

!! Continuations from Page 1 !! Industry looking for...

rapid transformation taking place in the Industry sector, the Lt Governor said the speed and scale of change in 4th Industrial Revolution calls for strengthening the Industry-Academia collaborations.

He emphasised on fostering innovation culture in Engineering Colleges and realigning the curriculum to fulfill the evolving industry requirements.

"Skills and not the degree will shape the destiny of our industries. The future workforce must have critical skills such as cognitive skills, logical reasoning, technical skills etc to build future-proof careers," the Lt Governor said.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor highlighted reforms in the education sector under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, to promote startups, innovation and entrepreneurship in Jammu Kashmir.

He also made some valuable suggestions to explore the vast opportunities in the engineering and technology sector.

The inaugural ceremony was attended by Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to Lt Governor; Prof. Nilofer Khan, Vice Chancellor Kashmir University; Vikramjit Singh, Commissioner Secretary Industries & Commerce Department; Vidhi Kumar Birdi, IGP Kashmir and other senior officials.

Raja Aijaz Ali, Chairman, Kashmir College of Engineering & Technology; Dr Syed Jalal Ahmad, Principal along with faculty members and staff of the college were present on the occasion.

Another batch of...

While the 2,682 pilgrims will be reaching Pahalgam to undertake the yatra from the traditional 48-km route in Anantnag district, the rest of 1,701 pilgrims have opted for the shorter but steeper 14-km Baltal route in Ganderbal district. The yatra commenced on June 29 and will conclude on August 19.

NHAI to charge...

of FASTag on the windscreen leads to unnecessary delays at the toll plazas causing inconvenience to fellow National Highway users.

"Detailed Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) has been issued to all User Fee Collection Agencies and Concessionaires to charge double user fee in case of non-affixation of FASTag on the front windshield," it said.

According to the statement, the information will also be prominently displayed at all User Fee plazas, informing highway users about the penalties for non-compliance of entering a toll lane without a fixed FASTag on front windshield.

In addition, the statement said CCTV footage with Vehicle Registration Number (VRN) at the fee plaza shall be recorded of the non-affixed FASTag cases. This will help in maintaining proper record regarding the fee charged and presence of the vehicle in the toll lane.

In accordance with already established rules, the statement said NHAI aims to enforce the standard procedural guidelines for affixation of FASTag on the front windshield of the assigned vehicle from inside.

The statement said any FASTag that is not affixed on the assigned vehicle as per standard process is not entitled to carry out Electronic Toll Collection (ETC) transaction at a User Fee Plaza and will have to pay double toll fee as well as can be duly blacklisted.

Issuer banks have also been directed to ensure fixation of the FASTag to the assigned vehicle on the front windshield at the time of issuance from various Point-of-Sale (POS), it added.

NHAI collects user fee on National Highways as per the National Highway Fee (Determination of Rates and Collection) Rules, 2008. At present, user fee is collected for approximately 45,000 km of National Highways and Expressways at around 1,000 Toll Plazas on National Highways across the country.

With a penetration rate of around 98 per cent and over 8 crore users, FASTag has revolutionized the Electronic Toll Collection system in the country.

This initiative of charging a double user fee for non-affixation of FASTag will help to make toll operations more efficient and ensure seamless & comfortable journeys for the National Highway users.

SFs repulse terror...

timely medical care at Command Hospital, Udhampur. Kudos to the team for their dedication and bravery," PRO Defence, Jammu, posted on X.

In a separate incident, security forces guarding a forward post opened fire after observing suspicious movement near the Line of Control (LoC) in the Sunderbani sector of Rajouri district late Wednesday night.

The area was searched on Thursday morning but nothing linked to the suspicious movement was found on the ground, the officials said.

On the search operation in Doda, launched following the martyrdom of the four soldiers, including a captain, the officials said despite inclement weather and challenging terrain, security forces are conducting the operation to track down the terrorists. They are determined to eliminate them and restore peace in the area, they added.

"Security forces on the ground are engaged in a well-coordinated operation against terrorists with whom we had contact yesterday and today as well. The operation is under progress and we will get success soon," Deputy Inspector General of Police, Doda-Kishtwar and Ramban Range, Shridhar Patil told reporters in Kastigarh, around 30 km from the spot of the Monday attack.

He, however, refused to share more details citing the continuation of the operation.

On Thursday attack, the officials said the terrorists after opening fire on the temporary camp inside the school building fled into a dense forest area.

Three terrorists were killed in a day-long operation in the Gandoth area of the district on June 26, while another encounter occurred in the Ghadi Bhagwah forest on July 9.

Since the beginning of this year, 27 people, including 11 security personnel, a Village Defence Guard and five terrorists, have lost their lives in nearly a dozen terror attacks in six districts of the Jammu province.

