

!! Continuations from Page 1 !!

Two most wanted...

dragnet of security forces.

Hussain was in constant touch with LeT terrorist Qasim based in Pakistan and was involved in at least three cases of IED blasts at Rajouri district besides civilian killings and grenade blasts, Singh said.

During preliminary questioning, he said it was revealed that both the terrorists were also in touch with a Pakistani LeT handler Salman.

Terming the arrest of the two terrorists as a major breakthrough, the officer said they were attempting to revive terrorism in the border districts of Rajouri and Poonch besides Reasi.

Twin explosions rocked Kotrana town of Rajouri on March 26 and another on April 19, leaving two persons injured.

Two more persons were injured in another blast that took place in Shahpur-Budhal area of Rajouri on April 24.

Cong, BJP slugfest...

alleged that terror accused had links with the BJP. The two people arrested in Udaipur were alleged by the Congress to have links with the Saffron party.

While lauding the people for assisting police in capturing the two most-wanted LeT terrorists, JK BJP chief said "they were part of a conspiracy hatched from Pakistan to target him and the party headquarters".

"He introduced himself as a journalist and took my interviews several times at my party office sometime back. He developed close liaison with party activists and leaders after coming to our headquarters (Trikuta Nagar Jammu)," Raina told PTI.

Raina claimed that he came to know from the security agencies that Shah was a mole planted by Pakistan-based terrorists to target BJP headquarters and the leadership including him.

"The arrest of the duo is a big success for the security forces as a major conspiracy of Pakistan has been thwarted. I also came to know that he had shared the pictures of the BJP headquarters with his handlers across the border," he said.

Raina said terror organisations, frustrated by BJP's expansion in Jammu and Kashmir, have repeatedly threatened him over in the past many years and since they failed to target him, they hatched a conspiracy to plant their activist in the BJP to target him and other leaders of the party.

However, he said BJP is determined to wipe-out Pakistan-sponsored terrorism from Jammu and Kashmir and "we will not be cowed down by threats or conspiracies".

The BJP chief claimed he was also told by the security agencies that Shah was keeping a close watch on his movement in the twin districts of Rajouri and Poonch and was passing the information to his handlers in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

"I have full faith in the training, ability and courage of our police and security forces who are determined to root out terrorism. With the arrest of Shah and his associate, the Pakistani conspiracy to target me has failed," he said.

Reacting strongly, the Congress chief spokesperson said "this is for the first time that such a thing had happened (when an office bearer of a party is directly involved in terrorism."

"BJP should answer to the nation about the presence of terrorists in their ranks holding important party positions. It is a very serious matter and a threat to the security of the nation," he said.

Over 64 pc...

foreigners, were killed in 100 anti-terror operations, the officials said.

The officials said 45 terrorists were arrested during the period along with huge cache of arms and ammunition, with analysis and intelligence inputs suggesting a large supply of pistols aimed at target killings besides AK assault rifles, improvised explosive devices and sticky bombs.

Six of the 90 terrorists killed in 47 encounters were eliminated on the Line of Control (LoC) while trying to infiltrate into the valley from Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, the officials said, adding the Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) suffered the major setbacks as 52 of its terrorists were eliminated and 18 others apprehended since January this year.

The Pakistan-based Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) was the second on the chart with 20 of its terrorists being killed and four others arrested, followed by the Hizbul Mujahideen (11 dead and one arrested) and Al-Badr (four dead and three arrested). The identity of three remaining slain terrorists could not be ascertained, the officials said.

The officials said the four districts of south Kashmir -- Pulwama, Anantnag, Kulgam and Shopian -- recorded the killing of 59 terrorists and arrest of 10 others, while summer capital Srinagar witnessed the killing of 11 terrorists, including four Pakistani terrorists, and arrest of four others.

Pulwama district recorded the highest number of 27 killings of terrorists, including seven foreigners, followed by Anantnag (12), Kulgam (11) and Shopian (nine). Among the 11 terrorists killed in Kulgam, five were foreign terrorists, the officials said.

