

!! Continuations from Page 1 !!  
Gear up for...



past when the Indian forces deployed on the borders had to seek permission to retaliate to the firing from across the border; the Modi government gave free hand to the forces and the people are living a peaceful life now. This is the new Bharat under the leadership of Modi," he said, adding any terrorist who manages to sneak into this side is neutralised within one week.

He said BJP is the largest party in the world, having a mass following. "We are the party which has a Modi like leader; vision, intention, programmes, workers and peoples trust. For us, the nation is the first unlike those parties which have all along indulged in politics of appeasement, familism and running a government with a remote control," Nadda said.

Continuing his tirade against the main opposition Congress, he said despite the party's failure to cross 100-seat mark in Lok Sabha elections for the third time since 2014, it is projecting itself as a winner.

"Such an ecosystem has been created where the winner is questioned instead of the loser. Congress has failed to open its account in 13 states where it was wiped out. It is a party which does not win on its own strength but on the votes of other parties," the BJP leader said, adding it got over 50 per cent vote share where it is supported by other parties whereas it got below 28 per cent where it was fighting alone.

The election results of Congress in Chattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat are the glaring example of its performance, he said, adding "this is a party which finishes its ally which links with it."

He referred to Congress leaders as "educated illiterates" and said they have no knowledge of the economy and unnecessarily raising questions and creating doubts in the minds of the people.

"India under the leadership of Modi went past the British which ruled India for 200 years to become fifth largest economy in the world...The day is not far when we will be third economic power in coming years under the leadership of Modi," he said.

He said BJP is the only party in the country which is fighting the elections on its own strength and defeating its rivals.

Nadda congratulated the J&K BJP cadre for 100 per cent result in Lok Sabha elections and added that the third term of Modi government is secured with the incessant dedicated work of BJP cadre. He said that people have defeated the forces of corruption and nepotism.

G Kishan Reddy, Union Minister and Election Incharge J&K BJP, BJP National General Secretary and Prabhari J&K Tarun Chugh, National Secretary Dr. Narinder Singh, Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh, MP Jugal Kishore Sharma, MP (Rajya Sabha) Er Ghulam Ali Khatana, Seh-Prabhari Ashish Sood, former Dy CM Dr. Nirmal Singh, former Dy. CM Kavinder Gupta, General Secretary Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal were also present on the occasion.

G Kishan Reddy, in his address, remembered the days when BJP National President had to initiate Tiranga Yatra from Kanyakumari to Kashmir to hoist the National Flag in Lal Chowk and said that under Modi ji, our National Tricolour can be seen everywhere in the region. He said that in the last 10 years exemplary development was ensured in J&K by Modiji and in the next years this development will reach further heights.

Reddy asked the party cadre to reach every household and seek their support in the forthcoming elections and make the party even stronger. He said that Jammu & Kashmir has always been a source of inspiration for the whole nation and therefore the party cadre has to set examples by their dedicated work.

Tarun Chugh appreciated the J&K BJP cadre for their sacrifices and congratulated them for the 100 per cent result in Lok Sabha elections.

He blamed the former Chief Minister Sheikh Abdullah for destroying the J&K state economically, politically and socially and said that the false narrative was being built from the beginning when the Pakistan Army attack was named as Kabaili Attack.

Chugh blamed the Congress for not correcting the serial mistakes and the state was pushed into a bloodbath. He credited Modi ji for correcting the historical mistakes and for establishing the peace and prosperity in J&K.

Ravinder Raina in his welcome address congratulated the party cadre for fulfilling its commitment made in the last working committee meeting to secure a grand win in Lok Sabha elections.

Dr. Narinder Singh presented the political resolution on the current socio-political scenario in Jammu & Kashmir.

The role of the Modi government in the development of Jammu and Kashmir was appreciated and the working committee congratulated the Modi government for the third consecutive win in Lok Sabha.

Dr. Jitendra Singh elaborated the political resolution and spoke on the Ideological and political vindications of Dr. Shyama Prasad Mookherjee, which the Modi government fulfilled in the last 10 years.

