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**Omar calls for...**

penalties must be imposed without leniency. Don't be soft," he added. To strengthen the oversight mechanism further, the Chief Minister announced that a comprehensive review of PSGA implementation will be conducted at his level every three months, based on departmental reports shared with the Chief Secretary's Office.

Earlier during the meeting, detailed department-wise presentations were made by the respective Administrative Secretaries on the current status and operational framework of the PSGA, which was enacted with the objective of ensuring timely, transparent, and accountable delivery of public services across departments.

The Act, notified on April 13, 2011, and followed by the notification of Rules on July 21, 2011, through SRO 223 followed by addition of several other government services through notifications remains a cornerstone of citizen-centric governance in Jammu and Kashmir.

The presentations gave details of the core provisions of the Act, which mandate the delivery of essential public services within prescribed timelines while clearly defining the roles and responsibilities of designated officers. The Act also establishes a structured appellate mechanism with fixed timelines for first and second appeals and empowers authorities to initiate disciplinary action in cases of repeated non-compliance.

It was highlighted that a total of 493 services have been notified under the PSGA, with major contributions from departments such as Power Development (98 services), Revenue (58), Finance (58), Transport, Housing & Urban Development (47 each), and Industries & Commerce (40), along with Health, Education, Forest, Agriculture and others.

In another meeting, the Chief Minister Omar reviewed the functioning of Cooperative Banks across Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Minister for Cooperatives Javid Ahmad Dar, Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, Additional Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister Dheeraj Gupta, Regional Director, Reserve Bank of India (J&K and Ladakh), Principal Secretary Finance, Managing Director & CEO J&K Bank, Commissioner Secretary Cooperatives and senior representatives from NABARD.

During the meeting, the Chief Minister reviewed the current status and functioning of various Cooperative banks.

He acknowledged the improved financial performance of the Jammu and Anantnag District Central Cooperative Banks, which have achieved operational profitability but called for other loss-making Cooperative banks to devise a roadmap for recovery which would be examined by the Government for appropriate intervention to revive these banks.

Earlier, Commissioner Secretary Cooperatives Babila Rakwal gave a detailed presentation on the functioning and progress of Cooperative Banks in J&K.

**Another batch of...**

The number of pilgrims undertaking the yatra has seen a dip over the past few days. While 7,908 pilgrims left in the 16th batch for Amarnath on July 18, it was followed by 6,365 pilgrims leaving Jammu on July 19 in the 17th batch. Subsequently, on July 20, 4,388 pilgrims left in the 18th batch, and 3,791 pilgrims departed in the 19th batch on July 21, followed by the 20th batch of 3,536 pilgrims on July 22. 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.

**Two men die...**

operation to save the boy trapped amid the rising waters of a flooded river in Rajouri, they said. The army used a chopper to rescue the boy, they said, adding that it took three hours to carry out the joint operation.

The child was grazing his cattle when heavy flash floods occurred and he got trapped in the middle of the river, they said.

**Pakistan steeped in...**

to Pakistan under Extended Fund Facility (EFF), bringing total disbursements under the arrangement to about USD 2.1 billion.

In his statement in the UNSC chamber, Harish spoke about the Pahalgam terror attack for which The Resistance Front, a front for Pakistan-based terror organisation Lashkar-e-Taiba, had claimed responsibility.

Harish emphasised that there should be a "serious cost" to states who "violate the spirit of good neighbourliness and international relations by fomenting cross-border terrorism."

"It ill behoves a member of the Council to offer homilies while indulging in practices that are unacceptable to the international community," the Indian envoy said.

He said that consequent to the gruesome terrorist attack in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir on April 22 that led to the killing of 26 innocent tourists, and based on the April 25 UNSC statement, India launched Operation Sindoor targeting terrorist camps in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

In the UNSC statement, Council members had underlined the need to hold perpetrators, organisers, financiers and sponsors of this reprehensible act of terrorism accountable and bring them to justice.

Harish said India's response was focused, measured, and non-escalatory in nature. "On achieving its primary objectives, a cessation of military activities was directly concluded at the request of Pakistan," he said.

Earlier, Acting US Representative Ambassador Dorothy Shea said at the meeting that in the past three months alone, US leadership delivered "de-escalations" between Israel and Iran, between the Democratic Republic of Congo and Rwanda, and between India and Pakistan.

"The United States, under President Trump's leadership, played an important role in encouraging the parties to reach these resolutions, which we applaud and support," Shea said.

Harish stressed that in recent decades, the nature of conflicts has transformed, with a "proliferation of non-state actors, often proposed and propped up as proxies by state actors; and cross-border funding, arms trafficking, training of terrorists, and spread of radical ideologies, facilitated by modern digital and communication technologies."

He said that on the question of peaceful settlement of disputes, Chapter VI of the UN Charter begins with a recognition that it is the 'parties to a dispute' who must first of all seek a solution by peaceful means of their own choice.

"National ownership and consent of parties are central to any efforts to achieve peaceful resolution of conflicts," he said.

Harish underlined that there cannot be one standard approach to dispute resolution. "The changing circumstances and context also need to be taken into account while considering any such efforts."

