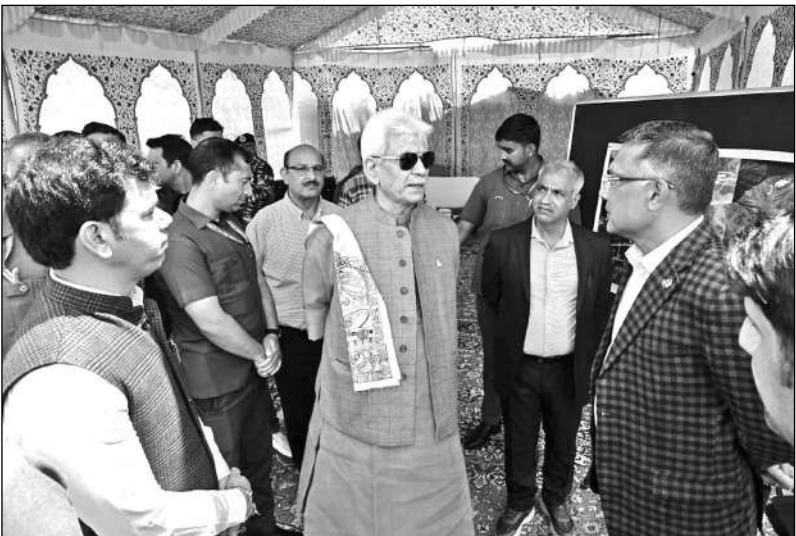


!! Continuations from Page 1 !!

LG conducts on..



LG Manoj Sinha conducting on-site inspection of work of Transit Accommodation at Zewan.

various development issues of Srinagar City with the Lt Governor. Aijaz Ahmad Khan, Member, District Development Council Tulail, Bandipora also called on the Lt Governor and apprised him of various issues of public importance and development of the district.

The Lt Governor assured the Mayor SMC and the DDC member of appropriate redressal of all the genuine issues put forth by them during the interaction.

Multipolar world feasible..

Foreign Minister Ivan Kondov, Cyprus Foreign Minister Constantinos Kombos and Latvian Foreign Minister Edgars Rinkevics, among others.

He told the summit that he is headed to Belgium next for the first meeting of the India-EU Trade and Technology Council in Brussels, where he will be joined by Minister of Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs & Food & Public Distribution and Textiles Piyush Goyal and Minister of Railways, Communications, Electronics and Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnaw.

Jaishankar arrived in Sweden from Bangladesh where he addressed the 6th Indian Ocean Conference on Friday.

SFs fired at..

The ultras managed to escape and in a subsequent search, blankets and other stores were found in a "cave-like" hideout, the officer said.

There are no reports of casualties on either side, police said.

Karnataka: Cong MLAs..

Venugopal said, "This process of taking the opinion of all MLAs will be completed tonight itself."

Sources said the observers will be handing over their report upon consulting all MLAs to Kharge by Monday.

In the May 10 elections to the 224-member Assembly, the Congress scored an emphatic victory with 135 seats, while the ruling BJP and the former Prime Minister H D Deve Gowda-led Janata Dal (Secular) secured 66 and 19, respectively.

After the results were declared on Saturday, Congress president Kharge deputed former Maharashtra chief minister Sushil Kumar Shinde, AICC general secretary Jitendra Singh and former AICC general secretary Deepak Babaria as observers for the election of the CLP leader in Karnataka.

The legislature party passed another resolution, moved by Shivakumar,

promising to implement the five promises made to the people of Karnataka.

The resolution stated the Congress Legislature Party in Karnataka "wholeheartedly expresses its gratitude towards the 6.5 crore Kannadigas for reposing their faith in us and giving a decisive mandate to the Congress Party in the Karnataka Assembly Elections."

"This is indeed a victory of every Kannadiga, a victory of 'swabhimana' of Karnataka and a victory of progress and harmony to rebuild 'Brand Karnataka'," it said.

"...Karnataka has once again shone a new light to democracy and protecting the Constitution, which are under attack from the forces of hate and divisiveness, both from inside and outside the State," the resolution stated.

