

!! Continuations from Page 1 !! Strong border areas...

grateful. I am hopeful that the work on Auditorium will be completed in one year. The Government Higher Secondary School will also be made technologically advanced," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor also announced a sports facility at Gurha Slathia to be financed through charity.

He congratulated the people of Gurha Slathia and dedicated the new projects to the local youth.

"I am happy to see a big dream is being realised today. We must remember that education shapes a region's destiny and drives inclusive development and stability. Therefore, we must focus on educational infrastructure for economic growth and entrepreneurial ventures," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor highlighted major transformative initiatives aligned with National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, that have brought a new revolution in school and higher education across Jammu Kashmir.

"There are numerous examples in the world which show that a particular region was transformed from resource-scarce area into economic powers within a matter of years and decades, largely due to massive investment in education and skill development of its young population.

We have also ensured equitable access to quality education in rural areas and thousands of out of school students were brought back to the classrooms," the Lieutenant Governor said.

He called upon the youth to take advantage of the new education and skilling initiatives to transform this Union Territory into a hub of innovation, equity and ensure a brighter future for the society.

The Lieutenant Governor, in his address, also spoke on the revolutionary changes taking place across the sectors in Samba and reiterated his commitment to the inclusive development of the border areas of the district.

"Strong border areas protect the country's core and act as a first line of defence. In the past five years, border areas of Samba witnessed massive infrastructure upgradation. Fast-paced industrialization also fostered economic growth and integrated the local population into national mainstream," he said.

At Gurha Slathia, the Lieutenant Governor highlighted the major reforms sweeping through UT of J&K, under the guidance of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

The Lieutenant Governor appealed to all the stakeholders to maintain the pace of development and work together with unity and collective strength and help the administration to build a better present and future of Jammu and Kashmir.

"Let us together build a self-reliant, powerful and prosperous Jammu and Kashmir and with new self-confidence fulfil the dreams of Samba," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor also commended the dedication and commitment of the Member of Legislative Assembly, the district administration and the people of Samba, especially the youth for bringing transformation on the ground and building a strong foundation for fundamental change in the society.

Surjit Singh Slathia, Member of Legislative Assembly, Samba; Ramesh Kumar, Divisional Commissioner, Jammu; Rajesh Sharma, Deputy Commissioner, Samba, prominent citizens, youth and people in large numbers were present.

HIGHLIGHTS...

into national mainstream.

Let us together build a self-reliant, powerful and prosperous Jammu and Kashmir and with new self-confidence fulfil dreams of Samba.

We have implemented the inclusive development plan on ground which has benefited people from all regions and all sections of the society.

I appeal to all the stakeholders to maintain pace of development. You must work together with unity and collective strength and help the administration to build a better present and future of J&K.

BOPEE conducts CET...

adequate arrangements had been established in collaboration with the respective college administrations and law enforcement agencies under the guidance of Professor Minu Mahajan, Chairperson, J&K BOPEE. The process was conducted under the diligent supervision of competent JKBOPEE staff members and the staff from the respective colleges.

The Chairperson along with Members, Secretary, Contoller of Examinations and officials of J&K BOPEE have actively monitored the conduct of the said Common Entrance Test at Srinagar and Jammu. He thanked the District Administration, IGP Jammu/Kashmir for deploying police personnel, members of monitoring squad, Principal, staff members of the respective Colleges for their support during the smooth conduct of the said Entrance Test.

Op Sindoor sent...

attacking Indians will be punished, he said.

"Operation Sindoor has sent a stern message to the world," Shah said.

The bravehearts of the Indian armed forces razed the terror bases in Pakistan, ushering in a new era of Shashakt Bharat, the Union home minister said.

He also reiterated that Naxalism will be eradicated from the country by March 31, 2026.

"In 11 years of rule under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the country has become secure. Naxalism, which was prevalent in 11 states of the country, is now limited to just three districts. Remember my statement, by March 31, 2026, the country will become free from Naxalism," Shah said.

Hitting out at the previous governments in Uttar Pradesh, he said till now, recruitments were made based on caste, while technology had no role to play.

