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Amit Shah reviews...

atables, medicines and electronics were recovered from the possession of the slain terrorists, one of whom was said to be a top commander of Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) outfit.

Police had on Wednesday released sketches of four terrorists involved in two attacks in Doda district and announced a reward of Rs 20 lakh for information leading to their arrest.

In Reasi district where terrorists had attacked a bus carrying pilgrims on Sunday, police said so far 50 suspected persons were detained as the search operation was intensified to remote pockets.

Police had also issued an advisory, urging residents of the Jammu region to stay vigilant regarding the movement of suspicious individuals and objects.

The advisory was issued following intelligence inputs suggesting the possibility of a terror threat in parts of Rajouri and Jammu districts.

Meanwhile, police in Jammu and Kashmir have started preparation for the two-month-long Amarnath yatra.

Additional Director General of Police Vijay Kumar last week directed the security forces to fortify the existing security infrastructure, improve surveillance tactics and bolster personnel deployment along the Amarnath pilgrimage route.

He also directed officials to mitigate potential risks by deploying anti-sabotage teams along the Yatra routes to identify and neutralise any potential terror threats.

Kumar also held a joint meeting with the officers of the police, Army, Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) and other agencies and discussed the overall security arrangements to be adopted for the safe, smooth and incident-free conduct of the pilgrimage.

Services of specialised forces like the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) and Snow and Avalanche Study Establishment (SASE) may also be utilised in order to get vulnerable points along the pilgrimage route mapped so that these can be monitored on a regular basis to enhance the overall safety measures, officials said.

Security will be enhanced to mitigate potential risks by deploying anti-sabotage teams along the Amarnath Yatra route to identify and neutralise any potential terror threats, they said.

Rajiv, Zargar, Yashpal...

2019, read with S.O. 3937 (E) dated 31st October, 2019, and Order issued in terms of sub-clause (i) of clause (c) of the Proclamation issued by the President dated 31st October, 2019, the Lieutenant Governor of Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir is pleased to appoint three persons, as Members of the Public Service Commission for the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir," read S.O 334 Notification issued by Sanjeev Verma, Commissioner/Secretary, General Administration Department.

They include Rajiv Singh, Professor and Head, Division of Veterinary Medicine, Faculty of Veterinary Science & AH, SKUAST-J, R S Pura; Tariq Ahmad Zargar, JKAS, Secretary in the Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj; and Yashpal Kotwal, Retired Principal District Judge, Samba.

"They shall hold the position of the Members, Public Service Commission, till they attain the age of sixty two years and their appointment shall take effect from the date they assume the office," it added.

Three JKAS, two...

been posted as Under Secretaries, Finance Department.

A separate order reads, "Mohd Ashraf Sheikh, JKAS, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Pulwama, has been transferred and posted as Additional Deputy Commissioner, Anantnag vice Zaffar Shawl, JKAS, who has been posted as Additional Deputy Commissioner, Pulwama."

"Owais Mushtaq, JKAS, Deputy Secretary, Tourism Department, has been transferred and posted as Deputy Director, Rural Sanitation, Kashmir," reads another GAD order.

LG pays obeisance...

sanitation facilities. We are expecting to complete the Bhawan in next 8 months and it will accommodate 1000 pilgrims, he added.

The Lt Governor also appreciated the efforts of the District Administration, Relief Commissioner's Office, Police and Security Forces and all stakeholders for the smooth conduct of the Mela.

He said, over 30,000 devotees paid obeisance at Mela Kheer Bhawani this year. Around 200 buses have arrived from Jammu and the administration and citizens have ensured best possible facilities to the devotees, the Lt Governor said.

During his visit to the holy shrine at Tulmulla, Ganderbal, the Lt Governor also interacted with the members of Kashmiri Pandit Community and discussed various issues. Nuzhat Ishaq, DDC Chairperson Ganderbal; Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, Secretary, Rural Development & Panchayati Raj Department; Shyambir, Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal; senior officials of the Civil and Police Administration and pilgrims in large numbers were present on the occasion.

