

## !! Continuations from Page 1 !! Budget will set...

among political parties and that the citizens have elected the government after the conclusion of the Lok Sabha elections, the Prime Minister urged all Members of Parliament to come together and fight for the country for the next 5 years. He also urged all political parties to rise up above their organizations and commit to the nation by making use of the dignified platform of the Parliament for the next four and a half years. "Go to the battlefields of election in January 2029. Till then, the only priority should be the country, its poor, farmers, women and the youth", he exhorted. He added that no stone will be left unturned to realize the dreams and resolutions of a Viksit Bharat in 2047.

Prime Minister lamented that due to the negative approach of some political parties, many Parliamentarians could not get any opportunity to put forward their views and the issues pertaining to their constituencies. He appealed to all the parties to give opportunities to all members, especially the first time members, to present their views. Shri Modi reminded the people about the efforts to muzzle the elected government and the Prime Minister's speech in the Parliament. "This has no place in democratic traditions", PM Modi asserted.

The Prime Minister reminded the Parliamentarians that the people of the country have given their mandate to serve the county and not the agendas of political parties."This House is not meant for political parties, this House is meant for the country. It is not meant to serve the Parliamentarians but 140 crore citizens of India", he emphasized. Concluding the address, the Prime Minister expressed the belief that all Members of Parliament will contribute towards fruitful discussions. He added that the country requires positive views that take it forward. "Views that oppose are not bad, instead it is negative views that hamper development", he added, concluding with confidence that this temple of democracy will be used to fulfil the dreams and aspirations of the common citizens.

## LG reviews preparations...

unsung heroes and the martyrs.  
The Lt Governor directed for organising Swachhta Pakhwada from August 01 to August 14, 2024. He also directed the stakeholder departments to launch a 15-day campaign 'Ek Ped Shaheedo Ke Naam' at prominent public places and memorials.

"This campaign, paying respect to martyrs by planting trees, should become a mass movement, all over J&K UT. Every individual, family, eminent personalities from various walks of life must come together to make the campaign a success," the Lt Governor said.

## AAP Govt cheats...

reflecting deceptive figures to mislead the people", said Chugh adding that the AAP government is only concerned about publicity while on the ground all sections of society are disappointed with its performance.

## Terror attack on...

resulting in fire exchange, they said.  
The troops foiled the attack on the Army post and a cordon and search operation was launched by security forces in the area, resulting in another round of gunfire, they added.  
"A major terror attack on and Army picket in a remote village of Rajouri was thwarted. Firing is underway and operation is in progress," an Army spokesperson said.  
The attack has triggered fear in the area due to the threat of the presence of the terrorists in the region.  
"We are terrorised over this attack, which took place in the area after several years. It was a peaceful area. Firing started around 3 am and kept continuing," a local woman said.  
Another villager said that it is time to rearm VDGs with modern weapon and communication technology to take on the terrorists operating in the hills of Jammu.  
Today's terror attack is the 14th incident in Jammu region in which 10 security personnel including two officers, 9 pilgrims lost their lives and 58 others were injured. Five terrorists were neutralised during the period.

## LS, RS each...

that the discussion related to different ministries would allow all parties to raise their issues.  
A government source said a 20-hour time slot for the general discussion on the budget will also provide different parties an opportunity to raise a range of issues to which Sitharaman will reply.  
Issues like paper leaks, including in the prestigious NEET, can be covered when the debate related to the demand for the grant to the education ministry comes, a source said.

## CS assures Industries...

The representatives apprised the Chief Secretary of the issues and demands including upgradation of infrastructure in industrial estates, establishment of expo mart, Inland Container Depot (ICD), preference to local MSMEs and industrial units, GST relaxation, regulation of MRP on pesticides, warehouse facilities, establishment of Kisan Ghars in Mandis, policy for revival of sick units besides other matters.

## Amarnath Yatra crosses...

and a pilgrim from Jharkhand -- in this year's yatra. Both the deceased suffered cardiac arrest along the Baltal route in June.  
Meanwhile, over 3,200 devotees enthusiastically left from Jammu on the pilgrimage to Amarnath shrine in South Kashmir Himalayas early this morning amid tight security arrangements, officials said.  
The 25th batch with 3,281 pilgrims left in 111 vehicles under CRPF escort from the Bhagwati Nagar base camp at 3 am, they said.  
Of these, 1,979 pilgrims opted for the traditional 48-km Pahalgam route, while 1,302 chose the shorter but steeper 14-km Baltal route, they added.  
A total of 123,013 pilgrims have embarked on Amarnath Yatra from the Jammu base camp since June 28, when Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha flagged off the first batch here.  
Over 3.80 lakh pilgrims have already paid obeisance at the naturally-formed ice lingam at the 3,880-metre high cave shrine, compared to more than 450,000 last year.  
The 52-day yatra, which commenced on June 29 from Baltal and Pahalgam base camps in Kashmir, will conclude on August 19.

