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years of cooperatives. "With the vision of reaching every corner of the nation, Modi established a Ministry of Cooperation at the central level. Today, cooperatives play an active role in 98 per cent of rural areas," he said.

Highlighting the sector's contribution to the economy, he said the ministry launched 61 initiatives in the last four years to strengthen the sector.

"The creation of two lakh new PACS (primary agricultural credit societies) has already started with 40,000 PACS already set up. We have completed the computerization of PACS and all states have accepted the new model bylaws for PACS," he said.

He also spoke of Rajasthan's agricultural contributions.

The minister said the government has initiated research on camel breed preservation and medicinal qualities of camel milk.

"This will ensure the long-term survival of camels in the coming years," he said.

Chief Minister Sharma also highlighted the works and achievements of his government.

"We are working to ensure that the benefits of cooperatives reach our people. Under Modi's leadership, we have a plan that every beneficiary, whether it is the Centre or the State, should get its benefits," he said.

During his visit, Shah inaugurated 24 food grain storage warehouses and 64 mil-lit outlets virtually and also visited an exhibition of cooperative products.

Among those present at the event were Union minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Deputy Chief Ministers Prem Chand Bairwa and Diya Kumari, and former chief minister Vasundhara Raje.

LG's Sainik Sahayta...

Armed Forces and Central Armed Police Forces.

The Kendra, constituted under Government Order No. 933-JK(GAD) of 2025 dated July 17, 2025, aims to provide systematic grievance redressal support to soldiers who are either posted in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir or originally belong to the UT and are presently serving in other parts of the country.

Functioning as a Soldiers' Assistance and Liaison Cell, the Kendra shall serve as a single-window platform for receiving, assessing, and facilitating resolution of grievances submitted by soldiers. It will also arrange appointments with concerned civil or police officials at the district level, follow up on pending matters, maintain a performance dashboard for monitoring, and submit quarterly performance reports to the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor. The Kendra will begin operations immediately from its offices at the Civil Secretariat in both Jammu and Srinagar.

To support the functioning of the LGSSK, the Information Technology Department will provide two officials each at Jammu and Srinagar, proficient in data entry, case tracking, file maintenance, and communications, along with the necessary computer systems and allied hardware. The Estates Department has been directed to provide appropriate accommodation for the Kendra at both Secretariat locations.

Further, for the operationalization of the Kendra, the following officers have been nominated in addition to their own duties: Prasanna Ramaswamy G, IAS, Secretary to the Government, Tribal Affairs Department; Afaq Ahmad, JKAS, Under Secretary to the Government, Revenue Department; and Abhimanyu Singh, JKAS, Manager-cum-Protocol Officer at the Resident Commission, J&K Government, New Delhi.

The establishment of the Lieutenant Governor's Sainik Sahayta Kendra reaffirms the UT Administration's commitment to upholding the welfare and dignity of serving soldiers by ensuring timely and structured redressal of their civilian concerns through an institutional platform.

PWD promotes 20...

Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary, who has been consistently advocating for timely career progression and addressing stagnation in the department.

Congratulating the promotees, the Deputy Chief Minister said that this move is expected to streamline the departmental functioning and bring greater efficiency and accountability in the mechanical engineering wing of the PWD (R&B).

He expressed confidence that the elevated officers will contribute effectively in their new roles and uphold the spirit of service delivery and infrastructure development in Jammu and Kashmir.

The Jammu and Kashmir Engineering fraternity extends heartfelt gratitude to the Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and special thanks to Deputy Chief Minister, who is also PWD (R&B) Minister for their continued efforts in strengthening the engineering cadre.

Shri Amarnathji Yatra...

July 18, 2025. "Due to the continuous rains over last couple of days, urgent repair and maintenance works are required to be carried out on the tracks. Therefore, it has been decided that no movement shall be allowed towards the Holy Cave from the two base camps today. However, yatis who stayed at Panjarni camp during the preceding night are being allowed to proceed down to Baltal under adequate deployment of BRO and Mountain Rescue Teams. The Yatra shall resume in all likelihood tomorrow, depending upon the weather conditions during the course of the day", the Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Vijay Kumar Bidhuri said.