The Congress Legislature Party also expressed its appreciation and thanks to Kharge, Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra and state leaders for their efforts.

The resolution stated: "It is no coincidence that the Congress campaign in its true earnestness began way back in September-October 2022 during the Bharat Jodo Yatra, when Rahul Gandhi walked nearly 600 kilometres for a period of 21 days through the length and breadth of Karnataka, which immensely energised the cadre to take on the malgovernance, corruption and maladministration of the ruling BJP government."

"The Congress Legislature Party resolves to work determinedly and unitedly to give a responsible, accountable, transparent government to our brothers and sisters of Karnataka. Serving the 6.5 crore Kannadigas will be our sole motto and guiding light," the resolution read.

The CLP expressed its heartfelt appreciation to Kharge for the extensive and tireless campaign undertaken by him all through the elections as also for his "sagacious advice" on electoral strategy.

It also thanked former Congress president Sonia Gandhi for being a pillar of strength to the party and for her guidance and campaign in the elections.

The CLP said it shall ensure social justice and economic equality remain at the core of its government's policies and will fulfil the five "guarantees".

These are 200 units of free power to all households (Gruha Jyoti), Rs 2,000 monthly assistance to woman heads of every family (Gruha Lakshmi), 10 kg of rice free to every member of BPL households (Anna Bhagya), Rs 3,000 every month for unemployed graduate youths and Rs 1,500 for unemployed diploma holders (both in the age group of 18-25) for two years (Yuva Nidhi), and free travel for women in public transport buses (Shakti).

"We are duty bound to protect and preserve Kannada culture, language and our rich traditions. We will reclaim Karnataka as Sarva Janangada Shantiya Thota once again and will make Karnataka truly the number one state in India in terms of peace, progress and prosperity," the resolution read.

The CLP appreciated the insurmountable hard work, resilience and dedication of Shivakumar and Siddaramaiah as also the entire team for leading the campaign from the front.

Both the eight-time MLA Shivakumar and former chief minister Siddaramaiah have made no secret of their ambition to become Chief Minister and had been involved in a game of political one-upmanship in the past.

The Congress had entered the campaign phase with the challenge of keeping at bay the factionalism, especially between the camps of Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar, who had been openly rooting for their leaders, but the party put up a united front and ensured that no rift came out in open that could derail its prospects, under the mentorship of Kharge.

Banners have come up in front of Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar's residences here, erected by supporters, congratulating them for Congress' win and projecting them as the "next CM".

While the 60-year-old Shivakumar is considered to be a "troubleshooter" for the Congress, Siddaramaiah has a pan-Karnataka appeal.

If Siddaramaiah, who joined Congress after being expelled from JD(S), gets elected as the CLP leader, this would be his second stint as the Chief Minister from the party after having occupied the top post for five years between 2013-18. Shivakumar had served as Minister in Siddaramaiah's cabinet.

Shivakumar has been openly expressing his chief ministerial aspirations at various

events, especially the ones connected with Vokkaligas. He had asked the dominant community, to which he belongs, not to "lose out an opportunity" with him as the KPCC president, while pointing out that S M Krishna was the last Vokkaliga leader to lead the party in the polls and then went on to become the CM in 1999.

In fact in this election, the Congress has significantly improved its electoral performance in the Vokkaliga-dominated Old Mysuru region (south Karnataka) and that credit largely goes to Shivakumar.

Also, there have been instances in the party that whoever has successfully led as KPCC President in election, have been the natural choice to be the CM, like in the case of Krishna and Veerendra Patil.

Siddaramaiah, who has seniority on his side, is known for able administrative skills, and has the experience of having run a successful tenure as the Chief Minister. He also enjoys the distinction of having presented 13 budgets for the state as Finance Minister.

Being a mass leader, he has considerable clout among the AHINDA (Kannada acronym for minorities, backward classes and Dalits) class. The mega 75th birthday bash of Siddaramaiah held last year in Davanagere was largely seen as an attempt by him and his loyalists to project him as the future CM.

Seventy-five-year-old Siddaramaiah, who has already announced that this was his last election, has been maintaining that the Chief Minister will be elected by the newly elected MLAs in consultation with the party high command.

