# !! Continuations from Page 1!! NIA raids in...

Shopian district in south Kashmir and were working for Pakistan-based commanders and handlers of proscribed terror organisations such as the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and its shadow outfit The Resistance Front (TRF), among others.

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 had stated in its statement.

Guilty won't be... start of Monsoon session and amid his criticism by opposition parties for not speaking on the ethnic violence in the BJP-ruled north east state.

"I want to assure the countrymen that no guilty will be spared. Law will act with its full might and firmness... What has happened to these daughters of Manipur can never be forgiven," he said.

The incident in the state will shame any decent society, and it has insulted the entire country and the 140 crore countrymen are feeling ashamed, he said. Tension mounted in the hills of Manipur after a May 4 video surfaced on Wednesday showing two women from one of the warring communities in Manipur being paraded naked by a mob from the other side.

The prime minister requested all chief ministers to further strengthen law and order mechanism in their respective states and take most stringent action, especially in the cases of crimes against women.

He also mentioned states like Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh while calling for boosting law and order, and protecting women. People should rise above political debates to prioritise law and order, and respect for women, he added.

The BJP has been highlighting cases of crimes against women in Congressruled states like Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh while targeting the opposition

Modi also asked parliamentarians to make full use of the session for extensive discussion on a host of bills which, he added, are in people's interest.

The prime minister referred to the bills on digital personal data protection, national research foundation, mediation, repealing and amending and 'jan vishwas' to assert that are many such proposed laws which are in the interest of the nation and different sections of society.

"I am confident that there will be serious discussions in Parliament," he

## 6,500 Amarnath Yatris...

views at the Thajwas glacier.

Sara clicked pictures with local children and also had tea at a temporary shelter. She later shared the photos of her visit on Instagram.

"When the soul is content and the hamstrings are sore. Bakri se phir bacchon se ki dosti. And then we had the chai I adore (sic)," she wrote in the caption.

The officials said the "Zara Hatke Zara Bachke" actor also visited the Martand sun temple in south Kashmir's Anantnag district before embarking on the yatra. Meanwhile, amid tight security, a fresh batch of over 6,500 pilgrims left the base camp this morning for the Amarnath shrine in south Kashmir Himalayas.

While 3,746 pilgrims, who are headed for Pahalgam, left in a convoy of 165 vehicles, another convoy of 97 vehicles carrying 2,777 pilgrims left for the Baltal base camp. Another batch of 4,900 pilgrims, which had a night halt at Chanderkot in Ramban district due to closure of Jammu-Srinagar national highway, left this morning for Amarnath, officials said.

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

#### Iammu Bar General...

Advocate, Arvind Bandral Advocate, Anna Durrani Advocate, Zamir Muslim Qureshi Advocate, Shrishti Paul Mengi Advocate, Yasser Farooq Khan Advocate and General Secretary YLA.

Other who expressed their views included Senior Advocate M.A. Goni, Advocate Sheikh Shakeel Ahmed, Advocate Atul Raina, Advocate Mehrukh Sayden and Advocate Ishant Gupta.

Senior Advocate M.A. Goni suggested for constitution of a Committee of both senior and junior lawyers to decide future course of action in terms of decision, the General House would take.

Three resolutions which were passed by voice-vote by the General House. It was resolved that the shifting of High Court to Raika shall be opposed and General House authorized the office bearers to formulate a Committee of Advocates who will submit their report within 7 days recommending further course of action to the General House to be convened again.

The General House with one voice condemned derogatory messages on social media, Whatsapp Groups against the members of the Bar including the Senior

### B R Sharma...

the State Election Commissioner of the Union Territory.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha administered the oath of office to Sharma at the Raj Bhavan here. B R Sharma was last week appointed the State Election Commissioner. His predecessor K K Sharma completed his term on February 1. B R Sharma will hold the position of SEC till the age of 65.

A 1984-batch IAS officer, hailing from Kathua district of the Jammu region, B R Sharma has served as the Chief Secretary of the erstwhile state of Jammu and

Kashmir from 2015 to 2017.

He has also served as Additional Secretary in the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), as well as the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) of Jammu and Kashmir.

# AAP, Cong working...

and AAP is only an alliance of corruption, lies, extortion, casteism, familyism Both the parties have nothing to do with public issues. Kejriwal is engrossed in political tourism leaving Delhi and Bhagwant Maan in dire straits amidst the ravages of severe floods in Puniab.

