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Assassin of police...

information regarding the movement of terrorists, a joint checkpoint was established near Juhama crossing in Baramulla by police and 52 RR of the Army at about 4 pm on Tuesday, a police spokesman said.

During checking, the movement of a suspicious person was noticed and after seeing the security forces, he tried to flee. However, the alert joint party apprehended him, said 0.

The spokesman said the arrested person was identified as Shahid Ahmad Paray, resident of Kathpora in the Hajin area of Bandipora district.

"On his personal search, incriminating material, arms and ammunition including one pistol, one pistol magazine, seven pistol rounds and two hand grenades were recovered from his possession," he said.

The spokesman said preliminary investigation revealed that the accused was working as a hybrid terrorist linked with the LeT. He was trying to carry out terrorist activities in Baramulla town and adjacent areas.

In Budgam district, security forces busted a terror module of the LeT by arresting three terrorist associates.

They have been identified as Ashiq Hussain Hajam, Ghulam Mohi-ud-Din Dar and Tahir Bin Ahmed, all residents of Chadoora, the spokesman said.

"Preliminary investigation revealed that the arrested trio was involved in facilitating transportation of terrorists, arms/explosive materials and providing logistic support to the active terrorists of proscribed terror outfit LeT in Budgam district," he said.

Incriminating material, arms and ammunition including one Chinese pistol, two pistol magazines, 22 pistol rounds, one AK magazine and 30 AK rounds have been recovered from their possession, the spokesman said, adding one motorcycle used in terror crimes has also been seized.

Accordingly, a case vide FIR No.114/2022 under relevant sections of law was registered at police station Chadoora and further investigation is in progress, he said.

J&K Home Deptt...

of police and three superintendents of police.

Besides subordinate investigation staff, the SIA will have its own prosecution team headed by an officer of deputy director rank and assisted by three chief prosecuting officers, it said.

The order for constitution of SIA was passed by the government last year while the Administrative Council headed by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha approved the creation of these posts during a meeting held on June 8 this year.

Droupadi Murmu, tribal...

stayed away from the opposition meet, welcomed the announcement.

"Congratulations Smt Droupadi Murmu on being announced as candidate of NDA for the country's highest office. I was delighted when Hon'ble PM Narendra Modi ji discussed this with me. It is indeed a proud moment for people of Odisha," BJD chief and Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik tweeted.

Murmu said she was surprised as well as delighted by the announcement.

Incidentally, her name was also doing the rounds for the BJP's likely choice for the top constitutional post in 2017.

As a tribal woman candidate of the ruling combine, her candidature may persuade many regional parties, not aligned to either the NDA or the opposition, to back her, BJP sources said. Even some opposition parties will not be seen to be opposing her, they added.

Opposition leaders, who gathered at the Parliament annexe for the meeting convened by NCP chief Sharad Pawar to decide on a common candidate for the much-discussed presidential election, unanimously agreed on Sinha's name.

"He is eminently qualified to uphold the secular and democratic character of the Indian Republic and its Constitutional values," the joint statement said.

The veteran politician, who has been an MP from Jharkhand, stepped aside from the Trinamool Congress before the announcement of his name and will file his nomination papers on June 27.

