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Fight against terrorism...**

protection of the Constitution, he asserted. "People have more faith in us for the protection of the Constitution. Therefore, they gave us the mandate," Modi said, criticising the Congress for its "hypocrisy" on the constitutional matters. Modi accused the Congress of committing several constitutional improprieties during its tenure, including extending the Lok Sabha term to seven years during the Emergency and creating the National Advisory Council (NAC) when in power.

He also questioned the constitutional basis for these actions and criticised the party for prioritising one family over established protocols. The Prime Minister also called out Congress allies, particularly those representing backward communities, for aligning with a party which he accused of having a poor record on the constitutional matters.

He suggested that these alliances were born out of political opportunism rather than genuine concern for constitutional values.

Modi also said that the Congress, lacking popular support, was resorting to "fake narratives" and "fake videos" to mislead the country.

He criticised the opposition for focusing on a "save corruption campaign" instead of engaging in discussions on development vision.

Modi's attack on the Congress in the Upper House took an unexpected turn when the Opposition staged a walkout midway through his speech. This prompted sharp reactions from both the Prime Minister and Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar.

Modi accused the Opposition of lacking the courage to face the truth and listen to responses to issues they had raised.

"The country is watching -- those who spread lies do not have the courage to listen to the truth," he said, adding that the Opposition was insulting the traditions of the Upper House.

Dhankhar expressed his disappointment, calling the Opposition's behaviour "painful and indecent". He emphasized that the walkout was not just a rejection of the proceedings, but a disregard for their constitutional oath.

The Prime Minister continued his address, touching upon several sensitive issues.

He criticized the Opposition's selective approach to atrocities against women, citing recent incidents in West Bengal.

Modi expressed concerns over the politicisation of such issues and the silence of certain leaders when cases involve their own party or state.

The Prime Minister also accused the Congress of consistently fielding Dalit candidates in elections that they were likely to lose, including recent Speaker elections and the 2022 and 2017 Presidential and Vice Presidential polls.

He suggested this was a pattern of using Dalit and backward community members as scapegoats while protecting the interests of a particular family.

Throughout his speech, Modi maintained that the Opposition's actions stemmed from their inability to accept the mandate given by the people to the NDA government. He reiterated his commitment to serving the nation and providing a detailed account of his government's work.

I've given full...

work honestly for honesty. No person embroiled in corruption will be able to escape the law. This is Modi's guarantee," the prime minister said.

Referring to the opposition members' charge that the government is misusing the probe agencies, Modi cited statements made by opposition leaders like late Mulayam Singh Yadav who had accused the UPA government of using the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) against them. He also said even the Supreme Court had termed the CBI as a "caged parrot".

"Allegations have been made against the central investigative agencies. It has been said that the central government is misusing the investigative agencies.

"The AAP commits liquor scam, the AAP commits corruption, the AAP commits scam in building classrooms for children, the AAP even commits water scam... The Congress complains against the AAP. The Congress drags the AAP to court and if action is taken then they abuse Modi," the prime minister said.

Modi said the Congress had presented so many proofs of AAP's scams before the country in a press conference. The Congress should now answer whether those proofs were true or false, he said.

Now the AAP and the Congress have become partners, he said, and dared the AAP to demand an answer from the Congress.

Modi asserted that he had vowed in 2014, when the BJP came into power at the Centre, that the government will work for the welfare of the poor and also take actions against corruption and black money.

"Action against corruption is a mission for us. It is not a matter of victory or defeat in elections for us," he added.

Farooq chairs NC...

The working group members unanimously affirmed the NC's unwavering commitment to serving the people of J&K and the "restoration of their abridged rights".

They also pledged to conquer any challenges with Farooq and Omar Abdullah leading the way, the party added.

The Supreme Court has directed the Election Commission to hold the assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir by September 30.

Army Chief reviews...

In a post on 'X', the Additional Directorate General of Public Information (ADGPI) of the Army said Chief of Army Staff Dwidedi, along with the Northern Army and the White Knight Corps commanders, visited forward locations of the 'XVI Corps', also known as the White Knight Corps, to review the security situation along the LoC.