Sinha meets J&K's...

wishes to him for the upcoming Paralympic Games.



LG Manoj Sinha meeting Amir Ahmad Bhat, International Para Shooter from J&K representing India at Paris 2024 Paralympic Games.

The International Para Shooter, hailing from Damhall village of Anantnag District, is also serving as a Junior Commissioned Officer (JCO) in the Indian Army.

CS launches competitions...

competitions, the Chief Secretary asked the concerned for providing opportunity to maximum citizens including school children. He also exhorted upon the Deputy Commissioners to promote citizen involvement at the district level.

Accentuating the significance of Yoga, the Chief Secretary said that the ancient



CS Atal Dulloo launching competitions on MyGov portal.

practice fosters mindfulness techniques that aid in relaxation as well as reducing stress and anxiety. "It improves physical, mental and spiritual health by balancing the body, mind and the spirit through postures (asanas), breathing techniques (pranayama), meditation and ethical guidelines. "Yoga has now become an increasingly popular form of therapy, coping mechanism, and complementary treatment for mental health", maintained the Chief Secretary. He encouraged the people to overwhelmingly participate in the competitions to share the changes they have experienced by incorporating Yoga into their lives. He reiterated that these initiatives aim to inspire the citizens of Jammu and Kashmir to embrace Yoga for holistic well-being and share their personal journeys, fostering a community united by health and harmony. The Chief Secretary fervently appealed the participants to register and submit their entries on MyGov portal and join the celebration of International Yoga Day throughout the region. Among others present on the occasion included Administrative Secretaries and HoDs of various departments, Deputy Commissioners and other officers.

ACB unearths over...

He said eight to 10 serving and retired revenue officials, including Tehsildars, Naib-Tehsildars and Patwaris, have been named so far in the FIRs.

The ACB teams conducted searches in residences of revenue officials including Shakeel Ahmed Patwari, Mohd Aslam Girdawar, Madam Rafat (Niab Tehsildar), Pranab Dev Patwari, Akeel Ahmad NT, Sushil Virdi, Amit Upadaya Tehsildar, Altaf Hussain Patwari, Javed Ahmed Patwari and Anjad Malik Girdawar.

The ACB teams also raided the houses of property dealers including Surinder Kumar, resident of Kala Kam, Kanachak, Ghara Ram, resident of Dub Sudan, Kanachak, Rohit Singh, resident of Burn, Naseem Choudhary, resident of Burn, 'Arsem Lal, alias Pangu alias Pappu, resident of Rehari, Vijay Kumar alias Vijay Master, resident of Purkhood, Rajinder Sharma, Jagdish Kumar, both residents of village Flora, near Domana, Avinash Bargotra, resident of Purkhood

Inputs were received that custodian land in thousands of kanals had been grabbed by the land mafia and gangsters after tampering with the revenue records and the land was sold to various people, he said.

SSP Sharma said a formal verification was conducted and it was found that in furtherance of the criminal conspiracy, FORM 3-A (Form Alf) along with power of attorneys (POAS) were obtained from various PoK refugees, alluring them of additional lands and providing them instant money ranging from Rs 5,000 to Rs 50,000 by the conduits of land grabbers.

Thereafter, insertions or additions regarding additional chunks of custodian lands were made in the revenue records by the officials of the revenue and custodian department.

They did this by abusing their official positions and these lands were sold by the conduits and attorney holders to various people, including their own gang leaders and members, by resorting to fraudulent means, thereby causing a huge loss to the government, he said.

Owing to the establishment of, prima facie, nexus of the criminal elements, land grabbers and the Revenue/Custodian officers/officials in alienation of Custodian land through fraudulent means, ACB has registered five formal case FIRs for investigation under the provisions of the Prevention of Corruption Act, criminal conspiracy, cheating, forgery and fraud, the SSP said.