"We regret the Modi government made no serious effort to have consensus on a presidential candidate," Congress leader Jairam Ramesh said reading out the statement. He noted that the initiative to have a consensus candidate for the highest office of the Republic should have been taken by the government. "We are happy to announce that we have unanimously chosen Yashwant Sinha as the common candidate of the opposition parties for the presidential election, which will take place on July 18, 2022," Ramesh said. The leaders also announced that a committee has been formed to steer Sinha's presidential campaign. Sinha, who has been vocal on a range of issues, is in his 80s. Pawar told reporters that he has personally spoken to a cross-section of leaders from various parties. These included Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal from the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) and Telangana's K Chandrashekhar Rao from the TRS who stayed away from the meeting. "We will also try to convince the BJD and YSR Congress," Pawar said when asked whether they are on board. The parties that attended the meeting included the Congress, NCP, TMC, CPI, CPI-M, Samajwadi Party, National Conference, AIMIM, RJD and AIUDF. Five regional parties considered nonaligned - TRS, BJD, AAP, SAD and YSRCP - stayed away. The ruling BJP-led combine has over 48 per cent vote share in the electoral college to pick the new president, and its candidate has a clear advantage over the opposition. Reading out the joint statement, Ramesh said the parties have appealed to all political parties to support Sinha as president so the country could have a worthy 'Rashtrapati' elected unopposed. His party colleague Mallikarjun Kharge said Defence Minister Rajnath Singh had called him and a few other leaders to ask whether they had a name for the top constitutional post. "This was just for the sake of contacting. This cannot be termed a serious effort," Kharge said. Sinha's name came up after Pawar, Gopalkrishna Gandhi and Farooq Abdullah declined the opposition's offer to be their joint candidate for the top post. The presidential election would be held on July 18 to elect a successor to incumbent Ram Nath Kovind and the result would be out on July 21.

ACB books Naib...

during verification it came to fore that Government of J&K had issued circular No. 502/Circular/23/1347-80 dated 22.07.2006 with the directions that 'No change in the kind of soil can be done by any officer below the rank of Collector'. Subsequently, the Government had made policy regarding change of land use vide order No. 138-Reg (s) of 2016 dated 07.10.2016 for both and Urban & Rural areas. As per said policy, the district level committee under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner shall process the case and forward it to Divisional Commissioner who in turn shall forward the same to Administrative Department along with his recommendations. Moreover, High Court of J&K vide order dated 10.07.2014 passed directions that 'construction in the areas of water body or abutting the water body shall remain stayed and further directed that the sale of land concerning the bed of river and the land recorded in the revenue record as Khad also remained stayed'.

The verification conducted so far prima facie established that accused officers/officials have illegally and with dishonest intention fabricated and manipulated the revenue record by abusing their official position for pecuniary gains to confer undue benefits upon beneficiaries and corresponding loss to state exchequer. The aforementioned acts of omission and commission on the part of below mentioned public servants as well as private persons constitute the commission of offences under sections 5 (1) (d) read with 5 (2) of J&K PC Act Svt 2006 and Section 120-B RPC against (1) Bharat Bhushan, the then Naib Tehsildar Niabat Sohal Tehsil Akhnoor (2) Balwant Raj, the then Girdwara Naibat Sohal Tehsil Akhnoor (3) Roshan Lal, son of Sewa Ram, resident of Dhok Jagir (4) Vikram Kumar, son of Phattu Ram, resident of Dhok Jagir; Sudgal Khurd (5) Ashok Kumar, son of Amba Barwala, resident of Dhok Jagir (6) Amrik Singh, son of Ghulab Singh, resident of Dhok Jagir (7) Bitti, son of Joginder Lal, resident of Dhok Jagir (8) Madan Lal (9) Sona Raj (10) Raghu Kumar, son of Prem Chand, resident of Dhok Jagir (11) Ashwani Kumar, son of Ramesh Kumar, resident of Dhok Jagir Tehsil Akhnoor and others. Accordingly, FIR was registered at Police Station ACB-Jammu against the accused officials and beneficiaries.

LG calls for...

the International Day of Yoga, the Lt Governor urged all to embrace Yoga as an integral part of life for holistic approach to health and well-being

'Yoga For Humanity' theme for this year emphasizes the message of universal brotherhood in trying times. This invaluable gift to humanity is being used as a therapeutic intervention for various disorders and bringing equilibrium of body, mind and intellect, said the Lt Governor.

Yoga is the ancient heritage connecting the whole world into one thread. Yoga means unity, harmony. With the spirit of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam', India is guiding the world for holistic well-being, the Lt Governor added.

