

!! Continuations from Page 1 !!

Don’t spare those...

The Lt Governor also reviewed the progress of various development projects, delivery of public services and implementation of Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) and other government-run schemes and programmes.

The Lt Governor also congratulated the DCS and SSPs for the successful and peaceful conduct of Parliamentary elections and Mata Kheer Bhawani Mela.

Narco-terror module...

Shafeeq Ahmad Sheikh, a resident of Khawarparab Karnah, and Tariq Ahmad Malik, a resident of Baghballa. Further investigation revealed the presence of three pistols with another person identified as Parvez Ahmed Pathan, a resident of Sadhpura, the spokesman said. He said that Pathan was arrested in a joint raid by the police and army, adding three pistols, 76 pistol rounds, six pistol magazines and approximately five kg of suspected explosive were recovered from his possession.

A case has been registered and further interrogations and investigation is ongoing, the spokesman said.

Recent terror incidents...

from June 9 to 12, killing nine persons and a CRPF jawan and leaving scores of others injured. Two suspected Pakistani terrorists were also killed in one of the encounters in Kathua.

"When you are talking about a threat or challenge, you see how serious or big it is. The challenge is coming from across the border and they (terror handlers) have taken a decision that they will keep the pot boiling.

"They have noticed that the days of terrorism (in Jammu and Kashmir) are numbered, given the major setback inflicted on the terror infrastructure in Kashmir. How can those, whose bread and better runs on this, give it up so easily?

"The contractors (handlers) are sitting across the border and to keep their shops running, they send them (foreign mercenaries) here," the police chief said.

He was talking to reporters on the sidelines of his visit to Saida Sukhal village in Hiranagar sector of Kathua district where the two suspected Pakistani terrorists and a CRPF jawan were killed in an over 15-hour long operation on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Swain, accompanied by Additional Director General of Police, Jammu zone, Anand Jain, interacted with the police personnel deployed in the village for an ongoing search operation. The DGP also visited Hiranagar police station and addressed the policemen, lauding their role in the recent gunfight.

"As we see, they (terrorists) are not in huge numbers. They are like rats but they exist. They have guns and they are using these on innocent people," he said, assuring the people that all of them will be eliminated.

"The way the information flow (about movement of terrorists) is there, we have Village Defence Guards, police forces, CRPF and the Army. How long will they hold their ground facing them?

"In the past, they made an attempt to spread anarchy (in Jammu region for eight to 10 years) but they failed. They will meet the same fate again," he said.

He said the central government has given instructions for further strengthening the manpower and equipment including weapons, night vision devices, training skill, vehicles and "we will neutralize them".

The DGP said use of drones by Pakistan to drop weapons and narcotics continued to be a challenge. He said a handful of people are supporting terrorism and stern action against them will be initiated to make them an example for others so that no one else ever thinks of supporting them.

"We should accept that this is a war which was thrust upon us. In any war, the enemy makes an attempt to cause more harm to the opposite side. We will adopt such tactics and strategy not only to eliminate them but also ensure minimum harm to us," he said. He requested people to continue with the flow of information but cross-check it.

"Don't raise false flags. We should be there where we ought to be," he said, adding that the police have responded to every input so far.

Don’t pay heed...

with number plate hidden by a newspaper piece.

"As confirmed the vehicle in the video was carrying the CAPF personnel and some social media handles unnecessarily try to create panic among general masses and spread misinformation," said a police spokesman.

The spokesman said that people are advised not to pay heed to rumour and fear mongering.

As per sources, the number plates of vehicles carrying security forces are covered. Jammu and Kashmir Police earlier on Wednesday issued an 'alert advisory' in the Jammu region, urging the residents to stay vigilant regarding the movement of suspicious individuals and objects.

They have advised the residents of Jammu and Rajouri to thoroughly check their vehicles before turning them on, the officials said.

DIG Sujit Kumar...

is appointed as Inquiry Officer to conduct an inquiry into the charges framed against Nissar Ahmad Wani, the then Labour Procurement Officer, Defence Labour Procurement Department, J&K. Further, Kamal Sharma, CPO, CID, J&K, shall be the Presenting Officer," read an order issued by Chandraker Bharti, Principal Secretary, Home Department.

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

Gadkari meets Karan...

projects in the Union Territory of J-K.

