

!! Continuations from Page 1 !!

J&K Govt terminates...

Of the lot, 12 doctors were terminated for their unauthorised absence during probation and 100 others for staying away from work for the duration of two to 17 years.

Educational institutions reopen...

support. The day curfew in the town was lifted as the overall situation remained peaceful with no untoward incident reported in the past 24 hours. The night curfew, however, will continue till further orders, officials said.

All government schools and other educational institutions in Bhaderwah have reopened after remaining closed for 10 days due to the communal tension, they said. Mobile internet services remain suspended in the town. Fixed-line internet services were restored on Sunday, the officials said.

Additional District Magistrate (Bhaderwah) Dil Mir issued an advisory on Sunday, warning of stringent action against those found sharing "objectionable material" on social media.

Curfew was imposed in Bhaderwah on June 9.

It was first relaxed for two hours on June 15, followed by five hours in two phases on June 16 and four hours on June 17. The relaxation periods passed off peacefully. Police and security forces are deployed in strength in the town to maintain law and order, the officials said.

Reforms may be...

what youth can achieve if the government gives facilities and interferes less in the life of citizens, Modi said Bengaluru is the city of dreams for the youth, and entrepreneurship; innovation and right use of public and private sectors are the main reasons behind it.

"Bengaluru teaches those people to change their mindset, who even today degrade private sector and private enterprise. These power-minded people weigh the strength of the country and the capacity of crores of people low, he said.

Averring that the promise that the 'double-engine' government had given can be seen getting realised, Modi said the projects launched today would support ease of living and ease of doing business.

Bengaluru is the true reflection of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat', and the city's progress is linked to progress of lakhs of dreams, he said, adding that the double-engine government is committed to all-round development of the city, both in terms of livelihood and infrastructure.

He further said there was a 40-year delay in implementation of the suburban railway project for Bengaluru. If they were completed on time they wouldn't have put pressure on the city's infrastructure, instead would have strengthened it further.

"I don't want to waste time and will work every minute..." he said.

Modi observed that the 21st century belongs to wealth and job-creators and innovators, who are the country's true strength, and said the government has been promoting them for the last eight years.

Stating that the trust people reposed in him in the eight years has spurred developmental activities, Modi said, "Today, I inaugurated projects worth Rs 27,000 crore that will give impetus to various dimensions of development such as higher education, health, skill development and infrastructure activities which will result in ease of living and ease of doing business."

The Prime Minister, who arrived here on a two-day visit to Karnataka, inaugurated the Centre for Brain Research (CBR) and laid the foundation stone for a multi-speciality hospital at the Indian Institute of Science campus in Bengaluru.

The CBR has been set up at a cost of Rs 280 crore, the foundation stone of which was laid by the Prime Minister himself.

"The joy is greater because I had the honour of also laying the foundation stone for the project. This centre will be at the forefront of research on how to manage brain-related disorders," Modi said.

Modi laid the foundation stone for the 832-bedded Bagchi-Parthasarathy Multispeciality Hospital.

"At a time when every nation must give top-most importance to healthcare, efforts like the Bagchi Parthasarathy Multispeciality Hospital assume great importance," he said.

"In the times to come, it will strengthen healthcare capacities and encourage pioneering research," he said.

According to officials, the hospital would provide a fillip to clinical research and work towards finding innovative solutions to improve healthcare services.

IISc entered into a partnership with philanthropists Susmita and Subroto Bagchi, and Radha and N S Parthasarathy, in February to establish the Bagchi-Parthasarathy Hospital.

"The couples will collectively donate Rs 425 crore (equivalent to about USD 60 million) to help construct this 800-bed, not-for-profit, multi-speciality hospital. After its founding, this is the largest single private donation received by IISc," IISC Director professor Govindan Rangarajan had said.

The Prime Minister later inaugurated the new campus of Dr B R Ambedkar School of Economics (BASE) University here and also unveiled a statue of the architect of the Constitution installed on the campus.

At the event, he unveiled also 150 'Technology Hubs' that have been developed by transforming the Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) across Karnataka.

The Prime Minister said the State has made contribution to strides of the nation in technology, research and innovation.

"In this context, the new Technology Hubs developed by transforming ITIs will provide skilling opportunities for the youth and create several employment opportunities," Modi said.

Developed at a cost of over Rs 4,700 crore, the Technology Hubs initiative is supported by many industry partners, and aims to create a skilled workforce to address Industry 4.0 manpower needs.