Yoga has become a mass movement. Maharishi Patanjali, the greatest scientist, gave the ultimate message of living in the present. There is no past and there is no future, You are here and now. One can enter in Yoga only living this very moment, observed the Lt Governor.

All the Asanas we perform in yoga, in reality, are not just related to the body, they are not just physical exercises, but reflect our ability to live in the moment, he added.

Dedicating the observance of the International Day of Yoga to the selfless and dedicated services of all the doctors, nurses, healthcare professionals and the efforts and struggle of the people, the Lt Governor observed that when humanity was battling with the Covid pandemic, doctors, researchers and health experts across the world, in unison, recommended and appealed people to follow Yoga practices.

I urge the citizens to take advantage of Yoga facilities and services being extended by

the J&K AYUSH department and adopt yoga in their routine, said the Lt Governor. Let's build resilience against diseases, promote self-care to maintain perfect harmony between the body and mind, and bring people closer to each other by adopting Yoga as an integral part of life, he added.

Speaking on the occasion, Kapil Moreshwar Patil, Union Minister of State for Panchayati Raj extended his greetings to all the participants on the occasion of the eighth International Day of Yoga and appealed everyone to adopt Yoga and practice Yoga exercises on regular basis for mental, emotional and physical health and well-being.

Highlighting the significance of Yoga, the Union MoS said, "Yoga represents the noble and ancient knowledge of health science and it generates physical as well as spiritual energy in a person and helps in removing diseases from the body".

Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary while speaking on the occasion also highlighted the benefits of practice of Yoga in our daily life.

Mandeep Kaur, Commissioner/Secretary, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj department delivered the welcome address.

During the celebrations of International Day of Yoga, adequate arrangements were made for seamless live streaming and screening of the Hon'ble Prime Minister's address from Mysuru Palace Grounds, Mysuru, Karnataka.

The Ministry of Panchayati Raj organized the IDY-2022 in close coordination and collaboration with the Government of Jammu and Kashmir, especially the Department of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj and Directorate of AYUSH. The Ministry of Ayush coordinated the event through Regional Research Institute of Unani Medicine of CCRUM as nodal agency for the event.

Mass Yoga Demonstration as per Common Yoga Protocol was conducted at the venue and all the participants joined the 45-minutes Yoga session to mark the IDY-2022. The Yoga session at Dal Lake was guided by Yoga expert, Dr. Ruhil Tabassum.

Around 1200 participants from various organizations attended the IDY-2022 celebrations at SKICC, Srinagar on the picturesque Dal Lake; including from Directorate of AYUSH and Unani College; RRIUM; RDD (elected representatives and functionaries of Panchayati Raj Institutions); Department of Youth and Sports; Health Department; SKUAST; BSF; CRPF; Scouts; NHM and others.

Junaid Azim Mattu, Mayor SMC; Dr. Chandra Shekhar Kumar, Additional Secretary Ministry of Panchayati Raj; Nitishwar Kumar, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor; Dr. Bijaya Kumar Behera, Economic Adviser, Ministry of Panchayati Raj; Ch. Mohd. Yasin, Mission Director, National Health Mission, J&K besides senior officers of civil administration, Police & Paramilitary forces also participated in the International Yoga day celebrations at Dal Lake.

Bank robbery case...

bank robbery case by arresting one accused and recovered stolen cash of Rs 1,53,86,290 within 24 hours," Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP), Kathua, R C Kotwal told reporters. Ashok Kumar, Branch Manager of HDFC Bank in Kathua, filed a complaint with the police alleging that two unidentified persons entered the bank branch from a terrace door, tied the security guard and stole money, he said. Approximately, Rs 1,65,00,000 was missing from the branch, Kotwal said. A case was registered and investigation set into motion, he said. A Special Investigation Team (SIT) under Additional SP of Kathua Suresh Kumar Chib was constituted, the SSP said. The team succeeded in arresting one person, identified as Jagandeep Singh, from Kathua, he said. During questioning, he disclosed the location where the stolen cash was stashed as well as the name of another accused namely Sukhvinder Singh of Kathua, the SSP said. In the presence of Executive Magistrate Tehsildar Bikram Kumar and HDFC Bank Manager Kumar, Jagandeep Singh confessed his involvement in the robbery and on his disclosure the police team recovered Rs 1,36,87,250 from his residence and Rs 16,99,040 from the residence of another accused Sukhvinder Singh, he said. "The search for Sukhvinder Singh is on," Kotwal said. The case was solved within 24 hours by the police, he said, adding the involvement of the accused in other cases cannot be ruled out.

