

!! Continuations from Page 1 !!
Safety, security of..

Corporation and Self Employment Schemes so that they can be made equal partners in development," the Lt Governor said.

He directed for impact assessment of rehabilitation efforts of the drug abuse victims. Create avenues for their self-employment, handholding for livelihood generations and capacity building to integrate them back into the society, he added.

The Lt Governor instructed the Social Welfare Department to organize two Mega Camps for persons with disabilities, in collaboration with the Government of India, one each in Jammu and Kashmir divisions.

He further directed for involving Deputy Commissioners and PRI members for 100 per cent saturation of disability certificates to all the eligible beneficiaries.

The Lt Governor took appraisal of the implementation of schemes and programmes like Mission Vatsalya; Ladli Beti; Marriage Assistance Scheme; infrastructure up-gradation of children and senior citizen homes; working of One Stop Centres; Drug demand reduction and de-addiction activities; Community Mobilization and IEC activities of the department.

Discussions were also held on recruitment of Sanginis and Sahayikas; rehabilitation of children on streets; close monitoring of help-lines; clearing pendency, penetration of new Anganwadi centres at grassroot level; implementation of Poshan Tracker and participation of inmate of children homes in Independence Day events.

Sheetal Nanda, Commissioner/Secretary, Social Welfare Department gave a detailed overview of the working of the department.

She further briefed the meeting on the Constitution of various Committees; best practices of the department; achievements of students from Residential School for Visually Impaired; compensation under POCSSO etc.

All children homes are branded uniformly across UT as Palaash (for Boys), Pareesha (for Girls) and Specialised Adoption Agency (SAA) as Phulwadi, it was informed.

The meeting was attended by Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary; Santosh D Vaidya, Principal Secretary, Finance Department; Dr Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor; Ramesh Kumar, Divisional Commissioner, Jammu; Vijay Bidhuri, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Heads of Departments and senior officers of Social Welfare Department.

Varanasi court orders...

Kashi Vishwanath temple is built upon a temple.

The mosque's 'wazukhana', where a structure claimed by Hindu litigants to be a 'shivling' exists, will not be part of the survey - following an earlier Supreme Court order protecting that spot in the complex.

District judge A K Vishvesh directed the ASI to submit a report to the court by August 4, along with videos and photographs of survey proceedings.

"The Director of ASI is also directed to conduct a detailed scientific investigation by using GPR (Ground Penetrating Radar) survey, excavation, dating method and other modern techniques of the present structure to find out as to whether same has been constructed over a pre-existing structure of Hindu temple," the order said.

It specifically directed the use of GPR technology for survey "just below the three domes of the building in question", and to conduct an excavation there "if required".

Hindu activists, who claim that a temple existed earlier at the site and was demolished in the 17th century on the orders of Mughal emperor Aurangzeb, hailed the court order.

A throng of people outside the court received the news with slogans of "Har Har Mahadev".

The court had on July 14 reserved its order after hearing both the Hindu and Muslim sides.

The petition filed by the Hindu group, seeking the right to regular worship of sculptures of Hindu deities on the mosque's outer wall, had sought court directions to the ASI to survey the complex.

Its counsel had said the situation will become clear after examining the three domes of the Gyanvapi complex, the western wall and the entire complex in a modern manner.

The mosque management's counsel Mohammed Tauhid Khan said it will challenge the Varanasi court's order.

"It is not acceptable and we will move to a higher court against it. This survey could cause damage to the mosque," he said.

Apart from the mosque's domes, the order mentions the need to survey beneath the western wall and beneath the cellars. The ASI should also conduct an exercise on the plinth and pillars to determine the age and nature of the building, the judge said.

The order asked the ASI to ensure that there is no damage to the 'structure standing on the disputed land'.

The Varanasi district court had on May 16 agreed to hear a plea for an ASI survey, following an Allahabad High Court order.

Earlier, the Supreme Court had ordered the protection of the area around the claimed 'shivling', found when another court ordered a video survey of the complex.

The mosque management maintained that the structure is part of the water fountain mechanism at the 'wazukhana', the reservoir where devotees perform ablutions before offering namaz.

At one stage, lawyers representing the mosque argued that the Kashi Vishwanath-Gyanvapi mosque case was not maintainable, claiming that it violated the Place of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991.

That law ruled out changing the character of any place of worship from what it was on August 15, 1947. The Act, however, made an exemption for the Ram Jannabhoomi-Babri Masjid legal dispute.