Jugal Kishore Sharma said that the Modi government has won the heart of the people, which has resulted in the formation of 3rd time government in the centre. He elaborated on the various development projects benefiting people of Jammu like extension of Jammu Airport, Railway Station etc.

Er. Ghulam Ali Khatana said that in the last years the Modi government revived the economy that was shattered by Congress in its 10 years of government. He also spoke on the ongoing economic development in J&K.

Ashish Sood said that the whole of India is emotionally attached to J&K and has struggled for the rights here.

He said that we have won the trust of people of J&K and we need to be responsible to the whole nation by telling the real narrative to the people.

Sumil Sharma, General Secretary presented a detailed insight into the Lok Sabha Elections presenting an in depth political analysis of every Assembly segment.

Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal conducted the meeting proceedings. Adv Vibodh Gupta presented the Vote of thanks.

Take pledge to...

Janata Party (BJP). Mookerjee, who strongly opposed to now scrapped Article 370 providing special status to Jammu and Kashmir, died under mysterious circumstances in 1953 shortly after his arrest in Jammu and Kashmir following his agitation for "Ek desh mein do Vidhan, do Pradhan aur Do Nishan nahi challenge" (A single country cannot have two constitutions, two prime ministers, and two national emblems).

"On May 17, 2023, we took a pledge with the focus on the 2024 Lok Sabha elections and we are thankful to 15 lakh workers of the party who worked hard and ensured the win of both the candidates from the two Lok Sabha seats from J&K. We have to rededicate ourselves and outperform Congress and National Conference," Raina said.

He said the Congress and NC have exploited different sections of the people for vote bank and "it was Prime Minister Modi-led government which provided justice to different deprived sections of the society, including West Pakistani and PoJK refugees, Gujjars, Bakewals and Paharis."

"BJP under the leadership of Modi healed the wounds of the people and ensured restoration of peace, prosperity and development. It was the BJP which strengthened gross-root level democracy by implementing the 73rd and 74th constitutional amendments and bridged 'Dil and Dilli ki Door'."

If there is any pending issue that is getting back Pakistan-occupied Kashmir," he said. Union Minister Reddy, who is BJP's election in charge for Jammu and Kashmir, said the meet is part of the party's nationwide programme to prepare a roadmap for the next three to four months after the formation of the NDA-led government at the centre for the third term.

"Such meetings are planned everywhere in the country and we are conducting a detailed review of Lok Sabha results, getting feedback from the workers and preparing a roadmap for the next three to four months," he told reporters.

He said the next assembly elections will definitely come up for discussion during the meeting.

"After abrogation of Article 370, a positive atmosphere is prevailing in J&K and you will see the party's support base further strengthening across Jammu and Kashmir," he said, adding that BJP will highlight all its achievements made in the Union Territory over the last 10 years.

Over 7,500 visit...

of heavy rainfall, but resumed later in the day, they said.

Officials said the Yatra was temporarily suspended on both routes to the cave shrine as a precautionary measure due to heavy rainfall.

Intermittent heavy rainfall has been seen along the Baltal and Pahalgam routes since last night, they said.

"On Saturday, 7,552 pilgrims performed the yatra and had darshan of Baba Bholenath on the eighth day of the annual yatra," officials said.

They said 5,019 male pilgrims, 1,406 female pilgrims, 118 sadhus and three sadhvis were among those who paid obeisance at the cave shrine. Also, 869 security personnel, three transgender persons and 134 children performed the pilgrimage, they said.

Meanwhile, a fresh batch of over 5,800 pilgrims left Jammu city early this morning for the twin base camps in Kashmir to join the annual Amarnath Yatra, officials said.

Braving heavy rains, the ninth batch comprising a total of 5,876 pilgrims, including 1,118 women and 18 children, left the Bhagwati Nagar base camp in two separate convoys of 245 vehicles between 2.50 am and 3.50 am, they said.

