

!! Continuations from Page 1 !! Amarnathji Yatra, warm..



LG Manoj Sinha during his visit to Baltal Base Camp on Sunday.

shared the details of the extensive arrangements made for healthcare of pilgrims. Radio Frequency Identification System (RFID) is fully implemented for pilgrims. We have laid special focus on sanitation and cleanliness. Sufficient number of emergency responders from NDRF and SDRF has been deployed, he added.

At the base camp, the Lt Governor interacted with the officers of Civil Administration, J&K Police, Central Armed Police Forces and all other stakeholders involved in ensuring best of arrangements for devotees.

"Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra holds great relevance in our tradition and it is a symbol of peace, harmony and inclusive growth. I could feel the ecstatic joy of pilgrims at Baltal, who were getting ready for the pilgrimage," the Lt Governor said after interacting with the devotees.

He said, "The congregation of seekers and keepers of divine wisdom from across the country are here to celebrate one of the oldest spiritual traditions of India."

"Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra is as much about sharing new ideas, reforms in different states as it is about search for the supreme truth and spiritual strength. Each step towards the holy cave is eternal contentment, human bonding and source of inspiration for the entire society," the Lt Governor added.

Yatra also reflects unity in diversity in this enchanted land and people from different faith, sects contribute to make it a smooth and enjoyable journey for the seekers. It sows the seed of bliss and creates the path for inner transformation, promotion of cultural ethos, the Lt Governor observed.

During his visit, the Lt Governor took stock of amenities including healthcare, sanitation, communication, lodging and Langar facilities and the day-wise status of the Yatrins arriving at the Base Camp.

The Lt Governor directed the officials to deploy adequate men, machinery and measures of road safety from Sonamarg to Baltal route.

The Lt Governor also reviewed the operations of DRDO Hospital and the Joint Police Control Room established at Baltal.

Dr Raghav Langer, Secretary Planning, Development and Monitoring Department briefed the Lt Governor on deployment of officers, Traffic management, operations of the heli services installation of tents, sanitation, power and water supply and Rapid Assessment System for feedback.

Dr Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, CEO, Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board; Vijay Kumar, ADGP Kashmir; Shyambir, Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal and other senior officers of District Administration, SASB, Police and Army accompanied the Lt Governor.

Third batch of..

left in 104 vehicles for Pahalgam, while 2,346 pilgrims left in a convoy of 131 vehicles for the Baltal base camp early today.

More than 3.5 lakh people have registered themselves online for the pilgrimage so far.

India today stands..

defining it as a confluence of many religions, castes and sects. "India is an ocean with which different cultures meet as rivers. A very important stream of this cultural confluence flows from Kerala. The state has a distinct identity on the cultural map of India. The Sanatan culture emerged from Kerala through Adi Shankaracharya ji," Singh said.

"Christianity and Islam also emerged from the state. It is said that one of the 12 main disciples of Jesus Christ, St. Thomas, came to India and built seven churches in Kerala. The first mosque 'Cheraman Juma' was built in Thrissur. This is why it (Kerala) is given the title of 'God's own country'," he was quoted as saying in the statement.

Singh also highlighted the important role played by Kerala in the history of modern India, especially during the freedom struggle.

"From the Non-Cooperation Movement to the Quit India Movement, K Kalappan, the Gandhi of India, played a crucial role during the freedom struggle. He was also a social reformer, who fought for the rights of the underprivileged not only in the state, but the entire country.

"There are many such revolutionary freedom fighters from Kerala who have contributed immensely in ensuring India's freedom. Another one is Accamma Cherian who was known as the Jhansi Rani of Kerala," he said.

The Defence minister also remembered Kerala's social reformers Sadananda Swamiji and Padmanabhan Palpu, saying they dedicated their lives to ensure equality and women rights.

He paid glowing tributes to Narayan Guru who worked for the empowerment of the lower strata of society by connecting them with education, philosophy and science and technology.

Singh made a special mention of the active role played by NGOs, especially AIMA, during the floods in Kerala in 2018, describing their work as extraordinary.

Lauding the contribution of NGOs and civil society organisations in social upliftment, he termed them as a "bridge between the government and the people".

These organisations play a major role in providing government's deeper access to the people to ensure their welfare, he added.

PM Modi to..

the Cabinet whenever Modi decides to go in for a regim in his Council of Ministers. The fact that the period before Parliament's Monsoon Session, which begins from

July 20, could be the last window for such an exercise have added to the reshuffle buzz.

The BJP's organisation, including in some states, may also see some changes as its top brass makes its choices for key positions with the campaign for the 2024 Lok Sabha polls intensifying, sources said.

Modi held a meeting with Shah and Nadda on June 28. This came after closed-door meetings involving Shah and Nadda, among others, to take stock of organisational and political affairs.

Any Cabinet regim will factor in the upcoming assembly polls as well.

The BJP has been making hectic preparations for several state polls scheduled this year, with the Congress showing some bounce following its big win in Karnataka.

Elections are due in Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Telangana and Mizoram later this year, and the Congress will be the BJP's main challenger in the first three states.

Seven JKAS officers...

as Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Gandoh. He shall also hold the charge of the post of Sub-Registrar, Gandoh, in addition to his own duties, till further orders.

IAF rescues mountaineers...

helicopter had no landing field and a low hover operation was resorted to.

"The entire operation from request to the IAF to successfully evacuating the persons into IAF hospital ended in little over an hour including to and fro travel," the spokesman said.

He said the Air Force Station Srinagar was in charge of the entire operation from where the helicopter was launched and operation was controlled.

Police refute allegations...

the situation Police cleared the way for an ambulance and saved the life of the patient," police said. The spokesman said that some elements having vested interest are trying to malign the image of Police by reporting fake and fabricated news.

