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J&K undergoing rapid...

appreciated the endeavour of the Central Bureau of Communication (CBC) for organizing 5-day long exhibition highlighting Nine years of 'Seva, Sushasan and Garib Kalyan'. "In the past 9 years under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the country has transformed into an economic powerhouse and a model of inclusive development for the world," the Lt Governor said.

He said the 9 years have been dedicated to inclusive, progressive and sustainable development to create equity and opportunity for all the citizens. Country is witnessing fastest development of infrastructure, empowerment of marginalized and emergence of a self-reliant and aspirational society, he said.

"Under the leadership of Prime Minister, India has emerged as a key driver of global growth and the countries from both North and South are looking at us with admiration and hope. India has not only regained the past glory but it is also offering new hope, new aspiration to the world," the Lt Governor observed.

He said the empowerment of all sections of the society and new revolutions in every sector reflects golden period of country's growth and prosperity of the people.

Addressing the youth, the Lt Governor said the revolutionary National Education Policy, under the guidance of Prime Minister has the potential to change the future of the country.

He also shared the progress achieved in various sectors and the saturation of centrally sponsored and UT sector schemes.

Due to the strenuous efforts of Prime Minister, we will be able to achieve success in providing tap water to every household under 'Har Ghar Nal Se Jal' by the end of this financial year, he added.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor also visited the stalls installed by various departments highlighting the numerous initiatives and welfare programs of the government. Rajinder Choudhry, Additional Director General PIB, Chandigarh; senior officers of Civil Administration, Police and Central Bureau of Communication, teachers, students and youth in large numbers were present.

Army Chief discusses...

the Army Staff at Raj Bhawan, Srinagar. Held extensive discussion on various security



General Manoj Pande, Chief of Army Staff calling on LG Manoj Sinha at Srinagar on Friday.

issues," Sinha said in a tweet.

General Pande was accompanied by Northern Command General Officer Commanding-in-Chief Lt General Upendra Dwivedi and Lt General Rajiv Ghai, the General Officer Commanding of the Srinagar-based Chinara Corps.

Former CS B....

Sanjeev Verma, said the appointment of the SEC shall take effect from the date he assumes charge.

Sharma served as Chief Secretary of J&K from 2015 to 2017.

"In exercise of the powers conferred by proviso to sub-section (3) of section 36 of the Jammu and Kashmir Panchayati Raj Act, 1989, the Lieutenant Governor is pleased to appoint Braj Raj Sharma, IAS (Retd.) as State Election Commissioner for Jammu and Kashmir," the order read.

It said Sharma shall hold the position of the State Election Commissioner till he attains the age of 65. "The terms and conditions of his appointment shall be notified by the Government subsequently," the order said. The post of the SEC fell vacant on February 1, 2023 after K K Sharma completed his term.

Nearly 50 lakh...

Himalayas began on July 1 from the twin tracks of Pahalgam in Anantnag district and Baital in Ganderbal district. The yatra is scheduled to conclude on August 31. So far, 1,62,569 pilgrims have paid obeisance at the cave shrine in Kashmir; and of them, 72,789 pilgrims left for the yatra from the Jammu base camp, according to official data.

"Last year, over 1.4 crore people visited the Jammu province, including Mata Vaishno Devi pilgrims. This year, till June, nearly 50 lakh tourists have already arrived in the Jammu region, including those going to the Mata Vaishno Devi temple (in Jammu's Reasi district)," Director Tourism, Jammu, Vivekanand Rai told PTL.

"These numbers indicate a positive trend for tourism in the region," the official said.

Rai said the tourism department has put up scores of signboards, hoardings and digital information boards in various parts of Jammu city for promotion of destinations and places of pilgrimage.

"Tourism department has started a campaign through signboards and hoardings to inform Amarnath pilgrims coming in lakhs. We are informing them about the places of tourism in Jammu," he said.

Rai, who is leading the campaign, said these modes of publicity are being used to showcase the tourist destinations in Jammu.

The base camp of the Amarnath pilgrimage in Jammu, where over 7,000 pilgrims are putting up on a daily basis, is dotted with hoardings and digital panels displaying must-visit places such as temples, and adventure and leisure tourism destinations.

"Due to this, we are getting a good footfall of tourists during the yatra. When the yatra was suspended due to some reasons, pilgrims were taken to various destinations during their period of stay here," Rai said.

The yatra was suspended for a few days due to heavy rains in the region.