While 3,759 pilgrims heading for Pahalgam left in a convoy of 134 vehicles for the Valley, another group of 2,117 devotees in 111 vehicles are heading for Baltal, the officials said.

Advocate murder case...

Saqib Manzoor, was involved in Qadri's killing. Manzoor and another militant commander were killed in a gunfight with police in Srinagar in 2022.

Qayoom, 76, a prominent figure in Kashmir associated with the All Party Hurriyat Conference, was arrested by the SIA after it took over the case in July last year.

He was brought to Jammu by the SIA immediately after his arrest on June 25 and was produced before the presiding officer of the fast track court the next day. It sent him to five-day police remand which was subsequently extended by six days by the special court.

In January, the Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh High Court transferred the case to a Jammu court from Srinagar, saying, "for a fair and impartial trial of a criminal case, it is imperative that the witnesses are in a position to depose in an atmosphere, which is free and not hostile".

The high court order came on an application moved by the SIA, saying no lawyer from Srinagar was willing to render legal assistance due to the involvement of some "influential" lawyers based in the city.

The Srinagar Police first filed a charge-sheet in the case against six accused in the special UAPA court in Srinagar in 2021.

In August 2022, police, as part of its probe, conducted searches at Qayoom's residences and those of two other lawyers in Srinagar, seizing digital devices, bank statements and documents.

Last September, the SIA announced a reward of Rs 10 lakh for any information leading to solving Qadri's killing.

Adversary across border...

said people are fully cooperating with the security agencies and it is a matter of time when the terrorists start getting eliminated.

Three foreign terrorists were killed in a gunfight in the Gandoh area of the Doda district on June 26. This was the first encounter in Gandoh in more than a decade.

Without naming Pakistan, Swain said, "Our adversary and enemy has posed a challenge, thinking that this is a border area and they can take advantage of it by pushing foreign terrorists to revive militancy by creating fear (among the people).

"They (foreign terrorists) are not in big numbers and we are fully determined to defeat them, like we have done in the past, with the help of other forces and cooperation of the public," he said.

The DGP, who was accompanied by Additional Director General of Police (law and order) Vijay Kumar and ADGP (Jammu zone) Anand Jain, said the foreign mercenaries do not belong to anyone and they also do not fall in the ambit of law.

"They are involved in mass killings, taking sheep without paying money and their aim is to create fear and force the public into submission and create disturbance. But it cannot be achieved because the people are with us and we will fight them out," the DGP said.

"Police and its security partners are fully determined and committed to defeating the terrorists with the active support of village defence guards, SPOs and commoners. It is only a question of time when they will start getting killed, and they will start getting eliminated," he added.

The DGP said, "The policy to fight the terrorists is already there and is old but we want to take it to a different level, like when there is an act of bravery on the part of police personnel to safeguard the public against terrorists, they will be honoured which will work as a morale booster for them."

He said the motive behind Saturday's function was to make the family, community and citizens feel proud of those who are working for the security of the nation and to felicitate the brave people.

On the deployment of newly trained border battalion jawans, he said their duty is to gather intelligence, react swiftly on getting any information about terrorists and coordinate with people to create an atmosphere where anyone trying to sneak into this side is apprehended or if he manages to get inside Indian territory cannot think of returning back safely.

"They will not be deployed on the front lines but they will work in villages and coordinate with VDGs and SPOs (for better working of the anti-infiltration grid)," he said.

Earlier, the DGP honoured a total of 32 police personnel, including two officers, for their crucial role in the recent encounter.

He also handed over promotion letters to the SPOs who have now become constables in the police department.

Two BSF personnel...

to Rajbagh. Rescuers managed to save the lives of two BSF personnel but Singh was swept away by a strong current and later he was found in a critical condition and sent to a hospital where he was declared brought dead by doctors, the officials said.

In another accident, BSF jawan Amit Kumar Shukla (30) died when a cab turned turtle inside Chenani-Nashri tunnel in Udhampur district.

Shukla, who was posted in J&K, was on way to his home in Jharkhand on leave, officials said.

