealing of the area on an application by Jain in the ex-parte proceedings in which the survey report was yet to be filed.

He said since the top court is now seized of the matter, the entire proceedings before the civil judge needed to be stayed.

The bench, however, refused to stay the further proceedings before the civil judge and said, any judicial officer would understand the meaning of our orders. We don't need to stay it.

The clarification was given by the top court after Ahmadi pointed out that the impugned order in the opening paragraph says that the application filed by Jain (plaintiff) is allowed and had also issued specific direction to seal the area where the Shivling' is said to be found and restrict the entry of Muslims to 20 and direction to CRPF commandant to provide protection to the premises.

Ahmadi said the order impugned is an order passed in a civil lawsuit where prayers were made to allow the plaintiff and others to worship and a declaration about the place.

The prayer categorically speaks about changing the status quo of the religious structure which is a Mosque since time immemorial. This suit is barred as per the act of Parliament passed in 1991", he said.

Mehta said that Ahmadi should not cast any aspersion on the civil judge.

Ahmadi said when the committee approached the High Court, it said that the civil judge only appointed a court commissioner and the Muslim body's plea was innocuous and nothing will happen.

He said, Under the garb of proceedings, the status quo of the religious place is sought to be altered. These orders of the civil court should be stayed, the commission should be stayed and status quo prior to the proceedings should be restored.

The bench issued notices to the petitioner Hindu devotees and posted the plea of the mosque committee for hearing on May 19.

The Muslim side has been referring to the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991 and its Section 4 which bars filing of any suit or initiating any other legal proceeding for conversion of the religious character of any place of worship, as existing on August 15, 1947.

Vivek appointed Director...

Bank Limited in place of Atal Dulloo, IAS, Financial Commissioner (Additional Chief Secretary)," read an order issued by Manoj Kumar Dwivedi, Principal Secretary, General Administration Department.

India rejects Pak...

own house in order, the leadership in Pakistan continues to interfere in India's

FIR No. 98/2022 under relevant sections of law was registered at Police Station Sopore and investigation started.

Illegal extraction & transportation of minerals; 2 arrested, JCB & dumper seized

STATE TIMES NEWS

BUDGAM: Acting tough against elements involved in illegal extraction and transportation of minerals, Police on Tuesday arrested 2 persons and seized a dumper and a JCB.

As per details, a party of Police Station Beerwah during patrolling at Punchgund Beerwah arrested 2 persons and seized a Dumper and a JCB for illegal extraction and transportation of minerals. The accused were identified as Mohammad Maqbool Wani, son of Mohammad Qasim Wani, Mohammad Younis Malik, son of Mohammad Yousuf Malik, both residents of Punchgund Beerwah. They were shifted to police station where they remained in custody. FIR No 57/2022 under relevant sections of law was registered at Police Station Beerwah and investigation started.

Murder case solved; woman among two arrested

STATE TIMES NEWS

REASI: Police on Tuesday solved a murder case by arresting two accused including a woman.

As per details, on May 14, 2022 information was received at Police Post Dhangal that a body was found at last Ghalla Dhanour area of Arnas. During further enquiry, deceased was identified as Reyaz Ahmed Wani, son of Ghulam Hassan Wani, resident of Banihal, who was working as a Mechanical Operator at Railway site of VCCCL Company Dugga and was missing from the site since evening of May 12, and Police was already searching him. During detailed enquiry, Police suspected the death as a murder and FIR no 75/2022 under section 302/34 of IPC was registered at Police Station Arnas. Police team led by FSL unit & crime photographer rushed to the crime spot after tracking uphill more than two hours. Police team took body in custody, collected all evidences regarding from scene of crime and body was shifted to District Hospital Reasi for postmortem. After completing all legal procedures, it was handed over to legal heirs for last rights.

During further interrogation, it came to fore that Reyaz was murdered by two accused namely Mohd Arif, son of Ab Ghani, resident of Jamian Tehsil Mahore District Reasi and Shagufta, daughter of Firoz Din, resident of Dhanour, Tehsil Arnas who fled away from the spot after crime.

SSP Amit Gupta sensing gravity of crime, constituted special teams to apprehend absconding criminals and simultaneous raids were conducted in Bhowag and Shajroo-Mahore areas. After hectic efforts team of Reasi police succeeded in nabbing accused from Dhangal. Police is now working on motive behind murder of Reyaz Wani and more arrests in case cannot be ruled out.



internal affairs and engage in baseless and provocative anti-India propaganda," he said.

Bagehi said the entire territory of the union territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh "have been, is and shall always remain an integral part of India."

"The delimitation exercise in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir is a democratic exercise based on principles of extensive stakeholder consultation and participation," he said.

Bagehi asked Pakistan to refrain from effecting any further material changes in the status of Pakistan occupied Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh (PoJKL) and vacate the Indian territories that are under its "illegal and forcible occupation".

"We reiterate that Pakistan must immediately cease anti-India cross-border terrorism and shut down its infrastructure of terrorism; stop the grave and persistent human rights violations in Pakistan occupied Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh (PoJKL); refrain from effecting any further material changes in the status of PoJKL, and vacate Indian territories that are under its illegal and forcible occupation," Bagehi said.

Man dies after...

officials said. He was taken to GMC Hospital where doctors declared him brought dead, they said. The body has been kept in the hospital mortuary for a post-mortem examination and identification, they said.

AI-driven governance...

has used technology in governance reforms in a massive way for achieving end-to-end service delivery without human intervention and offered to share such best practices with Gambia.

He pointed out that the reforms that have been implemented through technology intervention to bring transparency in the day-to-day administration include the implementation of e-office, e-leave management system, employee information system, Aadhar-enabled biometric attendance system (AEBAS), pension sanction and payment tracking system (Bhavishya) and public financial management system (PFMS), among others.

This is the 3rd capacity building programme being organised for Permanent Secretaries of the Gambia by National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG).

As many as 25 participants are attending the training programme being held in New Delhi from May 16-21.

Singh informed the delegates that India's shining governance and electoral reforms are being emulated by several countries in the world.

The minister said, India is celebrating its 75th year of independence as Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav and it is the fittest occasion to underline that bilateral relations between India and Gambia have been very cordial and friendly.

The minister said, the widespread adoption of e-office has created paperless offices in the central secretariat and enabled smooth governance functioning not only in the pandemic but also in day-to-day functioning, according to a Personnel Ministry statement.

The central secretariat has adopted the initiative of increasing efficiency in decision making in government wherein the channel of submission has been reduced to not more than 4 levels from 7-8 levels, it said.</