"The ongoing yatra, which spans over two months, is expected to boost tourism in the Jammu region. With our digital publicity efforts, we have installed over 20 digital slots at strategic points along the yatra routes. These slots continuously display videos highlighting religious and leisure destinations," he said.

Two local LeT...

second such attack on non-locals in Kashmir this year.

On May 29, a non-local civilian, identified as Deepu, was shot dead by militants in the Janglaat Mandi area of south Kashmir's Anantnag District.

Deepu, a resident of Udhampur district in the Jammu region, worked at a private circus in Anantnag.

Meanwhile, protests against the attack on three migrant labourers in Shopian were held here, with protesters burning the Pakistani flag and accusing the neighbouring country of trying to destabilise the situation in Kashmir.

Shiv Sena Dogra Front (SSDF) activists, led by its chairman Ashok Gupta, gathered at Rain Park here and burned the Pakistani flag.

"Pakistan is trying to destabilise the situation in Kashmir. Firstly, the terrorists killed a soldier in Kashmir and now they targeted these Hindu labourers. We condemn the attack," Gupta told reporters here.

The Ekam Sanatan Bharat and the Ikjutt Jammu Party's youth wing also held a demonstration at Hari Singh Park to denounce the attack.

Members of the Rashtriya Bajrang Dal raised anti-Pakistan slogans and burned the country's flag at a protest here. They condemned the "deliberate attacks" on innocent civilians in Kashmir.

Killing of 4...

in the court but could not record his statement due to non-availability of Nanaji, who is on bail and used to appear on every day. The court was informed that according to the information, he was among some people who were arrested in Srinagar," Kohli, who is also Senior Additional Advocate General, told reporters.

She said the court issued production warrants against Nanaji to ensure his presence on the next date of hearing on August 19.

Kohli said the court turned down the request of the prosecution witness for recording his statement because of the absence of the accused in the trial court.

Malik, who is lodged in Delhi's Tihar jail, was present through video conference, while others were physically present.

The special TADA court has framed charges separately against the banned Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF) chief and several others in the case as well as another case related to the abduction of Rubaiya Sayeed, daughter of former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed, by his group in 1989.

While the charges were framed against Malik and six others on March 16, 2020 in the killing of four IAF personnel on the outskirts of Srinagar in January 1990, the court has framed the charges against Malik and nine others in the 1989 abduction case of Rubaiya on January 11 last year.

Malik was arrested by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) in April 2019 in connection with a terror funding case, a month after his group was banned by the central govern-

ment.

According to the CBI, the IAF personnel were fired upon by terrorists in which 40 of them, including a woman, received serious injuries and four IAF personnel were killed on the spot.

On completion of investigation, a charge sheet was filed on August 31, 1990 against Malik and six others before the designated TADA Court at Jammu.

On July 9, the Srinagar police in a tweet said "a search was conducted on basis of credible info about meeting of some ex-erts (terrorists) of JKLF & erstwhile separatists in a hotel in Srinagar. They were brought to Kothibagh PS for verification. Inquiry has started, prima facie it came out that they were planning to revive JKLF and Hurriyat."

The next day, police announced formal arrest of 10 of them including Nanji and said some more arrests are likely as the investigation in the case is in full swing.

Police have already registered a case under various sections of Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act and Indian Penal code at Kothibagh police station in the heart of the city.

NIA arrests two...

The Resistance Front (TRF), among others.

The agency said the arrests came on the heels of a series of raids on the residences of over-ground workers (OGWs) of the banned organisations and their newly-floated offshoots and affiliates in recent days.

Several digital devices were seized and scrutinised by the agency as part of its investigations in the case, it said. The investigations revealed that two accused were in continuous contact with Pakistan-based commanders and active members of various terror outfits through social media. "They were working as OGWs of the terrorists and had been actively involved in transporting weapons and funds from one place to another on the directions of Pak-based commanders/handlers, as part of a bigger conspiracy," the federal agency said. The conspiracy had been hatched by cadres and OGWs of various proscribed terror organisations with their Pakistan-based commanders, the NIA said.

These cadres and OGWs were actively involved in the collection and distribution of huge consignments of narcotics, cash, small arms or weapons, IEDs and other types of IEDs, including remote-controlled sticky bombs or magnetic bombs, it said. Such hardware and IEDs are either delivered over drones or also assembled locally for terror attacks in Jammu and Kashmir, the investigations revealed, the NIA added. The terror conspiracy was aimed at disturbing peace and communal harmony by carrying out terror acts and waging a war against the Government of India. According to the investigations, the terror outfits were involved in targeting minorities, migrants and security personnel. The conspiracy had been hatched both physically and through cyberspace by using secured encrypted social media apps, the NIA said in its statement.