Kavinder reaches Leh...

full swing. Administrative teams have been mobilized to finalize the event venue, seating arrangements, guest lists, and other formalities to ensure a smooth and dignified ceremony. Invitations have been sent to senior political leaders, top civil and police officials, religious heads, and representatives of various social and cultural bodies of Ladakh.

Kavinder Gupta's appointment comes at a crucial time when Ladakh is at the center of various developmental discussions, particularly related to infrastructure, climate resilience, and preservation of cultural heritage. His political maturity and administrative experience are expected to lend momentum to ongoing and future initiatives aimed at holistic growth in the Union Territory.

With his swearing-in set for tomorrow, expectations are high among the people of Ladakh who look forward to a new chapter under his leadership-marked by inclusivity, accelerated development, and deeper engagement with local aspirations.

JMC shines in...



Mission Director, SBM (J&K), Abdul Star, Joint Commissioner (Health & Sanitation), and Dr. Vinod Sharma, Health Officer, JMC.

JMC has made remarkable progress by improving its rank from 248 in 2023 to 42 in 2024, which reflects the dedication of the corporation, the hard work of sanitation workers, and above all, the cooperation of the people of Jammu.

Across Jammu & Kashmir, other urban local bodies also performed well. Srinagar Municipal Corporation secured 32nd rank in the Million Plus Cities category, Beerwah Municipal Committee earned a 1-Star Rating in the Small Cities category, and all other Urban Local Bodies in J&K were awarded ODF+ certification, highlighting improved sanitation and open defecation-free status.

This success has been made possible by sustained efforts of the Housing & Urban Development Department (HUDD), J&K, and JMC, which focused on regular door-to-door garbage collection and scientific disposal of waste, establishment of Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs) in all urban local bodies, scientific bioremediation of legacy waste at dumpsites, and development of Construction and Demolition Waste Processing Plants that will soon become operational in both Jammu and Srinagar.

Special attention has also been given to the maintenance and cleanliness of public and community toilets, and new aspirational toilets are being constructed to make sanitation more accessible and hygienic.

While these awards bring honour to the city, maintaining and improving cleanliness is a shared responsibility. Citizens are urged to segregate their waste at home, cooperate with sanitation workers and follow collection schedules, avoid littering in

public places, use public and community toilets responsibly, and actively participate in cleanliness and plantation campaigns.

This recognition is proof that when citizens and the administration work together, even the most ambitious goals can be achieved. Everyone is encouraged to take this achievement as inspiration to make Jammu a model clean and green city of India. Together, we can build a city we are all proud to call our home.

DGP reviews security...

units to respond to any cross-border threat.

"The visit also aimed at assessing the terrain, visibility advantage, and layout of defensive positions in the forward area," the spokesperson said.

During the field inspection, the DGP emphasised the importance of inter-agency synergy, real-time intelligence sharing, and technology-enabled surveillance to secure sensitive zones like Akhmoor, which have historically been prone to cross-border attempts by terrorist groups and smuggling networks.

The presence of senior leadership from the J&K Police, CRPF, and Indian Army underlines the strategic focus on joint operational readiness in the border zones.

J&K BJP announces...

Sajid Yousif Shah as the Media Co-Convenor.

Ved Prakash is nominated as the State Cells Convenor and Munish Khajuria and Bilal Parry are nominated as State Cells Co-Convenors BJP Jammu & Kashmir.

EOW carries out...

for the said land. This two-kanal land was subsequently sold off by the accused.

It was also alleged that the sale deeds were taken back by the accused for updating records.

"However, after their return, it was found that insertions have been made in the sale deeds by changing khasra numbers," the EOW spokesperson said.

The complainant has also alleged that one Rayaz Ahmad Bhat has forcibly occupied 2.5 kanals of the land at Balhama.

On receiving the complaint, a verification process was initiated at the EOW police station in Srinagar and during the probe, it was prima facie substantiated that the accused had deceived the complainant and inserted wrong survey numbers in the sale deeds, in connivance with the revenue officers and officials concerned.

"During the investigation, it also surfaced that false mutations were inserted afterwards in the revenue records by the then Tehsildar Balhama Nusrat Aziz and the then Patwari Ashiq Ali illegally to confer undue benefit upon Riyaz Ahmad Bhat, who sold the land which did not belong to him," the EOW spokesperson said.