Ayodhya's Hanumangarhi mahant Raju Das welcomes the Varanasi court order. Ram Jannabhoomi chief priest Satyendra Das said the seers are elated with it.

Over 3 lakh...

seamless facilities to make yatries feel at home.

The enhanced facilities like accommodation, food, water, health care, Pony service have generated positive response from devotees, who undertook the yatra and encouraged others to embark on Amarnath pilgrimage this year.

To make Amarnath pilgrimage a memorable and life-time experience for devotees, the potential of available resources were capitalized to the brim, which ensured stress-free and tireless yatra.

This year the government made twin axes- Pahalgam and Baltal to glow with lights from base camps to Holy Cave which helped to carry-on yatra during evening hours.

The construction of two state-of-art 100-bedded hospitals for the yatries and all the associated people is another epitome of high level seriousness shown by the government for boosting allied infrastructure. Besides other existing health infrastructure, every camp is manned by the expert health teams who on a daily basis examine hundreds of yatries, providing them medicine and advice.

Since the influx of yatries is swelling with every passing day, the government has made it sure that transportation facilities be provided to yatries from Jammu to base camps in Kashmir.

Besides, the helipad service is also available to the yatries who are willing to take this opportunity and facility.

To keep strict vigil on the nitty-gritty of the yatra for smooth and peaceful conduct, the government has established an Integrated Command & Control Centre which is integrated with RFID. This data based centre helps in effective crowd control management, traceability, avoidance of traffic jams and management besides coordination among all stakeholders on a real time basis.

As this yatra surpassed three lakh mark in a short span of time, the government takes pride for serving yatries with every available resource putting them to optimum utilization, the spokesperson added.

Yatries who paid obeisance at the Holy Cave were overwhelmed by the organized facilities and management of the yatra. Every single soul, who got the opportunity to pay obeisance at the Holy Cave expressed gratitude to the administration, security agencies, service providers and local population who welcome them with open arms. The local people serve yatries Kashmiri Kehwa and warm water to help them to cope up with cold temperatures.

Shri Amarnathji Yatra has become a centre of attraction for citizens of the nation and also to foreign citizens this year.

Two California, USA citizens, a Ukrainian woman, a group of 35 Nepali citizens and a group of 30 citizens from Malaysia are among the pilgrims who paid obeisance at Holy Cave of Shri Amarnathji.

These foreign religious tourists acknowledged the organized arrangements and facilities created by the government which made them happy to feel the spiritual essence of pilgrimage.

The Divisional News Room working under the supervision of Divisional Commissioner Kashmir and the Department of Information & Public Relations are working in tandem with each other to disseminate information about the avail-

able facilities to the satisfaction of pilgrims after experiencing the support from stakeholders.

DB expresses serious...

is sanctioned strength of 319 Medical Officers in Jammu District and 254 are in position and 65 vacancies are lying vacant. In Doda District sanctioned strength of Medical Officers is 125, 43 are in position and 82 slots are vacant. In Kishtwar the sanctioned strength is 82, 33 are in position and there is short fall of 49. In Poonch sanctioned strength is 140, 56 are in position and there is short fall of 84. In Kathua sanctioned Strength is 164, 65 are in position and 99 slots are lying vacant. In Rajouri District sanctioned strength is 148, 66 are in position and 82 is the short fall. In Samba District sanctioned strength is 69, 47 in position and 22 is the short fall. In Reasi district sanctioned strength is 98, 43 in position and 55 is the short fall. In Udhampur sanctioned strength is 149, in position 63 and 86 is the short fall.

Advocate S.S Ahmed vociferously argued that position is much better in Kashmir Province whereas the Govt of J&K seems to be non serious towards health care for Jammu Province. Advocate Ahmed referred to the comparative statement and impressed upon the Division Bench to issue appropriate directions to the J&K Govt. to show some seriousness towards the shortage of Doctors / Paramedical Staff in Jammu Province.

The Division Bench after going through the comparative statement filed by the J&K Govt. observed that, "Perusal of the status report filed by the Deputy Secretary to Government, Health and Medical Education Department dated 29th May 2023 would indicate the comparative staff strength in the posts of Medical Officers and Non gazetted and class-IV Employees in Jammu Division as well in Kashmir Division. In respect of the Jammu Division the total sanctioned strength of Medical Officers for all Districts is 1390 posts of which 726 posts are in position and remaining 664 posts are lying vacant. Similarly, in respect of non gazetted and Class-IV Employees in Jammu Division out of sanctioned strength 6868, only 4379 are filled up with the remaining 2489 vacant".