Ex-terrorist arrested...

R/o Quilmuqam Bandipora under PSA and lodged him in District Jail Baramulla, for his continuous involvement in anti National activities," the Bandipora Police said on Twitter.

Over 7,000 more...

-- left the Bhagvati Nagar base camp for the Valley in a convoy of 226 vehicles, they said. The officials said 4,101 pilgrims, headed for the Pahalgam base camp, left in a convoy of 125 vehicles, while another convoy of 101 vehicles carrying 3,144 pilgrims left for the Baital base camp in the Kashmir Valley.

With this 12th batch of yatris, a total of 72,789 pilgrims have left the Jammu base camp for the valley since June 30.

So far, as many as 1,62,569 yatris have paid obeisance at the cave shrine and had 'darshan' of the naturally-formed 'Iceingum' since July 1, officials said.

The 62-day annual pilgrimage to the 3,888-metre-high cave shrine in the south Kashmir Himalayas commenced from the twin tracks of Pahalgam in Anantnag district and Baital in Ganderbal district on July 1. The yatra is scheduled to conclude on August 31.

24,445 devotees performed darshan at Holy Cave; 187014 till date

The devotees from across the country are visiting in huge numbers to pay obeisance at the Holy Cave of Shri Amarnathji.

On Friday, 24445 pilgrims visited the shrine which included 17,583 males, 5,643 females, 993 children, 220 Sadhus and 06 Sadhis.

The number of yaties who paid obeisance at the Amarnath Cave till today reached to 1,87,014. The yatris are being provided all the facilities by the concerned departments round the clock.

SI JKP recruitment...

accused has been delineated in the charge sheet. The investigating agency has concluded that the accused have committed offences punishable under Sections 420-B IPC read with Sections 420, 411, 408, and 201 IPC.

Justice Rajesh Sekhri after hearing both the sides observed that the charge sheet can be said to be complete, if it enables the court to apply its mind and satisfy itself, whether on the basis of the charge sheet and the material filed along with the police report, envisaged under Section 173 of Cr.P.C., a case for taking cognizance is made out or not. It is the completion of investigation, relating to offences against the charge sheeted accused, which is material for the purpose of determining whether accused is entitled to the grant of statutory bail or not. The investigation and charge sheet with respect to coordinated conspiracy amongst the petitioners and co-accused, who have been charge sheeted, with respect to leakage of question papers is complete. It has nothing to do with other facts of the case regarding allegation of irregularity in award of contract by JKSSB to M/s Merittrae and delegation of work of setting up of question papers by the said company.

Since petitioners in the present case came to be arrested on 19.09.2022 and charge sheet was laid on 12.11.2022 i.e. within the statutory period of 60 days, therefore, benefit of "Statutory Bail" in terms of Section 167 (2) Cr.P.C. cannot be extended to them.

A Reward resident, Yatin Yadav, had allegedly leaked the question paper with the help of an employee of a printing press in Okhla.

Yadav allegedly used illicit services of touts based in Jammu and Kashmir, including constables of the J&K Police and the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), for luring candidates who were charged anything between Rs 20 lakh and Rs 30 lakh approximately for the paper, they said.

The candidates were allegedly taken to Karnal in Haryana in vehicles provided by CRPF constable Suren Singh and a question paper was provided to them at a hotel there, the CBI said, adding that the leaked question paper was also allegedly provided to the candidates in Jammu.

SIA takes custody...

Substances Act cases as well as cases-related to anti-national activities, the sources said. He was arrested on March 3 following an operation by security forces in Sathra (Dana Dohian) in Mandi's police station jurisdiction.

During the search operation, information was received regarding the presence of narcotics, arms, ammunition, and illegal cash at Raff's residence, they said.

The search was conducted in the presence of an executive magistrate, lambardar, chowkidar and member of the panchayat and it yielded a significant seizure, including seven kilograms of heroin, one pistol with a magazine containing 10 rounds, seven rounds of 7.62mm ammunition, one khokri (a traditional knife), and Rs 2.30 crore, the sources said.

Following this, a case was registered and transferred to the SLA. Today, the SLA team has taken custody of Raffiq from the district jail authorities, they said.

