

!! Continuations from Page 1 !!

Multi-layer security...

- Safer Yatra tracks with stronger safety handrails all along whole of Baltal track and 20+ km on vulnerable stretches on Pahalgam track.
 - Illuminated tracks and Yatra camps: Grid power connectivity along whole of Baltal track till holy cave and from holy cave to Panjtarni has been achieved.
 - Grid connectivity on remaining stretch of Pahalgam track is being started.
 - Enhanced accommodation for pilgrims at SASB's Yatri Niwas complexes at Baltal (800), Nunwan (900) and Pantha chowk (1000).
 - Digital pre-paid system for hiring of various services like pony, pithu, palki would be available for pilgrims.
 - At the Holy Cave, the wooden darshan platform has been replaced with stainless steel platform of appropriate alignment and height with wood flooring and additional row. Now, pilgrims would be able to have darshans simultaneously in four rows. This shall facilitate better and hassle free darshans.
 - Installation of Canopy over the stairs at the Holy Cave for the comfort and protection of yatris from rain/ snowfall/ scorching sun.
 - Clinical bed capacity of health care facilities at Panjtarni and upper camps has been expanded substantially this year:
 - Integrated Command and Control Centres have been established and deployment of J&K Police and CAPFs Personnel have been increased.
 - Vulnerable spots were identified and dedicated measures have been taken to ensure the safety of the pilgrims.
 - 100-bedded hospitals are functional at both the axis.
 - Yatri Niwas at Baltal and Pahalgam axis are being developed for the convenience of the devotees.
 - Special focus has been laid on cleanliness and making the yatra more sustainable.
 - Prasad counters have been established at holy cave.
 - Foot over bridge at Nunwan base camp, Cloak rooms, e-rickshaw and other such facilities have been extended for the pilgrims and service providers.
 - Security at Tourist spots have also been enhanced.
- The Lieutenant Governor also lauded the role of media persons and the local residents of J&K in the smooth and successful conduct of the yatra. He also urged the pilgrims to travel in the designated convoy.

3 drown, 4...

fished out by a rescue team of the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) from the Lopa stream in Doda, the officials said, adding that he drowned while bathing in the stream on June 23.

According to reports several vehicles were also damaged after coming under the impact of mudslide and landslide near Graveyard Pranoo area of Doda. However, following concerted efforts, the highway has been partially restored for traffic.

STATE TIMES team led by Raja Rehber Jamal visited the area to know the ground situation after the disaster.

Ex Sarpanch Pranoo Farooq Ahmed mentioned that a loud noise was heard in the nearby Nallah early morning as it was raining, after which I came out of my house and raised an alarm about the situation that arose due to the flash flood.

The Beacon (GREF) authorities were repeatedly requested to construct a culvert on this Nallah near Pranoo market, but unfortunately, no action was taken over the past decade, ultimately leading to today's disaster," he added.

Local residents have appealed to the District Administration and Beacon authorities to construct a necessary culvert on Nallah, in order to mitigate the risk of similar situations occurring in the future.

Meanwhile, partial restoration of the Doda-Bhaderwah highway has allowed traffic to resume, and all stranded vehicles have been cleared. JCB work is ongoing to fully restore the highway.

Baldev Raj (35) and Sushil Kumar (25) were rescued by the SDRF from a swollen Ujh river, near Jarmal village in Nagri block of Kathua, the officials said.

They said the men had gone fishing and got trapped due to a sudden rise in the water level following heavy rains in its catchment areas.

The officials said the SDRF also rescued a person from a stream in Poonch.

Flash floods due to cloudbursts were also reported from Qazi Mora in Poonch and different high-altitude areas of Doda, Udhampur and Ramban districts, but there was no report of any casualty.

Meanwhile, the administration in various districts, including Rajouri and Doda, have imposed a complete ban on swimming, bathing, fishing and roaming near rivers, nallahs, waterfalls, and also prohibited school picnics.

Advisories have been issued asking citizens to stay alert and follow precautionary measures amid likely flood situations this rainy season, the officials said.

Police personnel were also seen using a public address system fitted in their vehicles asking people to stay away from swollen water bodies due to incessant rains.

The weatherman has forecast intermittent spells of light to moderate rain and thundershowers at many places, with the possibility of heavy rain at a few places of Jammu division till Friday.

Landslide blocks new...

pilgrims, the officials said. They said the agencies concerned have deployed their men and machines to clear the debris on both the tracks.

