

!! Continuations from Page 1 !!

Police constable martyred...

hospital at Soura here, where he succumbed in the evening, the official said.

The police personnel was unarmed at the time of the attack and was riding a motorcycle, the official added.

Meanwhile, Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha condemned the attack and assured his family that "those behind the despicable act will not go unpunished".

"I strongly condemn the heinous terror attack on JKP Ct Ghulam Hassan Dar in Srinagar. I assure his family & people that those behind this despicable act will not go unpunished.The entire Civil & Security establishment stands shoulder to shoulder with the family of brave martyr," the LG said on Twitter:

"Rest in Peace braveheart. Deeply disturbed to hear that the policeman injured in terror attack today morning in Srinagar succumbed to his injuries. May his soul find eternal peace & strength to the family to bear this precious loss," the Jammu and Kashmir Peoples Conference led by Sajad Lone said in a tweet.

BSF opens fire...

of the payload by the flying object, he said.

A drone from the Pakistan side was observed coming towards the Indian side in the Arnia area at 7.25 pm with blinking light, Deputy Inspector General of BSF, Jammu Frontier, S P Sandhu said.

He said the alert BSF troops fired around eight rounds to shoot down the drone immediately after it crossed into the Indian side but it managed to fly back.

The whole area was cordoned off and a search operation is underway to ensure that there is no airdropping by the drone, Sandhu, who is also the Public Relations Officer of the BSF, said.

The drone activity from Pakistan was noticed three days after the BSF detected an underground cross-border tunnel in Chak Faquira area of Samba district.

SIA carries out...

basis of forged documents in the name of persons who do not exist in real life will also be proceeded against by invoking the most stringent provisions of law. Action would also be taken against POS SIM card sellers and subscribers who obtain SIM cards in excess of six cards which is the maximum number of SIM cards a person is allowed, they said.

The officials strongly advised the telephone service providers to maintain proper database to prevent dishonest POS SIM card sellers and subscribers to cheat the system by not disclosing their already issued SIM cards obtained from other service providers at the time of applying for additional new cards.

The administration is also considering to make it an offence if a person willingly gives his or her SIM card to a person other than a family member for occasional and emergency use, they said.

The officials asked the POS SIM card sellers and individual subscribers to voluntarily come to the police station and surrender their excess SIM cards (more than six), to escape criminal liability .

POS SIM card sellers who have issued SIM cards in different names using the photo of one person are also likely to be searched, and if found guilty are likely to be arrested besides being black listed from all government benefits and contracts, the officials said.

Ramesh Kumar takes...

Later, The Divisional Commissioner held an introductory meeting with Deputy Commissioners and officers of District administrations of the division through video conferencing.

The Div Com took first hand appraisal of the major issues of each district.

Speaking at the meeting, the Divisional Commissioner called upon the DCs and District officers to work with added zeal and dedication to achieve development targets within the stipulated time frame. He asked the DCs to take innovative measures to achieve the targets under the flagship schemes.

He instructed all the Deputy Commissioners to conduct field visits which are necessary for understanding the public issues on ground level.

While interacting with DC Kathua, Samba, Udhampur and Ramban, Div Com also discussed arrangements for upcoming Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra. He directed all the concerned DCs to put in place all necessary arrangements well in time for smooth conduct of Yatra.

The Div Com exhorted upon DCs to personally monitor the development works in their respective districts especially works under District capex budget. He asked them to resolve the issues (if any) on priority which are hampering developmental works for their expeditious completion.

Kumar also instructed the DCs to hold meeting with forest officers and make comprehensive plan for taking control measures of Forest fire incidents.

He also called for proper follow up of public grievances for their timely redressal.

"The resolution of the public grievances should be the priority of the district administration," Kumar said.

Extension of central...

he said. He said Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha is taking a personal interest in tribal development and recently launched the Smart Schools' project in the UT for tribal communities.

Under this maiden project, modernisation of 200 schools in Tribal areas will be completed in 2022.

After a wait of more than 14 years, due rights have been conferred upon the tribal community by implementing the Forest Rights Act, 2006, keeping in mind the basic spirit of social equality and harmony as guided by the Constitution of our country and Parliament, an official statement quoted Sinha as saying.