# **!! Continuations from Page 3!!** Urbanisation, human interference...

July 16,12 people were injured in a leopard attack in Sallar Village of Anantnag District. According to reports, leopard emerged out of forest area and attacked people, injuring 12 people. Earlier on Feb 26, a Leopard spotted in Wanbal area of Rawalpora Srinagar. On May 19, a leopard kills 15 sheep and nearly half dozen injured in a far flung village of South Kashmir.

According to research, the number of deaths due to leopard and black bear attacks is high in Kashmir. The injured persons were mainly from different areas of Kashmir which were close to protected areas for wild animals and forests. He further said that in such areas as Kupwara, Lolab, Handwara, Baramulla, Tangmarg, Shopian, Ganderbal, Anantnag and Srinagar, people are facing human wildlife conflicts and they have risen significantly due to the change in wildlife habitat.

"The human population grew, which builds pressure on wild habitats and spaces where these wild animals used to live. If we talk of the landscape in Kashmir, we see that this land space is a landlocked landscape because on one side we have western Himalayas, and on one side we have Pir Panjal followed by the valley floor," he said.

Before human intervention, all wild lands used to be under forests that are known as grazing land ,but now ,it has been taken up for agriculture or horticulture use. These horticulture landscape have either been on the fringe of the forests or inside them, he added. The officials of the wildlife said that these changes in the wild life habitat have invited casualties over the years According to the statistics in 2013 and 2014 the total no of deaths was 28 which declined to 10 in 2022. However child lifting cases by leopards in north Kashmir have been reported were "recurrent". According to experts many wild animals such as leopard, black bears and brown bears have adapted to live in human dominated landscape, it have been seen now a days that leopard are not restricted to jungles and have their territory now. These changes have made them often migrate to places where they can find a little shelter and food. Food availability in urban areas or suburban areas has increased. Leopards get shelter easily in the form of dense vegetation and abandoned plots, this is the reason the wild animals can easily change its areas, he

# NH reopens for traffic; tree falls on truck, 2 Army personnel injured

#### **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Traffic on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway resumed Thursday after a day-long closure due to landslides and mudslides in Ramban district, officials said.

Heavy rains had triggered landslides and mudslides at multiple places blocking the highway in Ramban and Udhampur districts

The highway is through for two-way traffic and all stranded vehicles have been cleared, they said.

Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta took stock of the situation at the highway and underscored the need for taking strict action against



Army truck damaged after tree falls upon it.

slow moving vehicles and overloaded trucks.

He asked executing agencies to handover the second tube of the Ramban flyover by August 15 and the Banihal bypass by the end of this year.

Meanwhile, two Army personnel were injured when a tree fell on a truck in

Ramban district, official said.

The truck was part of an Army convoy, they said, adding the two have been hospitalised.

# Man tries to snatch cop's weapon in Shopian, arrested STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: A man was arrested after he tried to snatch a weapon from a policeman in Shopian district on Thursday, officials said. The incident took place near the police camp in

the Imam Sahib area of the south Kashmir district, a police official said. The accused tried to snatch the service weapon of a policeman but he was overpowered and arrested by police personnel deployed at the spot, he said.

# Self-styled journalist arrested over terror funding charges in Pattan: Police

### STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: A self-styled journalist was on Thursday arrested for allegedly receiving funds for terror activities in Jammu and Kashmir, police here said. "A self-styled journalist Muzamil Zahoor Malik of Indergam Pattan (was) arrested for terror funding. He received terror funds in his bank account made on forged documents/fake identity," Srinagar Police said on Twitter. The police said a case under various sections of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act and the Indian Penal Code has been registered and an investigation is underway. Five accused have already been arrested in the case, the police added.

# Arms, ammunition recovered along LoC in Kupwara

SRINAGAR: Security forces recovered a huge cache of arms and ammunition along the Line of Control (LoC) in Kupwara district, the Army said here on Thursday.

"In a Joint Operation launched today by #IndianArmy, @JmuKmrPolice and Int agencies along the LOC at Bankhot in Tangdhar Sector, Kupwara, a huge cache of arms and ammunition was recovered," Army's Srinagar-based Chinar Corps said on Twitter. The Army said two AK rifles, six pistols, four hand grenades and other war-like stores were recovered during the search operation.

# SC to hear today Rahul Gandhi's appeal against Gujarat HC verdict in defamation case

DELHI: The Supreme Court is scheduled to hear on Friday Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's appeal against the Gujarat High Court verdict dismissing his plea seeking a stay on his conviction in a defamation case over his "Modi surname" remark. A bench of justices B R Gavai and P K Mishra will likely take up the matter tomor-

A bench headed by CJI D Y Chandrachud had on July 18 agreed to hear Gandhi's plea after senior advocate Abhishek Singhvi mentioned the matter and sought urgent hearing.

