

**!! Continuations from Page 1 !!
Those dancing with...**

payega (Country is telling him that you are not up to it)". He said the Congress became a "parasitic party" in these polls as its tally of 99 was largely courtsey its allies, while it performed poorly with a strike rate of merely 26 per cent where the party was pitted directly against the BJP or was the main opposition force. Its strike rate rose to 50 per cent where it was a junior partner; he added.

The Congress won only two out of 66 seats in Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, he said while contrasting the BJP's performance in Lok Sabha as well as assembly polls in Odisha where it formed its maiden government. The Congress is not visible even with the help of a microscope in four states where assembly polls were held while the NDA won an unprecedented mandate.

He accused the party of trying to spread anarchy through its economic policies, "divisive" politics around castes and regions and by raising doubts about India's democratic process.

Keeping the Congress, especially Gandhi, in his crosshairs, Modi said it has become addicted to lies like a man-eater animal to blood.

The House witnessed childish conduct yesterday, he said of Gandhi's speech in which the Congress leader had targeted the government over the Agnipath scheme, the MSP regime and the revamping work in Ayodhya and accused it of violating tenets of Hinduism by allegedly spreading violence and hate, drawing massive protests by treasury benches. Many of his comments were later expunged by the Chair.

"Laments of 'balak buddhi' went on. 'I have been beaten'. A new drama was rolled out to gain sympathy," he said in reference to Gandhi's charge that he was targeted in different criminal cases at the behest of the central government.

The fact is he is on bail in a corruption case of thousands of crore of rupees, was convicted for calling an OBC community thief and had to tender an apology before the Supreme Court for speaking lies, Modi said, adding that he has been facing several cases of defamation.

This "balak buddhi" at times tries to hug someone in the House and sometime winks, the prime minister said, accusing him of tainting Parliament's decorum with his conduct despite being a many-term MP.

He said, "Parliament was misled yesterday. Parliamentary democracy cannot be protected without taking the issue seriously." He told Speaker Om Birla that the House and the country expect him to take stringent action to stop this practice of lies.

Gandhi, who was present in the House, was reprimanded by Birla for nudging opposition members to enter the Well to protest during Modi's speech, and the House later passed a motion moved by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and seconded by Home Minister Amit Shah to condemn the opposition's obstructionist conduct.

When seasoned leaders of the party choose this path of anarchy, it shows that the country is headed for trouble, the prime minister said. He asked opposition parties to work with the government on issues of national interest but kept the heat on Gandhi as he concluded his speech by wishing that the God grant good sense to "balak buddhi".

Modi, at one point during his speech, offered a glass of water to Congress member Manickam Tagore, who was protesting in the Well.

Slamming Gandhi over his reference to Hinduism, he said Hindus were linked to violence even though it is their tolerance which has allowed diversity to bloom in the country.

"Is this your values and mindset," he asked, claiming that a conspiracy is being hatched to target the community and people will not forgive such conduct for centuries.

The Congress leader has insisted that his target was the BJP and the RSS. Images of Gods, the prime minister said, should not be used for personal political interests, as he asserted that "insult to our Gods" has hurt Hindus. Gandhi had displayed a picture of Lord Shiva in Lok Sabha on Monday.

The Hindu society will have to think if what happened in Lok Sabha yesterday was merely a coincidence or part of an experiment, Modi added.

Claiming that an ecosystem has been working against the interests of the country, he warned them of a response in their language.

He accused the Congress of spreading brazen lies on the Agnipath scheme to discourage youngsters from joining forces and weaken his government's efforts to strengthen India's military might.

Through seams and neglect, the Congress has for decades weakened the armed forces, while he has been working to reform and modernise the defence sector.

Lok Sabha adjourned...

productivity of the House was 103 per cent, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla said. The session saw 539 Lok Sabha members take oath or make affirmation over the first two days. Birla was elected as the Lok Sabha speaker on June 26 and President Droupadi Murmu addressed the joint sitting of both Houses of Parliament on June 27. Over 68 members participated in the debate on the Motion of Thanks on the President's address moved by BJP member Anurag Thakur and seconded by Bansuri Swaraj. The debate on the Motion of Thanks lasted for 18 hours, Birla said. Prime Minister Narendra Modi replied to the debate on the Motion of Thanks on Tuesday.

