

!! Continuations from Page 1 !! Country not satisfied...

said accolades they had received after their selection as IAS are things of the past and instead of staying in the past they should look at the future.

During the interaction, various officers shared their experiences of training.

Modi meets economists...

document of the Modi 3.0 government, which, among other things, is expected to lay the road map for making India a developed nation by 2047.

Sitharaman has already held discussions with various stakeholders, including economists and captains of Indian industry, on the forthcoming Budget.

Several experts have urged the government to provide tax relief to the common man to boost consumption and take steps to check inflation and accelerate economic growth.

Eminent economists also urged the government to take steps to accelerate economic growth and improve infrastructure, sources said.

"Earlier today, interacted with eminent economists and heard their insightful views on issues pertaining to furthering growth," Modi said in a post on X.

Police attaches drug...

Rs 23.00 lakhs) belonging to a notorious drug peddler Mohd Sabir Barwal, a resident of Jabda Kamalkote, a police spokesperson said.

The spokesperson said the action was taken under section 68-E read with section 68-F (1) of NDPS Act of 1985.

"The property was identified as illegally acquired property during the course of investigation/enquiry conducted by Police," he said.

J&K, Punjab Police...

were killed in an ambush by terrorists three days ago.

The interstate security review meeting came in the backdrop of information that the terrorists behind the Monday ambush on an army patrol could have infiltrated through the International Border (IB) either into Kathua and Samba districts in the Jammu region or Pathankot in Punjab, officials, aware of the developments, said.

The security grid along the IB in Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab was reviewed along with measures to plug any loopholes to counter infiltration from Pakistan, they said while giving details of the meeting that was held at the District Police Lines in Kathua and chaired by Border Security Force (BSF) Special Director General, Western Command, Y B Khurria.

Jammu and Kashmir Director General of Police R R Swain and his Punjab counterpart Gaurav Yadav were among those present at the more than three-hour-long meeting.

Strengthening coordination and sharing of real-time inputs among police and border guarding agencies were also discussed in detail with a focus on strengthening the synergy to counter terror threats, and smuggling of weapons and narcotics, the officials said.

They said the meeting was also attended by J-K Additional Director General of Police (Law and Order) Vijay Kumar, Punjab ADG (Law and Order) Arpit Shukla, ADG (Jammu Zone) Anand Jain and inspector general-rank BSF officers of Punjab and Jammu.

The meeting also comes at a time when terror activity has increased in the otherwise peaceful Jammu region with terrorists managing to carry out five attacks within a span of one month -- between June 9 and July 8.

On the infiltration, the officials said the routes in Jammu, believed to have been used by the terrorists, were active when militancy was at its peak in the area over two decades ago. The Jammu region was cleared of terrorists but the revival of terror activities has led to serious security concerns.

They said it is believed that the terrorists after infiltrating reached the dense forests of Machedi that connects Basantgarh in Udhampur and Baderwah in Doda district.

The ambush was laid on the Machedi-Kindli-Malhar mountain road near Badnota village in Kathua.

More than 60 people have so far been detained for questioning in connection with the attack as a massive search for the terrorists entered its fourth day on Thursday.

SFs intensify search...

food and handed over it to a person. The quantity of food prepared was sufficient for "10 to 15 people", they said. Security agencies suspect that the food was intended for the terrorists, the officials added.

In Kathua, senior police and Border Security Force officers from Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab met to discuss the security grid along the International Border (IB), from across which the terrorists are believed to have infiltrated, the officials said.

In the interstate security review meeting, discussions were held on devising a joint strategy for addressing cross-border infiltration along the Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab stretch of the IB and countering terrorist activities in the Jammu region, bordering Punjab, they said.

On the search operation, the officials said troops are moving with caution as there is a threat of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDS).

The search has been expanded into the hilly areas of Kathua, Udhampur, and Doda districts of the Jammu region, that has seen a spate in terror incidents since June.

Troops from the army's 9 Corps have intensified their presence in the Kathua hills, while the Delta Force of the 16 Corps has moved in more personnel in the twin districts of Udhampur and Doda, focusing on areas like Seoj Dhar, historically a sanctuary for terrorists, particularly foreign militants, in 1990s.

This has been done to cordon the hilly areas so that the terrorists cannot escape, the officials said and added that the ground teams are being supported by surveillance data from unmanned ariel vehicles. Special forces and sniffer dog units of the army have been also deployed, they said.

These areas are characterized by dense forests, deep valleys, caves, and rugged terrain, with troops contending with adverse weather conditions such as rain and fog, the officials said.

Security measures have been increased to counter potential IED threats along highways and other sensitive areas, including the sites of the ongoing Amarnath yatra, they said.