During the course of the investigation, after obtaining the search warrants from the Special Judge Anti-Corruption Jammu, search teams comprising ACB officers, independent witnesses, and magistrates were dispatched to 16 locations throughout Jammu and its adjoining areas, Sharma said, adding the searches were still going on when last reports were received.

In addition to the five FIRs, verification is still in progress to unearth the remaining usurped custodian land, he said. SSP Surinder Sharma said no one has been arrested so far.

Way to peace...

believes that the way to peace is through dialogue and diplomacy," he said.

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said Modi and Zelenskyy exchanged views on the situation in Ukraine and the upcoming Peace Summit in Switzerland.

"The prime minister conveyed that India continues to encourage peaceful resolution of the conflict through dialogue and diplomacy, and reiterated that India would continue to do everything within its means to support a peaceful solution," it said.

It said Modi thanked President Zelenskyy for his warm wishes on his assuming office for the third term.

External affairs ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal the two leaders reviewed bilateral relationship and exchanged views on situation in Ukraine.

"Furthering India-Ukraine partnership! PM @narendramodi met President @ZelenskyyUa of Ukraine on the sidelines of the 50th G7 Summit in Apulia, Italy," he said on X.

"The leaders reviewed bilateral relationship and exchanged views on situation in Ukraine. PM conveyed that India continues to encourage peaceful resolution of the conflict through dialogue and diplomacy," he said.

External affairs minister S Jaishankar and Foreign Secretary Vinay Kwatra were part of Modi's delegation at the talks.

It is learnt that Zelenskyy briefed Modi on various aspects of the conflict.

Modi had met Zelenskyy on the sidelines of the previous G7 summit in Hiroshima in May last year as well.

India has been maintaining that the conflict in Ukraine must be resolved through dialogue and diplomacy.

The meeting between Modi and Zelenskyy came ahead of the Swiss Peace Summit. India on Wednesday said it will participate in the upcoming peace summit on the Ukraine conflict at an "appropriate level".

The Peace Summit will take place at Burgenstock in Lucerne on June 15 and 16. Switzerland has invited Prime Minister Modi to attend it.

However, it is learnt that a senior diplomat will represent India at the summit.

SC seeks response...

lawyer said. "We understand. We are conscious of all that," the bench said.

The Centre and the National Testing Agency (NTA) had on Thursday told the Supreme Court they had cancelled the grace marks given to 1,563 candidates who took the examination for admission to MBBS or other such courses.

They will have the option to either take a re-test or forgo the compensatory marks awarded to them for the loss of time, the Centre had said.

The examination was held on May 5 across 4,750 centres and around 24 lakh candidates took it. The results were expected to be declared on June 14 but were announced on June 4, apparently because the evaluation of the answer sheets got completed earlier.

There have been allegations of question paper leaks in states like Bihar and other irregularities in the prestigious exam.

The allegations have led to protests in several cities and filing of cases in seven high courts as also the Supreme Court. Scores of students protested in Delhi on June 10 seeking a probe into alleged irregularities.

As many as 67 students scored a perfect 720, unprecedented in the NTA's history, with six from a centre in Haryana's Faridabad figuring in the list, raising suspicions about irregularities. It has been alleged that grace marks contributed to 67 students sharing the top rank.

The NEET-UG examination is conducted by the NTA for admissions to MBBS, BDS, AYUSH and other related courses in government and private institutions across the country.

300 Women Scientists...

innovations and technological breakthroughs of the network of 37 CSIR labs situated across the Nation, working in diversified domains of science and technology. He said "Our aim should be to build stronger connections with various industries and MSMEs, start-ups and other stakeholders, and not just confining it within the walls of the laboratory, he added.

Union Science & technology Minister also directed to carry forward and scale up the Seaweed mission along with its Commercial cultivation to promote sustainable green economy. Going further he highlighted the fact that India produces 774 tonnes of biomedical waste daily, and lauded CSIR's efforts which transforms Pathogenic Biomedical Waste into Value-added Soil Additives. Dr. Jitendra also congratulated Team CSIR on its successful endeavours such as E-Tiller, 108- Petal lotus, and success of purple mission.