Addressing the newly-recruited police personnel, Shah said, "You all have been appointed thanks to technology and transparency. Now, there are control rooms, command centres, PCR One, and more than 150 on-wheel forensic units, which are engaged in providing justice to people. All of you have to take this forward. I am confident that you will move forward with the mantra of security, service, and sensitivity."

"We now have three new laws in place -- Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA)... Let me tell you, citizens will soon get justice for every FIR they lodge," Shah said.

Elaborating on the mechanism for expedited justice, Shah said, "We must ensure justice based on all the facilities and technology of CCTNS (Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems), ICJS (Inter-operable Criminal Justice System), and forensic science."

He also said that while modernisation of India's police forces began nationwide under Prime Minister Modi's leadership, Uttar Pradesh's efforts in this regard commenced only in 2017 after the formation of a BJP government under Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath.

"The Centre's reforms were not visible in Uttar Pradesh from 2014 to 2017," Shah said.

He said that India will be a global leader by 2047, with Uttar Pradesh playing a crucial role.

"In 2047, our country will be number one in the world and our Uttar Pradesh should have the biggest contribution in it. ...Whether it is contribution in the industrial sector; in education, law and order; infrastructure, providing electricity to every house... in every sector; under the leadership of Modi ji, Yogi ji has successfully ushered change by implementing the schemes," he said.

The Union home minister said that when Narendra Modi became the Prime Minister, India's economy was 11th in the world.

"Today, we have climbed to the fourth spot with even the British who ruled over us for 200 years now ranked below us," he said.

Commenting about the recruitment, he said that no one had to pay even a single penny as bribe, the recruitment took place in a transparent manner.

"The recruitments were done on the basis of merit alone and not on the basis of caste or corruption," he said.

Shah also said that UP now has become riot-free.

"Now, the rule of law and not the diktats of goons prevails here. Criminals don't get VIP treatment and you have to take this system forward," he said.

Lauding India's Chandrayaan programme, he said, "We could never have imagined that India would reach the moon, but we reached a place on the moon where no one in the world had reached. India's spacecraft landed on the south pole of the moon and Modi ji named it Shivshakti Point to give the country's message to the world about giving respect to 'maatrishakti'," he said.

He said that the work of revival of many religious sites was also undertaken by Prime Minister Modi.

"Kedarnath Dham has been made, Badrinath Dham has been made, Ram Lalla is seated in a huge temple in Ayodhya, the corridor of Kashi Vishwanath has been built," he said.

Shah also said that triple talaq has ended and the work of making Uttarakhand the country's first state with a common civil code was done under Modi ji's rule.

He said that PM Modi has made such a strict law that no thief can steal a penny

of the Waqf, and ended illegal land occupation and corruption that used to take place earlier.

Shah said that today, over 60,000 youth are joining the country's largest police force, which has a strength of four lakh. He emphasized that goons and mafia should fear the police, while the poor, Dalits, backwards, and tribals should see police personnel as their saviours.

Chief Minister Adityanath, and Deputy CMs Brajesh Pathak and Keshav Prasad Maurya were also present at the event.

The event marked the biggest-ever direct recruitment drive for civil police constables in the history of the state police, the Uttar Pradesh government said in a statement.

Under the Civil Police Direct Recruitment drive, as many as 48,196 male and 12,048 female candidates have been selected by the Uttar Pradesh Police Recruitment and Promotion Board. The recruitment drive received 48.17 lakh applications, including 15.49 lakh from women.

India looks forward...

trade, investment and more," Modi posted on X.

The Cypriot president, welcoming PM Modi, said it is a "historic visit" and a "new chapter in a strategic partnership that knows no limits".

"Welcome to Cyprus Prime Minister @narendramodi! Here, at the EU's south-eastern frontier and gateway of the Mediterranean. A historic visit. A new chapter in a strategic partnership that knows no limits. We make a promise to advance, transform, prosper more. Together," he posted on X.

Ministry of External Affairs spokesman Randhir Jaiswal said that the two sides will hold extensive discussions to further deepen bilateral ties.