"He was briefed on the operational preparedness by the commanders on the ground. The COAS lauded all ranks for maintaining high standards of professionalism and exhorted them to remain steadfast to meet all current and emerging security challenges," the ADGPI said.

In another post, it said, "General Upendra Dwidedi interacted with the parents of bravehearts of Poonch region who laid down their lives in the service of the nation. COAS also met the Veterans & assured them of unwavering support from the Indian Army."

In photos shared by the Army, Gen Dwidedi can be seen interacting with troops.

Earlier, the officials said, the Army chief chaired a meeting of field commanders on reaching Poonch before leaving for the forward areas.

He also interacted with some ex-servicemen at the 93 Infantry Brigade and visited the district police headquarters in Poonch, they said.

A police spokesperson said Gen Dwidedi was received by Deputy Inspector General of Police, Rajouri-Poonch Range, Tejinder Singh, District Magistrate Yaseen M Choudhary and Senior Superintendent of Police Yougal Manhas.

Gen Dwidedi's visit underscores the commitment to maintaining strong collaboration between the military and civil forces for enhanced security and development in the region, he said.

The Army chief, who served as the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Northern Command from 2022 to 2024, returned to Delhi in the evening, the officials added.

Assembly Election 2024...

initiatives and dedication to maximizing voter turnout and enhancing par-

ticipation have set a commendable benchmark. As we gear up for the Assembly elections, your expertise and insights would be invaluable in ensuring a smooth and successful electoral process. In order to take benefit of your experience, you are requested to kindly assist this office's SVEEP programme, scrutinization of various short/animated films, jingles, creative and other campaign material designed by vendors and its execution at district level," reads a letter written by Chief Electoral Officer, UT of Jammu and Kashmir to Sapna Kotwal, JKAS, Secretary, J&K Advisory Board for Development of Pahari Speaking People.

Misappropriation of funds...

amount of ₹30,25,264 for 20 randomly selected different works of Panchayat Loharna-B and Janakpur meant for execution of works under different schemes of Rural Development Department in Panchayats Loharna-B and Janakpur on account of payments for the material supplied with consequent loss to the state exchequer.

During the course of investigation house search of accused public servant namely Parveen Sharma, the then BDO Dachhan situated at H.No 5-B, Lane No.12 Greater Kailash Jammu has also been conducted. Further investigation in the case is in progress.

Over 30,000 pilgrims...

annual yatra," an official said. With this, the number of pilgrims who have visited the 3,880-metre-high cave shrine has now reached 1,05,282, according to the officials.

They said 21,893 male pilgrims, 5,858 female pilgrims, 394 sadhus and one sadhvi were among those who paid obeisance at the cave shrine. As many as 1,991 security personnel, four transgender persons and 445 children also performed the pilgrimage.

Deaths of two devotees -- a sevadar from Haryana and a pilgrim from Jharkhand -- have been reported during this year's yatra so far. Both of them suffered a cardiac arrest on the Baltal route, the officials said.

The 52-day pilgrimage will conclude on August 19. More than 4.5 lakh pilgrims paid obeisance at the cave shrine last year.

Meanwhile, a fresh batch of more than 5,700 pilgrims left for the Amarnath shrine in south Kashmir Himalayas from here on Wednesday, officials said.

Security situation fully...

he asserted. He said infiltration from across the border continues and terrorists are being pushed into Jammu and Kashmir.

"There are foreign terrorists who have managed to infiltrate. All of us in the security establishment are aware of this and acknowledge it. No one in the security establishment is shying away from it," the DGP said.

He specified the challenges of tackling infiltration.

"As I have always said, we have a long border that is porous and consists of jungles, riverine areas, difficult terrain and topographical challenges. The enemy is finding new mechanisms to push in terrorists. Therefore, we have a challenge at hand in terms of foreign terrorists primarily," he said.

Swain added that individuals supporting these infiltrators are also a challenge. "Some people, lured by money or other reasons, are part of this syndicate called terrorism and secessionism, supported by hostile adversaries. This is a challenge," he said.

The DGP said both challenges -- the challenge of the guns and bombs of foreign terrorists and that of a few people supporting them here -- are being firmly dealt with.