The meeting focused on the strategic importance of enhancing infrastructure in the region, aiming to bolster connectivity and support economic growth.

During the discussions, the Union minister informed Singh of the progress of several key projects, including the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway, Delhi-Katra Expressway and the Zojila Tunnel Project, the statement said.

He emphasised the government's commitment to expediting the completion of these projects, which are expected to significantly improve transportation networks, reduce travel time, and enhance safety for commuters.

Gadkari highlighted the commitment of the Central government to continue working towards the vision of a well-connected and prosperous Jammu and Kashmir, fostering a brighter future for the region.

Singh expressed his support for the initiatives and highlighted the potential benefits for the local population, including increased accessibility to remote areas, promotion of tourism, and creation of job opportunities, the statement said.

Singh highlighted the critical role of robust infrastructure in the socio-economic development of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Union Minister assured that the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways is dedicated to addressing any challenges and ensuring the timely execution of these projects.

Two inter-state...

and a Special Police Officer.

A massive search operation was launched to track down the terrorists while traffic on the two busy inter-state roads was suspended to avoid any untoward incident.

Restrictions were also imposed on all high-altitude picnic spots including Guldanda, Chattergalla Paas, Padri and Jaie Ghati following the terrorist attack.

Officials said though efforts are on to neutralise the terrorists, the two vital roads have been made secure with the deployment of additional forces.

Chief Executive Officer of Bhaderwah Development Authority Bal Krishan said all restrictions on the movement of locals and visitors have been lifted and tourists should not pay heed to rumours as "we assure the safety of all visitors in all high-altitude spots".

Locals and visitors thanked the administration for lifting the restrictions and said they have full faith in the security forces.

Shah to review...

along the International Border and Line of Control, infiltration attempts, the status of ongoing anti-terror operations and the strength of terrorists operating in the Union Territory, sources said.

He is expected to give broad guidelines about the immediate action to be taken by the security agencies in line with the prime minister's directive, they said.

Terrorists struck at four places in Reasi, Kathua and Doda districts of Jammu and Kashmir in four days, killing nine pilgrims and a CRPF jawan and leaving seven security personnel and several others injured.

Two suspected Pakistani terrorists were also killed in an encounter with security forces in Kathua district and a huge quantity of arms and ammunition were recovered from them.

The incidents came ahead of the annual pilgrimage to the cave shrine of Amarnath in the south Kashmir Himalayas, which is set to begin on June 29 and will continue till August 19.

The Amarnath pilgrims travel through two routes -- Baltal and Pahalgam -- in Jammu and Kashmir. Sources said last year, over 4.28 lakh people visited the cave shrine and the figure could go up to five lakh this time.

All pilgrims are expected to be given RFID cards so that their real-time location can be traced and everyone will be given Rs 5 lakh insurance cover. There will also be an insurance cover of Rs 50,000 for each animal carrying the pilgrims.

Shah is expected to stress on providing smooth arrangements on the route from the airport and railway station to the pilgrimage base camp and proper security of all pilgrims.

Last year, Shah had directed officials to ensure adequate stock of oxygen cylinders and their refilling and asked for the availability of additional teams of doctors. He had ordered adequate medical beds and deployment of ambulances and helicopters to meet any medical emergency.

Following Shah's order, a better communication system on the pilgrimage routes was ensured and machines were deployed to immediately open routes in case of a landslide. On Friday, the home minister was briefed by the officials of the ministry, Intelligence Bureau and other security agencies about the situation in Jammu and Kashmir and the steps taken following the terror incidents, sources said.

On June 13, PM Modi spoke to Shah and discussed the deployment of security forces and counter-terror operations. The prime minister also spoke to Jammu and Kashmir Lt Governor Manoj Sinha and took stock of the situation there.

Sinha briefed him on the efforts being undertaken by the local administration.

In the meeting, the prime minister was given a full overview of the security-related situation in the region and was apprised of the counter-terror efforts being undertaken. A search operation is underway in Jammu and Kashmir to track down and neutralise terrorists after the June 9 attack on the bus carrying pilgrims, officials said. Security forces also launched a search and cordon operation in Kathua's Saida Sukhal village on Thursday following information about the presence of two more terrorists. Two suspected Pakistani terrorists and a CRPF jawan were killed in Kathua's Saida Sukhal village on Wednesday after an over 15-hour operation.