The LG also said the poor and weaker sections of society were neglected for many years in Jammu and Kashmir, but on the historic day of August 5, 2019, Article 370 and Article 35A were abolished and the people were given all the Constitutional rights.

In Jammu and Kashmir, we have charted a new development path after August 2019. For decades, infrastructure was in tatters despite huge amount of money sent by the Centre. The non-development agenda of seven decades in Jammu and Kashmir mired the Union Territory in a low growth syndrome, he said.

Under the guidance of the Prime Minister, Jammu and Kashmir is witnessing a new dawn. Tribals are getting land rights, 11,000 government jobs have been provided within record time with complete transparency and major steps have been taken to ensure the empowerment of women, marginalised and weaker groups, the Lt Governor said.

In a major relief to socially and educationally backward classes, the Jammu and Kashmir administration has enhanced their income ceiling from Rs 4.50 lakh to Rs 8 lakh allowing them to avail benefits of reservation according to provisions of the Jammu and Kashmir Reservation Act, 2004, the spokesperson said.

22 locations designated...

for the pilgrims. She directed for augmentation of infrastructure to cater to the huge rush of yatis expected this year for the pilgrimage being held after two years due to the Covid pandemic.

The deputy commissioner issued directions to the nodal officers to take stock of the facilities including accommodation, drinking water, electricity, and sanitation for the yatis and ensure that the tasks assigned to them are completed within the stipulated time frame, the spokesman said.

Six SHOs among 11 Insprs transferred

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

REASI/UDHAMPUR: Senior Superintendent of Police Reasi, Amit Gupta on Saturday transferred three Station House Officers (SHOs) among five Inspectors.

According to the order, Inspector Ashwani Kumar Sharma has been transferred from Police Station (P/S) Arnas and posted at DPL Reasi; Inspector Sunil Kumar Sharma has been transferred from Police Station Katra and posted at SHO Reasi; Inspector Nishant Gupta from DPL Reasi has been posted as SHO Police Station Katra; Inspector Rajesh Kumar has been transferred from Police Station Reasi and posted at DPL Reasi; Inspector Jeet

Singh has been transferred from DPL Reasi and posted as SHO Arnas.

According to another order issued by Senior Superintendent of Police Udhampur, Dr Vinod Kumar three SHOs among six inspectors transferred. As per order , Inspector Varinder has been transferred from Police Station Majalta and posted at DPL Udhampur; Inspector Om Parkash has been transferred from Chief Pairvi Officer, Court Udhampur and posted as SHO Police Station Chenani; Inspector Rajesh Sharma has been transferred from DPL Udhampur and posted as SHO Police Station Rehambal; Inspector Nishant Gupta has been

transferred from Police Station Rehambal an posted at DPL Udhampur; Inspector Sohan Singh Bandral has been transferred from DPL Udhampur and posted as SHO Police Station Majalta; Inspector Charanjeet Singh has been transferred from Police Station Chenani and posted at DPL Udhampur.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday reported 11 fresh Covid cases-seven from the Jammu Division and four from the Valley-- thus taking the total number of positive cases to 454099 in the Union Territory. According to the daily Media Bulletin, out of 454099 positive cases, 68 are Active Positive (37 in Jammu Division and 31 in Kashmir Division), 449280 have recovered and 4751 have died; 2328 in Jammu division and 24231n Kashmir division. Till date 6481570 persons have been enlisted for observation which included 27064 persons in home quarantine including facilities operated by government, 68in isolation and 505785 in home surveillance. Besides, 5943902 persons have completed their surveillance period. Providing district-wise breakup for positive cases, the Bulletin stated that Jammu District reported seven fresh cases, Srinagar two and Budgam and Shopian Districts reported one case each while as no other district across the Union Territory reported any fresh case.

Delimitation process smokescreen...

was a groundswell of anger against the BJP and its proxies across J-K and Ladakh.

Every sector of our economy is bleeding. Our youth are at crossroads, our traders are facing unprecedented situations. The plight of our tourism players, transporters and artisans is no different. Inflation, unemployment and development deficit has compounded the worries of our people immensely, he said.