The officials said Additional Director General of Police (ADGP), Law and Order, Vijay Kumar will oversee operations against the terrorists who infiltrated from across the border and are hiding in the higher reaches of otherwise peaceful Jammu region.

India gears up...

Committee (WHC) is scheduled to be held here, the first time in India, between July 21-31 at Bharat Mandapam.

Sources said Prime Minister Modi may inaugurate the event on July 21. However, there is no official word on it yet.

The number of UNESCO World Heritage Sites in India grew to 42 with the 'Sacred Ensembles of the Hoysala' finding a place in the coveted list last September, the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) had said.

These sites include 34 in the cultural category, seven in the natural category and one mixed property.

They include the Red Fort, Humayun Tomb and Qutab Minar in Delhi, Taj Mahal in Agra, ancient Nalanda universi-

ty ruins and the Mahabodhi Temple in Bihar, Sacred Ensembles of the Hoysalas in Karnataka and Santiniketan in West Bengal.

Currently, India has the sixth largest number of (UNESCO) sites in the world. The countries that have 42 or more world heritage sites are Italy, Spain, Germany, China and France, the ASI said in an earlier statement.

India won't allow...

country through a land, water or air port, it should be tracked and checked till the last point where it is trafficked to.

The minister said in the last five years, the Narendra Modi government has based its anti-drugs battle on the whole-of-government approach and structural, institutional and informational reforms.

Earlier, the mantra of the agencies was "need to know" but now they should move towards the functionality of "duty to share", and all agencies need to adopt this significant change, Shah said.

"The government will soon provide less costly kits for the preliminary testing of narcotics, which will make it much easier to register cases by all the agencies," he said.

Shah said Prime Minister Modi has set the goal for India to be foremost in every field by 2047 and this can only be achieved by keeping the younger generation away from the scourge of drugs. He also released the NCB's 'Annual Report 2023' and a compendium on 'Drug-Free India' during the meeting.

PET Scan services...

who were suffering a lot due to non-availability of this vital facility which is must to treat and monitor cancer patients.

The new PET scan machine procured a cost of Rs 13.0 crores by J&K Medical Supply Corporation is the latest generation PET scan by Wipro GE company Discovery IQ.

The model Instilled has highest NEMA sensitivity and quantization accuracy which ultimately provides enhanced patient care, comfort and satisfaction.

The PET CT will soon linked with radiation therapy machines to be installed in State Cancer institute so that all radiation planning will be done on PET based Imaging.

This will make radiation treatment very precise and accurate. State Cancer Institute is a very prestigious project funded by Govt. of India at a cost of Rs 104 Crores.

Dr. Ashutosh said that efforts are being undertaken to keep the user charges for PET scan and other facilities at State Cancer Institute at a very affordable level so that poor patients can utilize the facilities.

BJP gearing up...

forgiven, he added. Chugh reassured the people of Jammu and Kashmir of their safety and the government's commitment to end terrorism. "Our citizens of Jammu and Kashmir are very valuable to us. They will be protected at any cost", he added.

Justice Tashi Rabstan...

dedication in improving the judicial processes and infrastructure.

During the visit, Jawad Ahmed gave a detailed presentation on the ongoing developmental projects within the District Court Complex. These works included Phase-II construction of District Court Complex, which aims to enhance the capacity and facilities of the judicial infrastructure and installation of CCTV cameras within courtrooms.

He also highlighted the urgent need of upgraded security arrangements within the court complex. He emphasised the efforts to ensure a safe and secure environment for all stakeholders. The visit of Justice Tashi Rabstan underscored his commitment towards fostering a robust and efficient judicial system.

Over dozen fake...

it came to fore that Rahul Mahajan his Romesh Chander Mahajan, and mother Renu Mahajan directors of M/s Modern Hotel Pvt. Ltd. have created an equitable Mortgage with J&K bank without depositing any document of property that is Plot No.1 & 2 of JDA at BC road Rehari Jammu. However, J&K Bank Branch Town Hall Jammu sanctioned the loan around Rs 10 Crore and disbursed the same in favour of directors of M/s Modern Hotel Pvt. Ltd. But the said loan account turned NPA. Thereafter, J&K Bank issued possession notice warning the mortgagers, borrowers, guarantors and the public in general not to deal with the mortgaged property. Despite of this these accused persons hatched a criminal conspiracy and executed an agreement to sell with the complainant Director Sh. Sita Ram Industries Pvt. Ltd. Bari Brahmana, Samba dishonestly/deliberately and got transferred Rs. 1.75 Crore from the account of M/s Shree Sita Ram Industries Pvt. Ltd. Bari Brahmana, Samba into the account of M/s Modern Hotel Pvt. Ltd at Jammu. But the accused persons neither handed over possession nor the documents of the said property to the complainant Tapan Dubey. Earlier also the accused persons have dishonestly and fraudulently executed an agreement to sell with Tajinder Singh Manocha and duped his hard earned money to the tune of Rs. 60.00 Lakhs (Sixty Lakhs) from him against the same Plots/Property. The above named accused persons by adopting this modus operandi have cheated the complainant & others in connivance with each other and caused wrongful loss to them and corresponding wrongful gain to themselves. The commissions on the part of accused persons namely Rahul Mahajan, his father Romesh Chander Mahajan and mother Renu Mahajan prima facie constitute offences punishable under section 420 and 120-B RPC as such a formal case has been registered with EOW Crime Branch, Jammu against these accused persons. For in-depth probe, the investigation has been entrusted to DySP Surenjeet Singh, Investigation Officer Crime Branch under the supervision of SSP Benam Tosh.