SI paper leak...

to the tune of Rs 1 crore under the provisions of the PMLA.

The Jammu and Kashmir Service Selection Board (JKSSB) sub-inspector recruitment exam was held on March 27, 2022 but the selected list of 1,200 candidates was cancelled by the Jammu and Kashmir administration in July following allegations of paper leak and malpractice. It had also cancelled the list of 1,300 junior engineers and 1,000 finance account assistants

The CBI, which was handed over the case, filed a chargesheet against 33 accused including alleged mastermind Yadav on November 12, 2022. The Enforcement Directorate (ED) case stems from the CBI FIR.

The officials said Kumar conspired with the other accused persons to arrange for candidates willing to access the leaked paper against monetary payments ranging from Rs 15 Lakh to Rs 30 Lakh.

Post examination, the payments were collected mainly via cash and via bank account transfers from the aspirants routed to the accused persons, they said, adding the scrutiny of the suspected bank accounts showed that the chain of transactions had been used to route cash deposits, and other funds into the bank accounts related to Kumar.

The funds were also routed into a proprietorship firm, M/s New Global Fumigation Corporation, and were dissipated through smaller transactions, they said.

The ED had sought seven-day remand of Kumar in its plea filed through its special public prosecutor Ashwani Khajuria in the court of special judge Bala Jyoti.

"From perusal of case diaries and entire material on record, it transpires that since the accused was arrested on July 10 and investigation of the case is at initial stage, as such he is remanded to ED custody for

a period of five days," the judge said in her two-page order.

Jammu police raids...

Chowadhi. Jammu SSP Vinod Kumar said, "Tarun Behl has been arrested for offences which are related to extracting sensitive/secret information and sharing such information which is highly detrimental to the security concerns of the State and further use it to spread disaffection within the government for narrow private interests of vested quarters. The act of the accused also amounted to incite persons to commit any offence against other class/ section of society."

During the investigation, the accused Tarun Behl was arrested on Wednesday and taken into Police remand for four days. Further investigation of the case is going on, said SSP Jammu Vinod Kumar, adding the record seized during searches is being scrutinized.

Ex-Bar Association...

High Court Bar Association," Umair Ronga said.

He also posted two videos showing uniformed personnel taking away the former president of the Jammu and Kashmir High Court Bar Association.

Mian Abdul Qayoom, also a former president of the bar association, was arrested last month in connection with murder of Advocate Babar Qadri by terrorists in 2020.

J&K hotels face...

BNS & 196/24 U/S 223 BNS registered at Police Station Katra, against the lodge owners for non-compliance of notification issued by District Magistrate Reasi

In a bid to enforce safety regulations, police carried out surprise inspections in Katra town, uncovering five lodges that had not adhered to the surveillance directive.

Reasi's District Magistrate stressed the need for CCTV installations in all hotels, lodges, and medical shops to bolster security measures.

Reasi SSP Mohita Sharma urged business owners to comply, highlighting the role of technology in monitoring criminal activities in the area and saying the police is committed to protect the property of citizens.

Abdullahs are Pak...

ages but after the abrogation of Article 370 a new era of development and progress has come about in J&K which is not to the liking of the Abdullahs and Muftis.

"Their covert support to the Pakistan ISI designs is not just reprehensible but a big anti-national stance", Chugh added.

4,800 pilgrims leave...

32 children and 163 'sadhuis' and 'sadvīs' left in a cavalcade of buses and light motor vehicles from the Bhagwati Nagar base camp, the officials said.

While 2,991 pilgrims took the traditional 48-km Pahalgam route for their yatra, 1,894 others opted for the shorter but steep 14-km Baltal route, they said.

With this, a total of 77,210 pilgrims have left the Jammu base camp for the valley since June 28 when Lt Governor Manoj Sinha flagged off the first batch.

The 52-day yatra began from June 29 and will conclude on August 19.

More than 4.5 lakh pilgrims paid obeisance at the cave shrine last year.

The security has been intensified at the basecamp in Jammu, lodging centres, arrival centre at Lakhanpur and highway in wake of the threat perception, the officials said.

Area dominations has been strengthened along highway and checking of vehicles and frisking of people intensified around the places of yatra, they added.

Ex-Agniveers to...

decision regarding the recruitment of ex-Agniveers. Accordingly, the CISF is also preparing the process of the recruitment of ex-Agniveer," Singh said.

The chief of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) said 10 per cent jobs will be reserved for ex-Agniveers in all future appointments of constables.

"In physical tests also, they will be given exemption along with the relaxation on the age. In the first year the age relaxation is for five five years and in the subsequent year, the age relaxation will be three years," she told DD News.