CS assesses progress...

about 200 kms a day. The Chief Secretary reviewed the plan for cleaning and beautification of Dal and Nigeen Lakes. He asked for accelerating the pace of progress on all the works.

Regarding running of water transport, the Chief Secretary asked for choosing routes that are more treaded and economically viable for people.

The Chief Secretary also impressed upon the department to lay added focus on implementation of PMAY-Urban scheme as it provides necessary support to urban poor for constructing their own houses. He asked for making it's traction more amenable for public by making the process attractive for the eligible applicants.

Commissioner Secretary, H&UDD, Maudeep Kaur, presented an overview of the works in progress under the Smart City Mission. She detailed out the specific reasons and challenges faced in timely completion of certain works and the renewed deadlines fixed for each project.

She revealed that out of 127 projects, 117 have been completed and 10 are at different stages of completion under Jammu Smart City Limited (JSCL). Similarly, for Srinagar Smart City Limited (SSCL), out of 184 projects, 114 have been completed and rest are under progress.

Giving details about the JSCL projects under progress, it was informed that these included Tawi River Front development, Street development from Mubarak Mandi to Raghunath Bazar, street development from Canal road to Talab Tillo, Library cum Cafeteria at Mubarak Mandi, Oceanarium at Bagh-i-Bahu, Heritage conservation works, improvement of 23 road junctions besides newly taken-up 'waste to wonder' projects in Jammu.

The ongoing works of SSCL that came up for discussion included Lakefront development from Nishat to Naseembagh, development & beautification of Shalimar Canal, upgradation of Batamaloq Qamarwari Road, upgradation of Batamaloq-Moominabad Road, Traditional Souq market at Batamaloq, phased upgradation of Downtown/Shehr-i-khaas markets, Jhelum waterfront development besides other projects.

It was revealed that most of these projects are at advanced stages of completion and are expected to be dedicated to public by September this year.

Ready to conclude...

importance of the "living bridge" between both countries, and the 2030 Roadmap and are said to have agreed that there was a wide range of areas across defence and security, critical and emerging technology, and climate change, for the two countries to deepen cooperation on.

"Discussing the Free Trade Agreement, the Prime Minister said he stood ready to conclude a deal that worked for both sides. The leaders hoped to meet at the earliest opportunity," the spokesperson added.

Both sides have been working towards clinching a pact to enhance the GBP 38.1 billion bilateral trading partnership since January 2022, when Boris Johnson was the British prime minister.

The talks have since had to contend with political turmoil in the UK that first led to a short-lived Liz Truss premiership followed by Rishi Sunak as Britain's first prime minister of Indian heritage.

The Labour Party's election manifesto for Thursday's polls committed to clinching the deal, stating: "We will seek a new strategic partnership with India, including an FTA, as well as deepening cooperation in areas like security, education, technology and climate change." The new Starmer-led government's new Foreign Secretary, David Lammy, is also on the record saying that he wants to "finish the job" on the FTA and said he plans to visit India within the first month of being elected.

"My message to [Finance] Minister Sitharaman and [Trade] Minister Goyal is that Labour is ready to go. Let's finally get our free trade deal done and move on," he said at the India Global Forum in London last week.

We need to...

and always guided the society to embrace and celebrate cultural roots to fulfill their dreams and aspirations", the Lt Governor said.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor felicitated the artists for making significant contribution in their respective fields. He also highlighted the important role of the artists in spreading the message of unity, harmony and peace in the society. The musical evening witnessed the soulful performances by maestros like Pandit Abhay Rustom Sopor, Munir Ahmad Mir, Sunayana Kachroo and other legendary and young artists from Jammu Kashmir: Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Suresh Kumar Gupta, Principal Secretary, Culture Department; Arvind Mattoo, Founder, Koshur Raag; senior officials, members of Koshur Raag and eminent artists from Jammu Kashmir were present on the occasion. Padma Shri Dr SP Varma; Dr Farooq Abdullah, former Member of Parliament and prominent citizens from different walks of life were also present.