benefits at times incites violence. Trivedi referred to the killing of former Japanese prime minister Shinzo Abe and the recent assassination attempt on Donald Trump to make the point. Targeting the Congress, Trivedi said its leader Rahul Gandhi used words like violence and murder in Parliament and had rationalised as throwing of some article at Modi's convoy during the poll campaign as an evidence of people's fear of the prime minister ending. Modi's security was endangered in Punjab when the Congress ruled the state, he said, contrasting this with the security provided to Rahul Gandhi in sensitive places like Kashmir and Manipur. Someone who spoke of cutting Modi into pieces is a Congress MP now, and it was the Congress leader Sonia Gandhi who had used "maut ka saudagar" barb against him in 2007 when he was chief minister of Gujarat, Trivedi said.

The BJP never wished death to the then prime minister Indira Gandhi even after she imposed Emergency, he said.

Trivedi said Gandhi, as the Leader of Opposition, should show maturity in his speeches, and anyone not doing so is not fit for politics. In this context, Trivedi referred to the Ishrat Jahan case, saying the CBI, which reports to the central government, changed its first affidavit that called her a terrorist for political reasons as she was targeting Modi. She along with her accomplices were killed in an encounter in 2004 by the Gujarat police. The Congress-led UPA was in power at the Centre at that time.

Court rejects plea of Budgam police for installing GPS anklet device on alleged OGW of JeM

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Special Judge NIA Court Srinagar Sandeep Gandotra on Thursday rejected the plea of Nowgam police for installing the GPS anklet Device on Fayaz Ahmed Gani who is alleged OGW of JeM. While rejecting the plea, Special Judge NIA Court Srinagar Sandeep Gandotra observed that conditions have already been imposed upon the accused at the time of granting bail to him, this court is of the humble opinion that the present application for installing the global positioning system (GPS) anklet device should not be allowed because the object of bail conditions cannot be to keep a constant vigil on the movement of accused enlarged on bail. The investigation agency cannot be permitted

to continuously peep into the private life of accused enlarged on bail, by imposing arbitrary conditions since that will violate the right of privacy of accused as guaranteed under Article 21 of the Constitution. If a constant vigil is kept on every movement of accused released on bail by the use of technology or otherwise, it would infringe the rights of accused guaranteed under Article 21 including the right to privacy. The reason is that the effect of keeping such constant vigil on the accused by imposing drastic bail conditions would amount to keeping the accused in some condition of confinement even after he is released on bail and in the humble opinion of this court such a condition should not be a condition of bail.

Four absconders apprehended

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAMBAN: Jammu and Kashmir Police in District Ramban in a significant breakthrough, has successfully arrested four absconders, three were evading arrest since last 24 years and one was evading arrest since last 11 years. The arrest of the absconders was made possible by a special team constituted by SSP Ramban Sh. Anuj Kumar IPS. General warrant of arrest against the absconders were issued by the Hon'ble Court. The dedicated team of Police Station Ramban with meticulous efforts and advanced technical assistance arrested the absconders which include Firoz Ahmed, son of Gulam Rasool, from Kulgam, involved in FIR No. 177/2000 U/S 188 RPC, 3 PCA Act, Faiz Ulla, son of Abdulla Wani from

Kulgam. Gh Nabi, son of Ghulam Qadir Wani from Kulgam, both were involved in FIR No. 77/2000 U/S 279/427 RPC; Sonu, son of Karan Singh from Palampur, Kulgam, involved in FIR No. 73/2013 U/S 279/337/338 RPC. It is to mention that Parveen Kumar, son of Daleep Singh from Teli Bagwara, Hamirpur, HP, involved in FIR No. 92/2011 U/S 8/15 NDPS Act, was found to have passed away; hence, the search for him was closed upon verification of his death certificate, and a report was submitted to the court of law.