111 DySPs adjusted...

Kumar as DySP IR-12th Bn; Jatinder Singh as DySP IR-7th Bn; Jagpal Sharma as DySP Crime Branch; Ashok Kumar as DySP IR-16th Bn; Sushil Kumar as DySP IR-5th Bn; Mehmood Qadir as DySP CID SIA; Sunil Singh as DySP PC Jammu; Sartaj Ahmad as SDPO Railways Anantnag; Sarbjeet Singh as DySP AC HG Kathua; Taran Singh as DySP IR-6th Bn; Satvir Singh as DySP IR-1st Reasi; Bhagwan Dass as DySP Crime Branch; Vishal Manhas as DySP SKPA Udhampur; Sheikh Firdous as DySP CID SIA; Pankaj Kumar as DySP IR-1st Bn; Sukhvir Singh as DySP SKPA Udhampur; Barkat Hussain as Dy.SP AC HG Rajouri; Vishal Sharma as DySP PC Kishtwar; Manjeet Singh as DySP JKAP-4th Bn; Pawan Sharma as DySP IR-7th Bn; Sharat Chander Singh as DySP JKAP-4th Bn; Parladh Kumar as DySP IR-17th Bn; Khurshid Ahmad as DySP IR-20th Bn; Naveed Ahmad Shah as DySP JKAP-14th Bn; Krishan Rattan as Dy.SP IR-22nd Bn; Surinder Paul Singh as DySP IR-1 8th Bn; Shankar Bahadur as DySP IR-11th Bn; Mohd Maqbool as SO to DIG Armed Kmr; Abdul Rehman as DySP JKAP-14th Bn; Anita Katal as DySP Crime Branch; Manzoor Ahmad as DySP IR-4th Bn; Anil Kumar as DySP IR-13th Bn; Hamidullah Naik as DySP IR-4th Bn; Mohd Yousuf as DySP IR-21st Bn; Nazir Ahmed Teli as DySP JKAP-3rd Bn; Nissar Ahmed Mir as DySP JKAP-9th Bn; Laxmi Kant as DySP ACB; Kapil Tickoo as DySP 1st Women Bn; Satish Raina as DySP PC Baramulla; Mushtaq Ahmad as DySP JKAP-12th Bn; Mohd Iqbal as DySP JKAP-3rd Bn; Ajay Kumar as DySP JKAP-8th Bn; Ashwani Kumar as DySP ACB; Chanchal Singh as SDPO Railways Vijaypur; Mohd Ayoub Rather as DySP Crime Branch; Gazanfer Syeed Lone as DySP PC Sopore; Mushtaq Ahmed as DySP PCR Srinagar; Vijay Dhar as DySP IR-7th Bn; Rajesh Anand as DySP STC Talwara; Bupinder Singh as DySP JKAP-8th Bn; Bharat Sharma as SO to DIG Armed Jammu; Daljeet Singh as DySP SDRF-2nd Bn; Dinesh Sharma as DySP Petrol Pump Jammu; Pardeep Kumar as DySP JKAP-8th Bn; Ashwani Kumar as DySP PHQ; Jatinder Singh as DySP RPHQ JKS Range; Sanjeev Singh as DySP CID SIA; Rajesh Jamwal as DySP PTS Kathua; Syed Afaq Ahmed as DySP PHQ; Gurpurab Singh as DySP IR-13th Bn; Champa Devi as DySP ACB; Raj Kumar Koul as DySP IR-16th Bn; Kewel Kishore as DySP RPHQ DKR Range; Murtaza Ahmed as DySP JKAP-12th Bn; Parveen Sajaid as DySP AC HG Anantnag; Masoof Ahmed as DySP RPHQ RP Range; Shakeel Ahmed Bhat as DySP Crime Branch; Shiekh Manzoor as DySP CID SIA; Arjun Chib as DySP JKAP-4th Bn; Sarbjeet Singh as DySP IR-7th Bn; Dhamrinder Singh as DySP IR-3rd Bn; Ravinder Singh as DySP Traffic Hqrs J&K; Surenjeet Singh as DySP Crime Branch; Shafiq Ahmed as DySP RPHQ NKR; Khurshed Ahmed as DySP CID SIA; Khudmukhtar Dev as DySP IR-5th Bn; Mohd Suliman Chechi as DySP IR-9th Bn; Farooq Ahmed Wani as DySP PHQ; Rameshwar Dutt as DySP JKAP-7th Bn; Harnohinder Singh as DySP IR-2nd Bn; Kuldeep Raj as DySP AC HG Reasi; Naseer Ahmad Khan as DySP IR-23rd Bn; Mohammad Akber as DySP RPHQ SKR; Rishi Singh as DySP IR-15th Bn; Khurshid-Ur-Rehman as DySP IR-10th Bn; Shakeel Ahmed as DySP IR-24th Bn; Raj Kumar Sharma as DySP IR-14th Bn; Varinder Gupta as DySP JKAP-7th Bn; Satvinder Singh as DySP IR-18th Bn; Basanti Bhat as DySP PTWS Jammu; Davinder Singh as DySP AC HG Doda; Rayaz Ahmed Dar as DySP PTWS Srinagar; Mahesh Sharma as DySP Security Jammu; Surdeep Singh Jamwal as DySP STC Talwara; Mohammad Ashraf as DySP CID SIA; Naiz-UI-Hussain as DySP IR-10th Bn; Sultan Mehmood as DySP IR-12th Bn; Shabinder Singh as DySP IR-19th Bn; Vinod Kumar as DySP PCR Jammu; Nissar Ahmed Ganie as DySP RPHQ CKR; Mohinder Pal as DySP SDRF-2nd Bn; Vijay Singh as DySP IR-8th Bn; and Neeraj Sharma as DySP CID SIA.