DPAP opens first...

Expressing satisfaction over DPAP victory, Azad asked party leadership and workers to raise the issues of concern to general public in every nook and corner of J&K. "Our (DPAP) is motto is welfare of people and overall development of Jammu and Kashmir," he said in a statement.

India successfully launches...

become the fourth country to master the technology of soft-landing on the moon's surface after the US, China and the former Soviet Union.

Addressing a news conference shortly after the launch of the unmanned mission to a lunar region that is emerging as a potential site for future human exploration, a jubilant ISRO Chairman S Somanath said the agency has planned for the "technically challenging" soft-landing on the moon on August 23.

"We are expecting it (Chandrayaan-3) to enter into lunar orbit by August 1 and two-three weeks from then, separation of propulsion module and lander module will happen on August 17. The final descent is currently planned for August 23, at 5.47 pm IST. That is the plan if it goes as per the schedule," he said.

Chandrayaan-2 had failed in its lunar phase when its lander 'Vikram' crashed into the surface of the moon following anomalies in the braking system in the lander while attempting a soft landing on September 7, 2019. Chandrayaan's maiden mission was in 2008.

As the 25 hours 30 minute countdown of the mission for studying surface and chemical properties of the moon ended, the latest LVM3-M4 rocket (formerly GSLVMkIII), dubbed as 'Pat boy' and 'Balubali' for its heavy-lift capability, soared majestically into the sky from the second launch pad of the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh at the prefixed time of 2.35 pm leaving a trail of thick orange smoke.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi hailed the launch of the mission as a "new chapter" in the country's space odyssey which has elevated the dreams and ambitions of every Indian. Political leaders cutting across party lines also lauded ISRO's feat.

As scientists inside the Mission Control Centre (MCC) at the spaceport waited with bated breath to see Chandrayaan-3 getting separated from the rocket about 16 minutes after lift-off, thousands of spectators broke into loud cheers after the launch vehicle's lift-off. Every

announcement from the MCC on successful "separation" of the respective modules was greeted with applause.

From the MCC, ISRO Chairman S Somanath said the rocket had injected Chandrayaan-3 into a precise orbit.

"Congratulations, India. Chandrayaan-3 has started its journey towards moon. Our dear LVM 3 has already put Chandrayaan-3 craft into the precise orbit around earth... and let us wish all the best for the craft for its further orbit raising maneuvers and travel towards moon in the coming days."

Tarun Chugh holds...

initiative. Koul also reviewed the status of the ongoing "Mera Booth Mazboot" program, which is being implemented in all corners of Kashmir; was also extensively discussed during the meeting. The leaders reviewed the program's impact and explored opportunities to strengthen its reach and impact in the region.

J&K Resident Commission...

Officer, J&K Resident Commission, New Delhi, Niraj Kumar.

The eviction proceedings were initiated under Section-4 of the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971 issued initially to the Central Public Works Department, followed by another notice under Section-4 of the Public Premises (Eviction of unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971 issued to all the unknown unauthorised occupants at Kashmir House, Rajaji Marg, staying on the above piece of land who were also making an unauthorised use of water and electricity to facilitate their stay.

Subsequently, the Estates Officer, Resident Commission, J&K Govt, New Delhi passed an eviction order under sub-section (1) of Sec. 5 of the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971, against all the unauthorised occupant(s) particulars of whom were not known.

Notwithstanding even after completion of prescribed legal procedure, the unauthorised occupants did not vacate the premises even after the lapse of period of 15 days as specified in the eviction order passed by the Estates Officer and thereafter, no notice of appeal or stay against the order of eviction issued by the Estates Officer was received.

Eventually, the Estates Officer, J&K Resident Commission along with the assistance provided by various wings of J&K Police, J&K PW(R&B), New Delhi and staff of the J&K Resident Commission, New Delhi evicted all the unauthorised occupants from the premises today. All the unauthorised occupants were given opportunity to remove their belongings and the process of eviction was completed in a peaceful manner.

Teacher arrested for...

Education Officer Abdul Qayoom said. He said the administration took immediate notice of the incident and has acted upon it.

"We confirmed the incident and have suspended the teacher. Police have also arrested him. We do not want such people in our department. If there are any, they will get punished," the official said. Qayoom said the teacher should not have cut the student's hair and if needed, he could be terminated. "It is not the school's job to cut the hair of a student without permission of the student or the family. The teacher has committed a mistake and action will be taken. If there is a need, we will recommend him for termination," Qayoom added.