The Division Bench further observed that, "on the other hand in respect of Kashmir Division total sanctioned strength of Medical Officers is 1467, out of which 1395 are in position and only 72 are lying vacant. Similarly, in case of non-gazetted and Class-IV Employees in Kashmir Division, out of sanctioned strength of 8628 posts, 5976 are in position and 2651 are lying vacant. Thus, it indicates a skewed figure in respect of Jammu Division vis-a-viz Kashmir Division".

The Division Bench headed by Chief Justice N. Kotiwar Singh expressed serious concern over the massive short fall of Doctors /Paramedical Staff in Jammu Province and directed the Health and Medical Education Department to indicate the steps taken to fill up the large number of vacancies in respect of Medical Officers as well as the non-gazetted and class-IV Employees in Jammu Division as well as the Kashmir Division.

The Division Bench also directed Deputy Solicitor General of India Vishal Sharma appearing for U.T of Ladakh to furnish necessary information with regard to health care position in respect of U.T of Ladakh without fail on the next date.

At this stage, Advocate S.S Ahmed submitted that in several far flung / hilly areas of Districts Reasi, Poonch, Ramban, Kupwara and Baramulla, the Health Institutions lack Medical Officers / Paramedical staff and the Public has been left to the mercy of God and in several Primary Health Centres / Dispensaries there is 100% short fall of vacancies and the Govt of J&K has miserably failed to provide Health care to the Rural population. He further submitted that the entire population of J&K deserves better health care at door step.

While parting with the order, the Division Bench took note of the submissions made by Advocate S.S Ahmed and directed that the affidavit to be filed by the Govt of J&K shall also indicate the steps taken in respect of far flung areas of Districts of Reasi, Poonch, Ramban, Kupwara and Baramulla.

J&K Bank becomes...

revolutionising the scope and scale of banking industry, the fast-paced digitization continues to increase exposure of banks to cyber security risks. In such a situation, this highly prestigious certification is a great acknowledgment of our in-place information-security protocols", he added.

While reaffirming Bank's commitment to the clientele and stakeholders of Bank, MD & CEO emphasized that achieving the PCIDSS V4 certification marks a pivotal moment in its journey towards becoming a Bank with unparalleled security and unflinching trust in the realm of digital banking. "With security of our customers' financial data as a top priority, this certification is also a testament of J&K Bank as a reliable financial partner with unwavering commitment to safeguarding the interests of its valued customers", he said, adding that the Bank will continue to innovate and invest in the latest technologies to uphold and enhance the trust of its valuable customers. Notably, this certification process involves a comprehensive audit conducted by a team of Qualified Security Assessors (QSA) Certified by PCI Security Standards Council to evaluate an organization's adherence to stringent security controls and protocols during payment card transactions.

31 JKPS officers..

Altaf Ahmed Shah, Bakar Hussain Samoon, Firdous Iqbal, Aijaz Ahmad Bhat, Ranjit Singh Samyal, Mohd Yaseen Kichloo, Rajinder Kumar Gupta, Rajesh Kumar Sharma, Sanjeev Kumar Khajoria, Rajesh Bali, Zubair Ahmed Khan, Sanjay Kumar Kotwal, Mumtaz Ahmed and Mohd Aslam for the induction into IPS cadre.

According to sources, the committee has also cleared two retired police officers- Anil Magotra and Parshotam Kumar Sharma- for promotion in IPS.

Sources also disclosed that the selection committee has given its opinion on promotion of one local officer in a sealed cover in view of an inquiry pending against him.

Parliament adjourned; Govt...

slogans "Manipur is bleeding".

With the opposition members refusing to stop their sloganeering, Birla said, "You don't want the House to function, you don't want the Question Hour to take place. All other members want the House to run. This is not good. The solution can be found only through discussions" and added that it "seems you just don't want any discussion".

As the opposition members remained unrelenting, Birla asked the Defence Minister to speak.

Singh, who is also the deputy leader of the House, said the Manipur situation should be taken seriously and the seriousness of the government was reflected when the Prime Minister commented that the entire country was feeling ashamed over the Manipur incidents.

"We want that there should be discussions on Manipur incidents. I have said this in an all-party meeting and I want to reiterate here that there should be discussions on Manipur incidents", Singh said.