This operation underscores the relentless efforts of the Ramban Police to bring absconders to justice and maintain the rule of law. The arrested individuals were produced before the court of law for further legal proceedings.

Bail denied in fraud case

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Principal Sessions Judge Jammu Sanjay Parihar has rejected the bail application of Saleem Yousaf Bhatti, son of Mohd Yousaf Bhatti of Mendhar, who was arrested in loan fraud case.

After hearing APP Anil Magotra for the Crime Branch, Principal Sessions Judge Jammu Sanjay Parihar observed, "the accused has submitted that he is innocent and asserted that he is the sole breadwinner of his family. However, it is the duty of the court to safeguard the interests of justice and protect the integrity of the criminal justice system".

The petitioner, Saleem Yousaf Bhatti, had previously applied for bail in the trial court where he faces charges under sections 419, 420, 465, 467, 468, 471, and 120-B of the Indian Penal Code, based on FIR No: 86/2023 titled "U.T of J&K vs Saleem Yousaf and Ors."

The petitioner claims innocence and asserts that he is entitled to post-arrest bail, especially since three co-accused have already been granted bail under similar circumstances. He undertakes to cooperate with the trial and comply with all court-imposed conditions.

The prosecution opposes bail, asserting that the petitioner orchestrated a significant fraud, defrauding the bank of crores using forged documents and fictitious accounts. They argue that due to the gravity of the offenses and the potential for tampering with evidence, bail should not be granted.

According to the police report, Saleem Yousaf Bhatti, in collaboration with co-accused Mohd Safer, conspired to fraudulently obtain loans from J&K Bank using forged salary certificates and other documents, causing substantial financial losses to the public exchequer. The petitioner, an employee of IWMP Poonch, allegedly misused his position to activate inactive accounts and facilitate the fraudulent transactions. It's alleged that the fraud involved around Rs. 6 crores, and investigations are ongoing regarding the involvement of bank officials.

The petitioner's counsel Advocate K. Kotwal with Advocate Fahim A Mir, argues for bail based on the grounds of parity with co-accused who have been granted bail and cites the case law emphasizing that bail is a rule and not to be withheld as punishment unless justified by exceptional circumstances. However, the prosecution contends that the petitioner

was denied, with the main allegation being that he obtained loans from J&K Bank Ltd using fake documents and did not repay them. The petitioner claims innocence and asserts that he is entitled to post-arrest bail, especially since three co-accused have already been granted bail under similar circumstances. He undertakes to cooperate with the trial and comply with all court-imposed conditions.

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Congress leaders taking out protest rally in Jammu.

ers were detained and whisked away in police vehicles.

The protest marked the start of planned agitation by the Congress to mobilise public support against rising terror incidents, granting of unbridled powers to the lieutenant governor and restoration of full statehood before the Assembly elections.

"All tall claims of the BJP,

especially post 2019, development have fallen flat before the growing terror incidents in otherwise peaceful Jammu region. Giving all powers to the Lt. Governor means governing J&K from Delhi even after the formation of a popular government which is against democracy," Solanki told reporters in Jammu.

He said the Congress

stands with the people, who are suffering immensely due to the rise in terror activities, inflation and unemployment. "Jammu region was cleared of terrorism during the Congress-led UPA government. The revival of terrorism in the peaceful Jammu region is a serious cause of concern and shows the failure of this government," Solanki added.

All Party Meet in Jammu on July 20

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Regarding the amendments in the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Act, the Ministry of Home Affairs on July 12, 2024, Shiv Sena (UBT) is organizing an all-party meeting in Jammu on July 20 in support with the All Party United Moreha. In a press conference held on Thursday at the party central office, state chief Manish Sahni said that Jammu and Kashmir has been turned into a laboratory. Suddenly the powers of the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir have been increased. The Center does not have any concrete road map for the safe future of Jammu and Kashmir. Concerned by this behavior of the Center towards Jammu and Kashmir, it has been decided to call an all-party meeting. The agenda of the meeting will be restoration of statehood, democratic rights as well as reflection on the increasing terrorist incidents in the Jammu division and further strategy will be decided with consensus and unity. Sahni said that almost all political, social and non-political organizations and intellectuals have been invited to this meeting. Sahni said that the increase in the jurisdiction of the Lieutenant Governor is a sign of betrayal of all the declared promises of giving full statehood to Jammu and Kashmir.

Sahni expressed hope that representatives of all the organizations concerned about the current situation in Jammu and Kashmir will be present and the future strategy will be decided unanimously with discussion and unity about the safe and prosperous future of Jammu and Kashmir. Narendra Khajuria (IDP), Narendra Singh (Shiromani Akali Dal), Sunny Kant Chimb (HRS), Vikas Bakshi (General Secretary) and Sanjeev Kohli (Vice President) were present on the occasion.