While the child did not wish to speak about the incident, her parents have slammed the high handedness of the teacher.

Police have registered an FIR against the teacher under IPC sections 342 (wrongful confinement) and 354 (outraging woman's modesty) and Section 75 (any person abuses, assaults a child he/she is in charge of) of the Juvenile Justice Act.

Driver among 3 die after camper fell into gorge

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KISHTWAR: In a tragic road accident, a driver among 3 persons got killed after a vehicle they were travelling in skidded off the road and fell into gorge near Keru project site in Kishtwar on Friday afternoon.

The Camper vehicle (JK17 6327) of Keru Hydroelectric power project was on its way to project site when reached at Dangduru area of Kishtwar, Driver lost control and the vehicle after skidded off from the road fell into gorge.

Police, locals and Red Cross Society members immediately rushed to the spot and shifted all to District Hospital Kishtwar, where doctors declared all of them as brought dead.

DC Kishtwar Dr Devansh Yadav and SSP Kishtwar Khalil Poswal also visited District Hospital Kishtwar.

While confirming the incident, DC Kishtwar Dr Devansh Yadav said that it's very unfortunate that we lost 3 workers of Keru power Project in a tragic accident near Dam site of the project.

"Rs 20,000 released under Red Cross for deceased persons as immediate relief and further assistance under ex-gratia and from company will be initiated at the earliest," DC Kishtwar Dr Devansh Yadav informed.

Police has taken cognizance of the incident and registered a case in this regard.

SSP Kishtwar Khalil Poswal said that an FIR has been registered and investigation of the incident has been taken up.

"Stern action will be taken, if any body found responsible/involved for the accident," SSP added.

The deceased have been identified as Ashfaq Hussain (Operator) son of Mohd ashraf Malik r/o wani Trigam, Driver Badal Singh son of ranjeet singh r/o padaryama Kishtwar and Welder Chanjoo Ram son of Chour singh r/o chingnana, Galhar Nagseni. All working with Keru Hydro Electric Power Project.

Meanwhile Thakur Randeep Bhandari Spokesperson Democratic Progressive Azad Party condoles the demise of 3 labour which died in a camper accident at Kiru Site and demanded physical verification of all the vehicles which are engaged in Pakul Dul,Kiru,Kwar and Rattle Power Project Kishtwar J&K.

Four homeowners arrested for failing to provide tenant information to police in Samba

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Police on Friday arrested four homeowners and filed FIRs against them for allegedly not furnishing tenant information as per the district magistrate's order in Jammu and Kashmir's Samba district, officials said.

The individuals taken into custody have been identified as Ghulam Nabi, Maqbool Hussain, Abdul Rashid and Tarvinder Singh, all residents of Bari Brahmana in Samba, they said.

Police said four separate cases have been registered at the Bari Brahmana Police Station. The homeowners defied the order despite repeated appeals, they said, adding investigations are underway.

Samba Senior Superintendent of Police Benam Tosh has urged all house owners, as well as owners of business and industrial establishments, construction companies, and makeshift dwellings, to promptly provide mandatory information about tenants, external workers, domestic helpers, and guests to the respective police stations.

The information should be provided on a declaration form signed by both the owner and the tenant, in compliance with the order issued by the district magistrate of Samba under section 144 Cr.P.C. Failure to adhere to this directive may result in legal action against the defaulters under Section 188 of IPC (deliberate disobedience of an order by a public servant), police said.

5 shops gutted in fire at market in Reasi

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

REASI: Five shops were gutted in a blaze at a market in Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi district on Friday, officials said.

The fire broke out in the main market in the Mahore area and five shops, including goods worth lakhs of rupees, were damaged in the blaze, they said.

The reason for the fire is believed to be a short circuit but an investigation is underway to confirm it, a police official said.

Meanwhile, locals staged a protest against the absence of fire stations in the whole subdivision of Mahore and urged authorities to set up at least one to prevent loss of property and life due to fire incidents in future.

J&K Bank provides refreshments to Amarnathji pilgrims

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: J&K Bank Zonal Office Jammu has provided refreshments to pilgrims and service providers of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra-2023.

Bank's General Manager & Divisional Head (Jammu) Sunit Kumar in presence of Zonal Head (Jammu) Rajesh Dubey, DGM Vinod Kumar Sharma and other senior officers of the Bank at Zonal Office Jammu served refreshments to pilgrims, here on Friday.

