

!! Continuations from Page 1 !! Vice President Jagdeep...

India for her unwavering support and the soothing wonderful working relationship we maintained during my tenure.

"I express my deep gratitude to the Hon'ble Prime Minister and the esteemed Council of Ministers. Prime Minister's cooperation and support have been invaluable, and I have learned much during my time in office," he said in his letter to the President.

"The warmth, trust, and affection I have received from all the Hon'ble Members of Parliament would ever be cherished at and embedded in my memory," he said.

Dhankhar also said that he is deeply thankful for the invaluable experiences and insights he has gained as Vice President in India's democracy.

"It has been a privilege and satisfaction to witness and partake in India's remarkable economic progress and unprecedented exponential development during this significant period. Serving in this transformative era of our nation's history has been a true honour:

"As I leave this esteemed office, I am filled with pride in Bharat's global rise and phenomenal achievements and hold unwavering confidence in her brilliant future," he said.

Born on May 18, 1951 in Kithana village in Jhunjhunu district of Rajasthan, he claimed to be the son of the farmer who rose to the second highest constitutional position in the country.

Salaries of 4...

meeting, the DDC reviewed division-wise registrations, applications, and installations under the scheme. It was informed that a total of 1,057 registrations have been completed, with 207 beneficiaries having deposited the upfront cost. "So far, 168 rooftop solar systems have been installed, while 39 more are at various stages of completion" the meeting was told.

While acknowledging the progress, the DDC expressed concern over the shortfall in achieving the district's overall targets. In view of the underperformance, the DDC ordered to withhold the salaries of four Junior Engineers (JEs). DDC Malik further stated that if performance levels are not improved immediately, strict action will be taken.

The DDC directed the Executive Engineer PDD to ensure consistent follow-up on targets and to hold underperforming staff accountable. She emphasized the need for a coordinated and fast-track approach to bridge existing gaps and achieving the set goals within stipulated timelines.

The DDC also stressed the importance of intensified public awareness and outreach activities to educate citizens about the benefits of rooftop solar energy. She called for door-to-door campaigns, community engagement, and the use of all available platforms to encourage greater public participation in this flagship scheme, which promotes clean and sustainable energy solutions.

Challenges affecting implementation were also discussed, including the ongoing strike by daily wagers and issues related to banking processes. DDC Malik instructed the concerned departments to proactively engage with bank cluster heads to expedite loan processing and address procedural delays.

The meeting was attended by ADDC Reasi Sukhdev Singh Samyal, CPO Narinder Kumar, Executive Engineer PDD, AEEs and other senior officials.



Landslide hits Mata...

Magistrate Jammu, said a full fledged rescue and debris clearance operation is underway.

An earth-mover was also rushed to speed up the rescue efforts.

The critically injured -- Uppan Srivastava (70) of Chennai, his wife K Radha (66), and Rajinder Bhalla (70) of Haryana -- were admitted to Narayan hospital, where Srivastava breathed his last.

Leela Raikwar (56) of Uttar Pradesh was undergoing treatment at Community Health Centre Katra, the officials said.

"The Lieutenant Governor is closely monitoring the situation. He has directed the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board to provide best possible medical care and support to the injured pilgrims", an official spokesperson stated.

"I am deeply saddened by the tragic landslide incident at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine in which a devotee unfortunately lost his life. Directed Shrine Board to provide best possible medical care and support to the injured pilgrims. I'm constantly monitoring the situation," Sinha, who is also Chairman of the Shrine Board, wrote on X.

Abdullah also expressed deep sorrow over the tragic landslide along the yatra track and wished a speedy recovery to the injured.

Officials said Suresh kumar (66) of Maharashtra and two locals Nikhil Thakur (26) and Vicky Sharma were discharged after first aid.

"I was inside the booking office when stones started hitting the overhead iron structure. We alerted others and rushed out fearing a landslide," Thakur told PTI over phone after receiving treatment for his foot injury at the Community Health Centre.

He said there was a small group of devotees and pony riders at the scene in view of heavy rains.

According to the Meteorological Department, Katra town recorded 184.2 mm of rainfall over the past 24 hours ending 8.30 am Monday.

Another landslide had blocked the new track near Himkoti Sunday night and efforts are ongoing to restore it.

"In response to a landslide in the general area of Katra, troops of White Knight Corps were swiftly mobilised to assist in relief and rescue operations in collaboration with civil authorities. Immediate support was provided to affected locals, showcasing Army's unwavering commitment to the people.

"Rescue and support operations currently in progress. We serve, We Protect!" the Army's White Knight Corps said in a post on X.

