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Youth are true...

ambassadors of Jammu and Kashmir," the Lieutenant Governor said. The Lieutenant Governor called upon the youth to inculcate the spirit of 'Nation First' and motivate people to discharge their duties towards the nation.

"Youth are our hope for a brighter future. Youth are the most valuable assets for any region and government. Youth are the true catalysts of change in society. Youth must imbibe the profound values of the NCC - discipline, unity, leadership, and selfless service and work collectively to realise the vision of Viksit Bharat," the Lieutenant Governor said.

He said the message should also be conveyed through the Special National Integration Camp that the participation of the youth in the planning and development process at the grassroots level should be ensured so that socio-economic development can be fully realized.

The NCC should be seen as a bridge between the administration and youth aspirations. By leveraging the NCC's network and connect, we can ensure the active participation of youth in various nation-building activities.

This special camp is also an opportunity to reflect on the progress made in achieving the goal of youth-led development and to prepare a roadmap for the future, the Lieutenant Governor further said.

The Lieutenant Governor lauded NCC Cadets' remarkable efforts during Operation Sindoor: "Our NCC cadets rose to the occasion during difficult times. Beyond their selfless service in relief camps across border districts, they also proactively organized blood donation drives. Through these commendable deeds, they have unequivocally elevated the prestige of NCC," he said.

On the occasion, NCC cadets delivered captivating performances that vividly showcased India's rich and diverse cultures. As many as 340 cadets and NCC officers from all over the country are participating in the camp.

GOC 15 Corps, Lieutenant General Prashant Srivastava; Additional Chief Secretary Higher Education Department, Shantmanu; Additional Director General, NCC Directorate J&K and Ladakh, Maj Gen Anupinder Bevi; Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Vijay Bidhuri; Commissioner Secretary, Youth Services & Sports, Sarmad Hafeez; Officers of NCC Directorates, NCC cadets from across the country were present.

Padma Shri Farooq Ahmed Mir; Deputy Commissioner Srinagar; Akshay Labroo and senior officers of Civil Administration, Police and Security Forces were also present.

Cache of intoxicants...

operation and intercepted the individual, who was found in possession of a large quantity of pharmaceutical tablets categorized as intoxicants/habit forming drugs. The consignment, which lacked valid documentation and licenses, was confiscated and sent for further analysis.

The preliminary inquiry revealed that the accused was involved in interstate smuggling of intoxicating drugs through a clandestine manner and has resorted to unfair means by forging the licenses of a Chemist Shop and was indulging in procuring such consignments through impersonation with malafide intent and was selling these preparations to the drug addicts.

The accused has been taken into custody, and an investigation is underway to determine the intended distribution network of the seized substances. The operation was initiated by Arehana Mujoo, ADC(HQ) Jammu and executed by a team of Drugs Control Officers Tej Veer Singh Sodi, Nisar Ahmed Dar and Amit Mahajan under the Supervision of Arvind Sharma, Assistant Drugs Controller, Jammu.

Patwari attached, Tehsildar...

the office of Tehsildar Haveli, with immediate effect," reads an order issued by Tahir Mustafa Malik, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Poonch.

Consequently, it is ordered that Azhar Majid, JKAS, Tehsildar Haveli, has been appointed as Inquiry Officer to conduct enquiry into the misconduct.

"The Inquiry Officer shall submit its report along with recommendations to this office, within a period of 10 days from the date of issuance of this order," it stated.

"Zulfqar Ahmed, Patwari Village Seri Chowana, shall hold the charge of Patwar Halqa Shindara, Tehsil Haveli, in addition to his own duties till further order," read an order.

CM calls for...

that the past can intrude into our present and, God forbid, our future," he said. He acknowledged the volatility that tourism in J&K has witnessed over the decades and emphasized the importance of resilience. "Unlike most other places where tourism planning can be done for years ahead, here we plan week to week. But still-we plan, and we persist," he said. He expressed gratitude to FICCI and the larger tourism fraternity for standing by Jammu & Kashmir in both good and challenging times.