"A trusted partnership underpinned by shared values & aspirations. PM @narendramodi has landed in Cyprus. As a special gesture, reflecting deep-rooted historic ties, President @Christodoulides and FM @ekombos received PM on arrival at the airport," Jaiswal said on X.

Upon his arrival at the hotel, Prime Minister Modi was greeted by the members of the Indian diaspora who chanted 'Vande Mataram' and 'Bharat Mata Ki Jai'.

Sharing photos of his meeting with the members of the Indian diaspora on X, Modi said, "I thank the Indian community for the affection. India will keep working to deepen ties with Cyprus in the times to come."

Modi later attended a business event along with President Christodoulides where ideas about how to strengthen bilateral partnership in new areas were discussed.

Separately, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar met with his Cypriot counterpart Constantinos Kombos on his arrival at Larnaca International Airport.

"Delighted to meet FM @ekombos of Cyprus on my arrival at Larnaca. Confident that PM @narendramodi's visit to Cyprus will deepen our longstanding bilateral ties and the India-EU partnership," Jaishankar posted on X.

In his departure statement in New Delhi earlier, Modi said Cyprus is a close friend and an important partner in the Mediterranean region and the EU.

"The visit provides an opportunity to build upon the historical bonds and expand our ties in the areas of trade, investment, security, technology and promote people-to-people exchanges," he said.

While in Nicosia, the prime minister will hold talks with President Christodoulides and address business leaders at Limassol, it said.

Chopper crashes near...

disasters where an Air India flight to London crashed in Ahmedabad just after take-off, killing 241 people on board and several others on the ground.

The seven people on board the Bell 407 helicopter, operated by private firm Aryan Aviation Pvt Ltd, included a two-year-old child and the pilot. They hailed from Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh.

The Civil Aviation Ministry said it has suspended the operations of Aryan Aviation for the Char Dham Yatra and has directed the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) to immediately post officers from airworthiness, safety and operations to actively oversee all helicopter activity in the Kedarnath Valley.

Preliminary indications suggest that the probable cause may be Controlled Flight into Terrain (CFIT), with the helicopter reportedly airborne despite poor visibility and extensive clouding at the valley entry area, the ministry said in a statement.

The exact cause will be determined through a detailed investigation by the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB), it added.

CFIT occurs when an airworthy aircraft under the complete control of the pilot is inadvertently flown into terrain, water or an obstacle.

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami also ordered a high-level inquiry and suspension of helicopter operations on the Chardham Yatra route for two days.

Rudraprayag District Disaster Management Officer Nandan Singh Rajwar told PTI that zero visibility caused by bad weather apparently led the helicopter to crash between Gaurikund and Trjuginarayan in Kedarghati and catch fire.

"There were five passengers, one infant and one crew member on board. The helicopter took off from Guptakashi at 05:10 hrs and landed at Shri Kedarnath ji Helipad at 05:18 hrs. The helicopter took off again at 05:19 hrs for Guptkanshi and crashed near Gaurikund," an official statement said.

Among the victims was a member of the Badrinath-Kedarnath Temple Committee Vikram Singh Rawat.

Rajveer Singh Chauhan, the pilot of the helicopter, had served in the Indian Army for over 15 years and had vast experience of flying missions over different terrains.

A resident of Shastri Nagar in Jaipur, Chauhan had been working as a pilot with Aryan Aviation Private Ltd since October 2024.

Besides the pilot, a couple and their two-year-old daughter hailing from Yavatmal in Maharashtra were also among those killed in the crash.

They were identified as Rajkumar Jaiswal, a transport businessman, his wife Shradha, and their daughter Kashi, former Wani MLA Vishvas Nandekar told reporters in Yavatmal.

Vinood Devi (66) and Tushti Singh (19) from Uttar Pradesh were among the victims.

The Civil Aviation Ministry said that the DGCA has been directed to immediately post officers from airworthiness, safety, and operations to actively oversee all helicopter activity in the Kedarnath Valley and rigorously review the functioning of the Uttarakhand Civil Aviation Development Authority (UCADA) command-and-control room.