On June 24, Lt Governor Manoj Sinha directed identifying of vulnerable spots along the pilgrimage route and implementing necessary measures to address and mitigate potential risks of landslides and shooting stones, ensuring a safer environment for devotees.

CB files 5...

Rakesh Sareen, resident of Vikas Nagar, Uttam Nagar Delhi. In yet another case, official said, Crime Branch has filed charge-sheet against accused Shafiq Ahmed Lone, son of Gh. Mohi-ud-Din, resident of Perozpura, Tang Marg Distt Baramulla Kashmir, MohdInam-UL-Haq, son of MohdIzhar-UL-Haq, resident of New Delhi; Firoz Khan, son of Mune Khan, resident of Noida (U.P) for duping complainant Satpal Sharma, son of Makhan Lal, resident of W.No. 13 R.S Pura Jammu of Rs 6,50,000 for providing fake and forged Visa and fake job offer letters to his son.

Crime Branch also submitted charge-sheet against accused Varinder Kumar, son of Prem Chand, resident of Sirhind Fatehgarh Sahib, Punjab, official said adding that FIR was registered and proved upon written complaint of Vijay Kumar, resident of Village Sailsul, Tehsil Kalakote, Rajouri alleging therein that accused duped him of his huge hard-earned money on the pretext of 'arranging work visa.

Besides, officials added, CB produced challan against accused Pawan Kumar, son of Prem Kumar, resident of Chandigarh UT; Naresh Kumar, son of Sohan Lal, resident of Chandigarh against whom FIR was registered and proved on the written complaint of Baehan Lal and Sudhir Kumar, both from Gho Manhasan, Jammu, who alleged that they were duped of Rs. Rs 6.41 lakh on the pretext of providing jobs as Supervisors in Pirus Security and Allied Services Pvt. Ltd.

Senior Superintendent of Police Crime Jammu, Benam Tosh confirmed that charge-sheets in case FIR No. 118/2023, FIR No. 64/2023, FIR No. 46/2019, FIR No. 78/2022 and FIR No. 79/2023 have been filed in the courts of law for judicial determination.

Rajnath refuses to...

"epicentres of terrorism are no longer safe and we will not hesitate to target them." "Some countries use cross-border terrorism as an instrument of policy and provide shelter to terrorists. There should be no place for such double standards. The SCO should not hesitate to criticise such nations," he said.

Pakistan Defence Minister Khawaja Asif and Chinese Defence Minister Dong Jun were among those who attended the conclave.

In New Delhi, External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said the SCO member nations could not reach a consensus on certain issues and hence the document could not be finalised.

"India wanted concerns on terrorism reflected in the document which was not acceptable to one particular country. As such the joint statement was not adopted," he said at his weekly media briefing.

In his remarks at the conclave in the Chinese port city of Qingdao, the defence minister laid down the broad contours of India's "transitional shift" in its policy against terrorism and urged the SCO member nations to unite in combating and shun "double standards".

"Peace and prosperity cannot co-exist with terrorism and proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction in the hands of non-state actors and terror groups," Singh said. "Dealing with these challenges requires decisive action. It is imperative that those who sponsor, nurture and utilise terrorism for their narrow and selfish ends must bear the consequences," he said.

Singh also said that the pattern of the Pahalgam terror attack matched with Lashkar-e-Taiba's previous terror attacks in India.

The defence minister said India launched Operation Sindoor in response to the heinous terror attack in Pahalgam, and exercised its right to defend against terrorism and pre-empt as well as deter further cross-border attacks.

"During the Pahalgam terror attack, victims were shot after they were profiled on religious identity. The Resistance Front, a proxy of UN-designated terror group

Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) claimed responsibility for the attack," he said.

"The pattern of Pahalgam attack matches with LeT's previous terror attacks in India. India's zero tolerance for terrorism was demonstrated through its actions," he said.

"It includes our right to defend ourselves against terrorism. We have shown that epicentres of terrorism are no longer safe and we will not hesitate to target them," he said.

Singh said SCO members must condemn terrorism unequivocally as he reaffirmed India's resolve to fight the menace in all its forms.

The defence minister also called for proactive steps to prevent the spread of radicalisation among the youth.

"The joint statement of the Council of SCO Heads of State on 'Countering Radicalisation leading to Terrorism, Separatism and Extremism' issued during India's chairmanship symbolises our shared commitment," he stated.

Singh stressed that the world faces an intricate web of challenges that range from transnational terrorism and cyber-attacks to hybrid warfare.

These threats, he said, do not respect national boundaries, and demand a unified response rooted in transparency, mutual trust, and collaboration.

