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**SIA Jammu files...**

the duo confessed their involvement in number of terrorist acts including killing, injuring and firing upon innocent persons, grenade throwing in a marriage party and planting of IEDs in crowded places in Kandi Budhal areas and caused extensive damage to Government properties. The said terrorists were active since long and carrying out the terrorist acts on the behest of a top ranking grade "A" terrorist of proscribed terrorist outfit Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT), namely Mohd Qasim alias Salman alias Waseem, son of Mohd Shafi, resident of Angralla District Reasi, who was exfiltrated to Pakistan for arms training during the year 1990.

The accused persons had received huge quantity of arms and ammunitions and other war like stores through drone dropping from different places in Lamberi area of District Rajouri and then shifted the same to Kandi Budhal area for terrorist acts, on the instruction of Pak handler.

The main chargesheet of the case was filed before the Court on December 29, 2023 by State Investigation Agency Jammu.

On further investigation of the said case two more associates of the said module of Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT) were taken into custody by State Investigation Agency Jammu, they were put under sustained interrogation, they too confessed their involvements in number of terrorist acts, shifting of automatic arms and its ammunitions including other war like store items from Lamberi to Kandi Budhal area in association of the accused person Talib Hussain Shah, who was earlier arrested along with sophisticated weapons and its ammunitions.

The duo has voluntarily joined the LeT outfit on the motivation of Pak handlers. They were also found involved in number of FIRs stand registered in Kandi Budhal area for terrorist act/activities.

The deep rooted conspiracy of LeT module to distended their terror activities in District Rajouri and waging the war against sovereignty and integrity of India has been exposed with the arrest of four active terrorists.

The investigation of the case is continued for the arrest of more associates of said Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT) module.

**123 consumer cases...**

of the total 123 cases settled in today's Special Lok Adalat. Amit Kumar Gupta, Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority while appreciating the efforts of DLSA Ganderbal informed the media persons about the benefits of such Special Lok Adalats which are being organized by the J&K Legal Services Authority. He further informed that the next special lok Adalat shall be held on Saturday, June 08, 2024 focusing on the settlement of Traffic Challans and Electricity Bills. He urged the Advocates in general and the litigants in particular to take maximum benefit of such Special Lok Adalats.

Appreciating the efforts of all the Judicial Officers, Secretaries DLSA's, Advocates, staff of the district and tehsil courts as well as Legal Services Institutions besides litigants for their whole hearted participation in the Special Lok Adalat and facilitating settlement of cases in such a large number, he also acknowledged the role of Para Legal Volunteers and the media, both print and electronic in creating and spreading awareness amongst the masses about such initiatives of Legal Services Authority.

**Amit Shah wraps...**

and a delegation of local Sikhs also met Shah. Local BJP leaders had said Shah would hold a review meeting on the security situation in Jammu and Kashmir as the Lok Sabha elections will be followed by the annual Amarnath Yatra, which is scheduled to start on June 29 and conclude on August 19. However, there was no official word on it.

The Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir might witness assembly elections after the yatra as the Supreme Court has given a deadline of September 30 to the Centre for holding these polls.

**ACB books 4...**

beneficiaries for personal financial gain. A case was registered against the accused under the Prevention of Corruption Act, they said.

**Kashmir wants to...**

of development and progress for Kashmir, which will make J&K youth as competitive as that in other parts of the country. Chugh called upon people to send Abdullahs and Muftis back to their homes for the devastation they have done all these years.

**ED names Kejriwal...**

days. The accused have been sought to be charged under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), the sources said.

They said Kejriwal has been made under an accused in his personal capacity as well as the national convener of his political outfit AAP.

The federal agency had arrested 55-year-old Kejriwal from his official residence here on March 21. He is currently out of jail on interim bail.

This is the eighth charge sheet filed by the ED in this case in which it has arrested 18 people so far, made a total of 38 entities as accused and attached assets worth Rs 243 crore. Last week, a similar complaint was filed by the agency against BRS leader and former Telangana chief minister Chandrashekar Rao's daughter K Kavitha and four others.