"Ex-Agniveer will be able to take advantage of this and the CISF will ensure that. This will be beneficial for the CISF too as the force will get trained and disciplined personnel," Singh said.

In June 2022, the government rolled out the Agnipath recruitment scheme with an aim to bring down the age profile of the three services.

The Agnipath scheme provides for recruiting youths between the age bracket of 17-and-half years and 21 for four years with a provision to retain 25 percent of them for 15 more years.

Several opposition parties including the Congress have been targeting the government over the scheme wondering what will happen to 75 percent of the Agniveers after their four-year tenure ends as only 25 per cent of the total recruits will be retained for 15 years.

Various central government agencies and departments have already announced plans to recruit former Agniveers.

"They got four years of experience. They are fully disciplined and trained personnel. This is very good for the BSF as we are getting trained soldiers. After short training, they will be deployed along the border," said Border Security Force director general Agrawal.

He said all the security forces will be benefitted by recruiting former Agniveers.

"We are waiting for them to be deployed after giving conversion training, they will be deployed. 10 percent of the total vacancies will be reserved for them," he said.

"There will be age relaxation for them as well. The first batch will get five years of age relaxation and the subsequent batches will get three years of age relaxation," he told DD News.

Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) Director General Singh said all arrangements have been made in his force to recruit former Agniveers.

"The recruitment rules have been accordingly amended. A reservation of 10 percent has been made for ex-Agniveers. They will also get relaxation in age. The first batch will get five years of relaxation while it will be three years afterwards," he said.

Singh too said that there will be no physical efficiency test for the former Agniveers.

"This is a welcome step for the force to recruit ex-Agniveers as they are Army trained and have already served in the three services. They will bring dedication and discipline from day one," he said.

Director General of Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) Daljit Singh Chaudhary said a quota has been fixed for ex-Agniveers in his force.

"We have amended the recruitment rules accordingly. The first batch will be given an age relaxation of five years. And, there will be no physical efficiency test for them," he said.

A defence ministry official said that no physical test would be required for recruitment of the former Agniveers into the paramilitary forces as such tests have already been done by the Army.

They just will need a physical fitness certificate, he said.

Karan Singh urges...

Rajnath Singh. For many years, the Jammu Division was under the Nagrota Corps whose headquarters are hardly thirty miles away from Jammu. Some years ago, for some obscure reason, the Jammu Division was removed from Nagrota and placed under Western Command in Chandigarh, over 200 miles away," he said.

Plantation drive held at Jammu wing of HC

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Under the patronage of Chief Justice, High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, Justice N.Kotiswar Singh and guidance of Judge High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, Justice Tashi Rabstan, a plantation drive was held on Thursday in the High Court Complex, Janipur here.



Chief Justice N.Kotiswar Singh watering the sapling.

Chief Justice, High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, Justice N.Kotiswar Singh, Justice Tashi Rabstan, Justice Atul Sreedharan, Justice Sindhu Sharma, Justice Puneet Gupta, Justice Rahul Bharti, Justice Mohd. Yousuf Wani and President, J and K High Court Bar Association, Jammu keenly took part in the plantation drive and also gave message of plantation to youth by planting trees of different varieties.

Principal Secretary to Chief Justice, M.K. Sharma; Director Judicial Academy, Y.P.Bourney; Registrar Rules, Rajinder Sapru; Registrar Judicial, Jammu Wing, Sandeep Kour; Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority; Amit Kumar Gupta; Secretary, High Court Legal Service Committee, Prem

Sagar; advocates and officers/officials of the registry were also present on the occasion.

The event was organized with an aim of enhancing the concept of Van-Mahotsav and making people aware about environment and importance of green cover around us.

HC quashes PSA, imposes cost of Rs 10,000 on DM Jammu

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court on Thursday quashed the detention under PSA of Surjeet Singh alias Sonu and also imposed the costs of Rs 10000 on District Magistrate (DM) Jammu. Justice Atul Sreedharan after hearing Adv Satinder Gupta for the petitioner, observed that all the cases with the exception of FIR No. 4/2021 are interpersonal in nature which does not even by a wrong shot involves the security of the State or public order. In paragraph 3 of the grounds of detention, the District Magistrate, Jammu holds 'It is pertinent to mention here that the crime committed by the subject are grave threat to the security of the State' as to how the District Magistrate comes to this fanciful and puerile finding is a mystery. No justification for holding so has been given. Further, the twisted and the contorted reasoning of the District Magistrate, Jammu continues in paragraph 7 which deserves to be reproduced in its entirety.

