

!! Continuations from Page 1 !! Unified Command Meet...

The Lt Governor also reviewed the detailed plans for all basic necessities including the security arrangements that have been put in place by J&K Police in tandem with Army and Central Armed Police Forces for all the Yatris and the service providers.

The Lt Governor expressed satisfaction over the arrangements put in place by Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board (SASB) and other departments for the smooth and peaceful conduct of annual Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra, which will start from 30th June.

"The government is committed to provide the best facilities for Yatris. The improvements have been made in the arrangements as compared to the previous years. All necessary facilities including traffic management, health, communication, water sanitation are in place. We are aware of the high altitude related issues and adequate number of oxygen cylinders, medical beds, emergency responders, doctors and nursing staff has been deployed to deal with any emergency situation," Lt Governor said. CEO, Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board also briefed the meeting about services to facilitate the Yatris and do's and don'ts for Yatris during the holy pilgrimage.

5000 personnel to...

five registration centres, three token centres and 32 lodging centres. Pointing to major challenges, he said there are new security threat of sticky bombs, hybrid terrorists and IEDs dropped by drones.

He said the security setup has been drawn for convoys of Amarnath vehicles and area domination measures along road through which yatra convoys will pass.

Quick Reaction Teams (QRTs) have also been put in place, he said.

Meanwhile, Additional Director General (Western Command) of BSF P V Ramasastry visited the Jammu Frontier this afternoon and reviewed the security situation and operational preparedness of field formations in the region, officials said. He was on a two-day visit to the Jammu frontier from Wednesday to review the preparations of the Amarnath Yatra, the PRO of BSF, Jammu, said.

Inspector General (IG) of Jammu D K Boora gave a detailed presentation to the ADG about the general security scenario in the area, he said.

Ramasastry also visited Samba and Kathua borders and took stock of the security situation there. During the visit, the ADG also interacted with jawans and praised the troops for their alertness.

J&K Assembly to...

unrepresented in the presidential polls as the election to the Lok Sabha too could not take place in the erstwhile state in 1991 due to insurgency.

However, in the July 18 presidential polls, five Lok Sabha members from the Union Territory -- Farooq Abdullah, Hasnain Masoodi, Akbar Lone, Jugal Kishor Sharma and Jitendra Singh -- are eligible to cast their votes.

In 1982, when Gian Zail Singh was elected as the president, the legislators from Assam could not vote as the Assembly was dissolved.

'Aadhaar linked birth...

Secretary directed concerned officials to make coordinated efforts for full implementation of Aadhaar linked birth registration (ALBR) and civil registration system (CRS) in Jammu and Kashmir.

He stressed on completion of all the technical formalities for successful implementation of the program and directed them to follow the case with the Registrar General of India for making the portal available and accessible in JK at an earliest.

He enquired about the status and progress of constituent programs like training of staff, empanelment of Registrar of Births, procurement of necessary equipment and identification of staff to be trained for the task.

He advised the officials to start training the manpower so as the entire process becomes fully operational in Jammu and Kashmir within the set timelines. He directed the officers to ensure that the required infrastructure is put in place and any gaps should be projected before the UIDAI. He also directed the officers to cover all associated hospitals, district hospitals, CHCs, PHCs and private hospitals under the scheme. During the meeting Deputy Director General, Unique Identification Authority of India gave a brief about the process and benefits of the ALBR and CRS, saying the programs will quickly provide a unique identification to newborns. She elaborated that ALBR is the Aadhaar linked birth registration at the time of child birth and its integration with the national platform of Civil Registration System (CRS) would make the process of birth registration instant and hassle free. The meeting further deliberated upon the ways and means of making this process effective besides discussing about maximising the benefits by identifying all the commonly utilised delivery points. It also discussed smooth and speedy implementation of CRS here which would eventually help in successfully implementing this programme.

No successful infiltration...

"We have to be alert, and the boys are all up and about. We are maintaining our vigil," Misra said.

Asked if the ceasefire agreement has helped in reducing infiltration, he said, "It is very difficult to correlate the two directly. The dynamics are different."

On the presence of terrorists at launchpads across the LoC, the Army officer said there were inputs about it and the troops were on alert.

"We have ensured that we have whatever we need for our sector to keep the way it is. It has been reasonably good over the last year and so far this year," he said.

