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Day not far...**



PM Narendra Modi visiting an exhibition at Srinagar.

(Dil ya Dilli)", PM Modi stressed. He emphasized the need for collective efforts to ensure that the fruits of democracy reach every family and person. He said that every paisa of central assistance is spent on the welfare of the people of Jammu & Kashmir.

Referring to the projects for which foundation stones were laid or inauguration was done, the Prime Minister mentioned major developmental projects worth more than Rs 1,500 crores and Agriculture and Allied Sectors (JKCIP) Project worth Rs 1,800 crores.

He praised the UT administration for fast recruitments in government jobs and informed that in the last 5 years, about 40,000 recruitments were done. He also noted the positive impact of massive investments in Jammu & Kashmir.

Hailing the progress in Kashmir, the Prime Minister said that today the valley is witnessing major development works on almost every front, including rail connectivity, education, health infrastructure, electricity and water. He highlighted that thousands of kilometers of roads have been built under the Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojna, adding that besides new highways and expressways, the valley is also going to be connected with railways. The alluring view of the Chenab railway bridge fills everyone with pride. Notably, the Gurez Valley in north Kashmir gained access to grid connectivity for the first time. Shri Modi reiterated that today, the valley is brimming with opportunities in every field, from agriculture to horticulture to sports and start-ups.

Hailing the development that has taken place in Kashmir in the last 10 years, the Prime Minister said that the valley is gradually emerging as a major hub of start-ups, skill development and sports. He pointed out that almost 70 per cent of the valley's agricultural sectors comprises start-ups, further adding that more than 50 degree colleges have been set up in the valley in the past few years. "Seats in polytechnics have increased, and opportunities to learn new skills. IIT, IIM, and AIIMS are being built along with many new medical colleges have been built," he continued. Skills are also being developed at the local level in the tourism and hospitality sector, he said. The Prime Minister also suggested introducing online courses for tourist guides, and establishing youth tourism clubs in schools-colleges-universities... all these works are happening in Kashmir today.

The Prime Minister highlighted the positive impact of the development work on the Narishakti of Jammu and Kashmir. He mentioned tourism and IT training to the women of local Self Help Groups.

Speaking about the initiation of the Krishi Sakhi program two days ago, the Prime Minister informed that more than 1200 women from Jammu and Kashmir are working as Krishi Sakhis. He also touched upon the Namu Drone Didi program and said that the daughters of Jammu & Kashmir are being trained under the scheme. "Government is making these efforts to improve the income of women and provide livelihood opportunities", he added.

"India is moving towards becoming a major world power in tourism and sports", the Prime Minister said as he noted Jammu & Kashmir's potential in these two sectors. He highlighted the development of excellent sports infrastructure in every district of Jammu and Kashmir and mentioned around 100 Khelo India centers being built. He informed that around 4,500 youth of Jammu and Kashmir are being trained for national and international competitions. Touching upon winter sports, PM Modi said that Jammu and Kashmir is becoming the winter sports capital of India. He also spoke about the recently concluded fourth edition of the Khelo India Winter Games in February this year which witnessed the participation of more than 800 players from all over the country. "Such events will create new possibilities for international sports events here in the future", he added.

The Prime Minister cautioned the people of Jammu and Kashmir about the enemies of peace and humanity who stand against the development.

Modi asserted, "This is their last ditch effort to stop the development of Jammu and Kashmir, to ensure that peace is not established here."

He stressed that the government has taken serious note of the recent terror incidents where the Union Home Minister has reviewed all the arrangements in collaboration with the Jammu and Kashmir administration.

The Prime Minister reiterated, "I assure you that no stone will be left unturned to teach a lesson to the enemies of Jammu and Kashmir. The new generation of Jammu and Kashmir will live in permanent peace. We will strengthen the path of progress chosen by Jammu & Kashmir". The Prime Minister concluded his address by congratulating the people of Jammu and Kashmir for today's development projects.

Recalling his recent visit to Italy for the G7 Summit, the Prime Minister highlighted the impact of continuity of the government for three terms as it has changed the outlook of the world towards India. He also said that all time high aspirations of Indians are the nation's biggest strength. He said that this high aspiration leads to high expectations from the government and in this backdrop, the third continuous term of the government is special as the only parameter of an aspirational society is performance. "People have faith in the intentions and policies of the government", he added.