"Two helicopters belonging to TransBharat Aviation - VT-TBC with Yogesh Grewal as pilot in command and VT-TBF with Jitender Harjai as PIC - were found to have been airborne under similar unsuitable weather conditions.

"Accordingly, the licenses of both pilots have been suspended for six months," the ministry said.

In touch with...

his government was closely following the situation in this regard.

"As a parent I assure all the concerned parents of my government's close & continuous attention to this important developing situation," he added.

In an advisory, the Indian embassy in Iran asked all Indian nationals to remain vigilant, avoid all unnecessary movements, follow the embassy's social media accounts and observe safety protocols as advised by local authorities.

Man held for...

inspection, it was found to be operating without valid documents and the driver was without a license.

Consequently, the vehicle was challaned and taken into custody as per the law, he said. A case under Section 8 of the Prevention of Corruption Act has been registered against Peer at Lalpora Police Station, the spokesperson said.

Mukesh, Viplav, Vijay...

most notably as Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) for the Jammu Zone. He has led numerous successful counter-terrorism operations and played a central role in dismantling terror networks in the region. His tenure has been marked by operational efficiency, strategic acumen, and a deep understanding of border security dynamics along the Line of Control.

Viplav Kumar Choudhary, from the 1997 batch, has held a range of critical postings in both operational and administrative capacities. Known for his professionalism and measured approach in high-stakes situations, Choudhary has contributed significantly to counter-insurgency operations and public safety mechanisms during volatile phases in the Valley. His leadership during periods of heightened security challenges has been widely acknowledged.

Vijay Kumar, also of the 1997 batch, has been one of the most prominent police officers in Kashmir in recent years. As Inspector General of Police (IGP), Kashmir Zone, he led from the front in executing targeted counter-terror operations, particularly against top commanders of terror groups. His strategic command, real-time operational oversight, and close coordination with intelligence units have been credited with bringing substantial improvements to the region's security landscape.

The empanelment of these three senior IPS officers from Jammu and Kashmir is particularly significant given their frontline experience in dealing with terrorism and complex law and order situations. Their elevation comes at a time when the Union Government is placing increased emphasis on field-tested leadership and operational expertise in its internal security framework.

With their inclusion in the ADGP-level empanelment list, these officers are now eligible for central deputation and assignment to some of the most sensitive and high-impact roles in India's national security apparatus.

LG assures appropriate...

his address, called upon the people to follow the teachings of Sant Kabir and show equal respect for all sections of society and all faiths.

He observed that Sant Kabir's profound message and divine verses, reflecting on various social issues and challenges, are as relevant today as ever.

"India has been home for centuries to seekers from different religions and this spirit of brotherhood, social and religious diversities have become our strength.

We must learn from the wisdom of Sant Kabir to preserve and nurture our ancient values, Sanskar of our ancient living civilization and our priceless knowledge system. We must reach out to every citizen in J&K and inculcate and reinforce these values in new generation," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor also shared the efforts of the J&K Administration, under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, for providing equal opportunities and dignified life to all citizens.

Responding to the demands, the Lieutenant Governor assured appropriate measures to declare Sant Kabir Das Ji Jayanti as Gazetted holiday. He reiterated that it is the Government of India's commitment to ensure reservation in promotion.

He further assured necessary intervention in meeting the demand for establishing a community hall for Sant Kabir Samaj.

The Lieutenant Governor also spoke on the significant role of Holistic Agriculture Development Program (HADP) in bringing a new Agriculture revolution in J&K, and transforming the lives of 13 lakh farming families, with dedicated focus on marginal and small farmers.

The past eleven years, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, have marked a period of unprecedented change and growth for Indian agriculture, driven by a holistic vision to make farming more profitable, sustainable, and globally competitive, he further added.

Dr. Rajeev Bhagat, Member of Legislative Assembly, Bishnah; Prof Gharu Ram Bhagat, Member of Legislative Assembly, Suchetgarh; prominent citizens, community leaders, members of various organisations, and people from all walks of life were present on the occasion.