The event was attended by Advisor to CM Nasir Aslam Wani, MLAs Farooq Ahmad Shah, Salman Sagar, Altaf Ahmad Kaloo, Tanvir Sadiq, Additional Chief Secretary to CM Dheeraj Gupta, Commissioner Secretary Tourism Yasha Mudgal, FICCI past president Jyotsna Suri, Head of FICCI J&K Chapter Mushtaq Burza, and a host of film producers, MICE organizers, wedding planners, golfers, and stakeholders from the tourism and hospitality sector.

The Chief Minister outlined efforts to broaden the tourism footprint in the region. "We are working on a project called SPREAD, aimed at developing nine new tourist destinations in both Kashmir and Jammu, with expected support from multilateral funding agencies," he said. He also emphasized the diversity of tourism opportunities in Jammu and Kashmir: "We can't confine ourselves to three or four destinations. Jammu offers pilgrimage and border tourism. Kashmir offers scenic, cultural and adventure tourism. Together, we can build a more holistic tourism ecosystem."

Discussing connectivity, the CM noted the transformative impact of railway infrastructure: "Traveling by train through tunnels and world's highest rail bridge into the valley is a breathtaking experience. We may not yet have a direct Delhi-Srinagar line, but that day isn't far."

He also underscored the government's commitment to infrastructure development and niche tourism sectors. "We are close to completing a world-class conference facility in Gulmarg to supplement venues like SKICC. Areas like MICE tourism, golf, film and destination weddings are vital components of our future strategy."

The Chief Minister urged the tourism fraternity to be active partners. "We value your support, suggestions, and most importantly-your criticism when needed. Together, we can build a resilient and vibrant tourism sector that not only brings visitors but makes them want to return."

On the occasion, Chief Minister launched a book 'Golfing in Paradise' authored by Atul Dii, celebrating Jammu & Kashmir's growing appeal as a premier golf tourism destination.

3 'anti-nationals'...

were also involved in clandestinely motivating local youth into anti-national activities, he said.

Following sustained surveillance and dossier preparation, detention orders were issued by the competent authority. All three have been formally detained and lodged in Kot Bhalwal Jail, the spokesman added.

Amarnath Yatra: J&K...

Divisional Commissioner Ramesh Kumar told reporters here. These arrangements have been made by the district administrations of Kathua, Samba, Jammu, Udhampur and Ramban besides the police wings, he said.

He said community kitchens have been established with the support of voluntary organisations to provide food to the pilgrims in Kathua, Samba, Jammu, Udhampur and Ramban districts. "Sanitation facilities including toilet setup have been made at all lodge-ment centres in these districts too," he said.

Boarding and lodging centres have been created in Jammu city to accommodate the pilgrims in support with social organisations, he said.

Kumar said the Yatra will commence from Jammu on July 2 and Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha will flag it off from the Bhagwati Nagar base camp amid tight security arrangements. "The Yatra will formally start from Kashmir on July 3." In addition to regular registration counters, there will also be a facility for tatkal (on-the-spot) registration, which will be available at the Mata Vaishno Devi shrine, he said.

"This registration will be done based on a daily quota. There are five registration centres for this. Pilgrims who have completed their registration will be issued RFID cards for the Yatra. These RFID cards can be obtained from the Lakhampur entry point, Samba, Jammu, Chanderkote and Banihal centres," he said.

On including all pilgrims in the Yatra convoy, he said those who have their own vehicles and are associated with the Yatra will also move along with the convoy after fulfilling all necessary formalities. Kumar said those who want to travel by private vehicles will also proceed to Kashmir under security cover. "An advisory has been issued stating that even individual pilgrims coming from outside will have to proceed along with the convoy." All of them will check in at the Bhagwati Nagar base camp in Jammu, from where they will leave daily in a convoy protected by security personnel, he said.

The divisional commissioner said this time the Amarnath Yatra will not involve travel by train. "All the arrangements for the Yatra have been completed."

The Divisional Commissioner added that in case of bad weather or the closure of the highway, control rooms have been set to provide information to travellers in real time.

He said arrangements have also been put in place for various other yatras in the region, particularly the Budha Amarnath pilgrimage in Poonch.

Search operation to...

the remaining three. "The weather has now improved in the area. An operation is under-

way way", he said.