He alleged that Tehsildar Nusrat Aziz Lone and others are involved in another Prevention of Corruption Act case registered in 2021.

Omar lauds progress...

and endeavour seem to have come together to create this exceptional facility."

Highlighting the growing importance of the institution, the CM noted, "It is heartening to see AIIMS already serving patients from across the country. The completion of the Delhi-Amritsar-Katra Expressway will further facilitate access for patients." He expressed hope that other healthcare institutions across Jammu and Kashmir would emulate this model of excellence.

The Chief Minister assured full government support to the institution and its vision of growth and expansion. He praised the ambitions of the AIIMS management and hoped that AIIMS Kashmir be completed soon and become operational.

While releasing the Manual of Disaster Management prepared by AIIMS Jammu, the Chief Minister underscored the need for readiness. "We sincerely hope never to face a situation that requires the use of this manual. Yet, in the interest of preparedness, it is better to have and not need than to need and not have. Such forward thinking initiatives by institutions like AIIMS are commendable," he said.

Addressing the recent incident of assault on a doctor in a government hospital, the CM asserted, "Doctors must never bear the brunt of violence. They dedicate themselves selflessly, often beyond duty hours. Their intentions and efforts are unwavering and they must never be blamed for outcomes beyond their control." He added that strict action had been directed in the recent case. "I have asked for a case to be filed and justice to be delivered. Our doctors must work free from fear and intimidation," he emphasized.

Advisor to the CM, Nasir Aslam Wani, also addressed the gathering and congratulated AIIMS Jammu for its impressive infrastructure, lush green campus and emergence as a hub of medical excellence. He appreciated the hospital's patient friendly registration process and the quality of treatment facilities.

Prof. Dr. Shakti Kumar Gupta presented a comprehensive overview of the institution's progress, sharing vision of AIIMS Jammu to become a global centre of healthcare, research and education. He revealed that patient feedback indicates that 82 percent of discharged patients are "highly satisfied", with another 17 percent "satisfied" with the services provided. He also outlined several key statistics demonstrating the hospital's growing capabilities.

Earlier, the Chief Minister toured various sections of the campus, including diagnostic labs, testing facilities, in-patient wards and high-tech academic classrooms, taking stock of infrastructure and operational readiness.

'Strict action in...

filed and justice to be delivered. Our doctors must work free from fear and intimidation," Abdullah said while addressing a function at AIIMS in the Samba district.

The chief minister said that doctors must never bear the brunt of violence. "They dedicate themselves selflessly, often beyond duty hours. Their intentions and efforts are unwavering and they must never be blamed for outcomes beyond their control," he said.

Abdullah said that doctors cannot save everyone. "Life and death are not in the hands of doctors but in the hands of the Almighty. It is not acceptable to assault a doctor for having no fault. It cannot be tolerated. You have to file a case against the person who assaulted the doctor," he said.

He asked how a doctor can perform their duty if they are afraid of the outcome of treatment. "So long as I am here, we will do everything possible to ensure that medical practitioners are in a safe environment while performing their duties," he said.

He further said that one of the female doctors sustained an injury and has been admitted for treatment. He revealed the CCTV footage of the incident at a press conference, clearly showing the doctors being physically attacked.

"I was on emergency duty yesterday. I got a call that a patient was unstable and not able to breathe. I immediately rushed and removed the tube, but still the patient was not able to breathe. During these medical procedures, the patient's attendants were getting aggressive. I tried to make them understand the procedures, but they became aggressive. We do not deserve this treatment because we give our hundred percent," said the doctor who was assaulted.

The Doctors Association Jammu on Thursday reiterated its demand for security cover at medical facilities for doctors and said that the healthcare system will collapse if such incidents continue.

India test-fires...

carrying a payload of up to 500 kgs. It can carry both conventional as well as nuclear warheads.

The Agni-I missile has a range of 700-900 kms and it can carry a payload of 1,000 kgs.

Both Prithvi-II and Agni-I missiles have been an integral part of India's nuclear deterrence.