Modi said BASE University is a tribute to the intellectual prowess of Dr Ambedkar.

"The new campus of this institution will benefit several students. The new tech hubs which have been inaugurated will also be a boon for our 'Yuva Shakti,'" the Prime Minister added.

Later, Modi left for Mysuru, where at the Maharaja's College Ground he laid the foundation stone for the new coaching complex to be established at Naganahalli and then dedicated the Centre of Excellence at All India Institute of Speech and Hearing (AIISH). Besides, he also interacted with the beneficiaries of the Central government scheme at the same venue.

During his address, he said the double-engine government in Karnataka is working shoulder-to-shoulder with full energy to ensure 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas', while claiming that though earlier governments too had tried to work for the people, their sphere of influence was limited.

Man killed, 5...

SDH Bhadarwah, their condition is stable and they are responding well to the treatment," BMO added.

The injured have been identified as Naina Devi (43) wife Dev Raj, her two daughters Himani (15), Deepika (13) and her son Rahil Dev (17) , Sahil son of Rattan Lal all residents of Bhalla and Sahil (17) Son of Rattan Lal of Bhalla.

A case has been registered at Bhadarwah Police Station to establish the cause of the accident.

Out of Rs...

11, 2020 issued by Chief Manager (I&V) JCCB Ltd Sehkari Bhawan Rail Head Complex Jammu, the erring Manager Abdul Karim was attached with the Poonch Branch till a senior officer is deputed. Subash Chander Cashier cum Clerk was asked to look after the work of the Mendhar Branch .

The preliminary enquiry report was submitted on December 21, 2020 to General Manager (Adm) of JCCB Lt Jammu, duly signed by Vinod Kumar Sharma (Head of Enquiry), Anil Kumar Bakshi (Member) and Darshan Kumar (Member) wherein it was reported that the amount embezzled was actually Rs 2,76,89913 and not Rs. 154.17 Cr.

The report stated that the accused Abdul Karim had accepted in a statement before Enquiry Panel that he was responsible for the act and had embezzled Rs 2,76,89,913.00.

The Enquiry committee recommended that as the case also involved forgery and cheating, the competent authority may get the matter investigated from any investigating agency to arrive at exact amount of embezzle-ment. It also recommended that a team be deputed for auditing all accounts of branch since the embezzlement may be of the larger scale.

The JCCB management on January 19, 2021 directed the official holding the charge of Mendhar Branch Subash Chander (Cashier cum Clerk) to file an FIR with local police against the accused Abdul Karim but till date no such complaint or FIR has been lodged.

The JCCB Ltd is one of the financially sick institutions where it is alleged that even the normal promotions and increments in time are refused and delayed to the employees pleading financial sickness but the present Bank management has not shown any serious effort for recovering the embezzled amount as high as Rs. 2,76,89913.00 which is a very large amount as per the standards of a bank like JCCB Ltd.

Northern Army Commander...

world's highest battlefield. Lt Gen Dwivedi arrived in Leh and was received by commanders of corps and the Indian Air Force (IAP), they said.

He is on a four-day visit to Ladakh sector to review operational preparedness, training, progress of induction of modern weapon systems, equipment and logistics assets, officials said.

Scattered protests during...

scheme despite the Congress and other opposition parties upping the ante against the Modi government and the BJP.

A plea has also been filed in the Supreme Court against the Agnipath scheme alleging that the government has contravened constitutional provisions and acted without having parliamentary approval.

The plea, filed by advocate M L Sharma, referred to the protests as it sought quashing of the relevant notification.

The Railways cancelled 587 trains on Monday while 10 others were affected,with operations again disrupted by protests.

The worst-affected zone was the East Central Railway, which is headquartered at Hajipur, as around 350 trains remain cancelled.

Authorities said that the bandh call was given on social media and did not name the organisations behind it.

Massive traffic jams were witnessed on Delhi roads as restrictions were in place due to the bandh and the Satyagraha protest by Congress over the Centre's Agnipath scheme and the questioning of Rahul Gandhi by the Enforcement Directorate.

Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, party's leader in the Lok Sabha Adir Ranjan Chowdhury, senior leaders Sachin Pilot, Salman Khurshid, Mallikarjun Kharge and KC Venugopal took part in the protest at the Jantar Mantar.

Indian Youth Congress workers stopped a train at the Shivaji Bridge railway station near Connaught Place. Sixteen protesters were detained and the track was cleared by security personnel after about half an hour, sources said.