Seven terrorists were killed and eight others arrested in central Kashmir's Budgam district while Ganderbal district, which also falls in central Kashmir, saw the lowest incidents of terror activities with only one militant eliminated in a gun-fight, the officials said.

In north Kashmir, which is being used by terrorists as a gateway to infiltrate into the valley from Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, the officials said a total of 12 terrorists, including 10 foreigners, were killed and 23 others arrested.

Of them, six terrorists, including five foreigners, were killed in the border districts of Kupwara, three foreigners in Baramulla and three others, including two foreigners, in Bandipora. Eighteen terrorists were also arrested in Baramulla district and five others in Bandipora district, they said.

The officials said a total of 61 terrorist-initiated incidents were reported from across the valley during the five-month period and half of them were reported from Pulwama and Srinagar districts.

SANJY-2022: Shadipora transit Camp wears festive look; Locals artisans, farmers fully involved

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BANDIPORA: The Shadipora transit Camp for Amarnath Yatris at Bandipora district wears a festive look as the locals have decorated the camp with lights and garlands.

The administration has facilitated the local farmers and artisans, govt departments and corporations to erect their stalls wherein they have put their products for sale including fruits, handicraft and handloom products besides other items required during holy pilgrimage.

The Artisans associated with various departments have erected their stalls at Shadipora Camp not only showcasing their performance but also selling the products. The stalls attract a large number of Yatris.

The Department of Handicrafts and Handloom has erected a stall wherein the artisans of Sumbal and adjoining areas have put Handmade shawls and other clothing items on sale, selling their products directly to the customer without any third party intervention.

"We are directly selling the products to Yatris and they are liking our products," Said Shahnaza Begum who weaves shawl at home and has put them on sale at the camp.

"We always welcome the Yatris here with open arms. This is for the first time we have been facilitated to erect



our stalls. We are earning too," She added.

The members of Self Help Groups associated with Jammu and Kashmir State Rural Livelihood Mission have also erect stalls at the camp selling their products including agro-products including Honey, Jams, handicrafts and Handloom products including Shawls, Suits, Curtains, Scarf, Bags, Embroidery Pheran, Bags, hand woven ladies/gents/kids sweaters and caps, socks, mufflers etc.

Several farmers have also erected stalls selling fresh fruits to the Yatris including Apricots, Apples, Peach and Plum, IHD Pear Saharanpuri, Apple Galamast, Apple shahanshah, Pear Nakh, Cherry Santrose, Walnut local, Honey Local, Dried Cherry, Walnut Giri, Pickle, Apple Fuji, Apple Hazratbali, Almond Local, Plum Green gage etc while farmers also sell home grown

organic vegetables including Lettuce, Cauliflower, Red Cabbage, Green Chillies, Cucumber, Brinjal etc. The stalls of Dry fruits including cashew, Walnut, Dried cashewnuts have also been erected at the camp.

"We are having good sales as pilgrims are happy to buy fresh Kashmiri fruits," said another young farmer.

He does not see this as a business merely. He said it is a cultural and social interaction where we and our younger generation is interacting with people from other society, culture and religion that will go a long way to bridge gaps between communities and build new relationships.

All the batches of Yatries are being warmly welcomed by locals including traders, PRI members and government officials. They are being welcomed by serving Saffron Samavar Kehwah,

They said a large number of weapons, including AK assault rifles and pistols, were recovered from the slain and arrested terrorists, indicating that the availability of weapons has increased.

The officials said another alarming trend noticed was the large influx of pistols apparently meant to carry out targeted killings.

Nearly 350 pistols were recovered by the security forces during anti-terrorist operations since January this year with 92 seized in the month of May, the officials said, adding five IEDs were also recovered in May for the first time this year with intelligence inputs pointing to the use of magnetic bombs, also known as sticks bombs, by terrorists.

Next 30-40 years...

ending "dynastic politics, casteism and politics of appeasement" and termed them "greatest sins" and the reason behind the country's sufferings over the years. Communalism and fundamentalism are products of appeasement, Sarma said.