Singh underscored the importance of countering the technology used by terrorists including drones for cross-border smuggling of weapons and drugs, pointing out that traditional borders are no longer the sole barriers against threats in this interconnected world.

The defence minister also noted that India has been consistent and steadfast in its policy in support of peace, security and stability in Afghanistan.

On SCO's crucial role in the current uncertain geopolitical scenario, Singh said the member countries contribute around 30 per cent of the global GDP and about 40 per cent of the world's population resides in them.

He described the creation of a safe, secure and stable region as a collective stake, which can contribute towards progress and improvement of peoples' lives.

The defence minister voiced India's commitment to increasing its connectivity with Central Asia. "Better connectivity not only enhances mutual trade but also fosters mutual trust."

"However, in these efforts, it is essential to uphold the basic principles of the SCO charter, particularly respecting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of member states."

Mineral supervisor arrested...

Rs 15,000 from the complainant in the presence of independent witnesses.

The accused was taken into custody on the spot, official added.

It is pertinent to mention here that just two days earlier, another official of the same department was caught red-handed by ACB while accepting a bribe of Rs 10,000 in the Safapora area, official said adding that further investigation of the instant case is going on.

Sinha meets political...

the stakeholders for the safe and successful conduct of the holy yatra.

"With the blessings of Baba Amaranth, and the significant enhancements to essential facilities and services, this year's pilgrimage promises to be memorable and spiritually enriching for devotees. It will also mark the beginning of a new chapter for Jammu Kashmir", the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor welcomed the suggestions and inputs received from the senior political leaders and sought their cooperation to make the yatra more convenient and hassle-free for the devotees of Shri Amarnath Ji.

"The leaders of all political parties are members of the J&K family and I believe pilgrimage to Shri Amarnath Ji is the socio-cultural responsibility of this family. We must walk shoulder to shoulder with a resolve to welcome all devotees and make Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra a huge success," the Lieutenant Governor said.

Chief Minister, Shri Omar Abdullah and all the senior leaders reiterated their commitment and assured every support to the holy pilgrimage.

Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra is woven into Jammu Kashmir's composite culture and is also crucial for the region's economy. The smooth and successful conduct of this sacred pilgrimage is our shared responsibility, they said.

The senior leaders also urged the people of Jammu & Kashmir to warmly welcome the devotees and play their vital role as key stakeholders in the Yatra.

Condemning the Pahalgam Terror Attack, the Political leaders said the way the people of Kashmir valley, irrespective of their political ideologies came out on streets against terrorism sent a strong message to the adversary that violence has no place in our society.

Discussions on restoring...

completed in 2008-09. People wanted the road to remain open throughout the year. Similarly, there was a long-pending demand for a tunnel on the Sadhna pass to connect Tangdhar that has been approved.

"Many other projects have been approved," the chief minister said, adding that Rs 10,600 crore is not a nominal amount. "Now, we will have to try for some more tunnels, like in Gurez, which have been left out," he said.

The National Conference (NC) leader said youngsters who associate themselves with the National Cadet Corps (NCC) benefit immensely.

"It inculcates discipline, self-awareness, self-confidence and patriotism, as well as leads to relationships that benefit them lifelong," he said.

Abdullah said these youngsters can achieve a lot.

"Ten NCC cadets scaled the highest mountain peak in the world, two of them were from Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh -- a boy from the Kathua area of Jammu and a girl from Ladakh. This is a huge achievement.

"Sitting atop the highest mountain peak in the world at the age of 18 shows the discipline and self-confidence they acquire after joining the NCC," he said.

"I want more youngsters to join the NCC. I hope they enjoy their time here and when they return home, they tell their friends, neighbours and relatives to visit Kashmir on vacations," the chief minister said.

An official spokesperson said Abdullah called upon the NCC cadets from across the country to serve as ambassadors of peace, unity and harmony by sharing their positive experiences of Jammu and Kashmir with people in their home states.

The presence of the young cadets from different parts of the country was a "morale booster" for the people of the valley, the chief minister said.

The 12-day camp aims to promote national integration and cultural exchange among youngsters.

"I urge you to go back and be our ambassadors. Tell your families, friends and communities about the Jammu and Kashmir you saw -- the warmth of its people, the beauty of its culture and the reality beyond headlines," Abdullah said.

Referring to the April 22 terror attack in the Baisaran area of Pahalgam that claimed 26 innocent lives, the chief minister said this year has "brought us pain we hoped never to experience again".

"But even in our darkest hours, there is hope. There is light at the end of every tunnel," he added.