The CM was earlier called the "kingpin and key conspirator" of the Delhi excise "scam" by the ED. It was alleged that he acted in collusion with Delhi government minister, AAP leaders and others.

Additional Solicitor General S V Raju told the Supreme Court on Thursday that Kejriwal played a key role in the formulation of the now-scrapped excise policy.

"We have direct evidence that Kejriwal stayed in a seven-star hotel, whose bills were partly paid by an accused in the case," he said, adding that Kejriwal, as the national convener of the AAP, was vicariously responsible for the alleged scam.

The ED had earlier claimed that AAP, being a political party, is defined as an association or a body of individual citizens of India under the Representation of the People Act, and hence it can be categorised as a "company" as contemplated under section 70 of the PMLA.

As Arvind Kejriwal was "in-charge of and responsible" for the said company i.e. AAP during the time of offence, he and his party "shall be deemed guilty" of offences mentioned under the anti-money laundering law and liable to be prosecuted and punished, it had said.

The excise case pertains to alleged corruption and money laundering in formulating and executing the Delhi government's excise policy for 2021-22, which was later scrapped. Delhi Lieutenant Governor V K Saxena had recommended a CBI probe into the alleged irregularities. Subsequently, the ED registered a case under the PMLA. Taking cognisance of a CBI FIR lodged on August 17, 2022, the ED filed its money laundering case on August 22, 2022, to probe the alleged irregularities.

**Expectations from armed...**

by the British, is the highest decoration for valour, awarded for extreme bravery in the face of the enemy.

In his address, Gen Pande said, the nation today is "charting a remarkable journey" of progress and development, with rising aspirations of its citizens.

"While the mandate and role of the armed forces to ensure that the nation's security is not impacted in any way so that its progress continues unabated, is paramount, the expectations from the armed forces to contribute to India's growth story shall only increase in the future," he said.

"As the nation's interests span across expanding strategic horizons, it is essential for us to be alive to our responsibility, not only in the security domain, but also towards contributing to the nation's growth," Gen Pande added.

Hence the subject of the talk - 'Armed Forces Contribution to Realise the Vision of a Rising India' -- is relevant and apt, the Army chief said.

"The holistic transformation of the Indian Army that we put into effect two years ago is part of our efforts to give shape to a modern, agile, adaptive, technology enabled and self-reliant future-ready force," he said.

The Army chief said the transformation roadmap stands on the edifice of five pillars, which are force restructuring and optimisation; modernisation and technology infusion; improving systems, processes and functions; human resource management; and jointness and integration.

Lt Gen Bhagat, being a progressive thinker and futurist, had penned down the essence of transformation, almost seven decades ago, as part of his insightful strategic writings in the three books "Forging the Shield", "The Shield and the Sword" and "Wielding of Authority in Emerging Countries", he said.

The key pointers in this context that Lt Gen Bhagat flagged are, firstly, the need for organisations to adapt as conditions change. Secondly, while referring to the importance of 'material armament', he stressed on resource optimisation in terms of men and inventory, to meet military commitments of the nation, the

Army chief added. He (Lt Gen Bhagat) also has written on "theatre commands", emphasising on an inclusive role of other Services. Besides his writings, he exemplified the fundamental aspects of human resource management, evident in his penchant for high training threshold, administrative excellence and welfare of his command, Gen Pande said. "In order to give effect to transformative changes, similar to what Gen Bhagat envisioned in his times, we intend to not only change and vigorously pursue ongoing transformation initiatives, but to change at a good pace too, so that we remain ready, relevant and resurgent," he said.

Governor of Arunachal Pradesh, Lt Gen (retd) K T Parnaik, delivered the keynote speech to the audience that consisted of a few former Army chiefs, senior army officers, and Ashali Varma, daughter of Lt Gen Bhagat.

**'Maoist' manifesto of...**

"It (the Congress) also plans a 50 per cent inheritance tax... the party is planning an X-ray of your property and handing it over to their vote-bank which speaks of vote Jihad," Modi opined.