Ten pilgrims injured...

to Hoshiarpur in Punjab, was fortuitously halted by swift action from army and police personnel, who placed stones beneath its tyres along the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway, preventing a potential catastrophe. Witnesses noted the quick intervention when passengers began jumping from the vehicle near Nachlana, Banihal. The army's Quick Reaction Teams arrived promptly, providing medical assistance and first aid to the injured. This decisive response undoubtedly averted a tragedy, illustrating the critical role of emergency preparedness and rapid response in saving lives.

LG reviews Muharram...

market inspections and ensuring the availability of essential commodities. He also directed for making elaborate arrangements with regard to security, smooth traffic management and medical facilities at the prominent religious places and gatherings.

Deputy Commissioners briefed the chair on the preparedness of their respective district administrations in view of forthcoming Muharram.

514 route permits...

department, which recorded these violations, he added. The official said the registration certificates and route permits of 130 commercial vehicles have also been suspended for three months in Samba district due to similar traffic violations. "Most of these vehicles were habitual violators," he added.

With the full implementation of ITMS, all vehicles are under 24x7 CCTV surveillance and e-challans are supported by high-definition camera evidence of violations, the officials emphasized.

The motorists are urged to strictly adhere to traffic rules and regulations to avoid penalties under the Motor Vehicles Act, authorities cautioned.

The residents are advised to stay vigilant and comply with all traffic regulations for their safety and the smooth operation of traffic management systems.

Misappropriation of passenger...

misappropriated in view of random cross checking of some copies of GRs and Owner's copies of GRs. The same may increase further in respect of other passenger commercial vehicles of Jammu, if detected during investigation. The role of the officers/officials of RTO office Jammu, in abetting/ facilitating such misappropriation of passenger tax amount during that period cannot be ruled out. By acting in this manner, Manju Sharma, the then Jr. Assistant in lieu of criminal conspiracy with other employees of RTO office Jammu, dishonestly and fraudulently misappropriated huge amount of passenger tax so collected from various owners/operators during that period. Further investigation in the case is in progress.

Tribunals confirm ban...

government constituted the tribunal on January 16, 2024. "And, whereas, the said tribunal in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (3) of section 4 of the said Act (UAPA), passed an order on 22nd June, 2024, confirming the declaration made," the notification issued on Monday said.

In a separate notification, the home ministry said the Muslim League Jammu Kashmir (Masarat Alam faction) (MLJK-MA) was declared as an unlawful organisation on December 27, 2023 and the central government set up a tribunal consisting of Justice Sachin Datta, Judge, Delhi High Court of Delhi on January 15, 2024.

"And, whereas, the said Tribunal in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-

section (3) of section 4 of the said Act, passed an order on June 22nd 2024, confirming the declaration made," the notification said.

BJP new promise...

consolidating their own power rather than initiating meaningful development," Chugh remarked. He further accused the Congress of perpetuating this cycle of stagnation, stating that their alliance politics only added to the region's woes without contributing to any substantive progress.

Highlighting the transformative changes since the abrogation of Article 370, Tarun Chugh underscored the surge in development projects that have revitalized Jammu and Kashmir.

"The abrogation of Article 370 has paved the way for unprecedented development in the region. We are witnessing a remarkable increase in tourism, with a record influx of tourists that is boosting the local economy. Educational institutions are flourishing, healthcare facilities are being upgraded, and new infrastructure projects are underway," he said.

Furthermore, Chugh pointed to specific initiatives such as the development of new highways, the expansion of rail networks, and the establishment of educational hubs as tangible evidence of the BJP's commitment to progress.

The BJP leader also took the opportunity to directly appeal to the electorate, urging them to continue supporting the party's vision for a prosperous Jammu & Kashmir.

"The BJP is dedicated to bringing about real change, not just empty promises. Our focus is on ensuring that every citizen benefits from the region's development. We are working tirelessly to create a future where opportunities are abundant, and prosperity is shared by all," Chugh affirmed.

CS reviews status...