Police 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 attacked the pilgrims' bus last Sunday, police said 50 suspected people have been detained so far and the search operation has been expanded to remote pockets.

Police had also urged residents of the Jammu region to be vigilant about 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. Jammu and Kashmir 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 routes. Kumar also told officials to mitigate potential risks by deploying anti-sabotage teams along the routes to identify and neutralise any potential terror threat. He held a meeting with the officers of the police, Army, Central Armed Police Forces and other agencies and discussed the overall security arrangements to be adopted for the safe, smooth and incident-free conduct of the Amarnath pilgrimage. Services of specialised forces like the National Disaster Response Force, State Disaster Response Force, and Snow and Avalanche Study Establishment may also be used to get vulnerable points along the pilgrimage route mapped so that these can be monitored regularly to enhance the overall safety measures, officials said.

Anti-sabotage teams will be deployed along the Amarnath Yatra route to identify and neutralise any potential terror threat, they said.

Pak-ISI pushing...

in days to come, particularly in view of the coming Amarnath yatra.

"Pakistan can't accept the progress and peace in Kashmir; so they are attacking civilians, which is disgraceful. Our security forces have a strategy, and we will soon eliminate the remaining terrorists from Jammu, just as we did in Kashmir," he added. Chugh complimented people of Jammu and Kashmir for their participation in the recent elections in a peaceful and fair manner and called upon the BJP leaders to increase their efforts in reaching out to the common man.

Moreover, the Pakistan-sponsored terrorists are trying to disrupt the flow of tourists, which they would never succeed to do. The people of J&K want their economy to grow and progress. The disruptive terrorists would only lick the dust in due course, he said.

"Police and security agencies are mobilizing resources to respond effectively to foreign terrorists in the Jammu region. The local population's support, as seen in the Hiranagar encounter where residents alerted authorities to two terrorists, is a testament to our strong community ties," he said.

Highlighting Prime Minister Narendra Modi's stance, Chugh reiterated the government's commitment to a 'zero tolerance' policy on terrorism. "We are much more capable under Modi's leadership, and the adversaries know it," he added.

India produced 40...

Madras' which has signed a MoU with the Technology Development Board 'TDB' for development of security products based on Quantum Technologies.

Dr. Jitendra Singh said "Women's Participation in extramural research and development (R&D) doubled in the last 10 years" on the progress and increase of women after the special efforts by the government in the last decade to promote women scientists and researchers through STEM and fellowship programmes. He also recalled the 'ease of applying' by referring to the Common Fellowship Portal recently inaugurated by him. Going further he shared that around 300 women scientists are going to receive research grants for 3 years from the government under ASPIRE scheme.

The Science and technology Minister expressed satisfaction that India is fast becoming the 'Startup capital of the world' from few hundreds before 2014 to more than 1.25 lakh in 2024 and more than 110 unicorns with startups doing excellent work even in critical areas such as the Space sector. Dr. Singh also highlighted the massive jump in India's ranking in Global Innovation Index from 81st in the year 2015 to 40th in 2023. He emphasized on the fact that India ranks 3rd in terms of number of Publications and number of PhDs awarded in Science and Engineering.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi's resolve to empower and provide ease of living to the last man is the aim of our innovation" said Dr.Jitendra Singh while motivating the team DST on their future course of action. He categorically mentioned that it is the best time for development of science and technology in India due to the conducive environment under the leadership of PM Modi. He shared that the Indian government has invested around 900 crores from 2016- 2023 in the National Initiative for developing and Harnessing Innovations(NIDHI) who is supporting budding entrepreneurs in the field of S&T. The union Minister also enquired on the progress of existing National geospatial mission, Interdisciplinary Cyber Physical Mission. He also highlighted the government's efforts on bringing legislation on Anusandhan NRF. Prof.AbhayKarandikar, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology, Additional secretary, Directors of Institutes under DST, Head of various departments along with senior scientists and officials were present for the meeting.

Reasi terror attack...

Superspeciality Hospital.

Fifteen critically injured patients were admitted to SMVD Narayana Hospital at Katra. Ten of them have already been discharged, and five are still under observation and are responding well to treatment, the hospital said.

