

03 'Agniban' another milestone in India's Space StartUp journey: Dr Jitendra

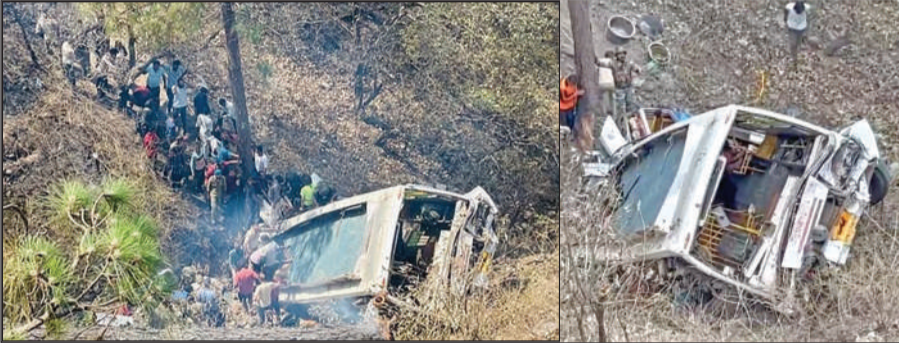
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Bus rolls down into gorge; 22 Shiv Khori pilgrims dead, 57 injured

President, PM, LG express grief, announces ex-gratia



Wreckage of ill-fated bus rolled down into a gorge in Chowki Chora near Kalidhar on Jammu-Rajouri highway.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: At least 22 pilgrims were killed and 57 injured after a bus carrying pilgrims skidded off the road and rolled down into a gorge in Chowki Chora near Kalidhar on Jammu-Rajouri highway on Thursday, officials said.

The accident took place at the Tungji-Morh in the Chowki Chora, the officials said, adding that the bus plying from Kurukshetra to Shiv

Khori with devotees rolled around 150 feet down into the gorge.

A magisterial probe has been ordered into the incident, the Jammu district magistrate informed on X. He also said 22 pilgrims have lost their lives and 57 sustained injuries in the tragedy.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has expressed his deep anguish on the loss of lives in the tragic bus accident in Akhnoor, Jammu.

In a condolence message, the Lt Governor has said, "The Bus accident in Akhnoor is heart-rending. I condole the loss of lives and pray to the almighty to give the bereaved families the strength to bear the irreparable loss. Praying for the speedy recovery of the injured.

The administration is providing all possible assistance to the bereaved families and is also extending medical

facilities to those who have been injured".

The Lieutenant Governor has also announced an ex-gratia of Rs. 5 Lakh to be given to the next of kin of each deceased and Rs.50,000 for those injured in the tragic bus accident.

A police spokesperson said at about 12:35 pm, the bus bearing registration number UP81CT-4058 fell into the gorge.

The bus was carrying devotees from Haryana's Kurukshetra and was headed towards Shiv Khori in the Pouni area of Reasi district. It had started its journey from Uttar Pradesh.

The bodies have been shifted to the Akhnoor Sub-District Hospital, the police spokesperson said, adding that the injured have been taken to the Government Medical College (GMC) Hospital in Jammu.

One of the deceased women has been identified as

DM Jammu orders magisterial inquiry into mishap

JAMMU: A bus accident occurred near Kalidhar on Thursday, involving a bus carrying pilgrims from Uttar Pradesh heading towards Shiv Khori.

District Magistrate Sachin Kumar Vaishya said that 22 persons have died in this mishap.

Presently, 57 injured are under treatment at GMC Jammu and at SDH Akhnoor. Furthermore, the District Magistrate has initiated a magisterial inquiry to investigate the cause of the accident. ADM Jammu shall submit a report within 7 days in this regard. The district administration is closely monitoring the treatment of the injured and is in communication with the authorities of Hathras and Aligarh, the native places of the passengers.

Dharampati (42), the wife of Radhey Shyam from Aligarh in Uttar Pradesh, the officials said, adding that most of the victims are from Uttar Pradesh.

The Army, police and locals used ropes and made human chains to carry the bodies and the injured people uphill.

The Army used cranes to pull the bus out of the gorge and the operation is still on,

the officials said.

The injured, including six in a critical condition, were initially taken to the Akhnoor hospital for treatment. Subsequently, they were shifted to the GMC hospital in Jammu in ambulances, the officials said.