Asked if there was any incident of drone spotting, the officer said he was not aware of it. On whether any anti-drone system was deployed in the sector, he said, "If somebody comes, we can detect it, we can see it, we will bring it down."

Asked if anything has changed since former Pakistan prime minister Imran Khan's exit, Brigadier Misra said, "It is too early for it to be visible or to manifest for us. So, can we put our guard down? No. Are we alert every night? Yes."

Horse-trading not...

president also dismissed suggestions that the protests against the Centre's Agnipath defence recruitment scheme, were sponsored.

"There can't be a sponsored protest on such a large scale. There might perhaps have been an attempt to take advantage by some people but their numbers are very less. The maximum number of protesters were those who felt that this scheme does not benefit them and on the contrary is detrimental to them," he said.

Omar said the protests mainly took place in areas and regions where recruitment in the armed forces had been high.

"If you see, the protests took place mainly in those areas where army recruitment has been high. They are not happy with the scheme and they feel their future has been endangered. They want a change in this scheme," he added.

Protests had erupted in various parts of the country after the Centre unveiled the Agnipath scheme last Tuesday to recruit youngsters aged between 17-and-a-half and 21 years in the army, navy and air force, largely on a four-year contractual basis. It later relaxed the upper age limit for this year's recruitment to 23.

On local politics, Omar said the people of Jammu and Kashmir should be given a chance to elect a government that can listen to them.

"How many people can one LG and his three advisors listen to?" he asked.

Hitting out at critics of the People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD), Omar said this was not unusual.

"If PAGD constituents are wrong, why did they join in the first place. And why did they leave? They are not explaining it to the people," he said.

Omar said the decision should be left to the people.

"If they (critics of PAGD) have clout with Delhi, let them get the elections conducted. Whatever people decide, we will accept it," he added.

Traffic on Jammu...

all-weather road linking Kashmir with the rest of the country -- and partial restoration of vehicular movement can be expected by Friday afternoon. Explosives were used to blast boulders at Deval bridge near Samrol in Udhampur district, where a huge landslide had blocked a long stretch of the road.

Jammu Divisional Commissioner Ramesh Kumar, along with other senior officers, including Udhampur Deputy Commissioner Kritika Jyotsna and Senior Superintendent of Police Vinod Kumar, inspected the landslide spot near Samrol and asked the executing agencies to ensure that the road was made traffic-worthy at the earliest.

The deputy commissioner apprised the divisional commissioner that men and machinery were working on a war footing to restore the highway.

Ramban Deputy Commissioner Musarat Islam, who is also personally monitoring the road clearance operations, said 25 out of the around 30 areas hit by landslides and mudslides on the highway were cleared on Wednesday itself.

The highway was blocked on Tuesday evening due to landslides, mudslides and shooting stones at 33 places in Ramban and Udhampur districts. A 150-foot-long road stretch and an under-construction bridge on the highway were also washed away due to flash floods.

The Mughal road, another link connecting the twin Poonch-Rajouri districts of Jammu region with South Kashmir's Shopian district, was also cleared for traffic after remaining closed for two days.

Earlier in the day, Senior Superintendent of Police, National Highway, Shabir Ahmad Malik said efforts have been stepped up to ensure the early restoration of traffic on the Jammu-Srinagar national highway.

"Over 700 trucks and passenger vehicles, stranded between Panthiyal and Banihal (in Ramban), were cleared and they reached their destinations in Kashmir since Wednesday evening, while efforts are on to clear the remaining 1,300 vehicles," Malik told PTL.

Of these, 110 trucks were cleared during the day on Thursday, the officer said, adding the highway is through between Digdole and the Valley, while the road clearance operation in Ramban district, including Kela Morh, Sita Ram Passi Marooog

and Battery Cheshma, is likely to be completed by tonight.

"The stranded vehicles will be given priority once the road is made through," he said. The officials said many people crossed the landslide-hit areas by foot to reach their destinations. The stranded passengers have been provided with food and medical facilities, they said.

ED asks Sonia...

of Covid and lung infection".

Officials said she would be asked to record her statement in the last week of July. Gandhi was first issued notice for an appearance on June 8 but after she reported positive for COVID-19, a fresh notice for an appearance on June 23 was issued.