Nine persons, including seven pilgrims from Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi, were killed and 41 injured in the attack when the terrorists opened fire on the bus carrying pilgrims returning from Shiv Khori shrine near Teryath village in the Pouni area. The 53-seater bus veered off the road and fell into a deep gorge following the gunfire. Hospital director Dr Mathavan said Code Orange, which refers to external disasters, was activated for the victims of the terror attack.

A dedicated emergency team led by Dr Sonia Dogra (emergency medicine), Dr Suhail Khurroo (GI surgery), and Dr Vikas Padha (orthopaedics) was immediately mobilised. The team of doctors performed six life-saving surgeries on the most critical patients, including Luxmi Devi (35) who had complex abdominal injuries and Rikshona (29) who had a severe spleen injury, Mathavan said.

Dr Khurroo successfully stabilised Luxmi's condition and performed a lifesaving splenectomy on Rikshona. "The entire team worked tirelessly using our advanced facilities and expertise to deliver the best possible care. We activated Code Orange and roughly 150 staff responded swiftly. Both medical staff and patients displayed inspiring resilience," he said.

Usha Pandey (43), who sustained shrapnel injuries in the attack, said "I was terrified, but the doctors and nurses treated me with kindness and care. They not only healed my wounds but also gave me the strength to believe I could recover. I owe them my life." Bunty Gupta (30), who had sustained a gunshot wound, said "When I arrived, I was critical. The staff treated me like family. Their dedication and compassion have been extraordinary, and I am forever grateful."

The team's coordinated efforts were crucial, said Chief Executive Officer of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, Anshul Garg. "Every second counts".

"Having a well-equipped facility allowed us to provide immediate and compassionate care. Seeing our patients recover is the greatest reward. The Shrine Board will unconditionally bear the entire treatment cost," he said.

Theft case solved; accused arrested, stolen property recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BARAMULLA: Police in Baramulla have solved a theft case by arresting an accused person involved in the commission of crime.

On 14/06/2024, Police Post Old Town Baramulla received a written complaint from Intezamia Committee of Masjid Madina Dargah Aaliya Old Town Baramulla, stating therein that donation box of Masjid Sharief has been looted by some unknown persons during the night.

Accordingly, a case vide FIR No. 142/2024 under relevant sections of law was registered in Police Station Baramulla and investigation was initiated.

During the course of investigation, technical evidence was scrutinised which led to the identification of accused as Waseem Ahmad Chichek son of Abdul Gaffar resident of Lal Baab Sahab Arampora Sopore and he was subsequently arrested. During questioning, the accused person admitted his involvement in the commission of crime. On his disclosure, stolen property was recovered from his possession.

Terror handler declared proclaimed offender

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BARAMULLA: Court of 1st Addl. Sessions Judge Baramulla declared terror handler namely Gh Hassan Reshi son of Assadullah Reshi resident of Baderkoot proclaimed offender on the application submitted by Baramulla Police.

The said terror handler is involved in case FIR No. 04/2008 under section 2/3 EMICO Act, 120B, 121 of Police Station Tangmarg. The terror handler is presently at PoJK/ Pakistan and is working with terrorist outfit.

Proclamation orders under section 87 CrPC have been obtained from Hon'ble Court against the terror handler which had been pasted at his residence, public places with the directions of the Hon'ble Court that he will present himself before the Court of Law within one month failing which process for attachment of property under section 88 CrPC shall be initiated against him.

9 vehicles involved in illegal mining seized; as many drivers arrested

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BARAMULLA: Cracking a whip on illegal mining of minerals at Palhallan Pattan Baramulla, Police seized 09 vehicles and arrested their drivers.

A Police party under the supervision of SDPO Pattan assisted by IC PP Palhallan, seized 9 vehicles (Tippers) & arrested 9 drivers identified as Abdul Rashid Lone son of Mohd Sabir resident of Shiva Sopore, Nazir Ahmad Ganie son of Mohd Abdullah resident of Gantamulla Payeen, Afeer Ahmad Bhat son of Nazir Ahmad resident of Mujgund Srinagar, Nazir Ahmad Reshi son of Habibullah resident of Hardu Shiva Sopore, Tariq Ahmad Lone son of Gh Mohd, Mudasir Farooq Mir son of Farooq Ahmad, Rayees Ahmad Geelani son of Gh Mohiuddin, all residents of Batangi Boniyar, Rayees Ahmad Malik son of Mohd Sultan resident of Tujar Sharief Sopore & Gh Nabi Sheikh son of Ab Aziz resident of Jawand Nowshera.