There are also other contenders for the post like former deputy chief minister and ex-KPCC president G Parameshwara and veteran leader and seven-time MP K H Muniyappa -- both Dalits, and M B Patil -- a Lingayat.

CJ reviews progress..

to launch massive awareness drives across the district so that the women know and understand their rights.

Indian Navy test..

times the speed of sound. India is also exporting the BrahMos missiles. In January last year, India sealed a USD 375 million deal with the Philippines for supplying three batteries of the missile.

Alarm bells ring..

fishes? In certain places like Bhopal, it has been banned as it thrives on other small fishes. It poses a threat to other species and we have not yet come across this type of species here," she added.

Peer said the LCMA has now collaborated with the Department of Fisheries and Fisheries division of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST) to look for any other Alligator Gar fish in the lake.

"We will launch a massive hunt to ascertain whether it is just one fish, is it accidental or somebody has played mischief?"

There are a lot of questions, especially from the ecology and biodiversity point of view," Peer said.

Attaulah Khan, Senior project officer at the fisheries department, said as of now, two Alligator Gar fishes have been caught.

"These fishes are native to America but Aquarium keepers somehow get these fishes for their Aquarium and when they overgrow they take these fishes and put them in nearest water bodies," Khan said.

The officer said there was nothing to panic about as every step will be taken to safeguard the water bodies.

"We are taking custody of the fishes for a study in collaboration with the Fisheries department of SKUAST and accordingly we will take necessary measures," Khan said.

He said the Biological Diversity Act 2002 prohibits the presence of any kind of invasive fish species that can be hazardous to natural fish fauna.

"This is a carnivorous fish, this is an apex predator, very predatory in nature. Whatever comes in its way, it can kill that (fishes). Whenever any species of any fish is introduced which have predatory nature, it is detrimental for the local fish fauna of that area, same is with our fish fauna of Kashmir," he added.

Khan said there can be some more such fish.

"As of now, we cannot say they have been adopted in natural water bodies of Kashmir because we have not come across such fish earlier," he said.

CRIME REPORT

Two arrested with 180 intoxicating capsules, 2.4 Kgs poppy straw

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JHAJJAR KOTLI: Continuing its drive against drug trafficking and substance abuse, Jhajjar Kotli Police on Sunday arrested two drug peddlers and recovered 2.4 kgs of poppy straw and 180 psychotropic capsules from two their possession.

As per details, a team of Police Station Jhajjar Kotli led by SDPO Nagrota Akash Kohli assisted by SHO Jhajjar Kotli Inspr Azad Ahmed on Naka duty at Suketar Chowk rounded up a suspected person who was coming on his vehicle (PB06BA-9557). During search, 2.4 Kgs of poppy straw was recovered from the accused later identified as Gurdal Singh, son of Chanan Singh, resident of Granthgarh 184, Batala, Gurdaspur, Punjab.

Similarly another Naka was laid near Suketar where police team rounded up a suspect on his vehicle (JK02CN/6690). During search, 18 packed strips of Pregabalin capsule and each strip has 10 capsules (total 180 capsules) were recovered from the possession of accused later identified as Manoj Sharma, son of Kamal Kishor, resident of Nelay teh Katra Distt Reasi.

Both the accused were arrested and two different cases i.e case FIR No. 91/2023 under section 8/15 NDPS Act and FIR No. 91/2023 under section 8/21/22 NDPS Act respectively was registered at Police Station Jhajjar Kotli.

Parts of stolen vehicles recovered, 2 arrested

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Police on Sunday recovered parts of stolen vehicles and arrested two thieves.

As per details, a theft case was solved by Police Station Gandhi Nagar Jammu on May 6, where 7 stolen vehicles were recovered. In connection to the above case spare parts of two wheelers vehicles have been recovered from a scrap seller.

In this regard, case FIR No 99/2023 U/S 379 IPC was also registered at Police Station Gandhinagar Jammu and 2 accused persons namely Rohit Mehra, son of Late Bhushan Mehra, resident of Mubarak Mandi Pakki Dakki Jammu at present Rehari Jammu and Sunil Kumar, son of Om Parkash, resident of Lane No. 24 Fowara Chowk Greater Kailash Jammu were arrested. During questioning accused disclosed that they have sold some spare parts to a scrap seller.