The Congress president was on Monday discharged from a private hospital in Delhi where she had been admitted for COVID-related complications. She was admitted to the hospital on June 12, days after testing positive for COVID-19 on June 2.

While she was in the hospital, the Enforcement Directorate questioned her son Rahul Gandhi for 54 hours in five days.

The Income Tax department, which had been investigating the National Herald case since 2016, had filed a charge sheet alleging financial irregularities in the Congress-promoted Young Indian Private Limited, which owns the National Herald newspaper.

The move to question the Gandhis was initiated as the ED recently registered a fresh case under the criminal provisions of the PMLA after a trial court here took cognisance of an Income Tax department probe against Young Indian, based on a private criminal complaint filed by Subramanian Swamy in 2013.

Sonia Gandhi and her son are among the promoters and majority shareholders of Young Indian with each having a 38 per cent stake in the company.

Swamy had accused the Gandhis and others of conspiring to cheat and misappropriate funds, with Young Indian paying only Rs 50 lakh to obtain the right to recover Rs 90.25 crore that the Associated Journals Limited (AJL) owed to the Congress. In February last year, the Delhi High Court issued a notice to the Gandhis for their response to Swamy's plea, seeking to lead evidence in the matter before the trial court. Congress leaders Mallikarjun Kharge and Pawan Bansal were questioned by the ED in this case in April.

The Congress has accused the Centre of targeting the opposition leaders by "mis-using" investigative agencies and has termed the entire action a "political vendetta".

HC sets aside...

three months and extending the same thereafter. As a sequel to what has been discussed hereinabove, the impugned order is bad in law and is not sustainable, the court observed.

"Same is ordered to be set aside and the respondent was directed to surrender before the court below to be remanded to the judicial custody on July 1, 2022", the court observed.

Tourist guide drowns...

expedition before heavy rainfall swept the Kashmir valley from June 19.

Ten tourists and two local guides have been rescued while efforts are on to trace the missing tourist, the officials said.

Meanwhile, seven tourists were rescued by locals from Dal Lake here after their houseboat started to sink on Thursday morning.

They were evacuated to safety by the houseboat owner and his neighbours.

Govt constitutes Advisory...

Vice Chairman, Lake Conservation and Management Authority (LCMA) as Co-chairman.

"Deputy Director Tourism (Registration), Secretary, LCMA, Assistant Director, F&ES, Srinagar; two Members of Houseboat owners Association each nominated by the Chairman KIBBOA will be the Members of the Committee," it added.

"The functions of Advisory cum Regulatory Committee is to identify areas of concern regarding preservation of the lake body with regard to the houseboats, to point out measures to be taken for increasing the tourist influx to the lakein general and houseboats in particular; to review measures taken for proper and scientific waste disposal from the Houseboats and any other areas of concern," reads an order.

It added, "The committee shall also be responsible for scrutinizing all documents of houseboat(s) for issuance/ renewal of registration, ensuring adherence of the fire safety related guidelines by the houseboat owner(s), ensuring functional bio-digester or similar Sewage Treatment system for Solid/Liquid Waste is installed and making surprise inspections of houseboats to check overcharging by the Houseboats and facilities as per entitlement are made available to them."

Govt sets-up...

the Government, Housing & Urban Development Department is also nominated as UT level Nodal Officer to coordinate the arrangements for G-20 meetings in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

COVID: 38 new cases in J&K, 6 in Ladakh

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir reported 38 new Covid cases on Thursday that took the infection tally to 4,54,623, officials said.

No Covid-related death was reported, they said.

Of the new cases, 25 were reported from the Jammu division while 13 were from the Kashmir valley, officials said. The death toll stands at 4,755, they said.

There are 220 active cases, while the overall recoveries have reached 4,49,648, officials said.

There were 51 confirmed cases of mucormycosis (black fungus), they added.

Meanwhile, Ladakh reported six fresh COVID-19 cases during the past 24 hours, pushing the infection tally in the Union territory to 28,334, while six more patients were discharged from hospitals, officials said. All the new cases were detected in Leh, they said.

So far, 228 people have succumbed to COVID-19 in Ladakh 168 in Leh and 60 in Kargil.

The officials said the number of active COVID-19 cases has gone up to 32 in Ladakh -- 31 in Leh and one in Kargil. The total number of recoveries stands at 28,074, they said.