The group of four terrorists had been tracked for a year. They were confronted by a joint search party of the Army and police in the remote Bihali area of Basantgarh on Thursday morning, officials said. The four terrorists were found hiding near Karoor Nallah and were engaged by the joint search party led by the Army's Para Commandos, resulting in an encounter. One of the terrorists killed in the encounter has been identified as Haider, code-named Maulvi from Pakistan. Supported by over ground workers (OGWs), they had been moving from one area to another using forests and natural caves to hide, officials said. Five OGWs have been arrested during last several months in the belt for providing food and shelter to terrorists. It is also believed that a local terrorist who had returned from Pakistan after several years is actively supporting terrorists.

The search by troops led to retrieval of the body of killed terrorist along arms and ammunition besides cash, they said.

ACB files charge...

Addl. Judge Anti-Corruption Srinagar on Friday for Judicial determination.

It is pertinent to mention here that the accused Shafat-ur-Rehman Bhat was already convicted in a corruption case registered against him in the year 2009, official said adding that the next date of hearing is fixed on August 13, 2025.

GoC reviews security...

sector," White Knight Corps said in a post on X. The GoC commended the sustained and aggressive counter-terrorism operations undertaken by the Romeo Force in the sensitive areas of Poonch and Rajouri.

"Focus remains on maintaining high readiness and dominating the operational environment," he said.

The Romeo Force is a division of the Rashtriya Rifles engaged in anti-militancy operations in the twin border districts of Rajouri and Poonch in Jammu and Kashmir:

Over 180 companies...

is being ensured." Replying to a question about the deployment of forces for the yatra in the region, he said, "Apart from Jammu and Kashmir Police, more than 180 companies of paramilitary forces have been deployed for the yatra."

He said that security forces have been deployed along the Jammu Kashmir National Highway from Lakhampur to Banihal. "From road opening parties to CCTV cameras, everything has been set up, and security has also been provided at langars, lodging centres. There was no ROP (road opening party) arrangement from Lakhampur to Jammu last year, but this year there will be ROP here as well," he said. The IGP added that starting from July 2, the traffic police will issue a daily advisory. "Cut-off timings will be fixed at all points related to yatra movement. All pilgrims who wish to participate in the yatra must follow this advisory so that there are no problems or inconveniences," he said.

He said all pilgrims are advised to join the main convoy that departs between 4:00 and 4:30 am. "Traveling individually will not be appropriate. Those travelling with the official convoy are provided with a secure environment, and it is safer to travel in an organised and protected setup," he said.

Congress glorified it's...

"This was the first betrayal of democracy - when the popular choice was overruled for dynastic favoritism," Dr. Singh said, quoting Dr. Rajendra Prasad who had remarked, "Gandhiji has once again sacrificed his trusted lieutenant in favor of glamour." In a blistering critique of historical hypocrisy, Dr. Jitendra Singh called out the Congress leadership's glorification of jail-time, pointing out that most leaders were imprisoned post-1933, under far more comfortable conditions than revolutionaries like Veer Savarkar and Comrade Dhanwantri, who endured Kala Pani. "Had Discovery of India been written before 1933, it would have been from a colonial dungeon, not a jail library," he quipped.

Dr. Jitendra Singh chronicled how Indira Gandhi was installed as Prime Minister in 1966 by K. Kamaraj under the assumption she would be a puppet. But within three years, she split the Congress, disrespected internal democracy, and laid the groundwork for authoritarianism. "Her lust for control created Sanjay Gandhi's extra-constitutional power center, where real power was usurped from democratic institutions," he said. Referring to PN Haksar who was a Kashmiri Pandit, her own Principal Secretary, Dr. Jitendra Singh quoted, "She is blind where that boy (Sanjay) is concerned," pointing to her compromised judgment in the face of dynastic emotion.

Recalling the historic student movements of 1974, Dr. Singh described how the youth of Gujarat and Bihar sparked a revolution against Indira's misrule, culminating in the Allahabad High Court's 1975 judgment that found her guilty of electoral malpractices. "Instead of stepping down, she imposed Emergency, arrested dissenters, censored the press, and suspended civil liberties," he said.