"Short-range ballistic missiles -- Prithvi-II and Agni-I -- were successfully test-fired from the Integrated Test Range in Chandipur, Odisha on July 17," the ministry said in a brief statement.

It said the launches "validated all operational and technical parameters. "These tests were conducted under the aegis of the Strategic Forces Command," the ministry said.

On test-firing of Akash missile, the ministry said it carries added significance as it follows the "exceptional performance" of India's indigenously developed air defence systems during Operation Sindoor.

Akash Prime is an upgraded variant of the Akash weapon system built for the Indian Army.

The test-firing of the missile in Ladakh assumed significance as it is close to the Line of Actual Control (LAC).

"India on July 16 achieved a significant milestone by successfully destroying two aerial high speed unmanned targets at high-altitude in Ladakh by Akash Prime, the upgraded variant of Akash weapon system for the Indian Army," the ministry said in a separate statement.

It said the weapon system is customised to operate in altitude above 4,500 metres and has latest upgrades including indigenously developed radio frequency seeker.

"Based on the operational feedbacks from users, various upgrades are made to improve the operational effectiveness, demonstrating the advantage of the ecosystem created for the indigenous weapon system," the defence ministry said.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh complimented the Indian Army, the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), and the industry on this "remarkable achievement", it said.

Notorious criminal detained under PSA

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: District Police Udhampur has booked and detained a notorious criminal under the J&K Public Safety Act (PSA) for his continued involvement in criminal activities.

The accused, Simran Khan S/O Bashir Ahmed R/O Jakhani A/P Magheni, District Udhampur has been involved in a series of criminal acts for which multiple FIRs have been registered against him.

He was not only a habitual offender but was also involved in selling contraband substances to the local youth of the district, thereby endangering their future and disrupting societal harmony.

His repeated involvement in unlawful activities posed a serious threat to public peace, safety and tranquility, compelling the authorities to take preventive action by detaining him under the J&K Public Safety Act.

Crack-down on drug peddlers; 4 arrested, heroin, Ganja & Tapentadol tablets seized

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: In a continued crackdown on drug trafficking Rajouri Police have arrested four drug peddlers in three separate incidents across the district. This led to the seizure of a total of 27 grams of heroin-like narcotic substance, 180 grams of ganja and 1700 Tapentadol tablets.

A police party from Police Post Lamberi during naka duty apprehended two suspects moving on foot from Siot towards Nowshera. On spotting the police both attempted to flee but were swiftly intercepted. The arrested individuals have been identified as Shabaz Ahmed @ Machi S/O Niaz Ahmed R/O Malik Market Rajouri and Mohd Iqbal S/O Mohd Sadeeq R/O Jawahar Nagar Rajouri.

During personal search the following contraband was recovered: 13 grams of heroin-like substance and 1700 Tapentadol tablets.

In this regard a case FIR No. 94/2025 under relevant provisions of the NDPS Act has been registered at Police Station Nowshera. Further investigation is underway to trace links to a larger drug network.

In another incident a team from Police Station Sunderbani, while conducting routine checking at ITI Naka Sunderbani, intercepted a suspicious individual moving on foot.

The accused has been identified as Aftab Ahmed S/O Saber Hussain R/O Ward No. 1 Fatehpur Rajouri.

During his personal search Police recovered 8 grams of heroin-like substance from his possession. A case FIR No. 46/2025 under relevant sections of the NDPS Act has been registered at Police Station Sunderbani. Investigation is ongoing.

In a separate incident, a police party from Police Station Rajouri, during patrolling in the Jawahar Nagar area, noticed a suspicious person approaching Khandli Bridge from the Palma side. On seeing the police team, he tried to return in haste but was apprehended. The individual was identified as Mohd Hanief S/O Abdul Shakoor R/O Panyal Dhara Badhoon.

During his personal search, the police recovered: 180 grams of ganja-like substance and 06 grams of heroin-like substance. In this regard a case FIR No. 363/2025 under relevant sections of the NDPS Act has been registered at Police Station Rajouri. Further investigation is in progress to unearth the forward and backward linkages involved.

Missing lady traced, reunited with family

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: An information was received at PP Ponnichak about the missing of one lady Name withheld R/O Camp Gole Gujral Jammu, whose missing report was entered at PP Ponnichak on 14/07/2025.