Commuters from Noida and Gurugram were left hassled as they battled traffic snarls while driving into the city whereas inside the capital, Lutyens' Delhi, which was the epicentre of protests, remained choek-a-block.

While the strike call choked traffic on several arterial roads, no impact was seen in the city's markets where it was business as usual.

In view of the bandh call, the Delhi Police had tightened security across the national capital and its bordering areas and warned of strict action against those trying to disrupt the law and order situation

Other states like Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala, Assam and Rajasthan had also heightened security and imposed prohibitory orders in some districts to thwart possible protests and violence during the strike.

There was a heavy deployment of police at railway stations, including those in Ambala, Rewari and Sonipat in Haryana and Ludhiana, Jalandhar and Amritsar in Punjab to prevent any untoward incident, they said.

Protests were reported in some parts of Haryana, Punjab and Jammu.

"Bharat Bandh call was given on social media though no group had owned it. The police were on alert since Monday morning with elaborate arrangements being made with vast deployment of the force," Uttar Pradesh Additional Director General of Police (law and order) Prashant Kumar said.

As many as 151 companies of state and central paramilitary besides the civil police were deployed, he said adding that no untoward incident has been reported from anywhere.

"There has been no impact of the Bharat Bandh call anywhere in the state," he said.

More than 5000 security personnel were deployed in Jharkhand and schools remained shut across the state in view of the bandh call.

There was no report of any untoward incident from anywhere in the state so far during the day, Jharkhand Police spokesperson and IG (Operations) Amol V Homkar told PTL.

Shops and business establishments remained open in capital Ranchi, the steel city of Jamshedpur, Palamu and elsewhere. There was tight security at Ranchi railway station and security forces staged a flag march in Koderma

In Bihar, which had seen large-scale violence, internet services remain suspended in 17 out of 38 districts and heavy deployment of police and paramilitary forces continued in places.

In the backdrop of the protests, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday said decisions and reforms may be unpleasant temporarily but with time the country will experience their benefits.

After inaugurating or laying the foundation for various developmental works in Karnataka, he said, "The path of reforms can alone take us towards new targets and new resolve we have opened up the space and Defence sector which for decades were under government control."

Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge, however, questioned the prime minister's 'silence' on the Agnipath issue.

A day after a tri-services media briefing at the Defence Ministry took place on Agnipath, Kharge said, "For the first time in 75 years, service chiefs are being fronted to defend a policy decision by the government."

"Why are the Prime Minister, Home Minister and Defence Minister quiet on the Agnipath scheme?" the senior Congress leader tweeted.

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee alleged that the BJP was trying to create its own "armed cadre base through the new defence recruitment programme.

"The BJP is trying to create its armed cadre base through this scheme. What will they do after four years? The party wants to give arms into the hands of the youth," the Trinamool Congress chief said in the Assembly.

Farmers' collective Samyukta Kisan Morcha (SKM) has decided to hold a nation-wide protest against the Centre's Agnipath military recruitment scheme on June 24, its leader Rakesh Tikait announced

The SKM led the 2020-21 protests against the now-withdrawn farm laws in Delhi.

Major corporates including Mahindra Group and Tata Sons, however, rallied behind the Centre's Agnipath scheme, saying it has a large potential to provide disciplined and trained workforce to the industry.

In its Monday notification, the Army said the online registration for the force's recruitment can be done on "www.joinindianarmy.nic.in" and was mandatory for all the job aspirants under the new model.

The Army said 'Agniveers' would form a distinct rank in the Indian Army, which would be different from any other existing ranks.

It said the 'Agniveers' will be barred from disclosing classified information gained during the four-year service period to any unauthorised person or source under the Official Secrets Act, 1923.

Hundreds of people have been arrested and the role of coaching centres is being probed in connection with the violent protests that broke out after the Centre last Tuesday unveiled the Agnipath scheme under which youths between 17-and-a-half and 21 years would be inducted into the three services for a four-year tenure.

Twenty-five percent of the recruits will be retained for regular service.

The government projected this scheme as a major overhaul of the decades-old selection process to enhance the youthful profile of the services, but the protesters are demanding its rollback claiming that it will rob recruits of job security and other benefits.

While the government has announced several incentives and concessions for Agniveers, the three services on Sunday warned those who indulged in violence and arson will not be inducted.

Burglars loot Rs...

burglars entered the bank from the rooftop and tied its security guard to an iron rod with a rope, Senior Superintendent of Police (Kathua) R C Kotwal said.