Dr. Jitendra Singh lambasted the infamous 42nd Constitutional Amendment, branding it the most "notorious assault" on India's democratic spirit. "They extended the life of Parliament from 5 to 6 years, introduced the terms secular and socialist opportunistically, and muffled every voice of dissent," he thundered.

Highlighting how this abuse extended even to Jammu and Kashmir, he said, "The Emergency allowed Congress to misuse Article 370 to extend the J&K Assembly term to six years. The reversal came only in 2019, under the leadership of PM Modi." Drawing a powerful cultural metaphor, Dr. Singh said, "Like Raj Kapoor's famous line in film 'Awara' - 'You are punishing me, but the gutter I came from still exists' - the Congress mindset of suppressing truth, glorifying dynasty, and throttling democracy still haunts us." He warned against whitewashing the past, saying, "We must remember every stain - not to glorify it, but to remind future generations who betrayed democracy: If we erase the memory of Emergency, we risk inviting its shadows again." In conclusion, Dr. Jitendra Singh gave a clarion call "If we want India's democratic journey to continue uninterrupted, we must constantly guard against those who disguise dictatorship in the garb of legacy. The Emergency may be history, but the mindset behind it is a threat that must be defeated - intellectually, politically, and democratically."

'Any right-thinking...

are raising the Constitution book are the biggest violators of it.

Replying to another question on whether the BJP is going to bring a bill in Parliament regarding this, he said, "I did not say that. I am not accredited to say that." He further said just yesterday, Dattatreya ji raised a demand for the removal of these words. "These were not part of Dr Ambedkar's original Constitution. These words are not the legacy of Dr Ambedkar. 'Ambedkar gave us the best Constitution in the world. If these terms were not his idea, then whose ideology was it that inserted them?' Taking a dig at the Congress, he said the term of the Lok Sabha and state assemblies was extended under these clauses from five to six years during the Emergency.

"This provision was misused in Jammu and Kashmir as well. Sheikh Abdullah extended the term of the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly by three years.

"When Morarji Desai became prime minister after three years, he reversed this provision at the national level. However, using Article 370, this change was never implemented in Jammu and Kashmir," he said. The Union minister further said while all other assemblies in the country reverted to a five-year term, the J-K Assembly continued with a six-year term until August 5, 2019, when abrogation took place. "The Jammu and Kashmir government not only misused the Emergency provisions, they misused them twice by invoking Article 370," he said.

Landmark relief provided...

a major breakthrough under the J&K Road Accident Victim Fund Rules, 2022.

Over the last three months, a total amount of Rs 50,50,000 has been successfully credited directly into the bank accounts of the legal heirs of deceased and injured persons in road accidents across the Jammu district. In all 47 death cases have been settled, with an amount of Rs 1,00,000 credited to each legal heir, amounting to Rs 47,00,000.10 injured persons have received compensation based on the severity of injuries i.e Rs 75,000 for severe injuries, Rs 50,000 for moderate injuries and Rs 10,000 for minor injuries. This comes as a significant step in implementing the victim-centric provisions of the J&K Road Accident Victim Fund Rules, 2022 which aims to provide immediate financial assistance to victims or their families following tragic road incidents. In addition to the disbursed cases, 12 more death cases and 5 injured cases are currently under active consideration and compensation to these cases is expected to be credited shortly, further strengthening the commitment of the district administration towards the welfare of road accident victims.

The Deputy Commissioner Jammu expressed deep satisfaction over the implementation of the fund and lauded the seamless inter-departmental coordination that made this possible. This initiative reflects the Government's unwavering commitment to delivering timely support to those affected by road tragedies. The collaboration among departments has made it possible to bring real change to the lives of victims and their families. The Transport Commissioner, J&K, has played a pivotal and indispensable role in making this success story possible. His unwavering commitment to this humane cause, marked by timely and advance provisioning of funds, has ensured that financial aid reaches the victims and their families without delay. His role has been phenomenal and instrumental, reaffirming the Department's compassionate approach towards accident relief and rehabilitation.

This milestone not only marks a turning point in the execution of victim relief policies in the region but also stands as a model of responsive and humane governance. The prompt action and coordinated efforts of all stakeholders have ensured that the objectives of the J&K Road Accident Victim Fund Rules, 2022 are effectively translated into action on the ground.