The officials said the yatra was restored through Tarakote Marg around 2 pm after remaining suspended for several hours as a precautionary measure.

Meanwhile, a student was killed and five people were injured when a landslide triggered by heavy overnight rain hit a government school in Poonch district, officials said.

Lieutenant Governor (LG) Manoj Sinha and Chief Minister Omar Abdullah expressed grief over the loss of the life of the young student.

A large boulder rolled down onto the tin roof of the primary school in the Bhaineh-Kalsian area and fell in a classroom, injuring several students. A student, Ehsan Ali (5), died, the officials said.

They said four students -- Mohammad Safer (7), Bilal Farooq (8), Aftab Ahmad (7) and Tobia Kausar (7) -- and a teacher were injured in the incident and are undergoing treatment at Raja Sukhdev Singh District Hospital in Poonch. The teacher suffered minor injuries.

In a post on X, LG Sinha conoldo the student's death.

"The news of the death of a 5-year-old child due to the rockslide that crashed into Primary School, Kalsian, Poonch is heart-rending. May God give strength to the bereaved parents to bear this shock. I pray for the speedy recovery of the injured children," he said.

Chief Minister Abdullah, in a post on X, extended his condolences to the bereaved family and wished a speedy recovery to the injured.

He said he has directed the administration to ensure proper treatment of the injured and to conduct a thorough inquiry into the incident.

Immediately after receiving information about the incident, Poonch Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal visited the district hospital and met the injured and their families, the officials said.

He directed the medical team to provide the best possible treatment to the children.

As immediate relief, Kundal disbursed financial assistance under the Red Cross Fund, providing Rs 1 lakh to the family of Ehsan Ali and Rs 50,000 each to the families of the injured children, according to the officials.

He also assured the children's families of all possible assistance from the district administration.

The Deputy Commissioner expressed deep grief over the tragic loss of life and extended heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family. He assured all possible assistance from the district administration.

In yet another rains related incident, a police officer was injured after his private car was hit by a landslide triggered in Nagrota area, officials said.

The probationary DySP was on his way to his place of posting in Samba when the landslide damaged his car outside a tunnel near the Ban Toll Plaza in the Nagrota

area along the Jammu-Srinagar national highway, the officials said.

The officer was rescued and shifted to a hospital where his condition was stated to be stable, they said.

The car suffered extensive damage in the incident.

The landslide also blocked a part of the highway and efforts were on to restore traffic by removing the debris, the officials said.

Father, son-in-law...

arrested from Tikri after 8.77 grams of heroin was found on them, while another peddler was arrested with nearly 1 kg of ganja in his car in Kud area of Udhampur, the spokesperson said.

Another peddler was apprehended after 2.3 kg of ganja was recovered from him in Janipora locality of Jammu, he said.

Pankaj Sharma alias "Panku", a notorious peddler and a resident of Billawar, was detained under the PIT-NDPS Act In Kathua district on the directions of Jammu divisional commissioner.

"Sharma is a repeated offender and had created a sense of fear in the public by his illegal activities. His detention under PITNDPS will send a strong message to other drug peddlers and anti-social elements," the spokesperson said.



Constitution winning over...

debate on the Pahalgam terror attack and Operation Sindoor and seizing on US President Donald Trump's claims of mediating a "ceasefire" between India and Pakistan to corner his government, Modi hailed the armed forces for meeting 100 per cent objectives of the military operation.

He also lauded the multi-party delegations, which comprised MPs from different parties, that visited various parts of the world to convey India's position post-Operation Sindoor for their efforts in removing the veil from the face of the master of terrorists - Pakistan.

"I want to praise all these MPs and parties for this work done in national interest," he said.

Different political parties may have different agendas, Modi said, stressing that there must be unity of mind in matters of national interest.

The Monsoon session is a 'Vijay Utsav' (victory celebration) as the might of India's military power and capability were manifested in Operation Sindoor, he said

"In Operation Sindoor, the Indian armed forces achieved their objectives 100 per cent. The armed forces under 22 minutes pulverised the masters of terrorism in their homes and reduced their hideouts to rubble," Modi said.

"The military conflict with Pakistan also displayed the capability of "Made in India" weapons and has drawn the world's attention to them, he added

Modi expressed confidence that during the session MPs in one voice and with a victorious spirit will articulate these feelings that will strengthen India's military capability, inspire people, and will also give a boost to the Made in India defence capabilities. The prime minister noted that the brutal massacre in Pahalgam, which had left 26 civilians dead, had shocked the entire world and drew global attention to terrorism and its epicentre.

Amid intensified operation against left wing ultras, Modi said the red corridors are turning into green growth zones.

