

## !! Continuations from Page 1 !!

### J&K emerges as...

and thinkers' responsibility to accelerate industrial growth, secure private investment, promote economic activity and build a private sector that supports the country's economic stability," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor highlighted that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Jammu Kashmir has emerged as a major hub of education and innovation.

He lauded the IIM Jammu for its significant contribution in J&K's education sector. He said the Tejas Sports Complex inaugurated today symbolizes IIM Jammu's commitment to students' holistic growth.

The Lieutenant Governor observed that the students' new journey at IIM Jammu will forge a powerful connection between the academic world and the real world, ensuring that through a blend of skills and values, they emerge competent professionals ready to contribute to nation-building.

He emphasised that 5Cs: Collaboration, Critical Thinking, Communication, Creativity and Curiosity will equip business leaders of tomorrow with essential life skills, empowering them to effectively navigate challenges of the rapidly evolving world.

"Technology is rapidly reshaping our world, especially the business landscape. Your role will be to utilise management practices and technological innovation for ease of doing business and enhancing ease of living for all.

Your leadership and problem-solving skills will provide fresh impetus to social development, fostering local entrepreneurship culture through sustainable business models," the Lieutenant Governor further said.

The new batch of students at IIM Jammu brings together a diverse group across its various academic programs, with a total enrolment of 474 students for the academic year. This includes participants in the MBA, MBA (Healthcare & Hospital Management), Ph.D. & Ph.D. (Working Professionals), and EMBA programs.

Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu; Sudhir Langer, CEO & MD, RPSG FMCG, senior officials, HoDs, faculty members, and incoming batches of students were present on the occasion.

### HIGHLIGHTS...

thinkers' responsibility to accelerate industrial growth, secure private investment, promote economic activity and build a private sector that supports country's economic stability.

### US designates LeT...

interests, countering terrorism, and enforcing President Trump's call for justice for the Pahalgam attack," he added.?

In New Delhi, India welcomed the decision by the US with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar describing it as a "strong affirmation" of India-US counter-terror cooperation.

India said the designation of TRF is a "timely and important" step and that it has consistently emphasised the need for global cooperation in the fight against terrorism.

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said India remains committed to a "policy of zero tolerance" towards terrorism and will continue to work closely with its international partners to ensure that terrorist organisations and their proxies are held accountable.

"The government of India welcomes the decision of the United States Department of State to designate TRF as a Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO) and as a Specially Designated Global Terrorist (SDGT). We acknowledge and appreciate the leadership of Secretary of State Marco Rubio in this regard," it said.

In a social media post, Jaishankar specially complimented US Secretary of State Marco Rubio for designating the LeT proxy.

"Appreciate @SecRubio and @StateDept for designating TRF-a Lashkar-e-Tayyiba (LeT) proxy-as a Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO) and Specially Designated Global Terrorist (SDGT). It claimed responsibility for the April 22 Pahalgam attack," he said.

The MEA said India welcomes the decision of the US State Department to designate TRF as an FTO and SDGT. The TRF, a "proxy" of the Pakistan-based terrorist organisation LeT, has been involved in numerous terror-related activities, including the heinous attack on civilians in Pahalgam for which it twice claimed responsibility, the MEA said in its statement.

### Fresh batch of...

pilgrims left with religious fervour for Amarnath from Jammu, which transformed into a "city of divinity." There is a huge rush at the counters for on-the-spot registration, and over 4,000 fresh devotees arrived in Jammu from various parts of the country to get themselves registered. They were housed in different lodging centres.

So far, 2.50 lakh pilgrims have paid obeisance at the shrine since the Yatra began from the Valley on July 3. More than 4 lakh people have registered online for the pilgrimage so far. Last year, over 5.10 lakh pilgrims paid obeisance at the cave shrine, which houses a naturally formed ice lingam. The 38-day pilgrimage will conclude on August 9.

### CM interacts with...

Workers Welfare Board (JKBOCWWB). He urged the government to expedite the appointment of the Board's Chairman and to facilitate prompt approval of welfare funds for lakhs of construction workers across J&K. In addition, deputations from Beerwah, Indervall, Baramulla, and other regions also met the Chief Minister to highlight issues specific to their constituencies and local population. Representatives from minority communities too called on the Chief Minister and flagged various issues and demands for his attention. The Chief Minister gave a patient hearing with all visiting delegations and individuals and assured them that their genuine concerns will be addressed on priority, reaffirming his government's commitment to inclusive and responsive governance.