## Police issues alert...

propaganda video, including the telephone number and the date and time of receipt of the video," the police said.  
It said police personnel are required to report it to their supervisory officers, and civil officers should equally report it to their supervisory officers via a text message.  
Terrorist outfits and the Pakistan army have waged psychological information warfare against the country by flooding social media with fake videos for propaganda against security forces in J&K, the police said.

# Chairperson NCW appreciates Special Cells for Women in J&K, Ladakh

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Chairperson, National Commission for Women, Rekha Sharma on Monday appreciated the work of Special Cells in Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and invited the representatives from each department to share their progress and challenges regarding their work on violence against women.

Chairing the fifth Monitoring Committee meeting of Special Cells for Women within Police system, supported by National Commission for Women and implemented by Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai here, the Chairperson emphasized on increasing the outreach of Special Cells on ground to reach maximum survivors of violence.

She chaired the meeting of the Committee constituted under "Violence Free Home - A Woman's Right" project - demonstration of 22 pilot Special Cells for Women located in all districts of both the UTs.

Further, the Chairperson had a detailed discussion on proposal of institutionalisation of Special Cells for Women, J&K with Commissioner Secretary, Social Welfare Sheetal

Nanda.

The members of the Committee suggested that there is a need for further sensitization of Police and other departments on gender related issues.

During the meeting, work progress on Special Cells for Women of both the UTs from 1st January to 30th June 2024 was presented by Balwant Singh, Coordinator, RCI-VAW, TISS to the committee. He also highlighted the measures initiated by the social workers on ground for effective functioning of the Special Cells in J&K and Ladakh. During this period, the Special Cells have reached out to 2192 women survivors of violence to provide psycho-social support.

The meeting was attended by members of the Monitoring Committee including Rajiv Omprakash Pande, DIG, Central Kashmir Range; Dr. Trupti Jhaveri Panchal, Member Secretary of Committee; Harvinder Kaur, Mission Director, Mission Shakti, Social Welfare, J&K; Farhan J. Naqash, representative of ADGP-Ladakh; Qazi Qayoom, Joint Director Prosecution; Dr. Shazia Manzoor, HoD, Department of Social Work,

University of Kashmir; Dr. Vinay Kumar, Department of Social Work, Central University, Jammu; Ananya Singh, Counsellor, (Legal) Suo-Moto Cell, NCW; Sameena Mir, Gender Specialist, Social Welfare, J&K; Saina Shah, Coordinator, Special Cells, Kashmir Division and Priksha Sharma, Coordinator, Jammu Division Sheetal Nanda, Commissioner Secretary, Social Welfare Department, J&K; Tashi Dolma, Director, Social & Tribal Welfare Ladakh; Vishal Manhas, representative of ADGP-Jammu Division; Dr. Yangchan Dolma, Assistant Professor, University College, Leh participated through video conference.

Additionally, DySP-HQs (Nodal Officer of Special Cells at district level), In-charge of Women Police Station/ Cell, DLISA officials, OSC Centre Administrators, Department of Health & Mission Poshan, representatives were part of the meeting in-person and online. They shared their experiences and suggestions to strengthen the coordination on the response to violence against women.

# Eco Survey pegs India GDP growth at 6.5-7 pc

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The government's pre-Budget Economic Survey on Monday set a conservative growth forecast of 6.5 to 7 per cent for the current fiscal as it flagged the need for creating more jobs in the economy and backed more Chinese direct investments to boost exports.

The report, which is authored by the chief economic adviser's office, favoured considering targeting inflation that excludes food, the prices of which are influenced more by supply than demand.

It sounded a bell of caution on the soaring stock markets, saying retail investor participation has increased significantly and there are chances of speculations due to overconfidence and expectations of greater returns.

The Survey, tabled by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in Parliament, projected a 6.5 per cent to 7 per cent GDP growth rate in the current fiscal year that started in April. This is lower than the 8.2 per cent growth seen in the previous 2023-24 (April 2023 to March 2024) fiscal and below RBI's 7.2 per cent estimate for the current fis-

cal.

Commenting on the survey, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, "The Economic Survey highlights the prevailing strengths of our economy and also showcases the outcomes of the various reforms our Government has brought. It also identifies areas for further growth and progress as we move towards building a Viksit Bharat".

"The Indian economy is on a strong wicket and stable footing, demonstrating resilience in the face of geopolitical challenges," Chief Economic Adviser V Anantha Nageswaran wrote in the preface to the annual report card on the state of the economy.

He, however, hastened to add that fears of cheaper imports from countries with excess capacity could limit the formation of private capital.

Acknowledging that this year's forecast was on the conservative side, and lower than market expectations, the Survey cited slower investment growth by the private sector as well as uncertain weather patterns as some of the reasons for caution.

For the medium-term, it

saw a potential of 7 per cent-plus growth rate on a sustained basis if structural reforms are implemented.