"The challenge of bombs and guns is being responded to through a planned security architecture, which includes police, central paramilitary forces and the Army," he said.

Swain said the supporters of terrorism within the region are also being dealt with under the law. "We have very able and competent investigating agencies -- NIA, SIA and police teams -- who investigate the crimes of these harbourers, supporters, facilitators and enemy agents," he said.

Replying to a question on the government's claims that all is well in Kashmir, the DGP said, "Please look at the data and the level of fear. You will see that there is order and a visible change in Kashmir's security situation."

He stressed that the successful conduct of the Lok Sabha polls is the biggest evidence of this. Massive participation of people in recent Lok Sabha election itself proves that there is huge improvement in Law and order situation in Kashmir valley", he maintained.

"In the past, the participation in elections was restricted due to the fear of terrorists and separatists. When this fear dwindled, the voters' participation increased. If someone projects it as a political statement or for the purpose of building a narrative, we do not see it in that aspect," Swain said.

Without naming anyone, he said those who talk about enemies are given such freedom by the Indian State.

"It is the glory of India and the large-heartedness of India's democracy that it allows you to have a contrarian view, even to the extent of being against the very system and country you are living in," he said.

Asked about how it would impact the security situation, Swain said, "From a strict law-enforcement view, as long as the law states that murder is a crime, police and law-enforcement agencies will go ahead and prove that a murder is a murder.

"So, to that extent, the responsibility of police is to discharge their duty firmly and fearlessly. That ensures safety against the disruption of peace, which has given rise to concerns in certain quarters of the society," he said.

On the current policy of dealing with the terror ecosystem, the DGP said he believes that it is working.

"We are open to discussions and debate, not only within our setup but in public discourse. We are completely apolitical in this. The question is whether the current approach is working. It is working unless someone shows evidence to the contrary. Our position in the Jammu and Kashmir Police is that we would like to protect lives," he added.

Heatwave grips Kashmir...

temperature was five degrees above the normal for this time of the year, they said.

The officials said the frontier Kupwara town, in north Kashmir, also registered a maximum of 34.6 degrees Celsius on Monday, while Qazigund, in south Kashmir, recorded 34 degrees Celsius.

The valley has been experiencing rising temperatures and scorching heat over the past few weeks, leading to water shortage in many areas.

The health department has come with advisories to deal with the heatwave conditions.

The school education department has already announced a 10-day summer vacation for the schools in the valley from July 8.

The scorching heat has resulted in people staying indoors, and has led to an increase in the sales of cooling gadgets like air conditioners, fans and coolers.

Commuters are also facing difficulties in travelling especially in the city traffic and many are making a beeline to car AC service providers to ensure smooth functioning of the car cooling systems.

The meteorological department has said hot and humid weather will continue on Wednesday, with some respite on Thursday as an intermittent spell of light to moderate rain or thundershower is possible at many places.

From July 5-6, there is a possibility of intermittent moderate rainfall at many places of J-K with heavy spells at few places. There are chances of light rainfall on July 7, the MeT office said.

However, it said hot and humid weather is likely from July 8 to 10.

Inter-district gang of burglars busted; 4 arrested; stolen property worth 12.5 lakh recovered

STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBHA: Police has solved four theft cases registered at Police Station Ghagwal and has affected the arrest of four persons and recovered stolen items including cash worth Rs 12.5 lakhs approximately.

A number of written complaints were lodged at Police Post Rajpura (PS Ghagwal) by the various complainants regarding the house thefts occurring in the JD of Rajpura area of PS Ghagwal.

Acting over the complaints, four FIRs vide FIR No. 76/2024 u/s 454/380 IPC, FIR No.77/2024 u/s 454/380 IPC, FIR no.94/2024 u/s 454/380 IPC, FIR no. 95/2024 u/s 454/380/511/427 IPC got registered at Police Station Ghagwal through PP Rajpura.

Police team headed by SHO Police Station Ghagwal and Incharge PP Rajpura led by DySPHQrs Samba under the overall supervision of SSP Samba was constituted and investigation got started.