### ACB arrests JDA...

a discreet verification was conducted, which corroborates the demand of bribe by the public servant concerned and accordingly, a case FIR No. 14/2025 U/S 7 of Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 was registered in Police Station ACB Jammu and investigation taken up. During the course of investigation, the official said, a trap team headed by Gazetted rank officer was constituted which laid a successful trap and accused public servant was caught red-handed while demanding and accepting bribe amount of Rs 10,000 from the complainant in the presence of independent witnesses.

The accused was arrested on the spot by the ACB team after following due process of law, official said adding that the bribe money was also recovered from his possession in presence of independent witnesses associated with the trap team.

Moreover, search is being conducted in the residential house of the accused situated in Flore Haramkund Gajansoo, Thsil Marh, District Jammu in presence of independent witness and Magistrate, official said adding that further investigation of the instant case is going on.

### DGP visits Doda...

deliberations focused on multi-agency coordination, domination of vulnerable areas, and integrated intelligence flow to pre-empt and neutralise any security threats in the twin districts of Doda and Kishtwar.

The DGP got a detailed briefing from field commanders on deployment patterns, current operational challenges, and area-specific threat assessments. Special focus was laid on enhancing grid saturation in higher reaches, securing transit routes, and hardening soft targets. He also reviewed the integration of real-time intelligence inputs with area domination plans, stressing the need for proactive policing and early-warning systems through community contact and covert surveillance.

Nalin Prabhat emphasized the importance of joint operational synergy between the J&K Police, Army, and CAPFs. He called for sustained high-altitude area patrols, layered checkpoints, and night-time area domination, particularly in infiltration-prone and previously disturbed regions. He appreciated the work being done by the Doda and Kishtwar police in ensuring peace and law and order despite the rugged terrain and recent attempts by terror elements to revive activities in the Chenab Valley.

Underscoring the importance of both tactical readiness and public confidence, the DGP directed officers to maintain a visible security presence in urban centers while remaining agile and unpredictable in rural and forested belts. He also reviewed logistical preparedness, including mobility, communications, and emergency response plans to ensure readiness for any exigency during the forthcoming festivals and events.

### PSC reviews school...

in Ladakh through enhanced infrastructure, promotion of local languages and culture in education, and improved connectivity in remote areas.

A detailed presentation was made by A. Sirja, Economic Advisor, Department of School Education & Literacy (DoSE&L), Ministry of Education, Government of India. She presented the current status of school education in the UT, drawing on data from UDISE+ 2023-24. This included enrolment figures, status of schools, teachers and infrastructure, performance grading index, and findings from the PARAKH RASHTRA survey.

Updates were also shared on elementary schools, residential school facilities, hostels,

vocational education under SAMAGRA Shiksha, and budgetary details such as year-wise approved budgets, actual releases, and expenditures.

Progress on flagship schemes like PM POSHAN, implementation of Vidya Saniksha Kendra and DIKSHA, and challenges in execution were also highlighted.

The second presentation was delivered by Bhanu Prabha, Secretary, School Education, UT Ladakh. She provided insights into Ladakh's educational ecosystem, including trends in enrolment, government school status, financial aspects of SAMAGRA Shiksha, and initiatives like the Ladakh Education Conclave and PM SHRI Schools.

She also discussed progress in winter residential coaching, STEM education, digital transformation, improved resource management, and the newly introduced teacher award policy.

Special attention was given to special education, co-location of Anganwadi centres, and integration of early childhood care into the school system.

Following the presentations, members of the PSC engaged in an interactive session with officials from the UT administration. They raised key concerns related to vacancies in schools, the enrolment process, gender disparity in sanitation facilities (especially toilets for girls), limited access to skill-based education, delays in fund allocation, and internet connectivity issues in remote areas.

Additional queries were made regarding the teacher recruitment process, required qualifications, coordination among authorities, and the comparison between government and private schools in terms of fee structures and infrastructure.

The impact of harsh weather and the status of implementation of the New Education Policy in the UT were also discussed.

Addressing these concerns, Dr. Pawan Kotwal, Chief Secretary of UT Ladakh, provided detailed responses and shared updates on upcoming recruitment drives, infrastructure improvements, and new projects aimed at strengthening the region's education system.

He reaffirmed the administration's commitment to educational reform and assured the Committee that necessary steps are being taken to ensure equitable access to quality education throughout the UT.