Regarding pilferage of electricity, the Chief Secretary maintained that the huge gap between the supply of energy and realization of revenue needs to be lessened for overall development of the UT. He observed that the gap runs in several thousand crores of rupees which is unacceptable under any circumstances. Dullo asked the authorities to fix responsibility and initiate action against the lax officers in each area where a stark difference is found in billing or collection of revenue. He emphasised for laying focus on enforcement and legal action against the power theft so that the menace is totally eradicated from the UT.

Principal Secretary, PDD, H. Rajesh Prasad, gave an overview of present status of all the reforms initiated in the UT. He informed the meeting about the status of smart metering and their integration and conversion into prepaid meters. He also threw light on different loss reduction works undertaken here in different districts by implementing agencies like JPDC, KPDC, PESL and NTPC.

It was informed in the meeting that PMDP Phase-I of smart metering has been completed and the work on phase 2nd is currently going on. It was elucidated that, till date, out of 5,57,994 meters 4,48,931 had been installed in J&K. It was added that 310 feeders have been saturated with installation of smart meters thereby showing a considerable improvement in reduction of AT&C losses.

Further, under Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) phase-3, it was revealed that more than 7.5 lakh meters had to be installed for which survey has been completed by both the discoms. It was given out that smart metering and loss reduction works to the tune of Rs 5620 crore had been approved by Ministry of Power for the UT.

Explaining further, the meeting was apprised that works like LT cable replacement, HT line cabling, HT line conductor replacement, high voltage distribution system (HVDS) and segregation of feeders had to be accomplished under this project.

As far as the AT&C losses are concerned, it was revealed that the same had been reduced to 40% during 2023-24 compared to 51% in 2022-23. Besides, it was given out that gap between the Average Cost of Supply (ACS) and Average Revenue Realised (ARR) has further got squeezed to Rs 2.18/kWh in 2023-24 from Rs 2.44/kWh in 2022-23.

Giving details about the enforcement measures taken up by the department, it was said that vigorous enforcement and crackdown on power theft had led to highest ever revenue realization for the quarter April-June, 2024. It was disclosed that in addition to making 18,199 disconnections, 6,152 connections were regularized by carrying out 78811 inspections by different electric Divisions of the UT.

Fresh batch of...

Pahalgam route for their yatra, 2,106 pilgrims chose the shorter but steep 14-km Baltal route, they said. With this, a total of 26,101 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 formally began on June 29 and will conclude on August 19.

116 killed in...

condoled the deaths. "In the midst of discussions, I have also been given sad news. It has come to my attention that there have been many tragic deaths in the stampede in Hathras, UP," he said in the Lok Sabha. The prime minister said senior officials of the central government are in constant contact with the Uttar Pradesh administration to coordinate aid efforts.

Terror associate arrested...

forces, have arrested a terror associate linked with proscribed terror outfit LeT-TRF and recovered incriminating materials, arms and ammunition from his possession," a police spokesperson said. He said the forces were undertaking a joint patrol in the Eco Park Crossing area in Baramulla town when they intercepted Lone. The man tried to flee but was apprehended, the spokesperson added. "During preliminary questioning, it surfaced that he is linked with proscribed terror outfit LeT-TRF and is in touch with a Pakistan-based terror handler: He was planning to carry out a terrorist attack in Baramulla town," he said.

Two cabs with...

received a tip off that two identical vehicles with same registration number (JK08D4356) were roaming around the general bus stand. A police team was rushed to the spot and both the vehicles were seized, he added. Two drivers, one hailing from Mendhar area of Poonch and another from Kashmir, were detained for questioning and further investigation, the official said, adding the police are seeking details from the Assistant Regional Transport office in Kathua, where the vehicles are registered.

Baba Barfani Sewa Mandal Moga starts 22nd Bhandara

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
KATHUA : Baba Barfani Sewa Mandal (Regd.) Moga has started its 22nd Bhandara at Chann Arorian, Kathua (Jammu) on June 29, 2024, for the pilgrims of Shri Amarnath and Maa Vaishno Devi. The program was attended by Rakesh Minhas, Deputy Commissioner, Kathua, and Subhash Gupta, former MLA, as special guests. Bank of India, Ludhiana, has contributed Rs 5 lakh to this Bhandara. The bank's zonal manager, Brajesh Kumar Singh, has made special efforts to provide this assistance. The bank has been continuously supporting this noble cause since 2014.