They were found involved in illegal extraction/ transportation of minerals and accordingly a case under relevant sections of law has been registered at Police Station Pattan and investigation has been initiated.

Two narco-smugglers nabbed; heroin, 8,000 drugs tablets recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: Two notorious narcotics peddlers have been arrested by police in Rajouri alongwith a consignment of Heroine like substance and thousands of tablets.

In an official statement, police said that a special naka was laid jointly by teams of police station Rajouri headed by SHO Rajouri and assisted by Incharge Police Post Chingus alongwith Incharge Anti Drugs Squad Rajouri at Kallar on Jammu Rajouri Poonch national highway.

During this naka checking, two suspects were seen moving in suspicious condition who were intercepted and put to frisking when Heroine like substance, eight grams each, was recovered from duo besides recovery of a huge consignment of banned drugs that include 8000 drugs tables i.e. Tapendadole tablets that were packed in a trolley bag.

The two suspects were nabbed at the spot and have been identified as Mohd Tamour Malik son of Shakeel Ahmed resident of Thanamang Darhial and Asif Ahmed son of Mancer Hussain resident of Kheora Rajouri.

Duo have been arrested and a case in FIR no 245/2024 U/Ss 8/21/22 NDPS Act has been registered against both the accused.

Police stated that both the accused are well known drug peddlers of the area and had taken a room on rent near Rajouri college to carry out their illegal acts in Kheora area of Rajouri town.

Police further said that investigation is in progress to track forward and backward linkages with respect to purchase and sale of narcotics.

J&K Cong passes resolution, appeals Rahul Gandhi to take role of LoP in LS

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir unit of Congress on Saturday passed a resolution here, appealing former party president Rahul Gandhi to take the role of Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha.

The resolution was passed at a one-day convention of the Pradesh Congress Committee (PCC) chaired by J-K unit president Vikar Rasool Wani and attended by almost all senior leaders and workers, a party spokesman said.

"Rahul Gandhi taking over as the Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha is the need of the hour. This is the demand of general workers and the people of this country who desire a strong opposition to raise the issues faced by the common people," the spokesman said, quoting the resolution.

The convention, first after the recently concluded Lok Sabha polls which saw the BJP retaining both seats of Jammu region for the third term, also congratulated Sonia Gandhi on being elected chairperson of Congress Parliamentary Party, lauding her leadership and dedication towards the party throughout her political career.

The Congress also expressed serious concern over the deteriorating security situation in Jammu region and asked the government to take concrete action against terrorism and create a conducive atmosphere for holding Assembly elections by September 30 as has been directed by the Supreme Court.

Hitting out at the Centre and the J&K administration for alleged failure to control terrorism in the Union Territory, Wani accused the Modi government of "playing politics"

claiming normalcy in J-K and "misleading" the entire nation regarding the ground situation. He asked the government to ensure an atmosphere of safety and security and create situations conducive to holding assembly elections under the deadline given by the Supreme Court.

The Congress leader said the party and the INDIA bloc performed very well in the Lok Sabha polls, and appreciated the efforts and dedication of the party workers for managing to bring down the victory margin of the BJP in Jammu and Udhampur seats.

The convention began with two minutes of silence to mourn the death of nine persons including seven pilgrims returning from Shiv Khori temple, and CRPF jawan in recent terror attacks with participants praying for speedy recovery of those injured in the incidents. The spokesman said the convention also passed a resolution on the prevailing security situation in J-K and condemned the recent terror attacks. The resolution asked the centre to take concrete action to eliminate the menace, and tell Pakistan in strongest terms to stop sponsoring terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir. The JKPCC stands together with the government and the brave forces in dealing with the current situation and seeks restoration of an atmosphere of safety and security; the resolution said. e strongly urged the Central government and the UT administration to ensure incident-free Amarnath Yatra, scheduled to commence on June 29, at all costs," the spokesman said. The party also passed a resolution on political affairs and the road ahead, urging the government to create a conducive atmosphere for holding the assembly elections immediately.