The meeting was attended by members of the PSC on Education, Women, Children, Youth and Sports, chaired by Digvijaya Singh.

Also present were senior officials from the Ministry of Education and the UT administration, including Vimal Kumar, Joint Secretary; Dr. Pawan Kotwal, Chief Secretary, UT Ladakh; Sanjeev Khirwar, Principal Secretary; A. Sirja, Economic Advisor; DoSE&L, Ministry of Education; Vikram Singh Malik, Administrative Secretary; Sanjit Rodrigues, Secretary, Industries & Commerce; Rudra Gound PT., Secretary, Housing & Urban Development; S. Venugopal, Ministry of Education; Bhanu Prabha, Secretary, School Education; and the Chief Education Officers of Leh and Kargil districts along with other senior officials from the education department.

### Modi sounds poll...

and the prime accused, for a stay on trial.

"Employment generation could have never taken place in Bihar under people who made aspirants part with their land in the name of providing jobs," said the PM.

In contrast, he pointed out, "lakhs of youths in Bihar" have got loans under the Mudra Yojana promoting self-employment, and his government has also launched other schemes like Rs 15,000 assistance to youth getting their first jobs in the private sector.

"The scheme will be rolled out on August 1 and the Centre will be bearing an expenditure of Rs one lakh crore for the same," said Modi.

He also raised slogans in Hindi, roughly translating "we will build a new Bihar with the NDA in power once again" and "the resolve of Bihar is unshaken, to remain with the NDA always".

Modi alleged that under the RJD-Congress rule, the poor could not afford pucca houses and the relatively better off "feared getting their homes whitewashed or distempered, as this could attract the attention of marauding gangs involved in kidnapping for ransom". In contrast, he said, over the past 11 years, "four crore houses have been built across the country under the PM Awas Yojana, of which 50 lakh are in Bihar. This figure surpasses the total population of countries like Norway, New Zealand and Singapore". "In Motihari alone, the around three lakh families have got pucca houses and the figure continues to grow. Today, more than 12,000 families have got keys to their new houses and 40,000 families have received funds in their bank accounts to build pucca houses", said the PM, whose speech was preceded by launch of development projects worth more than Rs 7,000 crore.

Besides the Bihar CM, who is a key NDA partner, the PM shared the stage with Governor Arif Mohammed Khan, besides Union ministers belonging to the state, including Chirag Paswan, Jitan Ram Manjhi, Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan, Nityanand Rai and Ramnath Thakur.

### ED files charge sheet...

Satyanand Yajee and Kewal Singh Virk, their company Onkareshwar Properties Pvt. Ltd. and some others have been named as accused, the sources said.

The court is yet to take cognisance of the prosecution complaint.

Vadra has always denied wrongdoing and has said the case was a "political vendetta" against him and his family that also comprises former Congress president Sonia Gandhi and Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi.

His office said that as the court is yet to even take cognisance of the matter, Vadra has not had the opportunity to examine the charge sheet.

"As a law-abiding Indian citizen, Mr Vadra has always and will continue to extend his fullest cooperation to the authorities and he is confident that at the end of it all, the truth will prevail and he will be cleared of any wrongdoing. Mr Vadra is looking forward to the opportunity to defend himself and clear his name in court," the statement said.

The ED has claimed in the charge sheet that Vadra is accused of money laundering and has sought confiscation of the assets attached.

### Kavinder Gupta sworn...

Kargil Hill Councils; GOC 14 Corps, Lt Gen Hitesh Bhalla; DGP Ladakh Police, Dr SD Singh Janwal; administrative secretaries, heads and members of religious and political institutions, DC Leh, Romil Singh Donk; SSP Leh, Shruti Arora, and various other officials were present in the event.

### Every disaster lesson...

has a moral responsibility to contribute to disaster resilience by being aware, prepared and proactive."

Highlighting Jammu and Kashmir's unique geopolitical and environmental vulnerabilities, the Chief Secretary emphasized the UT's susceptibility to earthquakes, glacial lake outburst floods (GLOFs), landslides, cross-border tensions and climate-induced challenges. "Given our exposure to multiple hazards, our preparedness must be all-encompassing, institutionally sound and technologically enabled," he stated.