Three-member enquiry committee to look into allegations against Asstt Professor

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The government on Thursday constituted three members enquiry committee to look into the allegations leveled against Tasleem Arif Dar, Assistant Professor of Political Science.

"It is ordered that an Enquiry Committee is constituted consisting of Director Colleges, J&K, Registrar, University of Kashmir and Dean Academic Affairs, University of Jammu to conduct an inquiry into the allegations leveled against Tasleem Arif Dar, Assistant Professor (Political Science)," reads an order issued by Rohit Kansal, Principal Secretary, Higher Education Department. "The Committee shall examine the matter and furnish its factual report within a week's time," it added.

Add Secy Home to probe conduct of APO

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Government on Thursday appointed Qazi Irfan Rasool, Additional Secretary, Home Department as an Inquiry Officer to conduct an enquiry into the charges framed against Ravi Kant Samyal, Assistant Public Prosecutor (APO), Munsiff Court Khatlasi/Nubra.

"In terms of Rule 33 of J&K Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1956, Qazi Irfan Rasool, Additional Secretary to the Government, Home Department, is appointed as Inquiry Officer to conduct an enquiry into the charges framed against Ravi Kant Samyal, Assistant Public Prosecutor, Munsiff Court Khatlasi/Nubra," read an order issued by R.K Goyal, Financial Commissioner/Additional Chief Secretary, Home department.

Further, Sumita Kargotra, Chief Prosecuting Officer presently posted as I/C Deputy Director Prosecution in the office of Director Prosecution, Jammu shall be the Presenting Officer.

"The Inquiry Officer shall complete the enquiry and submit his report along with recommendations to the Home Department within a period of thirty days from the date of issue of this order," it added.

Udhampur Admn cautions public about fake WhatsApp account using DP of DC

STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: The District administration Udhampur has cautioned the public about a fake WhatsApp account using DP of DC Udhampur.

The fraudster is using the fake WhatsApp and asking different employees and others to pay through Amazon pay link etc.

The district administration has informed the public that this is an absolutely fake WhatsApp account and they should not fall in the trap of the fraudster.

The General public is also informed that the Deputy Commissioner has never called or sent messages and asked any specific individual for making an account or using Amazon pay link.

"People should pay no heed to any messages and calls and immediately report the same to Police ASAP" the administration has urged the people.

The DC has stated that the WhatsApp account & the text messages being sent are fake and advised everyone to kindly ignore any such message and report it to concerned police authorities.

The DC has directed the concerned authority to look into the matter and take action against the fraudsters as warranted under norms.

DP's share of 8/9 Assembly seats be released immediately: JKSAC

STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: The displaced persons (DPs) of 1947 from POK held meetings at village Khour, Chak Salaria and Chak Babral in district Samba under the banner of Jammu Kashmir Sharnarhi Action Committee (JKSAC) wherein it was demanded that DP's share of 8/9 assembly seats be released immediately as they are settled in Jammu region from the last more than seven decades, as J&K is fully integrated with Union of India and now the govt. has no justification to captivate their constitutional rights of representation. The participants in the meeting also demanded implementation of JPC report No. 183, the only roadmap to resolve the DP's settlement issues pending redressal past seven years and the registration of their claim and accordingly payment of final compensation could be made after the liberation of POK as asserted by GOI many times.

Speaking in the



JKSAC members after the meeting at Samba.

meeting Gurdev Singh alongwith Ch. Darshan Singh (Chairman BDC), Bhagwan Singh, Capt. Puran Singh Chib, Ch. Joginder Lal and Sarpanch Tejinder Singh said, it is not understood that on what ground the Delimitation Commission has recommended to central govt. for consideration of only 2/3 seats for DPs of 1947 instead of 8/9 seats which are at present exactly proportional to their population settled in Jammu region. He apprised the participants that constitutional assembly was convened in 1951 and it delineated 100 seats for

J&K. The election was held for 75 seats only and 25 seats of the residents of Pak occupied areas of J&K were reserved and kept vacant. He said that strength of assembly seats remained 100 only, when an act was passed in 1988 and seats of J&K assembly were increased by 111 in 1995 after making an amendment by the then govt. in the constitution of erstwhile J&K state.