"The country has been suffering from violent incidents from the start, be it terrorism or naxalism. But today naxalism and Maoism are shrinking at a fast rate in a big time. With the objective of uprooting naxalism, security forces are moving ahead with a new enthusiasm," he said.

"I can say with pride that in the country, numerous districts have come out of the grip of naxalism and are breathing freely. Our Constitution is winning," Modi said.

He also hailed the economic transformation in the last 11 years, saying that when his government took office India was part of the fragile five but was now moving forward towards becoming the third biggest global economy.

Peace and development have moved ahead shoulder to shoulder in the last decade, Modi said.

Before 2014, the prime minister said India grappled with double-digit inflation. The inflation rate is now hovering around 2 per cent, and citizens are experiencing relief and improved ease of living.

The low inflation coupled with high growth reflects a strong and steady development journey, he said.

Modi took office following the 10-year rule of the Congress-led UPA.

That 25 crore people have grown out of poverty is widely recognised by global institutions, while initiatives like Digital India and Unified Payments Interface (UPI) are showcasing the country's emerging capabilities as global interest in its digital ecosystem is rapidly increasing, he said.

He also hailed the International Labour Organisation's report that over 90 crore Indians are now covered under social security as a landmark accomplishment in social welfare, and also flagged the World Health Organisation declaring India free of trachoma, an eye disease, as a significant milestone in public health efforts.

Police, JDA demolish...



U/S 341/323 RPC, PS Bahu Fort and FIR 128/2016, U/S 8/20 NDPS Act, PS Gangyal. She was also detained under the Public Safety Act (PSA) in 2019 for her continued involvement in the drug trade and threat to public order.

Earlier, on 31st July 2024, Jammu Police had successfully obtained confirmation of property attachment orders under the NDPS Act and SAFEMA against Reena and three other notorious drug peddlers from the Rajeev Nagar and Ragoora areas.

The property was identified as being acquired through the proceeds of narcotic drug trafficking.

This operation marks a continued and coordinated effort by Jammu Police and JDA to deal with drug peddlers and disrupt their infrastructure. The strict action has been widely appreciated by the public and has sent a clear and strong message to drug traffickers and white-collar narco-criminals.

Search operation to...

operation was called off late Sunday.

It resumed on Monday morning with security forces deploying drones and sniffer dogs to relentlessly chase the trail to hunt down the terrorists, they said.

The officials said security forces have already plugged the escape routes and expanded the operation to nearby areas, but thick foliage and challenging topography pose a challenge to the search parties.

Govt seeks inputs...

To compensate central government employees for erosion in the real value of their

salaries on account of inflation, dearness allowance (DA) is paid to them, and the rate of DA is revised periodically every six months on the basis of the rate of inflation.

Over 3,700 pilgrims...

last few days. Officials said more than 4 lakh people have registered online for the pilgrimage so far. Last year, more than 5.10 lakh pilgrims paid obeisance at the cave shrine. The 38-day pilgrimage will conclude on August 9.

Govt agrees to...

Gaurav Gogoi later slammed the government for not including the opposition's demand for a discussion on the Pahalgam terror attack and Operation Sindoor in this week's agenda.

Speaking to reporters, he accused the government of double standards, saying it does not follow what it claims in public.

"The government is listing its bills but is not ready to prioritise an issue on which the entire nation wants to hear from Parliament," he said.

Earlier, when the House met at 2 pm after the second adjournment, the Chair appealed to opposition members to allow the House to function. Amid continuous sloganeering, Sandhya Ray adjourned the proceedings till 4 pm.

The House was adjourned over the same issues earlier in the day.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh assured the opposition MPs that the government is ready to have a long discussion on all issues that the Speaker agrees to.

"The government is ready to discuss any topic the opposition wants. Whatever time they need to discuss, the government is ready to answer all questions," Singh said.

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju appealed to the opposition members to place their demand during the meeting of the Business Advisory Committee (BAC) scheduled at 2:30 pm on Monday.

"The government is ready to reply to all the issues that the Speaker agrees to at the BAC meeting. But to raise slogans and not let the House function on the first day of the Monsoon session is unacceptable," Rijiju said in the House.

As opposition members continued to protest in the Well, Jagdambika Pal, who was in the Chair, asked them to return to their seats and assured them that Speaker Om Birla would allow them to raise all matters that they wanted to discuss.

With the opposition leaders not relenting, Pal said, "I appeal to the leader of opposition, I appeal to Rahul Gandhi to let the House take up Zero Hour. People of the country are watching the proceedings and seeing that the government is ready to discuss all issues, but the opposition does not want the House to function."

When the Lok Sabha met at 11 am, after obituary references, opposition members led by the Congress were up on their feet as they insisted on a discussion on Operation Sindoor.