The Prime Minister said that the big message of people's mandate in this Lok Sabha Elections is that of stability. He recalled the long phase of unstable governments in the last decade of the last century when the country witnessed 5 elections in 10 years resulting in development coming to a standstill. "Leaving that phase behind, India has now entered a new phase of stable government leading to strengthening of democracy, he added."

He also noted the role of the people of Jammu & Kashmir in this strengthening of democracy. "We are witnessing Atal ji's vision of Insaniyat, Jamhooriyat aur Kashmiriyat, turning into a reality today", PM Modi said. Mentioning record voter turnout in the recent elections, the Prime Minister praised the trust of the people of Jammu & Kashmir in democracy. "I have come to express my thanks for your efforts for keeping the flag of democracy high", he added.

The event 'Empowering Youth, Transforming J&K' is pivotal for the region, which showcases progress and inspires young achievers.

The Prime Minister laid the foundation stone and inaugurated 84 major developmental projects valued at more than Rs 1,500 crore. The inaugurations will include projects related to road infrastructure, water supply schemes, and infrastructure in higher education etc. Additionally, the Prime Minister laid the foundation stone for projects like improve-

ment of the Chenani-Patnitop-Nashri Section, development of Industrial Estates and construction of 06 Government Degree Colleges.

The Prime Minister launched the Competitiveness Improvement in Agriculture and Allied Sectors (JKCIP) Project worth Rs 1,800 crores. The project will be implemented in 90 Blocks across 20 districts of J&K, and will have the project outreach of 300,000 households covering 15 lakh beneficiaries. The foundation stone laying/inauguration and launch of these projects will empower the youth and upgrade the infrastructure in Jammu & Kashmir.

The Prime Minister also distributed appointment letters to more than 2000 persons appointed in government service.

SC upholds tax...

Moore said in a sworn statement that he never received any money from the company, KisanKraft Machine Tools Private Ltd. A ruling for the Moores could have called into question other provisions of the tax code and threatened losses to the U.S. Treasury of several trillion dollars, the Biden administration told the court.

The case also had kicked up ethical concerns and raised questions about the story the Moores' lawyers told in court filings. Justice Samuel Alito rejected calls from Senate Democrats to step away from the case because of his ties to David Rivkin, a lawyer who is representing the Moores.

Public documents show that Charles Moore's involvement with the company, including serving as a director for five years, is far more extensive than court filings indicate. The case is Moore v. US, 22-800.

Baramulla encounter: Slain...

up in a house in the Hadipura village of the Rafiabad area. Consequently, the Indian Army, JKP and CRPF launched a joint operation, swiftly cordoning off the area, Brigadier Mohan said.

Following standard procedures, civilians were safely evacuated from adjacent houses and the area was secured. The target house was thoroughly cordoned off and on the search being commenced, terrorists opened fire on the security forces. In the ensuing firefight, two terrorists were neutralized, he said. The army officer said the elimination of these terrorists marks another major success for the security forces.

Over the past few months, we have maintained a high operational tempo, resulting in some major achievements. The success is also attributed to the complete cooperation of the Kashmiri people. Security forces will continue to make sustained efforts to maintain peace and stability in Kashmir, he added.

Railways conducts trial...

the Congress-led UPA govt. Subsequent phases saw the inauguration of the 18 km long Banihal-Qazigund section in June 2013 and the 25 km Udhampur-Katra section in July 2014.

In February 2024, the first electric train trial run from Banihal to Khari to Sangaldan section on the Banihal-Katra section of the USBRL project in Ramban was successfully conducted on around 40 km of track and tunnels between Banihal and Sangaldan railway stations in Ramban district.

"After conduction of a series of such tests, this bridge would be open to run all train services which will be a monumental stride towards the seamless integration of the Kashmir valley with Jammu and the broader Indian landscape," the ministry said.

It added, "This would foster social integration by facilitating easier movement of people and goods, thereby promoting cultural exchanges and regional development and boost to economic activities such as tourism and trade."