Army Vice Chief...

experience. We assure you that we will come more than half a distance to meet your aspirations. We will give you all facilities that are required -- whether it is equipment or testing ranges or our time."

"We will not ask you for the moon. It will be reasonable, so that we are able to produce. If your equipment meets 80 per cent of aspiration, we are going to give you orders. I assure you," he added.

Lt Gen Raju said as part of an outreach initiative towards the industry, the Army has established a regional technology node in Pune in addition to the one already in place in Delhi.

"We are planning to have one in Bengaluru. Our army design bureau is doing a fantastic job. We need to scale up our in-house capabilities," he said.

On the second day of the symposium, an exhibition was organised, wherein 162 companies from the Indian defence industry, including MSMEs, DRDO and DPSU, participated and exhibited their products.

In addition, 42 innovative solutions by Army establishments towards enhancement of their combat potential were also on display, a defence spokesman said.

On the first day of the symposium, participants from the Army and the defence manufacturing industry discussed policies and procedures for expeditious procurement, self-reliance in defence initiatives by the Indian Army, DRDO and Defence Public Sector Undertakings among others, a spokesman said.

The symposium showcased cutting-edge technologies and innovative products providing solutions to some of the complex challenges faced by the security forces in the Northern Command and also acted as an ideal platform for mutual exchange of ideas between the domestic defence industry and the Army, he said.

The technologies and products on display covered a wide canvas, the prominent ones being surveillance and situational awareness, tactical mobility, firepower, force protection, communications, combat medical facility, robotics and simulators.

Representatives from the Indian Defence Industry, Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), Defence Public Sector Undertakings and academia participated in the symposium and presented their thoughts.

Govt restructures Agriculture...

government in achieving the target of doubling farm income, set by the Prime Minister.

The restructuring shall ensure that all schemes for welfare of the population engaged in these sectors are available under one umbrella in a single department. The benefits of various schemes available in these sectors can be converged and made available to farmers, orchardists etc. as a comprehensive package.

The Government decision shall also ensure that the inter-sectoral requirements of agriculture and allied sector are met in a hassle free manner and will act as milestone in transparent and timely transfer of funds to the farmers.

This shall also be a step forward to achieve the objective of the Government to secure comprehensive transformation in the livelihood of farmers in the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir by modernizing technological interventions and diversifying support systems available in the agriculture and allied sectors. The decision is likely to promote agri-entrepreneurship as a means of high return and respectable employment in a big way.