Police team raided various places and zeroed in many suspects for questioning. While using physical and technical aid and after strenuous efforts, Police apprehended persons namely Rohit Chouhan alias Labbu, son of Anchal Singh, resident of ChackHaria tehsil Marheen DisttKathua, Sahil Kumar, son of Janak Raj, resident of ChackWazir Chand Tehsil Marheen DisttKathua, Akash Kumar, son of Khem Raj, resident of ChackHaria Tehsil MarheenDisttKathua.

They disclosed the name of another person namely NeerajLuthra S/o MaharajKrishan R/o W.No.04 Kathua who was the receiver of the stolen property. He was also apprehended and later he confessed that he had received the stolen property from above three accused.

In total, Police recovered stolen property including 16 tolas of gold, 40 tolas of silver ornaments and cash amounting Rs. 81,500. Further investigation of the case is going on.

Two properties worth 50 lakh of notorious drug peddlers seized under NDPS act

STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBHA: Acting sternly against narcotics smuggling and suppliers, J&K Police today under

Operation Sanjeevani seized two properties of drug peddler under Section 68F (Chapter 5A) of Narcotics & Psychotropic Substances Act.



This strong action today was taken by Police Station Bari Brahmana, where Pakka houses of 02 drug peddlers namely Farman Ali alias Munna s/o BhagHussain r/o KarelManhansanBishnah A/P BalolKhad, Bari Brahmana and his associate Farman Din alias Fama s/o Gashu Din r/o Laswara, Bishnah A/P BalolKhad, Bari Brahmana worth approximately 19 lakhs and 31 lakhs respectively were seized under 68F(1) of NDPS Act via a freezing order issued in this regard.

It is informed that Police Station Bari Brahmana had lodged a FIR 06/2024 under NDPS Act, in which accused Farman Ali alias Munna, son of Bagh Hussain, resident of BalolKhad was booked for illicitly transferring money amounting to about Rs 4.50 lakh to Punjab and having in possession chitta and cash currency of Rs 1.29 lakhs. On further investigation one of his associate namely Farman Din @ Fama was also booked under the same case as part of backward linkage, backed by technical evidence and accused disclosure.

Further given the highly notorious nature of drug peddler and his involvement in multiple FIRs, accused Farman Ali @ Munna was booked under Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotics Drugs & Psychotropic substances Act (PITNDPS). However his associate is currently absconding. Now in coordination with PS Bishnah, civil administration of Bari Brahmana&Bishnah, Police Station Bari Brahmana has seized properties of both accused and his associate.

While police is putting continuous effort to apprehend drug peddlers, this action aims to seize illegal proceeds of crime, thus creating deterrence for illegal narcotics trade in region.

Samba Police remains committed to take all steps necessary to counter drug menace, police requests citizen to come out and help police in this endeavour.

Crackdown on illegal mining, 15 vehicles including two JCBs seized

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU/SRINAGAR: In a drive against illegal mining and to tighten noose against the violators, Jammu Police has initiated strict action against the criminals involved in illegal mining & minting money out of the public resources.

In a surprise operation which was carried at different locations in Rural zone of District Jammu.

PS Nagrota detained one tractor trolley bearing Eng. no CJ1353/SFL29120.Chassis No.MBNAK49AHPMT21393 found loaded with sand and without Form-A.

PP pomicchak detained one JCB bearing Chassis No. HAR3DXSS20252258 involved in illegal mining.

PP Manwal detained one Dumper bearing registration No. JK14F-9942 loaded with sand and without form A.

After detaining of these vehicles District Mining Officer was informed for necessary legal actions.

Police also seized 09 vehicles, 02 JCB machines and arrested 02 drivers for illegal extraction and transportation of minerals in Budgam.

Following reliable information regarding illegal mining in Govt land (Gashchhari) at Minar Koker Bagh, Khag, a Police party of PS Khag raided the spot and seized 01 JCB and 01 tipper bearing registration number JK04-4111 loaded with illegally extracted boulders/rounded rocks and also arrested 02 drivers identified as Bilal Ahmad son of Rajjakk resident of Aijazabad Haryana A/P Khag and Ali Mohd Dar son of Gh Mohd Dar resident of Kokerbagh.