"But I can see that the opposition is unnecessarily creating problems so that no discussions take place on the Manipur situation. I want to say that the opposition is not serious about a discussion on Manipur as it should have been. We want a discussion on the Manipur situation and there should be a discussion. The opposition should take it seriously," he said.

As the opposition did not relent, the speaker adjourned the proceedings till noon.

When Lok Sabha reassembled, opposition members trooped into the well, raising slogans and demanding a reply from the Prime Minister and his presence in the House.

Rajendra Agrawal, who was in the Chair, asked members to return to their seats for a discussion on this sensitive issue to be held, but the sloganeering continued. Members also displayed placards as part of their protests.

Asserting that the government was ready for a debate, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Prahlad Joshi said, "The entire country is concerned about the Manipur situation we are equally concerned."

As the protests continued Agarwal adjourned the proceedings for the day.

In the Rajya Sabha too, the proceedings were disrupted for the second day as opposition MPs created ruckus over the Manipur violence and other issues.

The upper house was first adjourned in the morning till 2 PM over the Manipur issue and the opposition raising objections to the Chair expunging certain words from the record.

Soon after reassembling at 2:30 pm for taking up private members' bills, Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar informed the members about the report of the business advisory committee (BAC) after its meeting held on Thursday and said it should be taken into account.

This led to an uproar in the house with several opposition members raising objections over the listing of the National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Bill along with the Forest Conservation Bill, saying they had already expressed their views against the proposed legislations during the BAC meeting.

With most opposition members on their feet, the Chairman adjourned the house till Monday within minutes of its resumption.

The opening day of the Monsoon session of Parliament on Thursday witnessed

heated exchanges over the Manipur violence and the horrific video. Dhankhar had also expunged references made by TMC MP Derek O'Brien seeking the Prime Minister's response to the violence.

On Friday, O'Brien sought to raise a point of order over the expunging of the words.

Referring to the rule and page number from the rule book, O'Brien said the rule pertains to the expunging of words used in Parliament -- what can be used and what can't be. As he repeated his remarks made on Thursday, the chairman again expunged them from the record on Friday.

As O'Brien tried to explain, the House plunged into disorder and Dhankhar adjourned the proceedings till 2.30 pm.

Earlier, after official papers were laid, Dhankhar started reading out time allocated for government business and mentioned The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Bill that is to replace an ordinance on services in Delhi.

Even before he could complete it, AAP MPs were up on their feet calling the bill "unconstitutional". Dhankhar asked them to maintain decorum in the House.

But MPs from AAP, including Sanjay Singh, continued to object, saying no bill can be brought that is unconstitutional.

"I give time to everyone by rules. This House is the house of elders. Our conduct is being watched by more than 1.3 billion people. We have to be exemplary in our conduct so that we can be appreciated. It is not a public street. It is not a platform," the chairman said.

Dhankhar also said that the concept of sub-judice is totally misconceived and the house is entitled to discuss everything under the planet with one restriction provided under Article 121.

After Yasin Malik...

jail premises nor did they have any reason to do so," he said, adding, "I consider this to be a matter serious enough to once again bring it to your personal notice so that suitable action/steps can be taken at your end."

In his letter, Solicitor General Mehta gave details of the incident and said that on Friday everyone was shocked when news was received that the jail authorities are bringing Malik personally to appear before the apex court "as per his desire to appear as party in person". "I had telephonically intimated you about this fact. However, by that time Yasin Malik had already reached the precincts of the Supreme Court of India," he said. The top law officer said that neither the court had summoned his personal presence nor was any permission taken from any authority of the apex court in this regard. "When I enquired from the officer who was in-charge of the security of Yasin Malik in the Supreme Court, the only thing he could show me was a printed notice in a general format of the Supreme Court which is sent with regard to every party to any matter in the court. The said printed notice informs the recipients of the notice to appear before the court either in person or through an authorised advocate. "This is not either the permission of the Supreme Court to bring a convict facing an order under section 268 of CrPC to come out of jail nor it is requiring mandatory personal presence of the recipient of the order," he wrote. Mehta said the jail authorities must be receiving hundreds of such orders/notices daily and have never construed any such order requiring personal presence of either any accused or any convict much less a convict having an order under section 268 of CrPC operating against him. Malik appeared in the top court when a bench headed by Justice Surya Kant was hearing an appeal filed by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) against the September 20, 2022 order of a trial court in Jammu in the 1989 kidnapping of Rubaiya Sayeed, the daughter of then Union home minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed. In a statement, the Delhi Prisons Department said, "On Friday, Yasin Malik was produced physically in the Supreme Court by the officials of Central Jail number 7. Prima facie, the lapse was observed on the part of concerned jail officials. "The Director General (Prisons) has ordered a detailed inquiry in the matter to be conducted by Deputy Inspector General (Headquarters) (Prisons) Rajiv Singh to find out the lapse and fix the responsibility of erring officials. The report will be submitted within three days to DG Prisons," it added.