"More than 36 passengers have been brought to the GMC hospital. Six of

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- #### LIST OF DECEASED
- ▶ Dharampati W/O Radhay Sham R/O Aligarh, UP.
 - ▶ Anamika D/O Lakshman Parshad R/O Naya Aligarh UP
 - ▶ Naina D/O Lakshman Parshad R/O Naya Aligarh UP
 - ▶ Rudra S/O Lakshman Parshad R/O Naya Aligarh UP
 - ▶ Ranbir Singh R/O Hathras, UP
 - ▶ Lakshman Parshad R/O Naya Aligarh, UP
 - ▶ Vicky R/O Aligarh UP
 - ▶ Seema W/O Samarjit R/O Naya Aligarh, UP
 - ▶ Randua R/O Hathras, UP
 - ▶ Sonu D/O Subash R/O Naya, Aligarh
 - ▶ Samarjit R/O Naya Aligarh, UP
 - ▶ Prachi D/O Jitan R/O Hathras, UP
 - ▶ Tanuj S/O Sanjay R/O Naya Aligarh, UP
 - ▶ Suresh R/O Naya Aligarh UP
 - ▶ Sanjay S/O Sunder Singh R/O Naya Aligarh, UP
 - ▶ Renu W/O Yogveer Singh R/O Hathras, UP
 - ▶ One child from Dhanipur
 - ▶ Five unidentified bodies including of 2 minor girls

Tragic bus mishap: Chugh, Azad express grief over pilgrims' deaths

Chugh urges authorities to ensure best treatment for injured

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Tarun Chugh, the National General Secretary, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and Incharge of Jammu and Kashmir, D P A P Chaurman Ghulam Nabi Azad and others expressed deep grief and sorrow over the deaths in road accident near Kalidhar on Jammu-Rajouri highway.

Chugh conveyed his heartfelt condolences to the affected families, stating, "My

heart is deeply saddened to hear the extremely sad news of the death of passengers



from Hathras, Uttar Pradesh, in the tragic bus accident. I express my deepest condolences to the bereaved families and wish for the speedy recovery of the injured. Om Shanti Om."

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Streamline riding surface, ensure 2-way traffic on Jammu-Srinagar NH by June 10: CS to NHAI

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, on Thursday set deadline of June 10 for streamlining of riding surface and ensuring two way traffic movement on Jammu-Srinagar National Highway in view of upcoming Shri Amarnathji pilgrimage and fruit season in the Union Territory.

The Chief Secretary was addressing a meeting held with all the concerned to take stock of road condition and the current traffic scenario on Jammu-Srinagar National Highway.

Principal Secretary,



CS Atal Dulloo chairing meeting to take stock of road condition and current traffic scenario on Jammu-Srinagar NH.

Agriculture Production Department, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir/Jammu, IG, Traffic, Secretary Transport, Secretary PWD, RO, NHAI besides Deputy Commissioners of Ramban,

Udhampur, Kathua and Samba attended the meeting while outstation officers participated virtually.

The Chief Secretary took cognizance of the time being taken, at present, by both the Light Motor Vehicles

(LMVs) and Heavy Motor Vehicles (HMTVs) to reach from one capital city to another. He enquired about the condition of the road and the bottlenecks impeding smooth movement of traffic.

Dulloo took detailed appraisal of nearly two dozen spots on this road where commuters are facing inconvenience in their journey. He impressed upon the NHAI, Regional Officer, Jammu, to take all possible measures to improve the riding surface of the road and ensure simultaneous two way traffic on it by 10th of June this year.

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Modi ends campaign with yet another sharp attack on opposition

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

HOSHARPUR: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday asked the opposition to make no mistake in understanding him as he can disclose "sins of their seven generations", ending his Lok Sabha campaign with another onslaught on rivals in an election marked by acrimony from both sides.

Modi's fierce attacks and sharp words, which have drawn outrage from critics and backing from BJP's supporters, have been a running highlight of his campaign and it was no different in his last rally of the seven-phase elections.

The campaign for Election 2024 ended on Thursday. Punjab votes in the last lap on June 1.

Highlighting his government's efforts to modernise the army and make it the most capable and self-reliant, Modi accused opposition INDIA bloc leaders of using the armed forces as a political weapon and said there can be no bigger

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Repeated polls not good for country: Rajnath

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KUSHINAGAR: Union minister Rajnath Singh on Thursday said frequent elections are not good for the country and efforts will be made to install the "one nation, one election" system in the next five years.

Singh said Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) believe that the Lok Sabha and Assembly polls should be held simultaneously across the country.

"In five years, we will try our best to make provisions for one nation, one election,"

the defence minister said, addressing a rally in support of Vijay Kumar Dubey, the BJP's Lok Sabha poll candidates



date from Kushinagar in Uttar Pradesh.

Singh heaped praise on Modi for his leadership and taking the country to new heights.

"When India speaks today,

the world listens," he said, adding that even politicians in Pakistan are praising India, but those in the

Congress and Samajwadi Party (SP) do not understand this. "They (SP and Congress) are opposing Modi," he said.

Hitting out at Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, Singh said his great grandfather Jawaharlal Nehru, grandmother Indira Gandhi and father Rajiv Gandhi were prime ministers.

"Rahul Gandhi says he has seen the system very closely. He says the system that

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Train engine derailed at Jammu railway station

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The engine of the Sampark Kranti Express derailed at Jammu railway station here on Thursday, officials said.