Acting upon this, a Police Team of PP Ponnichak led by IC PP Ponnichak put strenuous efforts and with the help of technical assistance as well as human intervention traced out the missing lady from Jalandhar Punjab and after completing all legal formalities the said Lady has been handed over to her legal heirs. Accordingly missing report has been closed.

General public has appreciated the swift action of Police in tracing out the missing Lady.

Absconder nabbed after six-months manhunt

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a determined effort to uphold law and order, District Police Jammu in Bishnah area has successfully apprehended an absconder who had been evading arrest for six months.

The suspect identified as Akash Masih S/o Kewal Masih R/o Gurdaspur Punjab at present Vijaypur District Samba, was wanted in connection with a case registered under FIR No. 61/2024, charged under Sections 279, 337 and 338 of the IPC at Police Station Bishnah.

A dedicated team from Police Station Bishnah, Under the supervision of Station house officer Inspector Sushil Choudhary acting on a non bailable warrant issued by the JMJC Bishnah, tracked and arrested the accused, who had been on the run since December 2024.

Two booked for selling banned nylon thread

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Based on reliable information about sale of dreaded Nylon thread (Gattu), a police team of P/s Bishnah led by PSI Mohd Zahid under the command of SHO PS Bishnah Insp Susheel Choudhary and supervision of SDPO R S Pura & SP Headquarters Jammu conducted raids in the area of Sarore falling within the jd of PS Bishnah.

During raid, Police party seized 30 rolls of Nylon thread (Gattu) total 15 rolls from each persons who were engaged in selling Synthetic Nylon thread made in China which is banned in District Jammu.

The seller identified as Anil Gupta S/o Krishan Lal Gupta R/o Tarore, Bari Brahmna and Rakesh Gupta S/o Krishan Lal Gupta R/o Tarore, Bari Brahmna.

In this regard two separate FIR's under relevant section of law stand registered against above said persons and further investigation is underway.

4 vehicles including 3 dumpers seized for illegal mining

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: Continuing its drive against illegal mining, Samba Police has seized four vehicles including three dumpers in the jurisdiction of Police Stations Ghagwal and Samba which were being used for illegal transportation/mining of the construction material.

Police teams headed by SHO PS Ghagwal and Incharge Police Posts Supwal & Mansar of PS Samba while performing patrolling duty in their jurisdictional areas, have seized three dumpers bearing registration Nos. JK21J-8683, JK21E-9867, JK14H-5649 and a tractor trolley without No. which were being used for illegal transportation/mining of the construction material in the area.

The above mentioned vehicles have been seized by Samba Police and handed over to the Geology & Mining Department, Samba for further legal action.

Jammu police recover stolen bus within 24 hours

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

AKHNOOR: In a swift and commendable action, Jammu Police have successfully recovered a stolen passenger bus within 24 hours of the incident, reflecting their prompt response and effective coordination in tackling crime.

On July 16, 2025, a complaint was lodged by Bharat Bhushan, son of Krishan Lal, resident of Sungal Morh, Akhmoor, reporting the theft of his bus bearing registration number JK02BK0346 from the Akhmoor area.

Acting promptly, a case was registered, and a special police team led by Inspector Sanjeev Chib, SHO Akhmoor, was constituted to trace the missing vehicle.

Following intensive and coordinated efforts, the team successfully traced the stolen bus in the Patoli area, falling under the jurisdiction of Police Station Domana. The vehicle was recovered in a safe condition.

Further investigation is underway to identify and apprehend the individuals involved in the theft.

Notorious drug peddler arrested; heroin recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: Police Team of Police Post Roundmoail led by its ICPP while performing vehicle checking duty at Roundmoail naka point stopped one bike bearing regd. No. JK14K-3278 for checking purposes.

Upon the frisking of rider namely Amit Singh S/O Kuldeep Singh R/O Sunthan, Jaganoo, Udhampur. Police team recovered 5.85 grams of heroin like contraband substance from the above said person who has been arrested on spot.

In this regard, A Case FIR No. 258/2025 U/S 8/21/22 NDPS Act has been registered in PS Udhampur.

Further investigation of case is underway.