Modi to distribute..

the Department of Revenue, Department of Financial Services, Department of Posts, Department of School Education, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Central Public Sector Undertakings, Department of Water Resources, Department of Personnel and Training and the Ministry of Home Affairs, among others. The Rozgar Mela is a step towards the fulfilment of the commitment of the prime minister to accord the highest priority to employment generation, the statement said. The Rozgar Mela is expected to act as a catalyst in further employment generation and provide meaningful opportunities to the youth for their empowerment and participation in national development, it said. The newly-inducted appointees are also getting an opportunity to train themselves through Karmayogi Prarambh, an online module on the iGOT Karmayogi portal, where more than 580 e-learning courses have been made available for 'anywhere any device' learning format, the statement said.

Truecaller's AI-powered Assistant launched

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
 JAMMUU: Truecaller has launched Truecaller Assistant in India. Assistant is an innovation that leverages machine learning and cloud telephony to create the most helpful call-screening solution on the planet.

Truecaller Assistant is a customisable, interactive, digital receptionist that answers your calls for you and helps you avoid unwanted callers.

Assistant responds quickly and understands your caller with high accuracy. You can see a live transcription of what the caller is saying, so you know who they are and why they're calling. Then you can decide if you want to take over the call, ask the caller for more information with just a tap or mark it as spam.

"Until now, Truecaller would show you who's calling but now you can let Truecaller Assistant have a conversation with the caller on your behalf. This is a very exciting next step for us in helping people avoid spam and fraud callers completely. We've rolled this out to a few markets earlier, and we are really happy to offer this to Truecaller fans in India," said Rishit Jhunjhunwala, MD India at Truecaller.

Consider using Indian languages as optional mediums of instruction for all classes: CBSE to schools

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
 NEW DELHI: The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has asked its schools to consider using Indian languages as optional mediums of instruction to make multilingual education a reality.

Noting that the Ministry of Education and the National Council of Education, Research and Training (NCERT) have taken measures to introduce education in multiple languages under the National Education Policy, 2020, the board asked its schools to use available resources and collaborate with each other to make the best out of the multilingual education.

"In view of the initiatives taken to facilitate education through Indian languages, the CBSE affiliated schools may consider using Indian languages, as enumerated in the Schedule 8 of the Indian Constitution, as the medium of instruction from foundational stage till end of secondary stage (from pre-primary classes till class 12) as an optional medium in addition to other existing options," CBSE Director (Academic) Joseph Emmanuel said in a letter to schools.

"Schools may explore the available resources, consult with experts in the field, and collaborate with other schools to share best practices to make multilingual education in CBSE schools a reality," he added.

The board noted the challenges posed by the implementation of multilingual education and utilization of mother tongue as a medium of instruction which include availability of skilled teachers capable of teaching multilingual subjects, the creation of high-quality multilingual textbooks and time limitation, especially in two-shift government schools.

"The NCERT has taken this serious task on highest priority so that textbooks in 22 scheduled languages can be made available to all students from next sessions," CBSE said. The school education board went on to say that the higher education authority has also started providing education in multiple languages and is conducting exams in different languages. The textbooks in technical, medical, vocational, skill, law education, etc. are now being available in Indian languages.

CBSE further said that this initiative makes it important for schools to become the foundation of multilingual education.

"Since higher education has started responding to this need then school education has to become its foundation. The approach towards medium of instruction should be a continuity from school education to higher education. Therefore, the schools affiliated to CBSE need to play a vital role in this great endeavour by offering education through Indian languages," Emmanuel said.

"One of the major steps taken now is the direction by the Ministry of Education to NCERT for preparing new textbooks through 22 scheduled Indian languages. The NCERT has taken this serious task on highest priority so that textbooks in 22 scheduled languages can be made available to all students from next sessions," he said.