Whereas, it is necessary to note that the "maintenance of the public order" always occurs in juxtapose with public safety. Repeated offences committed by the subject who inflict major harm and injury on public is not only prejudicial to the public safety and public order but also has potential to sky ball and impact overall security of the state. Since there is a reasonable probability of likelihood of the subject acting in a manner similar to his past conduct, it would be dangerous for the people at large, to wait and watch as by the time ordinary law is set into motion, the person having dangerous designs, would execute his plans, exposing general public to risk and causing colossal. Justice Atul Sreedharan observed that Paragraph 7 quoted hereinabove, reflects that twisted reasoning and thought process of the District Magistrate and deserves to be deprecated strongly. It is vague and the language used is intended to confuse rather than convince and it reflects an anxiety on the part of the District Magistrate, Jammu to justify the unjustifiable. Counsel for the Union Territory on the other hand has argued that the petitioner is a recidivist and has been involved in a life of crime for a long time. However, when asked by this Court to demonstrate from the grounds of detention that the

detaining authority had applied its mind and arrived at conclusion that the freedom of the petitioner would imperil the State on account of precise and verifiable reasons coupled with the fact that he has been already enlarged on bail or that the probability of him being recipient of bail being very high, his preventive detention was necessary, counsel for the Union Territory has not been able to demonstrate from the grounds of detention that such a finding of probable bail or bail already having been granted was a factor that bears in the minds of the detaining authority.

Under the circumstances, Justice Atul Sreedharan allowed the petition and ordered that the petitioner shall be set forth at liberty. Court also ordered that a cost of Rs 10,000/- is imposed on the District Magistrate, Jammu personally which shall be paid to the petitioner within two weeks from the date of passing of this order, failing which, the petitioner shall be at liberty to file a petition of contempt against the District Magistrate, Jammu. This Court felt the imposition of cost essential in view of the observation in paragraph No.7 of the grounds of detention.

MVD conducts enforcement drive to check traffic violations

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Intensifying enforcement drives against traffic law violators, the Motor Vehicles Department on Thursday launched proactive enforcement drive to check overloading, overcharging by the E-Rickshaws and other public Transport Vehicles from passengers and Pilgrims visiting Shri Amarnathji and Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrines. The drive was carried out on the directions of Administrative Secretary/Transport, Transport Commissioner J&K and RTO Jammu. The enforcement drive was conducted at Canal Road, Bhagwati Nagar, Fourth Bridge, Railway Station, Bahu Plaza by the team RTO Jammu comprising ARTO BOI Passenger, Er. Kuldeep Singh, MVI Jasbir Singh, SMVI, Amanish Sharma and other staff.



ARTO BOI Passenger, Er. Kuldeep Singh checking documents of e-rickshaw driver.

During the drive, about 300 passenger vehicles and E-Rickshaws were checked and

60 vehicles were challaned besides one minibus was seized and e-challans amounting to Rs. 45000 were issued. During the checking, several e-Rickshaws were found to be overcharging and overloading. These vehicles were challaned and warnings were issued by the checking team to be more careful in the future. ARTO, BOI Jammu, Er. Kuldeep Singh also conducted counseling, orientation of crews/operators during the drive and urged them to be friendly and extend every possible help and assistance to the tourists and

pilgrims visiting Jammu City for Shree Amarnath Yatra and Shree Vaishno Devi Holy Shrines. He also emphasized that the genuine fare fixed by the authorities to be charged from the passengers.

The MVD team further informed that higher authorities are very sensitive and particular about tightening the noose of habitual traffic violators. They emphasized that all operators must be aware that vehicles ply on their designated routes while adhering to traffic rules in the larger interest of road safety.

SKPA starts course on "Investigation of Murder & Homicide Cases" for officers

STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: The Academy has commenced a comprehensive three-day course on "Investigation of Murder & Homicide Cases." This specialized training program is being attended by ten officers from various wings and units of the J&K Police. The course is meticulously designed to cover critical aspects such as crime scene examination, forensic evidence collection, FIR drafting, the significance of autopsies, and the medico-legal intricacies of deaths due to burning, poisoning, and violent asphyxia.

Participants will delve into advanced topics including brain-mapping, macro-analysis, DNA evidence handling and forwarding, fingerprint analysis, and the legal procedures

pertinent to homicide cases. Eminent guest faculty from the Academy and the Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) J&K will share their extensive knowledge and experience to ensure the course's objectives are thoroughly met. Rajinder Kumar Gupta, SSP, and Dy. Director (Indoor), served as the chief guest. Shri Gupta warmly welcomed all participants on behalf of the Director of SKPA. In his address, he provided a comprehensive introduction to the investigation of murder and homicide cases, emphasizing the importance of thorough and meticulous investigative practices.