With aim to provide an alternative and a reliable transportation system to Jammu and Kashmir, the Indian Railways has successfully laid a 272-km-long railway line from Udhampur to Baramulla joining the Kashmir valley with the rail network under the USBRL project.

In view of importance of USBRL project in providing seamless and hassle-free connectivity, the Project was declared as "National Project" in 2002.

The USBRL Project involves 38 Tunnels (combined length of 119Km), the longest Tunnel (T-49) is having a length of 12.75 Km and is country's longest transportation tunnel.

There are 927 bridges (combined length of 13 Km). These bridges include the iconic Chenab Bridge (Overall length 1315 m, Arch span of 467 m and height of 359 m above river bed) which is around 35 metres taller than the Eiffel Tower and is pegged to be the World's highest arch railway bridge.

Heat wave abates...

The India Meteorological Department said no heatwave is predicted over most parts of the country in the next four to five days.

The monsoon is predicted to cover central India and most parts of northwest India between June 27 and July 3. The primary rain-bearing system did not make any progress between June 13 and 19, extending the wait for rains in north India amid the sweltering heat, it said.

On Thursday, maximum temperatures ranged from 40 to 42 degrees Celsius in many parts of west Rajasthan; some parts of south Uttar Pradesh and north Madhya Pradesh, and isolated pockets of Haryana, Delhi, East Rajasthan, and Gujarat.

"Heatwave conditions have abated from Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi, North Rajasthan, North Madhya Pradesh, and many parts of Uttar Pradesh today (June 20)," the weather office said. "Under the influence of a Western Disturbance and lower-level easterlies from the Bay of Bengal, scattered to fairly widespread light/moderate rainfall has been observed over Jammu, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, north Haryana, Chandigarh, and north Uttar Pradesh during the 24 hours ending at 08:30 am. Isolated very heavy rainfall has also been observed over Uttarakhand, and isolated hailstorms over Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, and Punjab," it said.

The punishingly long heatwave led to a surge in heat stroke casualties in north India, including Delhi, prompting the Centre to issue an advisory to hospitals on Wednesday to set up special units to cater to such patients. The crippling heat overwhelmed the water supply system and power grids, with Delhi and Haryana wrangling over the water crisis in the national capital. Sources in the Health ministry on Thursday said that at least 114 heat-related deaths and more than 40,984 suspected heat stroke cases have been recorded between March 1 and June 18 this year. Uttar Pradesh is the worst-affected, having reported 37 deaths, followed by Bihar, Rajasthan, and Odisha, according to the data compiled under the National Heat-Related Illness and Death Surveillance by the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC).

"The data may not be the final submission from states. So the numbers are expected to be higher than this," an official source said. Union Health Minister J P Nadda on Thursday asked officials to visit Central government hospitals to see if separate arrangements have been made for heatwave-affected patients regularly. A total of 22 fatalities due to suspected heat-related illnesses were recorded at Delhi's RML, Safdarjung, and LNJP hospitals since Wednesday morning, officials said on Thursday. Delhi Lt Governor V K Saxena has asked the chief secretary to meet officers from the Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board and the social welfare and health departments in the wake of a rise in heat-related deaths in the city.

Interstate narco-smuggler arrested with half Kg heroin

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Continuing its drive against drug trafficking and substance abuse under Operation SANJEEVANI Jammu Police achieved major success by recovering 1/2 Kg of heroin (Chitta) worth several lacs from one drug peddler at Kotli Mian Fateh under the jurisdiction of P/S Miran Sahib.

A Police team of Police Station Miran Sahib led by SHO P/S Miran Sahib while on naka duty at Kotli Mian Fateh area in the jurisdiction of PS Miran Sahib rounded up a suspected person, later identified as Lal Hussain S/O Billu R/O Jalandhar, Punjab & during search 1/2 Kg of heroin was recovered from his possession.

In this regard case FIR No. 60/2024 U/S 8/21/22 of NDPS Act stands registered at P/S Miran Sahib and accused arrested accordingly. Further investigation of the case is going on including forward and backward linkages in the case.

Jammu Police is working intensively to uproot the chains of drug supply in the region and thorough questioning of the accused is going on to know the origin of the drugs supply chain.