The guard told police that the burglars cut open the cash chest and stole the money, the SSP said.

The guard has been detained and bank employees are being questioned in connection with the matter, Kotwal said, adding that a Special Investigation Team (SIT) has been constituted to probe the case.

CCTV footage of the bank is being scanned to identify the accused, he said.

BJP Parliamentary Board...

meet is likely to be held in the evening at the party headquarters, and is expected to be attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, sources said.

Nadda and senior party leader Rajnath Singh after being authorised by the party reached out to leaders across the political spectrum over the presidential candidate, sources said.

The last date for filing the nomination for presidential elections is June 29 and date of election is July 18.

Doctors disregard Govt...

patient had to be injected thrice a day which would have brought no financial burden had the doctors accepted the J&K Medical Supplies Corporation Limited (JKMSCL), but about Rs 750 a day if purchased from the outside market.

"I have one simple question: Do the doctors and paramedical staff at Shireen Bagh's Super Speciality Hospital lack faith in the efficacy of JKMSCL drugs or do they get their commission with the local chemists?" asked the dismayed attendants, adding, why would the medical staff show disregard to the drugs purchased from the BJAk stores.

The patient was admitted in Ward-2A, Urology Department, at Bed 14. He was discharged from the hospital on June 14.

Several other attendants of other patients in the Urology Department told similar tales to STATES TIMES. One of them even had a verbal brawl with department head. "When confronted why the doctors refuse administering drugs purchased from the BJAk stores, the Head of the Department threatened us with police action and called us names," said another attendant on the condition of anonymity.

Details available with STATE TIMES reveal that most of the drugs are unavailable at the central pharmacy, Super Speciality Hospital, Shireen Bagh. Of eight important antibiotic medicines only one is available, as per status of drugs at the hospital store. Even most common drugs remain unavailable.

When contacted by STATE TIMES, the JKMSCL Managing Director Yashpal Sharma swore by the efficacy and standard of the drugs supplied by them to all the government medical stores. "Our medicines are of high quality and get tested more than once from top laboratories and only then receive approval to reach government hospitals. It is unfortunate if any doctor has rejected the medicine from our stores," Sharma said.

GMC's Principal Dr. Saima Rashid did not respond to queries put forth by STATE TIMES.

Meanwhile, Government of India launched the Ayushman Bharat Yojana Golden Card scheme with the aim to cover medical expenses up to 5 lakh rupees per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization of patients. The National Health Protection Scheme has been implemented in all the states and UT's.

Cong, NC deliberately...

be exploited to extract their votes, election after election. To that extent, he praised Modi for introducing the new work style and reaching out to those who were most needy, regardless of whichever political party they voted for.

Many of the national projects in the region, said Dr Jitendra Singh, have been possible because of the personal indulgence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. In this regard, he referred to the Chattergala Tunnel which will be a part of the new National Highway from Lakhampur to Basohli-Bani to Doda, thus offering an alternate all-weather and less time consuming road connectivity.

The Minister informed that the BRO agency Beacons has already prepared the DPR for Chattergala Tunnel which is estimated to cost Rs.4,000 crores. He said, he has requested Road Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari to include it in the next plan of Bharatmala-scheme.

Dr Jitendra Singh also referred to the new Kendriya Vidyalaya sanctioned for Bani and said the construction work on the crucial motorable road between Bilawar and Bani will be proceeded on fast track because it had got delayed on account of certain technical reasons and the COVID pandemic.

Former MLA Bani Jaggiyan Lal, DDC Chairman Col (Retd) Bhan Singh and veteran BJP leader Uttam Goswami also spoke on the occasion. They profusely appreciated the dedicated hard work by Dr Jitendra Singh which had changed the face of Bani. They said, the development seen in the last 8 years far exceeded that of the the earlier over 60 years.

Four JKAS Officers...

Mohammad Nazir Sheikh (JKAS:1999) as Director, Industries and Commerce, Ladakh (HQ at Leh); Inteeaz Ahmad Khan Kacho (JKAS:2008), Registrar University of Ladakh as Joint Director Information, Ladakh (HQ at Kargil). The Officer shall also hold the additional charge of the post of Programme Officer ICDS, Kargil till further orders.

Sonam Norboo (JKAS:2008), ACD/Project Officer Wage Employment, Leh has been transferred and posted as Additional District Development Commissioner Leh. The Officer shall also hold the additional charge of ACD/ Project Officer Wage Employment Leh till further orders.