The PM had earlier said the Congress poll document had Muslim League imprimatur.

Modi said he has his ten years of report card on his government and 25 years of roadmap ahead.

The BJP stalwart said construction of a grand Ram temple in Ayodhya and removal of Article 370, which provided special status to Jammu and Kashmir, were considered impossible tasks in the country, but they have now become a reality.

"But they were made possible because of the power of your single vote," he told the large gathering.

Modi asked the people of Mumbai to remember terror strikes and serial bomb blasts that rocked the metropolis in the past and the change in the situation after 2014 when they go out to vote on May 20.

"In the last ten years, they (Mumbaikars) have been feeling safe and secure," the PM added.

**Rohit Shetty, DG...**



DG NCC Lt Gen Gurbirpal Singh and others calling on LG Manoj Sinha.

on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha. Abida War, President, JK ICDS Supervisors Union and J&K Solace Employees Working Women Association, and Fayaz Hameed, President, Kupwara Journalists and Writers Association also met the Lt Governor.

**SC seeks EC's...**

the request of the poll panel seeking time to respond to the plea as "fair". The bench said the EC should be given some reasonable time to respond to the plea and listed it for hearing before an appropriate bench during the summer vacation on May 24, a day before the sixth phase of the seven-phase Lok Sabha polls.

During brief hearing, senior advocate Maninder Singh, appearing for the poll panel, said NGO Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) has levelled "absolutely false allegations" in the plea and, moreover, a recent judgment of another bench of the apex court headed by Justice Sanjiv Khanna has dealt with the issues which are also part of the present case.

On April 26, the Justice Khanna-led bench rejected the pleas for reviving paper ballots and also 100 per cent cross-verification of votes cast on electronic voting machines with voter verifiable paper audit trail (VVPAT).

Bhushan, on the other hand, opposed the submission, saying that the issue relating to voter turnout data was not part of the earlier petition.

The CJI, earlier in the day, asked the counsel appearing for the Election Commission to take instructions and said it will hear the matter at the end of the bench.

The ADR had last week filed an interim application in its 2019 PIL seeking directions to the poll panel that "scanned legible copies of Form 17C Part-I (Account of Votes Recorded)" of all polling stations be uploaded immediately after the polls.

"Direct the Election Commission to provide tabulated polling station-wise data in absolute figures of the number of votes polled as recorded in Form 17C Part-I after each phase of polling in the ongoing 2024 Lok Sabha elections and also a tabulation of constituency-wise figures of voter turnout in absolute numbers in the ongoing 2024 Lok Sabha elections," the NGO said.

It said the plea was filed to ensure that the democratic process is not subverted by electoral irregularities.

"The voter turnout data for the first two phases of the ongoing 2024 Lok Sabha elections published by ECI on April 30 has been published after 11 days of the first phase of polling... on April 19 and four days after second phase of polling... on April 26.

"The data, as published by the ECI in its press release dated April 30, 2024 shows a sharp increase (by about 5-6 per cent) as compared to the initial percentages announced by ECI as of 7 pm on the day of polling," the plea said.

The petition said the "inordinate" delay in the release of the final voter turnout data, coupled with the unusually high revision of over five per cent in the poll panel's press note of April 30, 2024 has raised concerns and public suspicion regarding the correctness of the said data.

The non-release of the absolute number of votes polled coupled with the "unreasonable delay" in the release of votes polled data has led to apprehensions in the mind of the electorate about the sharp increase between initial data and data released on April 30, it said.

"These apprehensions must be addressed and put to rest. That in order to uphold the voter's confidence it is necessary that the ECI be directed to disclose on its website scanned legible copies of Form 17C Part- I (Account of Votes Recorded) of all polling stations which contains the authenticated figures for votes polled, within 48 hours of the close of polling," it said.

**Indian firms should...**

with China but frankly, we would much rather you work with Indian companies if there is an Indian option available to you. That I think is good for our national security, we hope you think that it is good for your own business in the long term," he said.

The external affairs minister underlined the need for using a "national security filter" in doing business with China.