Accordingly, a case under relevant sections of law has been registered at Police Station Khag and investigation has been taken up.

Similarly, Police Station Chadoora during routine Patrolling/Naka checking seized 08 tippers and 01 JCB at main market Chadoora for Carrying illegally extracted minerals. The vehicles bearing registration numbers JK02-AP9263, JK13-C27111, JK13C 1437, JK04C-6005, JK01V-5080, JK13C-9616, JK03H-145 & JK04B-2646 were seized and later handed over to Geology and Mining department for further course of legal action.

Big action on bovine smugglers: Documents of 25 vehicles suspended

STATE TIMES NEWS

KISHTWAR: In a significant effort to curb bovine smuggling, the District Police of Kishtwar have recommended the suspension of registration certificates and route permits for 25 vehicles implicated in the illegal trade of bovine smuggling. Following these recommendations, ARTO Kishtwar suspended the documents for these vehicles involved in illegal trade. District Police's unwavering commitment to combating bovine smuggling and dismantling the networks that facilitate it.

District Police Kishtwar have made these recommendations based on evidence gathered through multiple FIRs lodged across various police stations in Kishtwar throughout the year. This action is aimed at disrupting the logistics of smuggling operations and making it increasingly difficult for smugglers to transport livestock illegally. The following vehicles have had their documents suspended by the Regional Transport Offices (RTOs): JK17A4251, JK178554, JK17A6774, JK179374, JK177675, JK179259, JK17A1685, JK179340, JK176054, JK17A3721, JK17A3136, JK17A1451, JK171082, JK17A2214, JK177150, JK178326, JK179330, JK17A2290, JK17A1360, JK17A0318, JK17A1068, JK1744471, JK17A0960, JK170373, JK178919.

The Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Kishtwar issued a stern warning to bovine smugglers and vehicle owners whose vehicles are used for such illegal activities: "Our commitment to eradicating bovine smuggling is unwavering. This is a clear message to anyone involved in this illegal activity: we will identify you, and you will face the full force of the law. Vehicle owners must ensure their vehicles are not used for such purposes, as we will take strict actions, including the suspension of vehicle permits and registration certificates, without any leniency."

The SSP Kishtwar also cautioned other vehicle owners in the district, stating that if their vehicles are found involved in bovine smuggling, they too will face similar consequences. This comprehensive approach aims to root out bovine smuggling from Kishtwar and uphold the rule of law.

Sankalp HEW Doda intensifies outreach campaign -A Pioneering Effort towards Women Empowerment

STATE TIMES NEWS

DODA: The Sankalp Hub for Empowerment of Women (HEW) Doda has been making significant strides in promoting women's rights and empowerment through a series of impactful initiatives.

Over the past weeks, the organization has intensified its efforts, focusing on key issues such as gender equality, legal awareness, and health rights. In a noteworthy achievement, Sankalp HEW has successfully completed the third week of its ambitious 100-day event aimed at sensitizing

Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) about the Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (PCPNDT) Act. This initiative is part of a larger campaign to eradicate sex-selective abortions and promote gender equality. In addition to the awareness sessions for ASHA workers, Sankalp HEW has been collaborating with Advocates to discuss critical changes in legislation related to women's rights. These programs provided a platform for in-depth discussions about Bhartiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita and Bhartiya

Sakshya Adhimiyaam breaking the centuries old shackles of colonial legacy. New laws will enhance the efficiency and transparency of our justice system. Such collaborations are pivotal in fostering a robust legal framework that protects and empowers women. Recognizing the importance of equipping its team with the necessary skills and knowledge, Sankalp HEW recently conducted an intensive training session for its officials. This training is expected to significantly enhance the effectiveness of future awareness camps and outreach pro-

grams conducted by the organization. By investing in the capacity building of its team, Sankalp HEW ensures that its initiatives are executed with professionalism. Sankalp Hub for Empowerment of Women (HEW) is dedicated to promoting women's rights and gender equality through advocacy, education, and community engagement. Based in Doda, the organization works tirelessly to address issues such as gender-based violence, health rights, and legal awareness, striving to create a more just and equitable society for all.