Traffic Police NHW acts tough, 38350 violators booked, Rs 3.8 crore fine imposed

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: While addressing media persons at Traffic NHW Headquarter Ramban, DIG Traffic Jammu Zone, Dr Mohd Haseeb Mughal IPS shared that Continuing its drive against Motor Vehicle Act violations, Traffic Police National Highway under the supervision of IGP Traffic J&K have booked 38350 Traffic violators and imposed heavy fine amount of Rs 38523950/- for breaching traffic rules since 1st January 2024 to 31 May 2024.

Besides this, during the period, 553 vehicles were seized. To cause deterrence among Traffic rule violators and to reduce road accidents, 29 FIRs lodged for overloading in PSVs out of which 21 FIRs lodged in District Doda & Kishtwar, 05 FIRs lodged in District Udhampur, 03 FIRs lodged in District Ramban.

Strict action against overloading in goods as well as in PSVs taken, Traffic Police NHW booked 1418 vehicles for overloading in goods vehicles and 10468 traffic violators for causing overload in PSVs.

To maintain lane discipline on National Highway, Traffic Police NHW Ramban booked 800 Traffic violators for overtaking/wrong lane driving during the current year and also booked 326 number of traffic rule violators for dangerous driving/red light jumping.

The officer further informed that to make the general public aware regarding Traffic rules, Traffic Police NHW Ramban conducted 145 Traffic awareness programs at different locations of 05 Districts i.e. Ramban, Udhampur, Reasi, Doda, Kishtwar, and on 03 NHs falling in Traffic NHW Ramban and created awareness among drivers, students, commuters, transport unions/agents regarding their roles, duties and rights.

As a corrective measure officer stated that Traffic Police NHW Ramban recommend 44 cases for suspension/cancellation of DL/RC/RP (10 DL cases, 33 RCs and 01 R/P), whereas 153 vehicles recommended for blacklist.

DIG Traffic Jammu Zone stressed that Traffic Police NHW Ramban also ensured the Traffic regulation of vehicles plying on 03 NHs (Nh-44, Nh-144, Nh-244) particularly on the NH-44 from Nashri to Banihal (a difficult stretch) where it is the major challenge for Traffic Police as the stretch is under construction and landslide/shooting stone zones are present which pose a great Traffic related challenge i.e. frequent Breakdowns/Road Blockades.

Due to Traffic Police NHW best 24x7 efforts, about 1376297 vehicles (HMs- 468179, LMs-908118) crossed Chenani-Nashri tunnel till May 2024. Traffic Police NHW requests commuters to follow Traffic Police advisory so that minimum inconvenience is caused to commuters.

While sharing the details, the officer conveyed that stringent action against M.V. Act Violators is being undertaken, and Traffic Police will continue its drive against Traffic rule violators. The endeavor of Traffic Police is to reduce road accidents, save precious human life, instill traffic discipline, and respect for law accompanied by respect for each other among the road users.

The officer appealed to the general public that as a part of our rich cultural heritage, all stakeholders have to exhibit good road etiquettes. DIG Traffic Jammu enjoined upon all parents not to send their wards to school in private vehicles being used for commercial purpose as it is in contravention to law, which jeopardize the safety of the students He also requested tourist/commuters to strictly follow lane discipline on NH-44, NH-144, NH-244, and park their vehicles at designated parking places and strictly refrain from drunken and rash driving, using Mobile phone while driving, and use of any type of material on vehicle door glasses, rear wind shield etc which reduces visibility.

He told strict action shall be initiated against underage/ minor driving. The vehicle owners are advised that sun roof is only for sun and no one should poke his/her head out of it as it can lead to serious road accidents and heaviest challan will also be imposed for the offence.

DIG Traffic also discussed that 19 rough patches had been identified on the NHW, which were the main accused of slow movement. Most of these patches have been repaired by the intervention of PHQ and THQ, with the active cooperation of NHAI & NHIDCL. This will help in tourism, trade, and SANJY related movements in the coming days.

Transporters dealing in Goods vehicles are also requested to strictly refrain from overloading.

To make traffic management system better, officer stated that Traffic Police personnels are given technical and inter-personal skills training regarding use of e-Challan machine, Breath analyzer, Body Worn Camera and other electronic Gadgets alongwith communication skills, First Responder Training course are also being imparted to Traffic Police personnels.