The president of the Mandal, Chandrasekhara Sood, has thanked the bank's zonal manager and other officials for their support. The Bhandara will continue till August 15, 2024, with the grace of Baba Barfani.

The program was also attended by various other dignitaries, including Rakesh Minhas, Subhash Gupta, Brajesh Kumar Singh, Guldeep Bhatia, Pradeep Hans, Surinder Garg, Suresh Rawal, Sanjay Nanhria, Sachin Jindal, Sanjeev Jindal, Goldie, Sanjeev Sood, Sajjan, Pankaj Mittal, Deepak Rahalan and Bobby Bansal. Former MLA Subhash Gupta has appreciated the role of Baba Barfani Sewa Mandal Moga for organizing this Bhandara and thanked the district administration, police, health department, PHIE department, PDD department, fire service department, SDRF department, and all other individuals for their support.



J&K Bank hosts interactive session with exporters, rolls out FX-Retail platform
We want to do whatever it takes to remain best Bank in your eyes and you also have to help us grow more to be the best: MD & CEO



J&K Bank MD & CEO Baldev Prakash and other during the event at Srinagar.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: With a view to strengthen its bond further, J&K Bank hosted a significant interactive session with Kashmir-based exporters here today at the SKICC. The event marked a milestone in the Bank's ongoing efforts to bolster the export sector - a critical component of the economy that significantly contributes to GDP growth, employment and foreign exchange earnings for the country.

In his keynote address, J&K Bank MD & CEO Baldev Prakash highlighted the substantial potential for growth in India's export sector: "Though India contributes 3.1% to the global GDP, our export contribution stands at a mere 1.6%. With the current opportunities, there is immense potential, scope, and triggers for growth," he stated.

Additional Commissioner, customs (Amritsar Circle) Joginder Singh, President, Kashmir Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KCCI) Javid Ahmad Tenga were present at the session that was attended by the Bank's Executive Director Sudhir Gupta, General Manager (Credit) Ashutosh Sareen, General Manager (Govt. Business) Syed Rais Maqbool, Divisional Head (Kashmir) Shabir Ahmad, Zonal Head (Srinagar) Raja Zaffar and other senior officials.

MD & CEO underscored several key factors driving India's robust growth in exports, including acquisitions abroad, government schemes like Duty Drawback, Production Linked Incentive, Interest Equalization, and Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products, along with Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and the Make in India Initiative.

He emphasized the need to address the factors that restrict India to below a 2% share of the global export market despite having 20% of the world's working-age population. "Learnings from countries that have successfully become competitive in global markets show that export business requires the right target, efficient strategy and focused execution," he added.

Speaking on the occasion, Additional Commissioner customs, Joginder Singh said, "It is quite gratifying to see all stakeholders involved in the export business coming together to discuss the crucial issues."

"To ensure hassle-free and smooth export processes, we must upgrade our systems and infrastructure. And I am hopeful that J&K Bank will continue such interactions to strengthen bonds with the exporters and take forward this great initiative to realise the real potential in the export business of J&K and Ladakh", he added.

In his address, President (KCCI) Javid Ahmad Tenga praised J&K Bank for its significant role in supporting the region's economy: "J&K Bank has a very important role in maintaining the health of J&K's economy. And bringing down the NPA from 11% to around 4% is an achievement in itself. The Bank has seen tremendous growth in recent times, so much so that our honourable Prime Minister mentioned J&K Bank's growth story during one of his media interactions. J&K Bank, particularly the management led by Baldev Prakash, deserves all accolades for this."

Earlier, General Manager Ashutosh Sareen welcomed the participants and elaborated on the Bank's extensive branch network supporting exporters in foreign exchange transactions. He said, "J&K Bank has 135 branches authorized to conduct foreign exchange business, with sixteen B-Category branches undertaking all foreign exchange activities and over a hundred C-Category branches providing world-class services to exporters in J&K and Ladakh."

While highlighting the Bank's comprehensive foreign remittance facilities and customized loan products for exporters, he said, "There are huge opportunities in this sector with the Government coming up with many initiatives towards realizing the true potential of export business."

A presentation on Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India (ECGC) was also made on the occasion to highlight its important role in providing credit risk insurance to exporters to enhance export competitiveness.