He also directed scientists of CSIR to integrate Phenome India-CSIR Health Cohort Knowledgebase (PI-CHECK) with artificial Intelligence and Machine learning models to enable the development of targeted diagnostic and prognostic technologies, thus paving the path for Precision Medicine in India and perhaps, globally. He also enquired on the progress of comprehensive database of Indian women foot anthropometry and gait identification of defective gait pattern at early stage of development of supportive/corrective footwear to prevent progression of osteoarthritis and other complications arising out of ageing in women.

"Biomufacturing and Bio-foundry will drive India's future bioeconomy and promote "Green Growth" says Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh while chairing another meeting of the Department of Biotechnology (DBT). Addressing the meeting he highlighted that India's bio-economy has grown nearly 13 folds in the last 10 years from \$10 billion in 2014 to over \$130 billion in 2024. He expressed his belief that with PM Modi's leadership we now have an enabling ecosystem of industrial development and entrepreneurship. Dr. Jitendra Singh said, "In keeping with India's realisation of a global vision, the last 'Vote-on-Account' envisaged an exclusive scheme to promote biomufacturing and bio-foundry".

He said, the scheme will help transform today's consumptive manufacturing paradigm to the one based on regenerative principles. It will provide environment-friendly alternatives such as biodegradable polymers, bio-plastics, bio-pharmaceuticals and bio-Agri-inputs to supplement Bio-Start-Ups and bio-economy, he added.

He directed the scientists and officials that he wants to maintain this momentum and promote and empower farmers and Agri-entrepreneurs.

Dr. Jitendra Singh also emphasised on development of indigenous technologies and products. He motivated DBT to harmonise integration of research between research Institutions, Industrial R&D and Start Up Ecosystem.

Dr. Rajesh Gokhale, Secretary, Department of Bio-Technology and Dr. N. Kalaiselvi, DG CSIR along senior scientists and officials of both the departments were present for the meeting.

KPs celebrate annual...

of the Kashmiri Pandit community felt very good to pay obeisance at the revered

shrine.

"It feels very good to have come here. It has been a memorable experience," he said.

D K Kaul, another Kashmiri Pandit who visited the temple here after 20 years, said there seems to be no fear among the pilgrims.

"There are miscreants everywhere and it is their job to create disturbances and wedge between the communities. We have no fear, we have the support of our Muslim brothers. The neighbouring country does not want Muslims and Hindus to live together in brotherhood. We want to live together. We have no complaints or grudges with our Muslim brothers, they provided us shelter in their homes and kept all the facilities," Kaul said.

As devotees jostled with each other to move closer to the main temple complex, walking barefoot and carrying rose petals, the chants of hymns echoed through the temple compound here.

The devotees offered tribute to the goddess as men took a dip in the stream close to the shrine. They paid obeisance to the deity while offering milk and 'kheer' (pudding) at the sacred spring within the complex.

It is believed that the colour of the sacred spring water flowing beneath the temple here reflects the conditions in the valley.

While most of the colours do not have any particular significance, black or darkish colour of the water is believed to be an indication of inauspicious times for Kashmir. However, the water in the spring was clean and milky white this year.

Sunny said that he hopes to return to his homeland. "Lord Ram returned after 14 years, but our 'banwaas' is going on and we are trying to return to our home, live in our homeland," he said.

"We pray here every time for our return. It has been 35 years that we have left the valley, but have not been able to return. Shri Ram had a 'banwaas' of 14 years, but we have been in 'banwaas' for 35 years. He was a God, we are humans. This is a failure of the government," another pilgrim said here. He said the community wants to live with their brothers.

"We pray to Mata Kheer Bhawani that make us live like we used to before in peace and brotherhood. We want to return to our homeland," he said.

We are thankful to our Muslim brothers for the arrangements and facilities, he added.