In his inaugural address, Principal Secretary, Home and DMRR&R, Chandraker Bharti, described the IRS as a newly notified system in J&K aimed at establishing a well-coordinated command structure during disasters. He explained that the IRS, modeled on international best practices and customized by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), defines precise roles for each officer to eliminate confusion during emergencies. Brigadier Singh stressed the critical roles of central and UT governments, NDMA, SDMAS, DDMAs and block-level institutions in developing a seamless and scalable disaster response framework. He reiterated the need for integrated planning, resource allocation, and community-based preparedness to make India one of the most disaster-resilient nations in the world.

## Balbir congratulates Billawaria on being appointed BJP General Secretary

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Balbir Ram Rattan, National General Secretary of Guru Ravidass Vishwa Mahapeeth, Indian Branch General Secretary of the British Ravidasia Heritage Foundation, and member of the Begampura Vishwa Mahasabha, extended heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to senior BJP leader and former Deputy Mayor Baldev Singh Billawaria on being appointed the new General Secretary of the Bharatiya Janata Party, Jammu & Kashmir. He also presented Baldev with a portrait of Guru Ravidass.

Balbir Ram Rattan stated that Baldev Singh Billawaria is a dedicated, hardworking leader with deep grassroots connections and extensive experience in public service. He has worked for the party for many years. In recognition of his contribution to both the party and society, he has been entrusted with this important responsibility, which will certainly strengthen the organization further.

Balbir Ram Rattan expressed hope that Billawaria's new role will help make BJP's organizational activities more effective. He said that Billawaria's working style, public relations abilities, and leadership skills will benefit the party in the times to come. He further added that this appointment is a positive step for the BJP in Jammu & Kashmir.



## Bovine smuggling bids foiled; 4 arrested, 16 bovines rescued

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI/UDHAMPUR: In a strong action against bovine smuggling, Rajouri Police foiled a bovine smuggling attempt during routine naka checking at Khalsa Chowk rajouri.

A police team from Police Station Rajouri intercepted two vehicles-bearing registration numbers JK11B 9450 driven by Mohd Hafeez S/O Mohd Hanif R/O Ari Mendhar and JK11F 5651 driven by Mohd Irfan S/O Mohd Rafiq R/O Kangota Khawas Rajouri.

During Checking , total of 10 bovine animals were found being transported without any valid permission or documentation. The animals were loaded in a highly cruel manner.

Both accused were arrested on the spot and the vehicles used in the commission of the offense have been seized. In this regard two separate FIRs-No. 360/2025 and 361/2025 have been registered under relevant sections of law at Police Station Rajouri. Further investigation is underway.

Police team of Police Post Tikri led by its ICPP while performing vehicle checking duty at Tikri Naka point signalled to stop one vehicle (Tata Mobile) bearing regd. No. JK06B- 2419 for checking purposes. Upon checking, 06 Bovines were found tied cruelly inside the vehicle.

All the bovines were rescued and shifted to a safer place. Accused driver namely Mohd. Shabir S/O Mohd. Ismail and his associate namely Khadam Hussain S/O Mohd. Ismail both residents of Qazigund, Anantnag were arrested on spot.

In this regard, case FIR No. 110/2025 under relevant sections of law stands registered at Police Station Rehanbal.

## Theft case solved; stolen motorcycle recovered, accused arrested

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

DODA: On July 7, 2025, a written complaint was received at Police Station Doda from Feroz Ahmed S/O Abdul Latief R/O Chinar Morh Pul Doda, regarding the theft of his motorcycle bearing registration number JK06A-3945, stolen from Chinar Morh Pul Doda.

Acting on the complaint, Case FIR No. 161/2025 under Section 303(2) of the BNS Act was registered at Police Station Doda, and investigation was initiated promptly.

On the directions of SSP Doda, Sh. Sandeep Mehta-JKPS a special investigation team was constituted under the supervision of SHO Doda, Inspector Parvaiz Ahmed Khanday, and ICPP Pul Doda, PSI Ishan Sharma.

During the course of investigation, several suspects were rounded up for questioning. A breakthrough was achieved when a suspect identified as Umair Trak S/O Jaffar Hussain R/O Pranoo, Bhaderwah was apprehended. On sustained interrogation, he confessed to the crime, and on his disclosure, the stolen motorcycle was recovered. Further investigation is underway.

## Missing lady traced, re-united with family

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

DODA: A missing report of a lady namely Kajal Devi D/o Somnath R/o Chanderbatan Tehsil Bhagwah District Doda was entered at PS Dessa on 06.07.2025 and now she has been traced and re-united with her family.