The home minister in his nearly hour-long speech cited the BJP's win in a series of polls to assert that it underlined people's approval of the party's "politics of development and performance".

He also sought an end to political violence. Sarma, though, did not elaborate on this. The BJP has in the past accused parties such as the ruling Trinamool Congress in West Bengal and the Left in Kerala of resorting to violence against its workers.

The party's political resolution also praised the Agnipath scheme for short-term recruitment in armed forces which had sparked public protests and criticism from opposition parties, and lauded the government's courage for taking a host of initiatives for the country's development, Sarma said.

Claiming that the BJP will end family rule in states like Telangana and West Bengal, Shah said it will come to power in Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Odisha, states which have so far remained out of the saffron party's power march since it formed government at the Centre in 2014.

There was a "collective hope and finding" at the meeting that the BJP's next round of growth will come from south India, Sarma added.

Targeting the Congress, Shah said it has become a party of family with the Gandhi family not letting internal organisational elections happen because it fears losing its control of the party.

The opposition is disjointed and has been opposing everything good the government does, he said, referring to issues such as the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, construction of Ram temple, surgical strikes and abrogation of Article 370.

"The Congress has been affected by 'Modi phobia' and opposes every decision of the Modi government taken in national interest," he said.

Lauding the prime minister's leadership, the home minister said he is now considered as "one of the top leaders" in the world and is sought out for his views on a host of issues ranging from environment to terrorism.

Referring to the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance's presidential candidate Droupadi Murmu, he said the saffron party under the Modi government chose a Dalit, incumbent President Ram Nath Kovind, and now a Scheduled Tribe during the two elections for the top constitutional post and asked party members to publicise the story of Murmu's life and struggle.

With the BJP in power in all the northeastern states either on its own or as part of alliances, Shah said the region will remain a stronghold of the party. All disputes in the region will be resolved by 2024, he added, a reference to boundary conflicts and militancy there.

Nearly 350 delegates, including members of the party top brass, attended the two-day national executive meeting in Hyderabad which began on Saturday.

Proper security arrangements...

directive has been passed that fruits and vegetables exported from here are allowed smoothly.

The only thing to be kept in mind is that when the batch of yatris passes, they will be stopped briefly and allowed afterwards, Sinha said.

Earlier, the Lieutenant Governor visited Shri Amarnathji Yatra transit camp at Pantha Chowk and interacted with the pilgrims.

The Lt Governor enquired about the facilities being extended to the pilgrims, besides conveying his greetings and best wishes to the Yatris.

"I truly appreciate and admire the contribution of the people of Jammu Kashmir to make this Holy Yatra successful, " said the Lt Governor.

The selfless service of civil society, volunteers and locals have made a huge difference in our effort to provide best possible facilities to the pilgrims, the Lt Governor added.

The Lt Governor also interacted with the volunteers and inspected various counters put up for extending assistance to the yatris.

Nitishwar Kumar, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor; Pandurang K Pole, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; Vijay Kumar, IGP Kashmir; Mohd Ajaz, Deputy Commissioner Srinagar and other senior officers accompanied the Lt Governor.

BJP resolves to...

attempts should be made to reach out to socially backward minorities such as Pasmanda Muslims, sources quoted Modi as having told the meeting.

On Sunday, Modi called for taking out "Sneh Yatra" which will be aimed at boosting affection and coordination in society by reaching out to different sections of people, BJP leader Ravi Shankar Prasad said at a press conference.

Modi battled for "P2 to G2" (Pro-people to good governance) in the party's political and governance model.

Emphasising the need for party workers to stay connected to people, he said they should not make fun of or jeer at the parties which are in terminal decline and instead learn from their mistakes.

Taking aim at the opposition, Modi said the country was fed up with dynastic politics and dynastic parties and added that it would be difficult for them to survive long.

"Opposition parties are in a very bad shape. We should learn from their state as to

what shortcomings and failings caused their fall. They drifted from people and continue to do so. We have to keep ourselves away from the reasons for their decline," Modi said.