Political leaders, including former chief minister of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir Parooq Abdullah, BJP's J-K president Ravinder Raina, and CPI(M) leader M Y Tarigami, also paid obeisance at the shrine.

Abdullah, the president of the National Conference (NC), said he wants the Pandits to return to their homeland.

"Our brothers and sisters are praying here. They want to return to their homes. We want them to return and live together in peace and brotherhood. We have come here to pray for the whole country, to live in peace and brotherhood and for the prosperity of the country," Abdullah told reporters.

Helpage India releases its National 2024 Report

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Helpage India on Friday on the Eve of 'World Elder Abuse Awareness Day' released its National 2024 Report 'Ageing in India Exploring preparedness & Response to care Challenges'.



Helpage India members releasing report.

Report was released at Old Age Home Ambhalla Jammu by I.D. Soni (President Old Age Home) in presence of Helpage India Staff.

Helpage India report reveals majority of India's Elders are not prepared for their later years, with high dependency on others for a dignified living.

ADGP Jammu reviews arrangements for Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra 2024

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In preparation for the upcoming Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra 2024, Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) Jammu, Anand Jain, on Friday convened a high-level meeting to review the arrangements of Yatra.

The meeting included senior officials from Police, and security forces, as well as all District Senior Superintendents of Police (SSPs) and Range Deputy Inspectors (General DIGs).



ADGP Anand Jain chairing a meeting in Jammu.

During the meeting, ADGP Anand Jain emphasized the importance of coordinated efforts among all stakeholders to ensure the safety and security of the pilgrims.

He highlighted the need for meticulous planning and execution of security measures to address any potential threats and challenges.

The discussion was held on the security being extended to the pilgrims during their stay in the base camp of Yatris at Yatri Niwas Bhagwati Nagar Jammu and other lodging centers.

ADGP Jammu Anand Jain, while reviewing arrangements for Shri Amarnath Yatra, stressed for establishment of joint control rooms for better and close coordination between all agencies to ensure smooth conduct of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra.

The discussions covered a wide range of issues including, Security Arrangements, Intelligence Sharing, Traffic Management, Medical and Emergency Services, Infrastructure and Logistics.

Besides strategies to manage the expected high influx of pilgrims, including traffic regulation, parking facilities, and emergency response measures, adequate medical facilities, emergency services, and disaster management plans to address health-related issues and emergencies during the Yatra were reviewed.

ADGP Jammu stressed the significance of maintaining a high level of vigilance and preparedness throughout the duration of the Yatra.

He instructed the officials to conduct regular reviews and drills to ensure that all plans are effectively implemented.

Nurturing Future Leadership Programme at IIM Jammu concludes

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu concluded the Nurturing Future Leadership Programme, under the aegis of the Malaviya Mission 'Teacher Training Programme, Ministry of Education, Govt of India, with a grand valedictory ceremony held at Bharat Classroom, Jagti Campus on Friday.

The program, held from 10th June to 14th June 2024, aimed to equip educators with essential leadership skills.

The valedictory ceremony was graced by Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu.

Prof. Sahay invited feedback and suggestions regarding the five-day, "Nurturing Future Leadership Programme" at IIM Jammu.

Prof. Sahay emphasized the crucial role of educators in shaping the future and invited suggestions for further enhancing the programme.

He commended the Ministry of Education for their initiative and stressed the alignment of the program's objectives with national educational goals.

He remarked that receiving feedback from faculty colleagues is heartening and provides significant motivation to the faculty members at the Institute.

He highlighted the importance of the five-day program, noting that participants likely wrote down their expectations at the beginning and encouraged them to assess whether these expectations were met. According to him, the success of the program belongs to all the participants and the faculty members of the Institute. He further reiterated that any institute is built on two pillars: faculty members and students. He extended an invitation to all the participants to visit both the IIM Jammu and IIM Jammu Srinagar campuses. He also emphasized that IIM Jammu and its faculty members are open to collaborating on joint research papers, with all faculty profiles available on the institute's website.



Officials along with participants posing for photograph.