Official sources while giving details has said that Kajal Devi D/o Somnath R/o Chanderbatan Tehsil Bhagwah District Doda was entered at PS Dessa had gone missing and her missing report was entered at Police Station Dessa on 06.07.2025.

Soon after registration of the missing report, search of the said lady was started. On the directions of SSP Doda, a team was constituted from PS Dessa led by SHO PS Dessa DySP (P) Aeshal Nisar in search of missing lady. The Police team by using all possible means as well as technical help, succeeded in tracing her out today on 18.07.2025. Accordingly, after completing all codal formalities, the lady has been handed over to her family and missing report has been closed.

## Several houses damaged amid heavy rainfall in Sanjote

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

MENDHAR: Several houses were damaged, partially or substantially, as heavy rain lashed Mendhar area of Poonch district last night,

Police said the most affected area remained Panchayat Sanjot's Ward No. 4 where at least six residential houses and a madrasa (educational institution) suffered damage. According to locals, rains led to landslide subsidence amid ongoing construction of four-way road through the area.

The damaged could have been substantially prevented had a protective Protection wall been constructed by the authorities, said Amar Khan

Confirming the damage to some structures, a senior officer said that assessment will be carried out soon. "While there are reports about damage to some structures but exact damage is not known yet and would be known after assessment.

## Woman arrested for assault on GMC doctors; strike called off

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The two-day strike by junior doctors at Government Medical College (GMC) Jammu, which had crippled emergency and outpatient services, was called off on Friday following the arrest of a woman involved in a violent assault on a female postgraduate doctor inside the hospital's emergency wing.

The incident, captured on CCTV and widely circulated, occurred on July 16 shortly after the death of a 65-year-old critically ill patient, referred from PGIMER Chandigarh, who was suffering from a brain hemorrhage and succumbed to respiratory arrest.

Moments after the announcement of his death, a group of attendants reportedly stormed the emergency area. In the footage, a woman can be seen verbally abusing and physically attacking two female doctors, including kicking one in the abdomen. The injured doctor, a first-year postgraduate, was admitted with internal bleeding. Her condition is now reported to be stable.

The violent attack sparked widespread outrage across the medical community and led to an immediate strike by junior doctors, who demanded the attacker's arrest and called for urgent enhancements in hospital security.

"We called off the strike around 2:00 PM today after being informed that the assailant has been arrested. This is a crucial step toward justice," said Dr. Sandeep Singh, President of the Resident Doctors' Association (RDA), GMC Jammu. "However, for long-term safety, we will be approaching the DIG Jammu with support from our Principal. We are pressing for comprehensive security measures throughout the hospital-not just in the emergency ward."

Medical associations across the region have reiterated demands for stringent safety protocols, including permanent police presence in sensitive hospital zones and strict enforcement of legal provisions protecting healthcare workers.

While normal services have resumed, the episode has once again underscored the vulnerability of frontline medical professionals and reignited calls for systemic reform to ensure their safety.

## Drug peddler arrested; contraband substance recovered

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BUDGAM: Police in Budgam have arrested a drug peddler and recovered contraband substance from his possession in Chadoora area.

A police team of Police Station Chadoora, intercepted a suspicious person carrying a polythene bag in Repora village.

He has been identified as Bashir Ahmed Ganie son of Ghulam Qadir Ganie resident of Wagam, Chadoora. During search, 307 grams of charas-like substance wrapped in corn husk were recovered from his possession. Accordingly, a case vide FIR No. 133/2025 under relevant sections of law has been registered at Police Station Chadoora and investigation has been initiated.

## ANTF Kashmir seizes large cache of poppy straw

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BUDGAM: In a significant development in the ongoing fight against drug trafficking, the Anti-Narcotics Task Force (ANTF), Kashmir has successfully recovered a substantial quantity of illicit contraband, furthering its commitment to eradicating the drug menace from the UT.

Acting on specific intelligence inputs, a dedicated team of ANTF conducted a meticulously planned operation at Mulashulla, District Budgam, leading to the recovery of huge quantity of poppy straw (locally known as fukki).

The contraband was concealed in a manner intended to avoid detection, but the swift and professional response of the ANTF personnel ensured its seizure. The accused identified as Mohammad Maqbool Ganaie son of Ghulam Hussain Ganaie resident of Mulashulla Beerwah Budgam was apprehended on the spot and taken into custody.

Accordingly, a case under sections of NDPS Act was registered at ANTF Kashmir, and investigation has been initiated to unearth the backward and forward linkages of the narcotic supply chain.