"Such news portals will be dealt under law.

As a tradition Police have been welcoming the Yatrins with open arms and committed for their safety and security and the question of misbehaviour does not arise," police said.

Surge in solo...

travellers. As of March 2023, domestic travel is becoming more popular, and domestic capacity has already surpassed pre-pandemic levels. Bookings are back to 100 per cent of pre-pandemic levels for domestic travel," said Akash Dahiya, co-founder and CEO of SanKash.

The insights indicate a notable shift in travel patterns, with travellers displaying a strong inclination towards "self-exploration, adventure, and reconnecting with nature".

According to the report, the most interesting trend has been a shift towards solo travel, as there has been a whopping surge of "250 per cent" in Q1-FY23.

"Solo travel has topped the chart as the most preferred trend, as travellers are inclined to explore not only themselves but the world at their own pace and preference. The feeling of freedom and independence are the key factors fuelling the trend since people want to break free from their comfort zone and not feel swayed by the whims of fellow travellers," it added.

Kavinder inaugurates multi-brand showroom of Kwalty Optical

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Senior BJP leader and Ex. Dy. C.M Kavinder Gupta on Sunday inaugurated Kwalty Optical Ind., multi-brand showroom located at Tawi Tower, Railway Garden Estate Road.

Speaking on the occasion, Kavinder Gupta complemented Parmod Jain (Babla), owner of Kwalty Optical Industries, for his dedication in opening this new show-



Senior BJP leader and Ex. DyCM Kavinder Gupta inaugurating the showroom.

room in Jammu. He acknowledged the company's strong reputation in Jammu city since its establishment, earned through years of dedication to provide top-notch spectacles and shades.

He expressed hope that the new showroom would become a popular destination for eyewear enthusiasts seeking the latest trends and designs.

Parmod Jain (Babla), Owner of Kwalty Optical Industries said "We are thrilled to launch our new showroom in Jammu." "Kwalty Optical has been a renowned name in Jammu for its quality spectacles and shades, and with this new showroom, we aim to provide our customers with the latest in eyewear technology, advanced eye testing facilities, and a dedicated contact lens clinic."

"The newly opened showroom showcases an extensive range of premium international brands, offering customers a wide variety of options to suit their individual preferences and style. Kwalty Optical Ind. aims to meet the diverse needs of its customers with a commitment to exceptional eye care," he added.

Ishan Jain, Optometrist and Contact Lens Specialist at Kwalty Optical Ind. said "We understand the importance of good eye health and vision, and our team of experts is committed to provide the best eyewear solutions to our customers. We are here to assist our customers in finding the perfect eyewear that not only suits their lifestyle and fashion preferences but also provides optimal vision and comfort."

For more information about Kwalty Optical Ind. and its new multibrand showroom, customers are encouraged to visit the showroom directly or contact Kwalty Optical Ind. at 9419286000.

On the occasion, Ishan Jain, Nayan Gupta, Vinay Gupta, Ajay Pargal, and Lucky Puri were also present.

CRIME REPORT

Bike lifter arrested, stolen bike recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Police on Sunday a bike lifter and recovered stolen bike at Rehari. As per details, a complaint was lodged at Police Post Rehari by the complainant namely Sunil Singh Saini, son of Karan Singh, resident of village Gole Pattan Thesil Marh District Jammu regarding theft of his motorcycle (JK02BK-0483) from the area, FIR No. 83/2023 under section 379 IPC was registered at Police Station Pacea Danga and investigation started.

After this, a team of Police Station Pacea Danga led by SDPO North Sunil Kumar Kesar assisted by SHO Pacea Danga Inspr Sushil Kumar and In-Charge Police Post Rehari PSI Anil Kumar did strenuous efforts and with the help of CCTV footages of the area rounded up the suspected person namely Rohit, son of Jemas Mashi, resident of Gurdaspur at present lane No. 06 New Plot Jammu. On his disclosure stolen motorcycle bearing was recovered from his possession.

Two missing women traced, reunited with families

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Police on Sunday traced two Missing women and reunited them with their families.

As per details, a complaint was lodged at Police Post Sidhra by the legal heirs of a missing woman stating that she went missing from her home. In this regard missing report vide GD No. 08 on June 29, 2023 was registered at Police Post Sidhra. After this, a team of Police Post Sidhra led by SDPO Nagrota Akash Kohli assisted by SHO Nagrota Inspr Vishav Pratap Singh and In-Charge Police Post Sidhra PSI Arun Kumar with the help of technical assistance finally traced the missing woman.

Similarly another complaint was lodged at Police Post Phallain Mandal by the legal heirs of a missing woman stating that she went missing from her home. In this

regard missing report vide on June 6, 2023 was registered and investigation started. After this, a team of Police Post Phallain Mandal led by SDPO South Sachit Sharma assisted by SHO Satwari Inspr Sumeet Sharma and In-Charge Police Post Phallain Mandal PSI Ajesh Singh Jamwal did strenuous efforts and with the help of technical assistance finally traced the missing woman. Subsequently families of the missing women were informed and both were handed over to their family members after completing all the legal formalities.

15 vehicles including JCB, LNT Machine involved in illegal mining seized

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a quest to stern the menace of illegal mining, a multi-pronged strategy was devised by Jammu Police in which teams of Police Stations Akhnoor, Nagrota, Khour, Bishnah, Police Posts Sidhra, Talab Tillo and Chowki Choura acted stringently on the specific inputs and raided at a location in their respective area and seized 13 vehicles involved in illegal mining.

The seized vehicles include 4 vehicles i.e 02 Tractor Trolleys without Registration Nos, one tipper bearing