In his appeal, Gandhi has said if the July 7 HC judgment is not stayed, it will lead to "throttling of free speech, expression,

thought, and statement".

Purnesh Modi, a former minister in the Gujarat government, had filed a criminal defamation case in 2019 against Gandhi over his "how all thieves have Modi as the common surname" remark made during an election rally at Kolar in Karnataka on April 13, 2019. He was apparently referring to businessmen Nirav Modi and Lalit Modi, two fugitive prominent businessmen wanted in

India. Gandhi has said in his plea he will suffer irreparable injury if the HC order is not stayed. He has said an irreversible consequence of not staying the order will result in injustice as, because of the conviction, he currently stands disqualified as a Member of

Parliament from Wayanad in Kerala and cannot participate in parliamentary proceedings.

Gandhi, as an interim relief, has sought an adinterim ex-parte stay of the July 7 order of the Gujarat High court during the pendency of this appeal in the top court.

The Congress leader was disqualified as an MP on March 24 after a Gujarat court convicted and sentenced him to two-year imprisonment on the charge of criminal defamation for comments he made about

the Modi surname. In a setback to the 53year-old Gandhi, the high court had dismissed his petition for a stay on conviction on July 7, observing that "purity in politics" is the need of the hour.

SRINAGAR: On the concluding day of the workshop organised by the J&K Planning, Development & Monitoring Department for adminis-Chief Secretary, Dr Arun tration, Thursday Mehta on remarked that J&K is well on track to achieve the milestones of 'Zero Poverty' and 'Housing for All' by the vear 2024. Dr Mehta was speaking about the

theme of 'Systems, Processes & Use Technology forImplementation' also attended by Shri Anurag Goel, Former Secretary, Corporate Affairs, GoI and SDG UNDP; Advisor, various Administrative Secretaries and other UNDP Experts.

In his address, the Chief Secretary made out that the accomplishment of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is a global framework for making the required all-round progress. He stated that as discussed the process of budgeting in line with the SDGs has proved beneficial for many of the States/UTs here and J&K too is alive to this practice for achieving the desired goals.

He recalled that the UT intends to cover about 1.9 lakh houses under PMAY and these are enough to satu-



J&K to achieve milestones of 'Zero Poverty', 'Housing for All' till 2024: CS

Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta chairing a meeting.

rate the housing needs of all the houseless persons. He stated that J&K has moved towards top ranking States /UTs in Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen and each of its villages is ODF+ now but lot more needs to accomplished to reach the desired outcome and move to model category

He also said that in many of the parameters the UT is well ahead of the National average and in future is going to be one among the model States/UTs in the country. He emphasized on enhancing the capacity of individuals and institutions so that they are able to reorient their thinking to meet SDG targets.

He stated that J&K aims at implementing SDG 2.0 as its objective

with a defined roadmap and optimal timelines. He advised for having a clear idea about where to see ourselves after 6 months, 1 year or a decade from here. He also directed for making SDG portal live by next month for the UT which would give real time data for targeted interven-

On the occasion he thanked  $\operatorname{Mr}$  Goel for sharing his ideas and expertise with the officers to sensitize them about the future challenges to be faced by the Government. He asked him to help J&K in drawing way forward in light of its strengths and opportunities.

In his address Mr Goel called SDG  $\,$ a vehicle for attaining future-ready governance. He remarked that building institutional capacity should be focus of the administration. He observed that the partnership with UNDP can be valuable in creating future-ready J&K.

In his presentation, he dwelt upon effective systems, processes and technologies that can help in faster implementation of SDGs. He asked for creating awareness about technology which he said is not based on IT tools alone but future technologies in sync with changing times.

He exuded hope that J&K has right direction and leadership to steer its way forward in smoothly implementing all the policies for achieving SDGs. He made out that its brisk movement of going up the ladder on different parameters in the last few years as showcased here is reinforcing it further. He asked for establishment of SDG coordination centre for accelerating and monitoring the implementation at the highest level.

A number of presentations were made by the UNDP experts, Administrative Secretaries Planning, Education, Health, Industries and other Departments about their achievements and the roadmaps for future. All of them also discussed further strengthening of implementation of SDGs in the UT.

# Eight-member panel to take representations of under transfer teachers by CEO Rajouri

### **STATE TIMES NEWS**

RAJOURI: District Magistrate Rajouri, Vikas Kundal on Thursday constituted eight-member panel headed by Rajeev Kumar Khajuria, Additional Deputy Commissioner Rajouri to take representations of under transfer teachers who are aggrieved of the recent transfers effected by Chief Education Officer Rajouri.