Shah in his nearly hour-long speech also called for ending the politics of dynasty, casteism and appeasement, terming them as "greatest sins" and the reason behind the country's sufferings over the years, and cited the party's win in a string of recent polls as an endorsement of its "politics of development and performance".

Communalism and fundamentalism are products of appeasement, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma while briefing reporters on Shah's address.

The party's political resolution also praised the Agnipath scheme for short-term recruitment in the armed forces which had sparked public protests and criticism from opposition parties, and lauded the government's courage in taking a host of initiatives for the country's development, Sarma said.

Shah also hailed as "historic" the recent Supreme Court verdict dismissing a plea challenging the Special Investigation Team's (SIT) clean chit to 64 people, including then chief minister Narendra Modi, in the 2002 Gujarat riots case. The court had also come down hard on the petitioners. The apex court has exposed opposition parties, a section of media and some NGOs for their conspiracy to defame Modi, he said.

The BJP leader said Modi received insults, maintained silence while facing the SIT and kept his faith in the Constitution while contrasting this with the Congress' attempt to spread "anarchy" after its leader Rahul Gandhi was summoned by the Enforcement Directorate in the National Herald case.

The home minister said Modi drank all the poison thrown at him like Lord Shiva and faced the probe.

Sarma parried queries on whether the killing of Udaipur tailor Kanhaiya Lal, who was hacked to death by two Islamic fanatics, or the row involving suspended BJP member Nupur Sharma over her objectionable remarks against Prophet Mohammad was part of deliberations at the national executive meet, but added that specific incidents are generally not discussed at such a conclave where the focus is on "macro" issues.

He, however, alleged that had the Congress not started politics of appeasement, incidents like the Udaipur killing might not have happened.

Shah also sought an end to political violence. Sarma, though, did not elaborate on this. The BJP has in the past accused parties such as the ruling Trinamool Congress in West Bengal and the Left in Kerala of resorting to violence against its workers.

Claiming that the BJP will end family rule in Telangana and West Bengal, Shah said it will come to power in Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Odisha, states which have so far remained out of the saffron party's power march since it formed government at the Centre in 2014.

There was a "collective hope and finding" at the meeting that the BJP's next round of growth will come from south India, Sarma added.

Targeting the Congress, Shah said the Gandhi family is not letting internal organisational elections happen because it fears losing its control of the party.

The opposition is disjointed and has been opposing everything good the government does, he said, referring to issues such as the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, construction of the Ram temple at Ayodhya, surgical strikes and abrogation of Article 370 that gave special status to Jammu and Kashmir.

Referring to the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance's presidential candidate Droupadi Murmu, he said the saffron party under the Modi government chose a Dalit, incumbent President Ram Nath Kovind, and now a Scheduled Tribe during the two elections for the top constitutional post and asked party members to publicise the story of Murmu's life and struggle.

With the BJP in power in all the northeastern states either on its own or as part of alliances, Shah said the region will remain a stronghold of the party. All disputes in the region will be resolved by 2024, he added, a reference to boundary conflicts and militancy there.

Close on the heels of its victory in four states, the BJP has returned to power in Maharashtra too and is already in preparation for the next round of Assembly polls due later this year.

Amarnath Yatra: Over...

Bhagwati Nagar base camp for the Valley since June 29, the day the first batch of pilgrims was flagged off by Lt Governor Manoj Sinha.

The yatra is scheduled to end on August 11 on the occasion of Raksha Bandhan.

J&K reports 76...

of 455333 positive cases, 578 are Active Positive, 449999 have recovered and 4756 have died.

Providing district-wise breakup for positive cases during the past 24 hours, the Bulletin informed that Jammu reported 33 cases, Srinagar 28, Kathua 10, Samba two, Rajouri, Baramulla and Budgam reported one case each while no other district across the Union Territory reported any fresh case.

Meanwhile, Ladakh recorded 35 fresh Covid cases that took the overall infection tally to 28,464, officials said.