On this a team led by SDPO South Sachit Sharma assisted by SHO Gandhi Nagar Inspr Pankaj Sharma recovered the following spare parts of stolen vehicles from the scrap seller in Bari Brahmana area which include 7 engines, 40 shockers, 17 tyres and other parts of two wheelers.

It is pertinent to mention that modus operandi of the thieves was to take the stolen vehicles to the scrap seller and dismantle them to sell them in the local market.

Bootlegger arrested; 51 bottles of illicit liquor recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Police on Sunday nabbed a bootlegger and recovered 51 bottles of illicit liquor from his possession.

As per details, a team of Police Post Narwal led by SDPO East Syed Zaheer Abbas Jafari

assisted by SHO Bahu Fort Inspr Shiv Dev Singh and In-Charge Police Post Narwal SI Lalit Sharma while on patrolling duty at Rajiv Nagar Chowk rounded up one suspect who was coming from Rajiv Nagar Chowk. During checking, 51 Bottles of illicit liquor i.e 45 bottles 180/180 ML and 6 bottles 250/250/ ML of Desi whisky was recovered from his possession and the accused was later identified as Babu Singh, son of Suresh, resident of Rajiv Nagar.

Accused was arrested and FIR No. 155/2023 under section 48 (a) Excise Act was registered against him at Police Station Bahu Fort.

3 drug peddlers arrested; contraband recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Continuing its efforts to eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, Police on Sunday arrested 3 drug peddlers in Ganderbal and Awantipora and recovered contraband/ Psychotropic substances from their possession.

In Ganderbal, a police party led by Incharge Police Post Shadipora at a checkpoint established at Batwina arrested two drug peddlers identified as Shahir Ahmad Zargar son of Bashir Ahmad Zargar and Mohd Ashraf Zargar son of Nazir Ahmad Zargar, both residents of Batwina. During search, Codeine Phosphate, Petril Clonazepam & Spasmo-Proxyvon Plus Capsules were recovered from their possession. He has been shifted to PS where he remains in custody.

In Awantipora, a party led by Incharge Police Post Reshipora SI Ishfaq Ahmad at a checkpoint established at Kawani Brabandin intercepted a suspicious person. During search, 600 grams of charas powder was recovered from his possession. He has been identified as Arshid Ahmad Dar son of Gh. Mohd Dar resident of Ladermand Awantipora. He has been arrested and shifted to PS where he remains in custody.

Accordingly, cases under relevant sections of law have been registered at respective police stations and investigation has been initiated.

Girl commits suicide by setting herself on fire in lover's village

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RS PURA: A girl who was married, committed suicide by setting herself in fire at her lover's village Dere under R S Pura police station. Police reached the spot and took the body into custody. Investigation has been started in this context. At present a youth and his father have been arrested.

According to the information, a girl namely Varsha, resident of Kaku De Kothe came to Parveen Kumar's house at village dera of RS Pura late in the evening. She talked with him for some time and later both had an argument after which she left his house, threw oil and set herself on fire. Hearing her screams, people of the village went towards the spot but till she could have saved she died.

During the investigation so far, it has come to know that the girl was married and lives in Kaku De Kotha. She was also having a dispute with her husband and she was asking her lover Parveen to marry her who was not agreeing.

JMC employees booked after video beating a man went viral

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Bus Stand Police has registered a case against the employees of the Jammu Municipal Corporation for beating a man whose video also went viral.

According to the information, a day ago, JMC's team was carrying drive against polythene at the shops in bus stand area. When the team reached a hawkker and started Challenging him, a customer present there opposed it. During this, the customer who has been identified as Naveen Pandita, resident Jagti had an argument with JMC employees, over it, the employees assaulted him.

In viral video, it was clearly seen how he was being thrashed, attacked and injured by all JMC employees. Police has registered a case on the complaint and engaged in identifying the employees who assaulted.