PM leads Yoga...

an extreme thought to someone, but our sages have answered this in a simple mantra- that this whole universe starts from our own body and soul. The universe starts from us and Yoga makes us conscious of everything within us and builds a sense of awareness."

Averring that things start with self-awareness and proceed to awareness of the world, he said, "when we become aware of ourselves and our world, we begin to spot the things that need to be changed both in ourselves and in the world. They may be individual problems or global problems like climate change and international conflicts."

Observing that spiritual centres like Mysuru have nurtured the energy of Yoga for centuries, calling it the land of "spirituality and Yoga", Modi said today that energy was giving direction for world health. Yoga today is not just a part of life, but is becoming the way of life, and it should not be limited to any particular time or place, Modi stated. Pointing out that pictures of Yoga until a few years ago were limited to houses and spiritual centres, the PM said, today they were coming from every corner of the world, and at a time when the world faced the pandemic over the last two years, thus depicting the excitement towards Yoga Day, leaving behind the barriers of country, subcontinent and continent. This proves our vitality. "Yoga has today become an international festival. Yoga is not limited to any individual, but it is for the whole of humanity. So this year's International Yoga Day's theme is Yoga for Humanity," he said and thanked the United Nations and all the countries for taking the message of Yoga to the entire humanity.

Police attach 5...

the shelter was voluntarily and knowingly given by the member or members of the house.

"Many attacks on civilians, security forces were conspired and planned by terrorists while using these houses as hideouts," the statement said.

While two houses have been attacked in jurisdiction of Parimpura police station, one house each was attacked under Nowhatta, Pantha Chowk and Zakura police stations.

"Some more such houses have been identified and any wilful harbouring will be dealt with full force of law.

"Citizens are once again requested not to harbour or give shelter to terrorists, failing which we will be forced to take resort to attachment proceedings," the police statement said.

It said in case of any forced or coercive entry by terrorists into any house, the matter should be brought to the notice of police immediately.

CJ Mithal inaugurates...

Complex Jammu which was led by Justice Rahul Bharti, Judge High Court of J&K and Ladakh.

The event was attended by the Registrar General, Registrar Vigilance, Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority, Registrar Inspection, Pr. Secretary to Chief Justice, Registrar Judicial, Srinagar/Jammu, Secretary, High Court Legal Services Committee and other officers of the registry of both the wings of the High Court besides advocates and staff of the High Court of J&K and Ladakh.

Similar programmes were held in all the Subordinate Courts of UTs of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh wherein a large number of participants performed Yoga Asanas along with Yoga instructors who also described their importance and impact on the flexibility of human body and mind.

During the programme, while proposing vote of thanks, Registrar General, Sanjeev Gupta extended gratitude to Hon'ble Chief Justice for organizing such an event in all the judicial establishments of the UTs of J&K and Ladakh and also in the High Court wings of Srinagar and Jammu.

He also appreciated the participation of large number of advocates and staff members in making the event a grand success.

The Registrar General also recognized the expertise with which the yoga instructors imparted training to the participants in performing Yoga Asanas.

Kashmir's ailment still...

over the same period. Did New Delhi's special financial treatment win over Kashmir or Kashmiri leadership? Sadly, the answer is a big NO.