This was the highest single-day rise in four months and took the number of active cases to 111 all in Leh district, they said.

Kargil district does not have any active case and the last Covid patient was discharged on June 29, officials said.

Amid a spike in Covid cases, authorities have announced a 15-day summer break in government and private schools from July 4 and urged people to strictly follow the SOPs like wearing masks at public places.

Ladakh has so far recorded 228 fatalities linked to the pandemic since its outbreak. Of the total fatalities, Leh accounts for the highest 168 deaths followed by 60 in Kargil.

Officials said 3,624 persons, including 2,535 air passengers, were screened for COVID-19 in the twin districts of Leh and Kargil on Saturday and 35 of them tested positive for the infection in Leh.

Six Covid patients were discharged in Leh, taking the overall recoveries to 28,125, officials added.

DC Kulgam inspects macadamization work on Aharbal road

Takes stock of pace and progress of work on DDC, PRI residential quarters

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KULGAM: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat visited Aharbal to inspect ongoing macadamization work on the road.

During the visit, the officers briefed the DC about the progress of macadamization and added that macadamization of a total 17 Kms road length from Nihama to Aharbal will be completed within days.

The DC directed concerned to expedite the works on all



roads so that black topping work is completed at an earliest with no compromise on

quality parameters. Later, Dr Bilal also inspected work site of DDC and PRI

residential quarters at Kulgam and took stock of pace and progress made on the construction of the quarters here.

He instructed the officers of the executing agency to mobilize more men and machinery to complete these quarters within a set timeline.

It was informed that the allocated cost for residential quarters of DDCs and PRIs is 5.22 crore.

The DC was accompanied by ACR, SDM Noorabad and other officers.

Pacers put India on top before Pujara fifty extends lead to 257

■ AGENCY

BIRMINGHAM: India's famed pace bowling unit for the umpteenth time put its team in pole position, bowling out England for 284 before the hosts just about managed to put a foot in the door by getting the top-order cheaply in an engrossing third day's play in the fifth Test.

At stumps, India were 125 for 3 in their second innings with Cheteshwar Pujara (50 batting, 139 balls) displaying his gutsy avatar with a half-century, battling it out in the company of the flamboyant Rishabh Pant (30 batting, 46 balls). The overall lead stood at 257 runs.

However, the dismissals of Shubman Gill (4), Hanuma Vihari (11) and Virat Kohli (20) would make the visitors uncomfortable going into the final day.

Kohli, as usual, got the best delivery of the entire third day's play when rival

skipper Ben Stokes got one to rear up off length and no batter would have survived such a delivery with less than split second of reaction time.

Kohli, who was standing a good two feet outside the batting crease, was literally putting his best foot forward to defend from 17 yards while tackling the probing questions that James Anderson kept on asking but, as luck would have it, that delivery outside the off-stump had his name written on it.

Pujara played his usual waiting game with the clips off his toes and the occasional square cuts when provided width. Pant, on the other hand, mixed caution with aggression and if he stays for an hour on the fourth morning, he will completely turn the tables.

While India in recent years, after taking a 100-run plus lead, have never lost a Test match, the current England side under Brendon McCullum's 'Bazball'

(relentless attack) philosophy has made a mockery of near 300-run chases.

India would like to score at least 275 in their second essay and set England a target of at least 400 plus in order to close the match.

The third day is considered a moving day in Test cricket and things indeed proceeded at a breakneck pace as England scored runs at 4.61 runs per over, courtesy Jonny Bairstow's (106 off 140 balls) counter-attacking third hundred in as many games.

Bairstow was swift yet brutal in his assault which got him 14 boundaries and two sixes.

But, in line with India's overseas script in the last couple of years, the troika of skipper Jasprit Bumrah (3/68 in 19 overs), Mohammed Shami (2/78 in 22 overs) and Mohammed Siraj (4/66 in 11.3 overs) kept up the pressure to ensure a sizeable lead of 132 runs.