Birla said he was ready to allow the members to raise all issues, including Operation Sindoor, after Question Hour -- the first hour of the day when members raise questions related to different ministries and departments.

"I will allow you to raise all issues after Question Hour. The House will function according to rules and regulations. I cannot allow sloganeering and raising of placards," he said.

Birla said if the members give notice, he will allow them to raise all issues and give enough time to each of the MPs.

"Honourable members, this is Question Hour. We must try to maintain high parliamentary standards. We must try to fulfil the hopes and expectations of the people who have elected us and debate and discuss important issues of the country," he said.

"Go outside the House for sloganeering," he said.

"You want a discussion on Operation Sindoor, I will allow it after Question Hour. The government is ready to reply to all issues," he said.

The Lok Sabha proceedings were adjourned for the day amid noisy protests by the opposition, which demanded a discussion on Operation Sindoor and other issues.

This was the fourth adjournment on the first day of the month-long Monsoon session.

As soon as the House reconvened at 4 pm after the third adjournment, Dilip Saikia, who was in the Chair, urged members to allow a bill on readjustment of Goa Assembly seats to be taken up.

However, the opposition continued raising slogans over its demand for a discussion on Operation Sindoor, under which Indian armed forces carried out attacks on terrorist infrastructure.

LS expresses resolve...

this accident," Birla said.

"This House expresses its heartfelt sympathies to the families of the victims of this accident," he added. The Lok Sabha also expressed grief over the deaths due to natural disasters such as heavy rains, floods, and landslides in different parts of the country.

20 killed, 171...

wing of the military.

The pilot attempted to steer the aircraft away from densely populated areas. However, despite his efforts, the aircraft tragically crashed into the two-storey building of the school, said the ISPR.

The jet crashed "due to a mechanical fault" (the details of which will be informed after investigation) after taking off from the Bangladesh Air Force Base AK Khandaker in Kurmitola at 01:06 pm as part of a regular training, the statement said.

"All injured individuals are being promptly transported to the Combined Military Hospital (CMH) and nearby hospitals for necessary treatment, with assistance from Air Force helicopters and ambulances," it said.

It said that the chief of army staff and senior military officers rushed to the crash site where rescuers, including firefighters, army troops, police and elite Rapid Action Battalion (RAB), continued their rescue operations.

A high-level investigation committee has been formed by the Bangladesh Air Force to determine the cause of the accident, the statement added.

In New Delhi, Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed deep shock at the loss of lives in the crash. "Deeply shocked and saddened at the loss of lives, many of them young students, in a tragic air crash in Dhaka. Our hearts go out to the bereaved families," Modi said on X.

"We pray for the swift recovery of those injured. India stands in solidarity with Bangladesh and is ready to extend all possible support and assistance," he added.

Director General of Fire Service and Civil Defence Brigadier General Zahed Kamal earlier told reporters here that the crash and the subsequent fire killed 19 people. At least 50 others were critically injured, he added.

SSP Kishtwar reviews security ahead of Shri Machail Mata Yatra

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KISHTWAR: In view of the forthcoming Shri Machail Mata Yatra-2025, commencing from July 25, 2025, Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Kishtwar, Naresh Singh, has reviewed a comprehensive security plan across the district to ensure a peaceful, secure, and smooth conduct of the Yatra.

Taking into account the evolving security scenario, SSP Kishtwar has stressed the need for heightened vigilance, robust preparedness, and seamless coordination among all security agencies including the District Police, Indian Army, Armed Police, CRPF, and CISE.

Strategic directives have been issued to reinforce inter-agency collaboration and enhance ground-level deployment, particularly in sensitive and high-footfall areas. The security blueprint has been carefully tailored to address the unique geographical and logistical challenges associated with the Yatra route.

Further emphasizing community engagement, the District Police Kishtwar, in collaboration with CAPFs and other stakeholders, is actively disseminating vital safety guidelines, conducting awareness drives, and building public confidence to ensure collective participation in maintaining peace and order.

To assist the pilgrims (yattris), Police Assistance Booths are being established at various strategic locations. Additionally, a dedicated police control number has been provided to address any kind of issues and problem faced by the devotees.

Moreover, informative hoardings displaying Yatra timing schedules and important instructions are also being installed at key locations to facilitate smooth movement and ensure better coordination for the convenience of the yattris.

SSP Kishtwar warmly welcomes all devotees participating in the Yatra and assures that Jammu & Kashmir Police is fully committed and always at your service to ensure a safe, secure, and spiritually enriching experience for all. Help line Number for Yattris: PCR- ?9906154100 9103454100; 01995259193.