House Committee on...

attended by members including Ali Mohammad Sagar; Ghulam Ahmad Mir; Sajad Gani Lone, Hasnain Masoodi, Pirzada Farooq Ahmad Shah, Arjun Singh Raju and Muzaffar

Iqbal Khan. During the meeting, the Chairman acknowledged the demand for a hike in salaries and allowances of legislators, ex-legislators and assistants, assuring that the matter will be considered positively. He emphasized the need to adopt best practices from other States and Union Territories to address the issue effectively and at the earliest. The Committee held a detailed discussion on the salary structures of legislators in other states. The members also raised concerns regarding pension-related benefits for ex-legislators and strongly advocated for addressing these issues. Additionally, the demand for an increase in the allowances of assistants was deliberated upon, with members unanimously supporting the proposal for a revision. The Chairman urged all members to submit their suggestions in writing to contribute constructively to the report. He informed that a comprehensive report will be submitted to the Assembly ahead of the next session for appropriate consideration and action.

The meeting also discussed the need for the revisions of house loan and car loans benefits to the legislators. Issues related to fuel cap for daily use, hike in allowances including stationary, medical, house, sanctuary, Constituency and other allowances were also discussed during the meeting.

Notorious bovine smuggler booked under PSA

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: In a major crackdown on organized bovine smuggling, the Jammu and Kashmir Police in Kathua, under the overall supervision of SSP Kathua, Shobhit Saxena, have apprehended a habitual offender and notorious bovine smuggler, Kamal alias Kaka, son of Manohar Lal, a resident of Khanpur, Tehsil and District Pathankot (Punjab). The accused has been booked under the stringent Public Safety Act (PSA) of 1978 and lodged in Central Jail Kot Bhalwal, Jammu.

The operation was carried out by the Police Station Lakhampur team, led by SHO Inspector Tribhawan Khajuria, under the close supervision of Additional SP Kathua Rahul Charak and DySP DAR Kathua Ritesh Samyal.

The accused Kamal @Kaka has been involved in multiple cases of bovine smuggling and criminal activities, with FIRs registered against him across various police stations in Kathua district as well as in Ghagwal. These include FIR No. 353/2023 U/S 188 IPC, 11 PCA Act (PS Kathua), FIR No. 257/2023 U/S 188 IPC, 11 PCA Act (PS Kathua), FIR No. 16/2024 U/S 188 IPC, 11 PCA Act (PS Ghagwal), and FIR No. 07/2025 U/S 223 BNS, 11 PCA Act (PS Lakhampur)

In view of his repeated violations and to curb his illegal activities, a detailed dossier was prepared and submitted to the District Magistrate, Kathua, who issued the PSA detention warrant. Acting swiftly, Kathua Police executed the warrant today.

Drug peddler nabbed with 10.04 grms of heroin

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BILLAWAR: In a continued crackdown on drug trafficking, the Jammu and Kashmir Police in Billawar apprehended a drug peddler and seized 10.04 grams of heroin-like substance from his possession.

The operation was led by SHO Police Station Billawar, Inspector Zaheer Mushtaq, under the guidance of SP Operations Upper Kathua, Aamer Iqbal, and overall supervision of SSP Kathua, Shri Shobhit Saxena (IPS).

Acting on reliable input, the police team intercepted a suspicious individual, identified as Aslam Ahmed, son of Ashiq Ali, resident of Lakhri, Tehsil Billawar. He was reportedly attempting to sell heroin in the Dharamkot area while traveling in a car bearing registration number JK02AC-1086.

Upon conducting a personal search, the police recovered 10.04 grams of heroin-like substance. The accused was immediately taken into custody, and a case FIR No. 102/2025 under sections 8/21/22 of the NDPS Act has been registered at Police Station Billawar.

Rajouri Police arrests one, recovers narcotics in NDPS Case

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: In a significant breakthrough in the ongoing investigation of FIR No. 33/2025 U/S 8/21/22 NDPS Act Police Station Darhal has arrested one more accused linked to narcotic activities.