To a specific query on the border row, he said, "Would you do business with somebody who has just barged into your drawing room and is trying to make a mess of your house fencing? You won't. There is a common sense proposition there."

In remarks seen as a reference to China, Jaishankar, in his address, flagged concerns over the "weaponisation" of economic activity and how access to raw materials or even stability of tourism are being utilised to exert political pressure.

"A different dimension of the concerns that we harbour is one emanating from a combination of excessive market shares, financial domination and technology tracking," he said.

"Between them, they have actually allowed for the weaponisation of virtually any form of economic activity. We have seen how both exports and imports, access to raw materials or even stability of tourism has been utilised to exert political pressure," he said.

Jaishankar said the current times call for something more than business as usual.

"Because trust and reliability have become so important, foreign policy is today charged with creating the comfort levels between governments to make that happen," he said.

"This is especially so in terms of de-risking supply sources and enhancing collaboration in sensitive, critical and emerging technologies," he added.

"You can already see that unfold with the US in terms of the iCET dialogue that we had with the EU in the Trade and Technology Council," Jaishankar said. He said there is a need to recognise that India's economic priorities will have to align with its strategic interests.

"An economy with India's prospects also has to look at accessing global resources more seriously if we are to fuel our growth," the minister said.

"For long, we have looked at Russia from a political or security perspective. As that country turns eastwards, fresh economic opportunities are presenting themselves," he added. "The spike in our trade and the new areas of cooperation should not be regarded as a temporary phenomenon," Jaishankar said.

**Modi Govt to score hat-trick in LS Elections: Vikrant Gupta**

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: BJP's Leader Vikrant Gupta emphasized the rapid and unparalleled rise of the Bhartiya Janata Party since Prime Minister Narendra Modi took office, stating that the party is poised for a hat trick in the upcoming Lok Sabha elections.



"BJP believe in winning heart, 'Lotus' will bloom everywhere as BJP has enriched the lives of every section of society through its welfare schemes and policies. The mission of the BJP under Prime Minister Narendra Modi is not just to form a government but to elevate India as the world's leading power across various sectors including defence, business, startups, and health, He asserted that under the repeated governments of NC, PDP, and Congress, only anti-nationalists and sympathizers of Pakistan were benefited. However, under the present government, every section of society, whether poor or marginalized, is reaping the benefits of welfare schemes, while those involved in anti-nationalist activities have been dealt a bitter lesson," Gupta said.

Gupta hailed Modi said that people from every corner of the nation availed the benefit of one or more welfare schemes of Modi government and have vowed to vote and support him for third time.

**ASN School holds elections for School Peer Team Voting is important civic duty that can significantly impact future of our country: Ritesh Kapoor**



Director of the School Ritesh Kapoor along with elected students.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: ASN Higher Secondary School, Channi Himmat, Jammu holds elections for the School Peer Team. Five Students filed their nominations for the post of Head Boy while Six Girls filed for the post of Head Girl whereas four students for Deputy Head Boy and Six for the post of Deputy Head Girl. After scrutiny, three students were shortlisted for the post of Head Boy, three students for Head Girl, two for Dy. Head Boy and four for the post of Dy. Head Girl.

The students shortlisted for the post of Head Boy were Zeeshan Talib of 12th Class, Sagar Dogra of 12th Class & Akashdeep Singh of 11th Class while students shortlisted for the post of Head Girl were Wani Jan Adhar Fayaz of 11th Class, Siya Parihar of 12th Class & Surbhi of 11th Class whereas Kaushik of 8th Class, Asaf Ali Chauhan of 9th Class for the post of Dy. Head Boy and Neha of 10th Class, Parinidhi of 8th Class, Rekha of 9th Class and Bhoomika Sharma of 10th Class for the post of Dy. Head Girl.