Delimitation Commission Report...

Bakerval Joint Forum, Reasi, Gujjar Bakarwal Ittehad Council , Rajouri and

Sarimastaan Tribal Gurjar Welfare Foundation Poonch -- welcomed the delimitation commission's final notification reserving nine seats for STs and thanked the prime minister.

The reservation of nine assembly seats including six in Jammu and three in Kashmir division for STs is a step that will prove historic towards empowerment of tribal communities, they said in a joint statement here.

They said though the Gujjars and Bakerwals were declared ST in 1991, the tribes had to wait for 31 years to get their legitimate right of political reservation.

The political reservation granted to ST will empower Gujjars and Bakerwals who are a major tribal group in Jammu and Kashmir It will infuse a sense of pride among the tribes, the statement said.

Modi reviews NEP's...

the new education policy, he said from special efforts to track out-of-school children and bring them back into the mainstream and the introduction of multiple entry and exit in higher education, many transformative reforms have been initiated that will define and lead the progress of the country as it enters the 'Amrit Kaal'.

Modi was apprised that the work of the formulation of the National Curriculum Framework under the guidance of the National Steering Committee is in progress.

In school education, initiatives like quality ECCE in 'Balavatika', NIPUN Bharat, Vidya Pravesh, examination reforms and innovative pedagogies like art-integrated education, toy-based pedagogy are being adopted for better learning outcomes and holistic development of children, the statement said.

Referring to multi-disciplinarity in higher education, it said he was informed that the guidelines for multiple entry-exit for flexibility and lifelong learning along with the launch of academic bank of credit on digilocker platform will now make it possible for students to study as per their convenience and choice.

In order to create new possibilities for lifelong learning and centrally involve critical and interdisciplinary thinking in learners, the UGC has published guidelines according to which students can pursue two academic programmes simultaneously.

The National Higher Education Qualification Framework (NHEQF) is also at an advanced stage of preparation, while the UGC is revising the existing Curriculum Framework and Credit System for Undergraduate Programme in alignment with the NHEQF, it said.

In order to encourage an ecosystem of start-up and innovation, it said, 2,774 innovation councils have been set up in higher education institutions in 28 states and six union territories.

The Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievement (ARIIA), aligned with the NEP, has been launched in December last year for creating a culture of research, incubation and start-ups.

As many as 1,438 institutions participated in ARIIA, 100 institutions have been funded by the AICTE with industry participation for idea development, evaluation and application (IDEA) labs for experiential learning rather than rote learning, it said.

Laying emphasis on multi-modal education, it said, online, open and multi-modal learning have been promoted vigorously by both schools and higher education institutions.

This initiative has helped in reducing the learning loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic and will contribute greatly in reaching education to remote and inaccessible parts of the country, it said.

Swayam, Diksha, Swayam Prabha, Virtual Labs and other online resource portals have all seen sharp rise in traffic and student registrations. These portals are providing study materials in multiple Indian languages, sign language and in audio formats for the visually impaired, it said.

In addition to the above, the UGC has notified Open and Distance Learning (ODL) and Online Programmes Regulations under which 59 higher educational institutions are offering 351 full-fledged online programmes and 86 higher education institutions are offering 1,081 ODL programmes. The permissible limit of online content in a programme has also been raised to 40 per cent, it said.

It added that stress has also been given to multi-linguality in education and testing to ensure that lack of knowledge of English does not impede the educational attainment of any student.

With this objective in mind, states are publishing bilingual and trilingual textbooks at foundational level and content on DIKSHA platform has been made available in 33 Indian languages.

The NIOS has introduced Indian Sign Language (ISL) as a language subject at the secondary level.

Technical book writing is being undertaken in Hindi, Marathi, Bengali, Tamil, Telugu and Kannada, it said, adding that engineering courses are being offered in six Indian languages in 19 engineering colleges across 10 states from 2021-22.

LPG price hiked...

state-owned fuel retailers.

This is the second increase in LPG rates in just over six weeks. Prices were hiked by Rs 50 per cylinder on March 22.

Since April 2021, prices have risen by Rs 190 per cylinder.