The arrested person has been identified as Mohd Shehzad, son of Mohd Amin, resident of Rakiban Tehsil Darhal Rajouri.

During Questioning the accused confessed his involvement in the said case. Acting on his disclosure a recovery of Contraband was made. The seizure was carried out in the presence of Executive Magistrate Ist Class (EMIC) as per legal procedure.

The arrest was made by a police team of Police Station Darhal under the supervision of SHO Darhal as part of ongoing efforts to dismantle drug networks in Rajouri.

Bovine smuggling attempt foiled, 3 Bovines rescued

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: Acting on reliable information, police team from PP Ghordi led by its ICPP rescued three bovines near the Sarsoo area, where these bovines were being transported illegally on foot without any valid permission.

All the bovines were rescued on the spot and bovine smuggler fled away from spot after leaving behind their Bovines on the road.

In this regard, a case under FIR No. 100/2025 has been registered at Police Station Ramnagar under the relevant sections of law. Further investigation is underway.

Bootlegger held, 100 bottles of illicit Liquor recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: Police team from Police Post Roun led by its ICPP while performing vehicle checking/Patrolling duty at near Tawi bridge Ritti stopped one scooter (JK14E-0950) for checking purposes. Upon checking, Police team recovered 100 bottles of illicit liquor (180 ml) from the possession of the rider who has been arrested on spot.

The arrested person has been identified as Kulver Singh, son of Bishan Dass, resident of Kuhl Nallah, Tehsil and District Udhampur.

In this connection, A case FIR No. 231/2025 under sections 48 (a) Exeise Act stands registered in Police Station Udhampur and further investigation is underway.

Missing Woman traced, reunites with family

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

DODA: In a swift and effective response, Doda Police successfully traced a missing woman within 24 hours and reunited her with her family. The woman, identified as Raziya Begum, wife of Liaaket Ali, resident of Trithloo, Tehsil Gandoh, District Doda, was reported missing on June 26, 2025.

Following the lodging of a missing report at Police Post Bagla Bharat under Police Station Gandoh, a dedicated search operation was launched. Acting on the directions of SSP Doda, Sandeep Mehta, a police team led by SHO PS Gandoh and supervised by SDPO Gandoh was constituted to trace the woman.

The police team utilized all available resources, including technical inputs and field efforts, to locate the missing lady. Their efforts bore fruit when she was traced on June 27, just a day after the report was filed.

After completion of all necessary legal formalities, Raziya Begum was safely handed over to her family. The missing report has now been formally closed. The swift action of the Doda Police has been appreciated by the local residents for their prompt and people-friendly policing.

Ankush Medical Shop sealed for illegal drug sale

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: In its ongoing crackdown against the illegal sale of controlled substances, Udhampur Police, in coordination with the Assistant Controller Drugs Udhampur, sealed Ankush Medical Hall located in Garhi. The action was taken after the shop was found violating drug control regulations by selling drugs without valid prescriptions and failing to maintain proper records. During the inspection, the joint team recovered and seized 26 strips of Pregabalin capsules from the possession of the proprietor Ankush Sharma, son of Govind Ram, a resident of Garhi. The seized drugs were being sold without corresponding sales or purchase records or any authorized medical prescriptions.

This marks the sixth medical shop sealed by Udhampur Police since January 2025 for non-compliance with legal drug sale norms. District Police Udhampur has issued a stern warning to all medical stores to strictly follow the regulations governing the sale of controlled drugs. Violators will face strict legal consequences in accordance with the law.

Most wanted Drug Peddler arrested; heroin recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: In a major success against drug trafficking, Udhampur Police arrested a most wanted drug peddler, Sheikh Inran alias Mussa, son of Sheikh Mohammad Yunus, resident of TCP Domail, Udhampur. The arrest was made by a patrolling team of Police Station Udhampur led by the SHO during a routine checking operation. On frisking, 10.52 grams of heroin-like contraband was recovered from his possession. A case FIR No. 230/2025 under Sections 8/21/22 of the NDPS Act has been registered at PS Udhampur. Notably, the accused has a prior criminal history with FIR No. 277/2012 under Section 153-A RPC and FIR No. 534/2017 under Sections 451/323 RPC already registered against him.