The shortlisted students were given the day for the campaign to seek the votes in their favour and to put forward the demands, suggestions and problems faced by the student community. They went to different classrooms to convince, motivate and express their opinion in front of the student voters to vote in their favour. During the voting day, different teachers were appointed to hold the elections in a fair manner. Student names with their posts were displayed on the ballot boxes and children were briefed to check the name and the post for which they were going to cast their vote in support of the candidates. Students from 6th to 12th Class casted their votes for the four posts and after counting Zeeshan Talib of 12th class got 59 votes and elected as Head Boy while Wani Jan Adhar Fayaz of 11th Class got 62 votes and elected as Head Girl whereas Kaushik of 8th Class got 62 votes and elected as Dy. Head Boy and Neha of 10th Class got 44 votes and elected as Dy. Head Girl.

The winners were presented badges for their posts through the benign hands of the Director of the School Ritesh Kapoor. They were also briefed about their duties and responsibilities. They took the oath to serve the schools peer team with utmost determination and dedication.

Speaking on the occasion, Ritesh Kapoor, Director of the school congratulated the elected students for their victory in the elections. He said voting helps citizens become more involved in their government and keep it accountable. Voting is an important civic duty that can significantly impact the future of our country. Voting is an integral part of democracy, and it is necessary for people to have a voice. By voting, you can create change and make a difference in your community. It is also important to vote because you can only repeal a law if most citizens agree with it. He added that preparing children about the voting rights and the value of their vote, these elections were held in the school to make the students understand the concept of elections and to create awareness in their surroundings during every elections.

He added that students are the best advertisers for any such process and to make the society aware as well. He said that students need to have confidence in themselves and truly believe in what they stand for if they want people to vote for them. If you don't believe you can win, nobody else will; so these elections boost their confidence and the morale as well.

**Secy MoHFW, Advisor Bhatnagar address NHMs' National Conference**

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Secretary, Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), Apurva Chandra and Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, on Friday addressed the second National Conference of National Health Mission (NHM) here.

The conference was organised by MoHFW in collaboration with National Health Mission, J&K, to deliberate on critical healthcare initiatives and strategies of several States and UTs. The conference was attended by the Mission Director of NHMs of several States and UTs, eminent healthcare professionals, policymakers and stakeholders from across the nation.

In his inaugural address, the Union Secretary highlighted that strengthening the healthcare infrastructure and promoting comprehensive healthcare delivery system is vital for overall development of the country. He stressed on the importance of collaboration between the government, healthcare institutions and civil society organizations to achieve the shared goal of upgrading the medical infrastructure across India.

He highlighted that medical infrastructure has been upgraded across Jammu and Kashmir and it is remarkable to witness that some Public Health Centres are working 24\*7 in the UT.

Addressing the gathering, Advisor Bhatnagar remarked that it is a privilege for J&K to host this Conference of National repute, adding that this will provide a unique platform for stakeholders to discuss and deliberate on vital issues related to healthcare system. He observed that this conference is a testament to the collective resolve of healthcare community to overcome challenges and build a healthier and more resilient nation.

The Advisor expressed commitment towards translating the deliberations and discussions of this conference into tangible actions that would positively impact the health and well-being of citizens.

Additional Secretary and Mission Director, NHM, Aradhana Patnaik, in her address, remarked that NHM is advancing healthcare accessibility and quality across the country, particularly in remote and underserved regions. She emphasized the need for innovative approaches, enhanced community engagement and robust partnerships to address the evolving healthcare challenges.

Addressing the gathering, Secretary Health and Medical Education, Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah, said that the health department of Jammu and Kashmir is performing remarkably with active hand holding of HoFW department. He said that this conference is a significant platform for J&K to learn from neighbouring States and UTs in terms of various initiatives related to healthcare services. Principal Secretary, Health and Family Welfare, Government of Punjab, Ajoy Sharma, Secretary, Health and Family Welfare, Government Of Himachal Pradesh, C Paulrasu, Secretary, Health and Family Welfare, UT of Chandigarh, Ajay Chagti, ED, National Health Systems Resource Centre (NHSRC), Major General Atul Kotwal, Mission Director NHM J&K, Nazim Zai Khan, Director Health Services Kashmir, Principals of Medical Colleges, other officers and delegates from various States and UTs were also present on the occasion.