That the nation suffered huge socio-political and economic losses and witnessed reigns of senseless brutalities and attacks on the Indian state and its symbols in J&K at regular intervals and also witnessed demographic changes on a massive scale not only in Kashmir but also in Jammu and Ladakh before 2018 is not a secret. Everything, including the circumstances leading to the forced exodus of the minuscule and hapless minority of Kashmiri Hindus in 1990 and demographic changes in and around Jammu city and elsewhere in Jammu province and the trans-Himalayan Ladakh, is in public domain. Hence, it's hardly necessary to reflect on all this.

It was only from June 2018 that the Central Government started asserting its authority in J&K to protect and promote further the country's paramount sovereign interests. Mehbooba Mufti-led PDP-BJP coalition government was brought down. Almost all top-ranking secessionists and terrorists were put behind bars. Radical outfits like Jamaat-e-Islami were banned. Hurriyat Conferences brought to the knees. Cases against those involved in hawala business aimed at promoting the cult of terror were registered and action also being initiated against them. Article 370 was read down and Article 35A scrapped. Ladakh was separated from J&K and granted UT status. J&K itself was reduced to the UT status. All the 890 Central laws made applicable to J&K. All or nearly all so-called mainstream Kashmiri leaders, including three former Chief Ministers, were put under detention. All these definite actions produced positive results. Kashmir witnessed peace for one year. Things started worsening after

August 2020, when those responsible for communal unrest and secessionist violence in Kashmir, including three former Chief Ministers, were freed. Almost all Kashmiri parties joined hands to form Gupkar platform with a view to playing the kind of politics these parties had played in Kashmir independently or in alliance with the ruling elite in New Delhi. The results are there before our eyes: spurt in terror related incidents, target killings, attacks on paramilitary forces, open threats to Kashmiri Hindus and all non-Kashmiris, murder of innocent government employees inside their offices, recommendation of process of migration from Kashmir, to mention only a few. The whole point is that the powers-that-be in New Delhi and official think-tanks, policy-planners and trouble-shooters have hardly tried to diagnose what ails Kashmir or willfully ignored the hard realities. They continue to tread the same old path in Kashmir that promoted the forces inimical to democracy. They continue to blame Pakistan for the ills inflicting Kashmir conveniently overlooking the fact that while Pakistan came into being only in August 1947, Kashmir has been consistently witnessing troubles with the rise of Shahs since 1339. They have to review their whole policy based on the ground realities as they exist in this region. It was not for nothing that Congress veteran and former President R Venkataraman had urged PM Indira Gandhi to grant statehood to Jammu and UT to Ladakh and treat Kashmir separately (My Presidential Years). The Modi Government did exceedingly well to grant UT status to Ladakh in 2019. It should also treat Jammu like Ladakh so that the area of strife is limited to Kashmir Valley. Similarly, the Modi Government has to devise and apply a definite policy that induces the internally-displaced Kashmiri Hindus to return to Kashmir and live a peaceful, secure and prosperous life in an area that they prefer.

ED questions Rahul...

questioning him over multiple sessions and recording his statement under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

He has not been issued fresh summons and it is understood that his questioning has ended, at least for now.

Gandhi, 52, took a half-hour break around 8 pm and re-joined the session that started in the morning at 11.30 am. He finally left the agency office at 11:30 PM.

He was questioned for three consecutive days last week, beginning June 13, and after Monday's questioning, he was asked to rejoin the session and complete the recording of his statement.

Gandhi left the agency office after midnight on Monday.

The probe relates to alleged financial irregularities in the Congress-promoted Young Indian Private Limited, which owns the National Herald newspaper.

The ED is understood to have asked Gandhi about the incorporation of Young Indian Private Limited, operations of the National Herald, the loan given by the party to the newspaper's publisher Associated Journals Limited (AJL), and the transfer of funds within the news media establishment.

It is understood that Gandhi stuck to his position that there was no personal acquisition of assets by himself or his family as Young Indian was a "not-for-profit" company and that despite his being a majority shareholder, various financial decisions taken to revive the National Herald newspaper was taken collectively by senior Congress party leaders.