To keep a vigil on vehicle breakdowns, wrong overtaking, Nomadic movement and Traffic regulation 10 No's of CCTVs were installed at top congestion points. Besides a consolidated list of violators has been published in newspapers whose Traffic violations Challans are pending in different courts, people are once again requested to clear the same immediately otherwise next course of action will be initiated. Fresh list of Traffic rule violators will also be published in a phased manner.

He appealed commuters to follow Traffic rules and join hands to make roads safe for all type of users right from pedestrian to vehicle owners. People should come forward to complain against visible Traffic violations on Traffic Police helpline numbers -9419993745-9906023617. Toll Free Number-18001807043 TCU Udhampur-8491928625.

The other officers present on the occasion were SSP Traffic NHW Ramban Rohit Baskotra, Dy.SP Traffic Udhampur-Reasi Jatinder Singh, DTI Ramban Insp. Rakesh Singh, DTI Chanderkote Insp. Kuldeep Chander, SO (T) Ramban/Chanderkote/Digdol/Nashiri.

India win by 47 runs: Surya, Bumrah sizzle, Afghans fizzle

AGENCY

B R I D G E T O W N : Suryakumar Yadav played fearlessly on a testing surface before India tightened the noose around Afghanistan with a clinical bowling performance to script a commanding 47-run win in their opening Super 8 fixture of the T20 World Cup here on Thursday.

Rashid Khan (3/26) improved his ordinary record against India before Suryakumar (53 off 28) played like he only can to take his team to 181 for 8 after India decided to bat on a surface where it was difficult to hit through the line.

Afghanistan were never in the run chase and folded up for 134 in exactly 20 overs. The questionable shot selection from the Afghan batters contributed to their downfall, extending their winless run against India.

Jasprit Bumrah (3/7 in four overs) was too good for the opposition again while Kuldeep Yadav (2/32), playing his first game of the tournament, also made an impact.

India's next Super 8 fixture against Bangladesh will take place in Antigua on Saturday.

Rahmanullah Gurbaz (11 off 8), who announced his intent with a six and four off Arshdeep



Singh, went for a rash shot against Bumrah in the second over of the innings to be caught behind. Hazratullah Zazai, brought into the squad in place of the injured Mujeeb Zadran, was Bumrah's next victim as he attempted flick off a cutter from the Indian pace spearhead went straight into the safe hands of Ravindra Jadeja at backward point.

Kuldeep, who replaced Mohammed Siraj in the playing eleven, operated in the middle overs and sent back Gulbadin Naib (17) with a wrong one in the 11th over.

Azmatullah Omarzai (26 off 20) was the top-scored for Afghanistan.

Afghanistan to get back in the game.

Earlier, Suryakumar was back to his nonchalant best and picked the boundaries at will on a track where the other batters struggled to get going. The other notable contributions came from Rishabh Pant (20 off 11), who too found the boundaries from the word go and Hardik Pandya (32 off 24).

Virat Kohli (24 off 24) got into the double digits for the first time in this tournament but was dismissed just when he was getting set.

Rashid (3/26), who had not picked up a wicket against India prior to this game, struck in his first three overs to put pressure on the opposition.

India expectedly opt to bat at

the Kensington Oval and the way the ball held up on the pitch early one, it seemed playing through the line will be tough.

Skipper Rohit Sharma (8) tried to push the scoring rate in third over from Fazalhaq Farooqi (3/33) but was caught at mid-on after finding the toe end of his bat.

Rashid brought himself on right after the Powerplay with India reaching 47 for one. The star spinner sent back the dangerous Pant in the seventh over. The southpaw once again was not afraid to employ the sweep and audacious reverse sweep against the spinners before eventually falling to Rashid.

After Kohli was caught at long-off in Rashid's second over, India felt the heat. Suryakumar eased the tension with a flurry of sweeps against Rashid before the spinner got his third scalp in the form of Shivam Dube (10), who was trapped in front after the ball turned back in sharply and crashed into his back leg.

Surya kept finding the big hits from the other end. He outrageously whipped a wide full toss from Azmatullah Omarzai to deep square-leg before a six and four off Farooqi took him to a well made half-century.