"As desired by Principal Secretary to Government Education Department J&K UT, a Committee of eight officers is constituted to take representations of under transfer teachers who are aggrieved of the recent transfers effected by Chief Education officer Rajouri vide CEOR/ATD/Tr/2023/11336 -37 dated July 10, 2023," read an order issed by DM Rajouri.

It added, "The Committee shall take written representations from the office of Chief Education Officer Rajouri and Joint Director

School Education Department Rajouri-Poonch and shall process these representations by verifying individual cases of the applicants in view of the existing transfer policy.'

"The committee shall forwarded its recommendations on individual basis to the Director School Education Jammu for further necessary action within three days positively," read an order. As per order, the committee

will be headed by Rajeev Kumar Khajuria, JKAS, Deputy Additional Commissioner Rajouri as ist Chairman while Zaman Shah Principal Sanjeev Chingus, Suri BHSS Principal Sunderbani, Ravinder Singh Principal HSS Bhawani, Riaz Malik Principal HSS Moghla, Shamshir Ahmed Principal Khan Gambhir Mughlain, Pawan Sharma Principal HSS Dhangri, and Parvez Akhter ZEO Thannamandi will be

**STATE TIMES NEWS** NEW DELHI: India on Thursday said it sent invitations to leaders of all the G20 member nations, invitee countries and international organisations for the

upcoming annual summit of

the grouping to be held in

September. At the same time, it was non-committal on whether Russian President Vladimir Putin will attend the sum-

There have been speculation about Putin's in-person participation in the G20 summit in Delhi after South Africa said the Russian president will not travel to that country to attend the BRICS summit in Johannesburg next month.

InMarch, the Criminal International Court (ICC) issued an warrant against arrest Putin, accusing him of war crimes in Ukraine. South Africa is a signatory to the

In a statement, South

Invitations for upcoming G20 summit sent: MEA Africa said an agreement on Putin not attending the summit was taken as part of mutual understanding and that it came about fol-

> tions. spokesperson Russian Dmitry Peskov said Putin will attend the summit via video conferencing and that Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov will be present at

lowing a series of consulta-

the venue. At a media briefing, External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi did not give a direct reply when asked whether Putin will attend the G20

summit. "At this point, all I can reiterate is what we have said earlier that invitations have gone out to all the G20 members, invitee countries and international organisations," he said.

"This is a physical summit and we would hope that all the invitees are able to participate in-person for the summit. There have confirmations,

understand. But again I don't have any specific response on any particular leader," he said.

"I don't think that it would be fair to look at it that way but yes, we are looking forward to welcoming the leaders here for our G20 New Delhi leaders' summit in September," Bagchi added.

India is the current chair of the G20.

The G20 or Group of 20 is an intergovernmental forum of the world's major developed and developing economies. The members represent around 85 per cent of the global GDP, over 75 per cent of the global trade, and about two-thirds of the world population.

The grouping comprises Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the UK, the US and the European Union

# J-K BJP objects to opposition alliance's name, to file complaints with police; NC says move 'laughable'

### **STATE TIMES NEWS**

SRINAGAR: Objecting to the opposition alliance's name, INDIA, the Jammu and Kashmir unit of the BJP on Thursday said it would file complaints with the police in every district of the Union territory.

Twenty-six opposition parties met in Bengaluru earlier this week and formed an alliance -- Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance

(INDIA) -- to take on the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA)

in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. Jammu and Kashmir BJP spokesperson Altaf Thakur alleged that the people of the country have been "cheated" in the garb of forming a grand alliance.

They had formed alliances in 2014 and 2019 as well but the BJP still won the elections and Narendra Modi

became the prime minister, he said.

He said that some parties in the opposition alliance such as the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) do not have any representation in Parliament. "In the name of the grand alliance, people have been cheated," Thakur told PTI here.

Thakur said they object to the name

of the alliance. "No party or alliance has the right

to name their organisation after the nation. It clearly seems that it is a well thought-out conspiracy of the Congress.... This alliance is not going to work as all these parties have different policies, agendas and voices,' he said.

"We are planning to lodge an FIR in every district of Kashmir (against the opposition parties naming their alliance INDIA)," he said.

Printer, publisher and owned by Raj Daluja, Printed and published at STATE TIMES PUBLICATIONS, Plot No. 110, 111, 112, Phase-II, Gangyal, Jammu. Ph-2579290, 2573691, Fax: 0191-2562657. e-mail.statetimes1@gmail.com Editor, Raj Daluja; RNI No: 66908/96. All legal disputes are subject to exclusive jurisdiction of Jammu Courts only.