KPs suffering due to discrimination, HR violations from last more than 70 years: KPC

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Kashmiri Pandit Confernce (KPC) held a programme to commemorate World Refugee Day on Monday. Speaking on the occasion, KPC leaders expressed resentment on plight of Kashmiri Pandits from last 32 years. KPC also condemned United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), UN Human Rights Commission (UNHRC) and others for ignoring the grave human right violations committed over KP community by terrorists, separatists, fundamentalists in Kashmir valley as well as successive Governments of erstwhile state and Center.

President KPC, Kundan Kashmiri further said that not only UNHCR and UNHRC have shown a biased and partisan approach towards victim KPs , but also never bothered to probe killings and human right violations towards victim KPs in valley, but always remain concerned about alleged human rights violations for those in Kashmir, who in reality are engaged in terrorism, stone pelting and other anti-national activities.

Dr H L Saraf and Tej Pandita, M K Raina and other KPC leaders also demanded commission of enquiry to ascertain facts about grave human rights violation and massacre of Kashmiri Pandits, so that world can know about atrocities inflicted on Kashmiri Pandits including recent selective killings. They further requested for declaring displaced KPs as internally refugees along with necessary steps to rehabilitate them back in Valley. In this regard a memorandum was also sent to UNHCR, UNHRC, PMO and Home Minister for further action.

COVID: 19 new cases, 1 more death in J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir reported 19 new Covid cases on Monday, taking the infection tally to 4,54,520 while another fatality due to the virus raised the death toll to 4,753, officials said here.

According to officials, the death was reported from Jammu and was the first Covid-related fatality in the Union Territory in more than a month.

Of the new cases, 14 were reported from Jammu and five from Kashmir, they said.

There are 169 active cases of COVID-19, while the number of recoveries has reached 4,49,598, officials said.

There are 51 confirmed cases of mucormycosis (black fungus) in Jammu and Kashmir, they said.

Meanwhile, Ladakh has reported three fresh Covid cases that took the infection tally to 28,313, officials said.

All the new cases were detected in Leh district, they said.

So far, 228 people have succumbed to COVID-19 in Ladakh. Of these, 168 deaths were reported from Leh and 60 from Kargil, according to officials.

The number of active cases stands at 27 -- 25 in Leh and two in Kargil, they said.

Two people were discharged from hospitals, taking the overall recoveries to 28,058, officials said.

A total of 3,764 people, including over 2,477 air passengers, were screened for COVID-19 in Leh and Kargil districts on Sunday, they said.

After Pawar & Abdullah, Gopalkrishna Gandhi declines Oppn request to contest Prez polls

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Former West Bengal Governor Gopalkrishna Gandhi on Monday declined the opposition leaders' request to contest the upcoming presidential election, the third person to do so after NCP supremo Sharad Pawar and Former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Farooq Abdullah also gave the offer a pass.

The development complicates the road ahead for the Opposition to put up a joint consensus candidate in the presidential polls to take on the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance nominee.

The next meeting of major opposition parties to deliberate on a consensus candidate for the presidential election is likely to be held on Tuesday here.

In a statement, Gandhii said several esteemed leaders of the Opposition have done him the honour of thinking of him for the opposition's candidature in the upcoming elections for the presidency.

"I am most grateful to them. But having considered the matter deeply I see that the Opposition's candidate should be one who will generate a national consensus and a national atmosphere besides Opposition unity. I feel there will be others who will do this far better than I," he said. "And so I have requested the leaders to give the opportunity to such a person. May India get a President worthy of the office presaged by Rajaji as the last Governor General and inaugurated by Dr Rajendra Prasad as our first President," Gandhi said. The 77-year-old former bureaucrat had also served as India's High Commissioner to South Africa and Sri Lanka. He is the grandson of Mahatma Gandhi and C Rajagopalachari.

Gandhii was the consensus opposition candidate for the post of Vice President of India in 2017 but had lost to M Venkaiah Naidu in the election.

Gandhii's statement came two days after former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister and National Conference leader Abdullah withdrew his name as the potential joint opposition candidate for the upcoming presidential elections, saying he has a "lot more active politics" ahead of him, and that he wanted to contribute in navigating the Union Territory through the current "critical juncture".

Leaders of several opposition parties last Wednesday urged NCP supremo Sharad Pawar to be the joint opposition candidate for the presidential elections, but the veteran leader had declined the offer at the meeting convened by West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee here.