No one got injured in the incident, they said.

As the train arrived at the railway station from New Delhi today, one wheel of the engine went off the track, causing the train to come to a halt, the officials said.

After a two-hour delay, the engine was brought back on track and the train continued its journey, they said.

Railway authorities are investigating the cause of the derailment.

HC upholds PSA of lady running sex racket

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Justice Sanjeev Kumar of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court upheld the detention under Public Safety Act (PSA) of Swarna Devi who was allegedly involved in running sex racket.

The impugned order of detention has been passed by the Detaining Authority in the exercise of power vested in it under Section 8 (1) (a) of the Jammu and Kashmir Public Safety Act, 1978. The detention of Swarna Devi was ordered primarily on the ground that she notorious and habitual of pushing young girls into forced prostitution, in that, six FIRs (i)

FIR 01/2016 under Sections 341/323/34 RPC, (ii) FIR 02/2016 under Section 332/353/147 RPC, (iii) FIR 94/2016 under Sections 376/120-B RPC, (iv) FIR 88/2022 under Sections 3/4/5/7 IT Act, 382/341/323/504 IPC, (v) FIR93/2022 under Sections 452/323/382/504/506 IPC and (vi) FIR 32/2023 under Sections 366-A/342/344/34 IPC, Section 4/6/16 of POCSO Act and Section 5/6/7/18 ITPA, stand registered in Police Stations, Bagh-e-Bahu and Channi Himmat, Jammu and final reports in respect to four FIRs have already been presented before the competent

courts of law after investigation, whereas investigation with regard to two FIRs is still going on.

Justice Sanjeev Kumar after hearing both the sides observed that it is thus trite that a mere disturbance of law and order leading to disorder is not necessarily sufficient for placing an individual under preventive detention. However, the disturbance which affects the public order comes within the scope of the Act. The difference between 'public order' and 'law and order' is similar to the distinction between public and private crimes in the realm of

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Court grants 10 days police custody of revenue official who caught red-handed by CBI

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Special Judge CBI Cases Jammu Bala Joyti granted 10 days police remand of Mohd Ishaq Bhatt who was caught red-handed by CBI while accepting bribe of Rs 18000.

Special Judge CBI Bala Joyti after perusal of the application and CD file transpires that accused was arrested on May 27, 2024 in case FIR No. RC0042024A0003 dated May 26, 2024 for offence under section 7 of P.C. Act 1988 (as amended in 2018). As per the Medical certificate, accused person is medically examined and found fit. Moreover accused person has not complained about any physical discomfort or any mental illness. He is apprised of grounds of arrest by Investigation Officer I.O as revealed in

case diaries that accused person was arrested on May 27, 2024, case diaries transpires that investigation of the case is at its infancy, statements of material witnesses are yet to be recorded by I.O besides accused person is involved in a serious offence, he is remanded to judicial custody for a period of 10 days only. He is to be lodged in District Jail 'Amphalla; Jammu with a direction to I.O to expedite the investigation. He shall be subjected to regular medical examination under rules. He is also apprised of his right to engage Advocate. Accused person shall be produced in the Court by I.O after the expiry of period of remand through virtual mode. I.O is directed to complete the investigation process within remand period only.

WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 41.2°C Min: 32.4°C

Humidity
Max: 20 Min: 13

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 27.3°C Min: 13.8°C

Humidity
Max: 70 Min: 40

Sunset : 19:32 Hours
Sunrise : 05:24 Hours



Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the Vivekananda Rock Memorial in Kanyakumari on Thursday.

the 'dhyana mandapam.' Before he embarked on the dhyana exercise, for a while, Modi stood on the stairs leading to the mandapam that offers breathtaking views of the sea that surrounds the memorial from all sides.

The prime minister showered flow-

ers on the portraits of Ramakrishna Paramahansa, mother Sri Sarada Devi and also paid floral tributes to Swami Vivekananda, whose life-size statue on a high pedestal adores the mandapam. Modi later commenced the sadhana (spiritual practice) in the mandapam.

Speaking to reporters at Sivaganga, Tamil Nadu BJP president K Annamalai termed PM Modi's visit to the memorial as an out-and-out 'private' visit. "It is Prime Minister's personal visit," he said, adding that was why his party leaders and cadres did not take part in the event.

Ahead of his departure on June 1, Modi is likely to visit the Thiruvalluvar statue, next to the memorial. Both the memorial and 133-ft statue were built on tiny islets, that are separate and mound-like rocky formations in the sea.

While outfits including Thanthai Periyar Dravidar Kazhagam staged a black flag demonstration in Madurai opposing Modi, social media platform 'X' also witnessed a flood of #GoBackModi posts, amid political opposition to the broadcast of his meditation in view of the final (seventh) phase of voting for the Lok Sabha elections on June 1.

All arrangements, including heavy security, are

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