The report, which came just a day before Sitharaman presents the Budget for 2024-25 that is likely to lay out the economic priorities of the Modi 3.0 government and the vision for a developed nation by 2047, identified boosting private investment, strengthening small businesses and agriculture, raising financial resources for climate change adaptation, easing red tape for small businesses, and tacking income inequality as focus areas.

Priorities should also include bridging the gap between education and employment, it said, calling for expediting implementation of labour reforms to create a more conducive environment for job creation.

"The Indian economy needs to generate an average of nearly 7.85 million jobs annually until 2030 in the non-farm sector to cater to the rising workforce," the report said.

In the preface to the Survey, the CEA said job creation happens mainly in the private sector. "Second,

# Secretary Health reviews preparedness for dengue control, containment in J&K

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Secretary, Health and Medical Education, Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah, on Monday chaired a meeting to review the preparedness for dengue control and containment in Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Commissioner, Jammu Municipal Corporation, Managing Director, JKMSCL, Principals Government Medical College Jammu/Doda/Kathua/Rajouri/Udhampur, Director Health Services, Jammu, Chief Medical Officers of all districts of Jammu Division, State Surveillance Officer, Jammu/ Kashmir, Medical Superintendents of Associated Hospitals of New GMCs/District Hospitals, State Nodal Officer, NHM, J&K and Divisional Nodal Officer, NHM, Kashmir while the outstation officers participated virtually.

On the occasion, a power point presentation (PPT) was made by Dr. D.J Raina, State Malariaologist, J&K, Jammu, highlighting the strategies being adopted by the department for the

control of dengue, epidemiological data, key Octalogue strategies for control of dengue besides facilities being provided to the people.

The Secretary emphasised collective efforts of all the stakeholders to tackle this looming threat through better disease management. He also enumerated various actions need to be taken immediately like launching of an aggressive IEC/BCC campaign for awareness of the community on local Radio /Television/ through JMC hoardings and garbage collection Vans. Besides, hiring of Domestic Breeding Checkers/ engaging regular staff for source reduction activities of vectors was also stressed upon. The Urban Local bodies were also directed to initiate source reduction and related activities for control of dengue.

It was informed that Blood Component facility is available in GMC Jammu, Government Hospital Gandhi Nagar, Jammu, GMC Rajouri, GMC Kathua for the patients requiring platelet transfusion in case of severe disease. The District Hospitals were

asked to earmark separate Dengue Ward to ensure effective management of the cases. It was also instructed that indiscriminate Fogging/Spray will not be carried out and it will be done only as per the protocols of Vector Borne Diseases.

All the Private Laboratories/Nursing Homes were asked to mandatorily upload the data of dengue cases on Integrated Health Information Platform (IHIP).

The Secretary asked for stratifying identification of the high risk areas so that requisite strategies are worked out for integrated vector management (IVM). He also directed for ensuring availability of diagnostic kits/ drugs, insecticides and other logistics.

It was informed that 104 Health Helpline of National Health Mission, J&K will be utilised during the dengue breakout for effective surveillance and communication with the public.

All the districts were directed to conduct inter-sectorial meetings at the earliest for control and containment of dengue.

boosting direct investment from China while reducing imports from that country.

Amid strained ties since 2020 after border skirmishes, the report said to boost exports, India can either integrate into China's supply chain or promote foreign direct investment from China.

"Among these choices, focusing on FDI from China seems more promising for boosting India's exports to the US, similar to how East Asian economies did in the past," it said, adding choosing the FDI strategy "appears more advantageous than relying on trade" as it can arrest the growing trade deficit India has with China.

Following the 2020 clashes in the Galwan Valley, India banned over 200 Chinese mobile apps such as TikTok, and rejected a major investment proposal from EV maker BYD. Visas for Chinese nationals also slowed.

On inflation, the Survey said the short-term inflation outlook is benign. It favoured the Reserve Bank of India's monetary policy framework, considering to tame inflation excluding food and using it to set interest rates.

## Jugal raises voice for stoppage of trains at Samba Railway Station



### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Member of Parliament Lok Sabha Jammu, Jugal Kishore Sharma on Monday raised his voice in Lok Sabha Delhi for stoppage of trains Uttar Sampark Kranti, Malwa & Jammu Mail etc at Samba Railway Station.  
Member of Parliament informed House that most of trains like Jammu Mail, Jhelum Express, Malwa Express, Hemkund and many more trains passing from Samba Railway Station were used to take short halt at Samba Railway Station before COVID period.  
But after COVID period only stoppage of Hemkund

Express was restored but the other trains still not stop at Samba Railway Station, he said adding that people have to reach Jammu Railway station or Pathankot Railway Station to catch these trains.

Their haltage is still not restored due to which people of the area.

He urged Minister of Railways to consider the genuine demand of the residents of the area and restart the stoppage of Jammu Mail, Malwa Express, Jhelum Express and others at Samba Railways Station so that people should not be bound to take the alternate service by bus or other means.