However, the highlight of the event was the launch of the Bank's web-based FX-Retail Platform, developed by the Clearing Corporation of India Limited (CCIL). This innovative platform allows customers to transact directly with real-time access to market rates, shifting from traditional telephone-based trading to electronic trading. The platform supports automatic price discovery and automates many functions and is accessible through the Bank's website via two-step authentication (Password and OTP).

With no limit on the number of daily transactions per customer, subject to the Bank-assigned limit, there will be no transaction charges for the first 12 months of joining the platform for all categories of customers. Further, no transaction charges shall be levied by CCIL on transactions up to USD 50,000 per day.

Pertinently, MD & CEO, J&K Bank opened the interactive segment of the session saying that the time was right to bring in clarity in the communication between the exporters and the Bank so that the hassles in the export business are removed, albeit within the regulatory guidelines.

"We are here with the stakeholders to make the processes smooth as well as transparent", he said while emphasizing, "We want to do whatever it takes to remain the best Bank in your eyes and you also have to help us grow more to be the best."

During the detailed question-answer segment that followed, exporters freely expressed their concerns and suggestions, which were duly noted and mostly responded satisfactorily by the Bank's leadership along with Additional Commissioner Customs.

The event concluded with vote of thanks from DGM (Forex) Nishikant Sharma.

Un-identified man hit by train dies

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: A man was died after hit by train. His body has been shifted in morgue for identification. As per details, On June 1, 2024, at about 2155 hours, one unknown male person age about 45/50 years hit by train Vande Bharat and died on spot at KM 92.11 to KM 92.12. The dead body of the said deceased person kept in mortuary room of GMC Jammu for postmortem/identification.



The description of body is age about 45/50 years; Height: 5' 6" Approx; Colour-Wheatish and appearance wearing White Undershirt and White Dhoti.

Anybody having any clue about the identity/residential particulars of the said deceased may contact GRP Jammu on Telephone Nos.0191-2474946 and/or Mobile No. 7006119846 and PCR GRP Jammu Helpline No. 1512.

Cyber Cell recovers amount of Rs 1,09,000

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Cyber Cell DPO Jammu, a dedicated unit to deal with cases of online frauds and cyber crime, has successfully recovered hard earned money.

Cyber cell DPO Jammu received complaint in which the complainant along with her colleagues booked 03 vehicles from a travel agent for 08 days long tour to visit Kashmir and after receiving online payment the agent of the vehicle, switched off his phone and complainant along with her colleagues lost their money.

During the investigation, the Cyber Cell DPO Jammu, acted swiftly and exhibited hectic efforts which ultimately led to recovery of Rs.1,09,000. Further investigation is underway.

Theft case solved; two thieves arrested, Stolen gold items worth Rs 3 lakh, cash recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
RAMBAN: Police in Ramban District have successfully solved a theft case registered at Police Station Ramban, arresting the culprits and recovering the stolen items from their possession. On June 10, 2024, a written complaint was lodged at Police Station Ramban by Mr. Khan, son of Khurshed Ahmed, resident of Kahowbag, Tehsil and District Ramban. He reported the theft of gold ornaments such as 02 bangles, 02 earrings, 02 rings, 01 chain, and 01 haar (necklace), as well as silver ornaments including 02 necklaces, 08 silver earrings, 02 silver rings, all stolen Jewellery amounting to Rs 3 lakh approx and cash from his house located in Kowbag, Ramban. Acting on the complaint, a case (FIR No. 138/2024) under Sections 457 and 380 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) was registered at Police Station Ramban, and an investigation was initiated. During the course of the investigation, police rounded up several suspects based on technical analysis. Upon sustained interrogation, the accused persons disclosed their involvement in the case. The arrested individuals have been identified as Sajad Ahmed, son of Mustaq Ahmed, and Bashir Ahmed, son of Abdul Hamid, both residents of Ward No. 02, Kowbagh, Ramban. Following their disclosure, the police recovered all the stolen gold items, including 02 bangles, 02 earrings, 02 rings, 01 chain, 01 haar (necklace), silver ornaments including 02 necklaces, 08 silver earrings, 02 silver rings worth Rs approx 3 lakh and cash Rs 10,000 INR from a location near their house. The investigation of the case is ongoing.