Two minor siblings...

and Senior Superintendent of Police, Doda Sandeep Mehta also visited the scene to supervise the rescue operation.

"The boys remained untraced so far but efforts are on to trace them. The water level in Chenab is very high but the SDRF and police are continuing their efforts," Singh said.

He requested parents not to leave their children unattended near the water bodies to avoid any untoward incident.

Anti-terror raids carried out in Poonch

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Police on Sunday conducted anti-terror raids at multiple places in the border district of Poonch, officials said.



Security forces launched a major search operation in the Gagrian area of Sawjian in District Poonch, following inputs regarding suspicious activities in the region. Police teams, along with SOG, conducted raids on several houses of individuals suspected to be in regular contact with people across the border in Pakistan. The houses which were raided of Mohd Asgar, son of Mohd Akbar Lone, resident of Chaprian; Farida Bugam, wife of Mohd Asgar; Mohd Akhter, son of Abdul Samad, resident of Gagrian; Tariq Ahmed, son of Saif Din, resident of Gagrian; Faiz Ahmed, son of Bashir Ahmed, resident of Gagrian; Gulzar Ahmed, son of Mohd Akram, resident of Gagrian and Manzoor Ahmed, son of Ghulam Mohd.

SOG has taken the mobile phones of Mohd Asgar, Farida Bi, Mohd Akhter and Tariq Ahmed in their custody. Also, one person namely Manzoor Ahmed brought to PS Poonch by SOG Poonch.

The investigation is currently underway, and authorities have not ruled out further detentions or questioning. The presence of a large number of security personnel in the area has created tension among the locals, but officials have assured that the action is purely preventive in nature and aimed at safeguarding peace and stability in the border region.

Durga Nagar's sensational snatching case solved; 2 arrested, gold chain recovered

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a swift and successful operation, Jammu Police have solved the sensational chain snatching case that occurred on



June 4, 2025, in Durga Nagar, Chinore. The incident, which had sparked fear and concern among local residents, involved two men on a scooter who snatched a gold chain worth lakhs from a woman near a school bus stop. The accused also brandished a sharp-edged weapon, known as a 'toka', to intimidate the victim before fleeing the scene.

To avoid detection, the suspects wore helmets and had deliberately removed the scooter's number plate. The scooter was later found abandoned in an isolated location in Janipur.

Acting swiftly, SP Rural Jammu Brijesh Sharma formed a dedicated investigation team led by SDPO Domana, SHO Domana, and the In-Charge Police Post (ICPP) Chinore. Under close supervision, the team conducted a comprehensive investigation, analyzing footage from over 300-400 CCTV cameras and utilizing technical intelligence.

Their efforts led to the identification and arrest of two accused Ajit Sharma, S/O Tirth Ram, R/O Janipur Disco Road and Sahil Khan, S/O Khurshid Ahmed, R/O Kamini Market, Nagrota.

Following their arrest, the team recovered the gold chain worth lakhs and the weapon (toka) used in the crime. Additionally, two vehicles involved in the incident were seized which include Scooty (Reg. No. JK02BM 4397) reportedly stolen from the Jurisdiction of PS Janipur and Auto (Reg.No. JK02DP 6417) used during the commission of the crime.

Moreover, with regard to the public parade, it is clarified that both the accused were taken for recovery and other legal formalities.

Three injured in bike collision

STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: A road accident occurred in the Khet area of Sawjian village, where two motorcycles collided head-on, resulting in injuries to three individuals.

According to local sources, the injured were immediately provided first aid at the Sawjian Health Centre. After preliminary treatment, all three were referred to Sub-District Hospital (SDH) Mandi for further medical attention. Injured persons have been identified as Vikas Mehmod 18 yrs S/O Mohd Maroof R/O Kamsar and Mohd Toyab 16 yr S/O Shah Jan R/O Kamsar.

Chowki Officer Sawjian PSI Rajat promptly reached the spot and initiated necessary procedures. The police have taken cognizance of the matter, and an investigation is underway to determine the exact cause of the collision.