Emphasising the importance of continued engagement with Kashmir, Abdullah urged the NCC authorities to organise future camps that include travel by train.

"Let cadets witness the incredible engineering marvels that connect the valley to the rest of the country. It will be a journey of inspiration," he said.

Reflecting on his own school days, the NC leader spoke about the enduring value of bonds formed during such camps.

"When you live, travel, perform and share experiences together, you build relationships that last a lifetime. Cherish them, they are priceless," he said.

The chief minister underscored the strength of India's unity in diversity, recalling the opening words of the Constitution -- "We, the People of India".

"We are united not despite our differences, but because of them. Our real strength lies in our togetherness," he said.

"These integration camps are not just about training or cultural showcases. They symbolise the living spirit of India -- an unbreakable emotional and physical bond among its people. As long as we nurture this spirit, no adversary can weaken us," Abdullah asserted.

CB files charge...

submitted by the Branch Manager of Punjab National Bank (PNB), Canal Road Branch, Jammu. The complainant alleged that in 2016, the accused had opened a savings account at the branch, introduced by his real sister who was already maintaining an account there. Subsequently, the accused applied for a term loan of Rs 9 lakh to establish a business unit under the name M/S Three Brackets IT Tech, located at 720 Bemina, Srinagar, claiming to deal in the installation of RFID machines in educational institutions," official said adding that accordingly, a Preliminary Verification (PV) was conducted.

"During the process of PV, the accused was found to have submitted a set of documents including a PAN card and a driving license as identity proof, and duly executed the loan agreement. The loan was sanctioned with a repayment schedule of 84 equal monthly instalments of ₹11,069. However, the account soon turned into a Non-Performing Asset (NPA) due to persistent non-repayment. On the basis of the findings of the PV, above mentioned case was registered," the official said.

During investigation, official added, it was conclusively established that the driving license submitted by the accused was forged, and that the loan was obtained through fraudulent means.

This resulted in a wrongful financial loss to the bank and a corresponding illegal gain to the accused, official said.

After completing the investigation, the offences under Sections 420 (cheating), 465 (forgery), 468 (forgery for purpose of cheating), 471 (use of forged documents), and 120-B RPC (criminal conspiracy) were fully substantiated. A team from the Special Crime Wing headed by Insp Nissar and under the close supervision of SSP Parihar today produced the accused before the Court, and the charge-sheet has been formally submitted for judicial proceedings, official said adding that SCW Jammu remains committed to play it's role of professional investigation in the process of justice delivery system.

Doda police files charge-sheet against 'Bhaderwah confession' page admin for defamation, intimidation, public mischief

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

DODA: District Police Doda on Thursday filled charge-sheet against the administrators of the controversial Instagram account of "Bhaderwah Confession" for allegedly defaming many individuals especially youth by sharing their false, fabricated and malicious content about their personal affairs.

Official said that following the receipt of a written complaint at PS Bhaderwah the case was registered against unknown administrators of the above named Instagram page for spreading false stories, causing defamation and significant damage to personal lives.

Reports were indicating that the page has adversely affected the reputation and relationships of many individuals especially youth of Bhaderwah.

Accordingly on the directions of SSP Doda Sandeep Mehta, an FIR under No. 03/2025 under Section 351(2), 351(3), 351(4) 352, 353 BNS, and 66 (D) of IT act was registered at PS Bhaderwah and investigation of the case was entrusted to SDPO Bhaderwah.

During the course of investigation it has been found that the accused persons (Name withheld) who are minors have created an Instagram page "Bhaderwahconfessions" by using fake ID ais00234@gmail.com and shared the false and defamatory contents of various boys and girls and by spreading false and defamatory contents caused widespread distress and harm which resulted in the disruption of peaceful environment of Bhaderwah town as well as whole District Doda.

After completing the investigation of the case, Challan was prepared and produced before the court of Juvenile Justice Board Doda for Judicial determination.

Jammu Police detains Tractor-Trolley carrying sand without permission

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu Police, South Zone, continues its sustained crackdown on illegal mining activities under Operation Ploughing.

In a latest action, Police Post Chatha detained a tractor-trolley loaded with sand that was being transported without Form-A or any valid permission.

The vehicle was intercepted during routine area patrolling and spot checking in Chatha jurisdiction.

Upon verification, the driver failed to produce mandatory documents required under mining and transportation regulations. The District Mineral Officer (DMO), Jammu, was informed accordingly for taking further course of legal action.

This action forms part of the larger strategic effort by South Zone Police to counter unlawful extraction and transportation of minor minerals, thereby preserving the environmental balance and ensuring compliance with legal protocols.