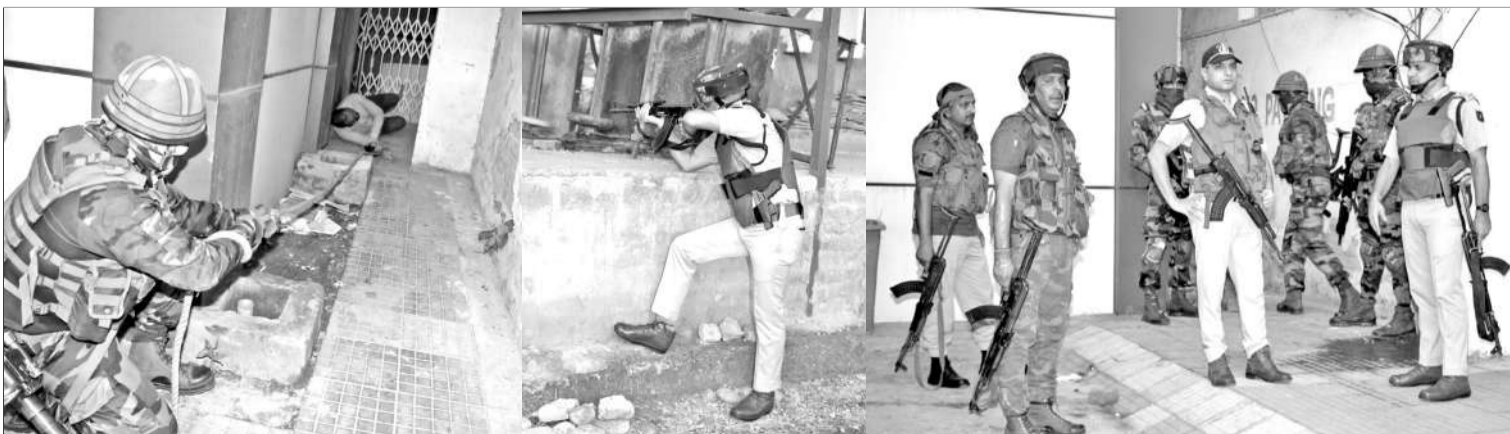
He said that JKSAC forcefully raised their voice and started Jail baro adolan in 1988 and similarly resented strongly in 1995 but the than state govt. having sup-

port of central govt. did not budge even an inch from their stand and ultimately DP's voice was crushed having no support of the Jammu based political parties. As per section 48 of the erstwhile J&K state election was held for 87 seats only including 4 seats of Ladakh. 24 seats were reserved again and kept vacant for show casing only to strengthen the Indian constitutional claim over POK. He further apprised the participants that JKSAC made a protracted struggle all along these years in this regard, but the govt. always escaped under the plea that freezing of the DP's seats needs an amendment in the constitution and regretted that such amendments were never made as it did suit the valley centric govts. in J&K who always wanted to keep intact their hegemony over Jammu region.

He further said that after historical abrogation of article 370 and 35-A by the central govt. the DPs were very hopeful that some provision would be made in the reorganization Act to accommodate DP's aspirations but unfortunately nothing happened as expected and the BJP led central govt. did not take care of the section-14(4) in respect of DPs, thus vindicating the stand taken by earlier state and central govts. They have been deprived again of their legitimate right of representation. He said that delimitation commission lacks justification in recommending consideration of only two seats for DPs out of their total share of 8/9 seats.

All the speakers in the meeting made humble appeal to Prime Minister Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah to amend the re-organisation act in the ensuing parliamentary session to accommodate DPs in legislative structure of J&K and further added that this is the appropriate occasion to undo the injustice done to DPs by the previous govts. who captivated their constitutional representation since 1951 merely for political considerations.

Mock drill on terrorist attack neutralisation conducted



Security personnel during the mock drill at Jammu Railway Station on Thursday.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A mock drill on terrorist attack neutralization was conducted at Railway Station Jammu

by GRP Jammu in coordination with Special Operations Group Jammu in which District Police Jammu, RPF, Army, CRPF,

SDRF, Crisis Response Team Of Jammu Police, Medical Teams, Fire Services Team also participated actively. The drill was conducted

from 6: 55 PM to 7: 45 PM. It was held under the overall supervision of Ssp Railways Jammu Mohammad Arif Rishu.