Petrol and diesel prices however continue to be on freeze for over a month now. The pause followed rates being hiked by a record Rs 10 per litre in a matter of 16 days beginning March 22.

Non-subsidised cooking gas is the one that consumers buy after exhausting their quota of 12 cylinders at subsidised or below-market rates.

However, the government pays no subsidy on LPG in most cities and the price of the refill that consumers, including the poor women who got free connection under the much-taluked Ujjwala scheme, is the same as non-subsidised or market price LPG.

Non-subsidised LPG costs Rs 999.50 per 14.2-kg cylinder in Mumbai while it is priced at Rs 1,015.50 a bottle in Chennai and Rs 1,026 in Kolkata.

Rates differ from state to state depending on the incidence of local taxes such as VAT. Prices are higher in states with higher taxes.

Earlier this month, the price of commercial LPG cylinders - the one used by establishments like hotels and restaurants - was increased. On May 1, the price of a 19-kg commercial LPG cylinder was increased by Rs 102.50 to Rs 2,355.50.

International oil prices have been on the rise this year. They jumped to a 13-year high of USD 140 per barrel in March before shedding some of the gains. Brent was trading at USD 109.77 per barrel on Saturday.

To compound things, the Indian rupee tumbled to a near Rs 77 to a dollar.India relies on overseas purchases to meet about 85 per cent of its oil requirement, making it one of the most vulnerable in Asia to higher oil prices.

Cop injured in...

on duty, the official said.

He said Ahmad was shifted to a hospital in Khag, where his condition is stated to be stable.

Meanwhile, a soldier allegedly ended his life by shooting himself with his service rifle inside a camp here, officials said.

The soldier, a resident of Ghaziabad in Uttar Pradesh, was on sentry duty at Jourian camp on the outskirts of Jammu when he shot himself in the head, they said.

The officials said the sepoy died instantly and later his body was shifted to Government Medical College (GMC) hospital by a police party for post-mortem.

The motive behind his taking the extreme step was not known immediately, they said, adding inquest proceedings have been started in the incident.

SC upholds judgment of J&K HC directing regularisation of employees in Transport Department

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

NEW DELHI: A Bench of Supreme Court comprising Justice M.R. Shah and Justice B V Nagarathna upheld judgment of J&K High Court whereby J&K High Court, dismissing the appeal filed by Transport Commissioner &

other challenging the judgment of writ Court, whereby Writ Court found petitioners entitled for regularization of services in accordance with prevailing rules and regulations. SC after hearing Sr Adv Vijay Hansaria for the UT of J&K whereas Adv D S Chouhan for respondents,

J&K reports 11 fresh COVID cases

observed that Senior Advocate, appearing on behalf of the petitioners has drawn our attention to the regularization policy contained in Jammu & Kashmir Civil Services (Special Provisions) Act, 2010. It is case on behalf of petitioners that the regularization as per Act, 2010 shall be subject to conditions to be fulfilled as mentioned in Section 3 & 5 of Act, 2010. The provisions of this Act shall apply to such posts under the Government, held by any person having been appointed on adhoc or contractual basis including those appointed on consolidated pay provided that such appointments have been made against the clear vacan-

cies, but shall not apply to persons appointed in terms of Government Order No. 125-GAD of 2001 dated 01-02-2001, on contract basis in the personal sections of Ministers or other authorities enjoying the status of a Minister; persons appointed on tenure posts co-terminus with life of the project or Scheme of the State or Central Government, as the case may be, and those appointed on academic arrangement for a fixed term in any Government Department; non-governmental agencies or autonomous bodies or public sector undertakings or corporations or government companies or societies or other local authorities which have their

own rules and regulations governing their functioning and part-time or seasonal employees including those whose wages are paid from out of the local funds or contingent grants. SC observed that from material on record and, more particularly, the proforma produced at Ex. P-1, it appeared that respondents herein were serving against the clear vacancy and therefore, it cannot be said that Act, 2010 shall not be applicable. Once even as per proforma, the appointments of the respondents were against the clear vacancy, they were entitled to regularization under the Act, 2010. With these observations, SC dismissed the SLP filed by UT of J&K.