The operation was carried out under the overall supervision of SSP Jammu Joginder Singh, with direct supervision of SP City South Ajay Sharma and under the jurisdictional oversight of Incharge SDPO South Sheezan Bhat.

Jammu Police, South Zone, reaffirms its commitment to act firmly against illegal mining activities and urges citizens to extend cooperation by reporting such violations promptly to their nearest police units.

Kathua Police organises awareness programme on 'drugs abuse & illicit trafficking'

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: To counter the increasing menace of drugs among the youth and the masses as well as to prevent the abuse and growing drug addiction in the society, District Police Kathua under the overall supervision of SSP Kathua Shobhit Saksena on Thursday organised an Awareness camp at Hindustan Computer Institute Billawar as well as organized awarness program/rally at PS Lakanpur on the eve of "International Day Against Drugs Abuse & Illicit Trafficking".

As a part of the Civic Action Programme and in order to spread awareness about drug abuse in the society, Under Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan, today on 26 June 2025 an awareness programme to spread the message, Say No to drugs & Yes to Life was organized by Police Station Billawar in which Insp. Zaheer Mushtaq SHO PS Billawar under the guidance of SDPO Billawar Neeraj Padyar participated.

There was a gathering of 20-25 students which included students, staff members and police officials who also actively participated.

Thereafter chairing officials gave an elaborate view about the menace of drugs, its sources, causes, consequences and role of every member of society.

In addition on the occasion of International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking an awareness program/rally was organized from Basohli Morh Lakanpur to Dhanna (Basantpur) to spread awareness to the harmful effects of drug abuse and to make Public particularly among youth aware about the menace of drugs abuse. To motivate them to stay away from drugs, make positive life choices, and contribute to society, Also urged the public to support the initiative of Kathua police in making a drug-free society.

Two drug peddlers arrested; Contraband substances, cash recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Continuing its sustained efforts to combat the menace of drug trafficking, Police have arrested two drug peddlers in Budgam & Kupwara and recovered contraband substances and cash from their possession.

A police team from Police Post Soibugh, during patrolling in Hakurmulla village intercepted a suspicious person carrying a nylon bag. He has been identified as Bilal Ahmed Hajam alias Lakha son of Ab Rashid Hajam resident of Hakurmulla. During search, 6.323 Kgs of poppy straw-like substance was recovered from his possession.

Meanwhile in Kupwara, a police team of PS Kupwara at a checkpoint established at Khumriyal, arrested a drug peddler identified as Umer Aziz Payer son of Ab Aziz Payer resident of Cheerikoot Lolab Kupwara. During search, a substantial amount of Heroin-like substance was recovered from his possession. Preliminary enquiry revealed that the accused was engaged in illicit drug trafficking. Upon his disclosure search was conducted in the shop and residential house of another accused person namely Munzoor Ahmad Mir @ Manna Tanghar son of Mohd Maqbool Mir resident of Khumriyal. During search, substantial amount of narcotics and cash amounting to Rs 4,93,100/-was recovered from his possession.

Accordingly, cases under relevant section of law have been registered and investigation has been initiated.

J&K Police reiterate their firm commitment to eradicating the drug menace from society and appeal to the general public to come forward with any information related to drug peddling. Together, we can build a drug-free and healthier community.

Police attaches property of notorious drug peddler

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

ANANTNAG: In a decisive move against the drug menace, Police in Anantnag attached immovable property belonging to a notorious drug peddler under the provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act.

Acting under Section 68-F of the NDPS Act, 1985, police attached a single-storey residential house belonging to Azad Ali Khan son of Gull Ali Khan resident of Kehribal Ranbirpora Mattan. The said individual has been a repeated offender and is involved in multiple NDPS cases, including FIR No. 68/2013 U/S 8/20 NDPS Act, FIR No. 82/2017 U/S 15/18 NDPS Act and FIR No. 10/2022 U/S 8/15 NDPS Act & 48 Excise Act of Police Station Mattan. The action was taken as part of legal proceedings to disrupt the illicit gains from drug-related activities.

The property was identified as illegally acquired during the course of investigation and enquiry conducted by Mattan Police, and was established to have been procured through illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. The offender had been previously detained under the PIT-NDPS Act at District Jail Reasi, Jammu, and has been recently released.

J&K Police remains committed to ensure a drug-free and crime-free society, and such actions will continue with greater intensity. The public is once again urged to come forward with any information related to drug peddling and help make the district a drug-free zone.