Heavy rains lash...

of rainfall, followed by 57.4 mm in the Udhampur district.

Katra, the base camp for the pilgrims visiting Mata Vaishno Devi shrine, recorded 50.1 mm and Kathua district 53.6 mm of rainfall, the official said.

The maximum temperature in Jammu was 30.9 degrees Celsius, which was 4.5 degrees below normal during this part of the season, the MeT spokesman said, adding that the minimum temperature was also 4.2 notches below normal at 21.6 degrees Celsius.

Authorities have issued an advisory in the Jammu region, asking people to avoid water bodies given the wet weather forecast by the Met Department till July 10.

J&K HC Bar Association urges Srinagar admin to lift election curbs

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir High Court Bar Association has requested the Srinagar district administration to remove the restrictions preventing it from holding its elections.

The district magistrate banned the elections on June 25, citing the association's lack of registrations with the competent authority and concerns over potential breaches of peace.

This ban followed the arrest of former president Mian Qayoom, implicated in a conspiracy to murder advocate Babar Qadri in 2020.

In a letter to the Srinagar District Magistrate (Deputy Commissioner), the Bar Association highlighted that the actions of a few should not undermine the association's long-standing role in serving the public and its members.

The association criticised the characterisation of it being illegal and unregistered, despite its century-long existence. It pointed out that after Qayoom's resignation in October 2020, an ad hoc chairman was appointed to manage affairs and organise elections once the pandemic subsided.

However, the association stated the attempts to hold elections were thwarted by the district administration under the guise of COVID-19 and public order concerns.

The Bar Association argued that the use of Section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC) to prevent the elections was neither justified nor constitutional, infringing on their fundamental right to form associations under Article 19 (1) (c) of the Constitution.

Representing nearly 3,000 lawyers, the association insisted that restrictions be lifted, allowing it to conduct elections without interference. It expressed readiness to cooperate with authorities to maintain law and order.

Modi pays tribute to Syama Prasad Mookerjee

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid homage to BJP ideologue



Syama Prasad Mookerjee on his 123rd birth anniversary on Saturday.

Modi said Mookerjee made India proud with his fierce nationalist ideas, and that his sacrifice and dedication to the motherland will always inspire people.

Mookerjee was one of the founders of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh, the forerunner to the Bharatiya Janata Party.

He was a member of Jawaharlal Nehru's Cabinet, which he quit in protest over his differences with the prime minister and then formed the Jana Sangh with support from the RSS.

Mookerjee died in 1953 following his arrest in Jammu and Kashmir during his agitation against the restriction imposed there on Indian citizens who were not from the state. He was opposed to the special status given to the state.

Modi had described his government's decision to revoke Article 370, which granted the state special rights, in 2019 as a fulfilment of Mookerjee's wish.

Plan to set up coop bank, milk producers' union in every district of country: Amit Shah

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

GANDHINAGAR: Union Cooperation Minister Amit Shah on Saturday said the Centre has set a target to have a co-operative bank and a milk producers' union in each district of the country and also establish in the next five years multipurpose primary agriculture credit societies (PACS) in two lakh panchayats that have no cooperative institution. Addressing the 'Sahkar se Samridhhi' (Prosperity through Cooperation) programme organised to mark the 102nd International Day of Cooperatives, Shah thanked the Gujarat government for announcing a subsidy of 50 percent on Nano-urea and Nano-DAP and said their use will increase production and save the soil. He said the cooperative sector is making very important contribution in the rural and agricultural economy, and urged for the promotion of 'cooperation among cooperative' institutions. "The Union Ministry of Cooperation has taken many important steps. The government has set a target that there should not be any state or district in the country where there is not a viable district cooperative bank and a viable district milk producers' union. Even today there are two lakh panchayats in the country where there is no cooperative institution. In the next five years, we will work to create multipurpose PACS in these two lakh panchayats," Shah said. The Centre will soon bring a National Cooperative Policy, he said, adding that 1100 new Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) have been formed in the country, and more than 1 lakh PACS have accepted the new bylaws.