Two die in accidents

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Two people died in accidents in different areas on Sunday.

According to the information, a canter vehicle which was going in Chowki Chora area lost balance on the way and overturned due to which two people were seriously injured. Both were taken to the hospital where during investigation, the doctors declared one as brought dead. He has been identified as Rajvot Singh, son of Jagtar Singh, resident of Simbal Camp.

Apart from this, 14-year-old Ankit Bandral, son of Ashok Singh, resident of Deriya was hit by a bus in Khour area in which he was injured. He was taken to the hospital where he has died during treatment.

Coconut water seller attacked, money snatched

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Some youths attacked a coconut water seller and snatched money from him Chhanni area on Sunday. He was stabbed twice with a sharp weapon and has been admitted to the hospital for treatment.

According to the information, Tejveer Singh, resident of Bareilly who lives in Chhanni area these days and sells coconut water by the roadside in Chhanni area was attacked with sharp edged weapon by two youths after they had an argument with him. He was hit on the leg and arm. After that they snatched his money and fled from the spot.

People informed the police which reached the spot and took him to the hospital for treatment. Police said that with the help of CCTV, the accused are being traced.

Meeting with Walmart CEO fruitful one, had insightful discussions: Modi

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said his recent meeting with Walmart CEO Doug McMillon was a fruitful one during which they had insightful discussions on different subjects.

Modi also said he was happy to see India emerge as an attractive destination for investment.

McMillon had called on Modi last week.

"The meeting with Mr. Doug McMillon, CEO of @Walmart, was a fruitful one. We had insightful discussions on different subjects. Happy to see India emerge as an attractive destination for investment," Modi tweeted.

HC quashes FIR against MD, J&K Handicrafts Corporation

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Justice Javed Iqbal Wani, Judge High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, Jammu has quashed the FIR registered against Jasvinder Singh Dua, Managing Director, J&K Handicrafts Corporation.

Justice Javed Iqbal Wani after hearing Senior Advocate Abhinav Sharma along with Advocate Abhimanyu Sharma for the petitioner issued directions for quashing the impugned FIR 23/19 dated October 9, 2019 against Jasvinder Singh Dua.

After the registration of case, Dua was placed under suspension in terms of Rule 31 of the J&K Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1956 vide order dated February 20, 2020 and he was directed to remain attached with the office of the Divisional Commissioner Jammu.

The contention of Raman Sharma, AAG appearing for the respondents that the instant petitions entail dismissal is misplaced and misdirected in view of the aforesaid analysis, more so in view of the following principle of law laid down by the Apex Court in Neharika's case (supra) which risking repetition is reproduced hereunder. However, at the same time, the court, if it thinks fit, regard being had to the

On May 11, Walmart Inc. had tweeted, "Thank you Prime Minister @narendramodi for a great conversation. We are working toward exporting USD 10B per year from India by 2027 and are committed to strengthening logistics, skill development & supply chains to make India a global export leader in toys, seafood & other goods."

"The visit with Prime Minister @narendramodi reinforces the shared value we bring working alongside India. Together, we'll continue to support the country's manufacturing growth and create opportunity," McMillon was quoted as saying in a tweet by Walmart Inc.

parameters of quashing and the self-restraint imposed by law, more particularly the parameters laid down by this Court in the cases of R.P. Kapur (supra) and Bhajan Lal (supra), has the jurisdiction to quash the FIR/complaint; and having regard to the facts and circumstances of the case and the analysis thereof, the instant case warrants exercise of inherent jurisdiction as the case of the petitioners is found to be covered under following principles laid down by the Apex Court in the Bhajan Lal's case (supra) "Where the allegations made in the first information report or the complaint, even if they are taken at their face value and accepted in their entirety do not prima facie constitute any offence or make out a case against the accused and where the uncontroverted allegations made in the FIR or complaint and the evidence collected in support of the same do not disclose the commission of any offence and make out a case against the accused.

"For what has been observed, considered and analyzed hereinabove, the petitions in hand deserve to be allowed and are, accordingly, allowed, while quashing the impugned FIR No. 23 of 2019," the court ordered.