**President recommends pvt...**

Tankha said in a following post. He also tagged a letter from the Rajya Sabha secretariat that stated: "I am directed to state that the Hon'ble President of India has been pleased to recommend, under clause (3) of Article 117 of the Constitution, consideration of the Kashmiri Pandits (Recourse, Restitution, Rehabilitation and Resettlement) Bill, 2022, which was introduced by you on February 2, 2024, in the Rajya Sabha."

**DGFT authorises KCCI...**

origin (non-preferential) through the online trade connect portal, a statement from the chamber said.

A certificate of origin is an essential document required by customs authorities in importing countries to establish the origin of goods, and it plays a pivotal role in facilitating smooth international trade.

The development positions KCCI among a select group of business chambers across the country that have been entrusted with this responsibility, as per the statement. The DGFT has mandated that, effective January 1, 2025, the manual issuance of certificates of origin will be discontinued nationwide.

All such certifications are now to be processed exclusively through the digital platform, marking a major shift toward streamlining export documentation and compliance with international trade norms, it said.

With this authorisation, the KCCI becomes the first and only business chamber in Jammu and Kashmir empowered to issue online certificates of origin, enabling exporters from the region to access the crucial document locally through a trusted institution, the KCCI said.

KCCI President Javid Ahmad Tenga termed it a "landmark achievement" for the business community in the Valley.

Exporters in J&K can now apply for the certificate of origin via the trade connect portal, the dedicated online platform developed by DGFT. KCCI will process and verify the applications submitted through this portal, thus eliminating the need for physical submissions, he said.

The step is expected to benefit a wide range of export sectors in J&K, including handicrafts, carpets, shawls, horticulture, agri-produce, and processed food items, the KCCI President said. He said the KCCI expresses its gratitude to the DGFT for this recognition and assures the business community of its continued commitment

to supporting and expanding Kashmir's trade and export potential in the global marketplace.

**Ladakh LG calls...**

Murmu at the Rashtrapati Bhavan, her office said. It also shared a picture of the meeting in a post on X.

"Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Shri Kavinder Gupta called on President Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan," the President's Office said. Senior BJP leader Gupta took oath as the LG of the Union Territory of Ladakh on July 18.

**1.09 lakh vacancies...**

as of January 1. According to the data, there were 1,09,868 vacancies in the CAPFs as of January 1.

Presently, 72,689 vacancies for various posts have been notified for recruitment, which is underway, the response said.

The minister said "no" to the question seeking to know whether it was a fact that there is a huge vacancy in the six central paramilitary forces.

"Vacancies in CAPFs and AR arise on account of retirements, resignation, promotion, death, new raising of Battalion, creation of new posts etc. Filling up of vacancies is a continuous process," Rai said.

The ministry has been taking earnest steps to fill the vacancies expeditiously through UPSC, SSC, and the forces concerned, he said.

As an instance of these steps, Rai cited a Memorandum of Understanding signed with the Staff Selection Commission (SSC) for early recruitment for the post of Constable (General Duty). He said directions have been issued to all CAPFs and Assam Rifles to hire personnel against vacant posts in Non-General Duty cadres in a time-bound manner. Timely meetings of the Departmental Promotion Committee (DPC) for filling up of promotional vacancies, reduction in time taken in the Medical Examination and lowering of cut-off marks for shortlisting of candidates for Constable and General Duty are some of the steps undertaken to expedite recruitment, Rai added.

**Northern Army Commander...**

terrorists operating in the region for over a month.

"Lieutenant General Pratik Sharma, Army Commander, reviewed the security milieu and ongoing counter-terrorist operations in the Doda-Ramban-Kishtwar region by the formation," Northern Command Headquarters said in a post on X.

Accompanied by General Officer Commanding (GOC) White Knight Corps, Lieutenant General P K Mishra, the Army commander visited the Delta Force headquarters in Batote and received an update on 'Operation Shiva' being conducted in the region. Operation Shiva deals with the safety and security of the ongoing Amarnath Yatra in Jammu and Kashmir. Lieutenant General Mishra emphasised maintaining a proactive posture supported by cutting-edge technology, and complemented all ranks for their commitment to sustained counter-terrorism efforts and regional security.

**LS adjourned for...**

was earlier approved by the Lok Sabha. It seeks to replace the Indian Carriage of Goods by Sea Act, 1925.

As AIADMK MP M Thambidurai stood up to speak on the Bill, the Opposition members continued their protest demanding discussion on the SIR issue, with some even trooping into the Well of the House, while many others remained on their feet.

Opposition MPs raised slogans against the SIR exercise, and also demanded that Leader of Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge be allowed to speak.

Bhubaneswar Kalita, who was in the Chair, told Thambidurai that he can continue his speech later, and adjourned the House for the day as the protests continued. Earlier in the day, the Upper House witnessed similar protests leading to adjournments.

The Opposition members created uproar in the House following rejection of their adjournment notices demanding discussion on various issues, including SIR.

**2 Pharma establishments...**

the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 with fine amounting to Rs 80,000/-& the imprisonment till rising of the court.

In another similar matter, Chief Judicial Magistrate, Poonch in the case titled Drug Control Officer District Poonch vs. M/s Affine Formulations, Tehsil Nalagarh, District Solan (H.P) convicted accused no 1-3 with a fine amounting to Rs 60,000/-& the imprisonment till rising of the Court.

The proceedings in the twin matters were initiated against the accused firms after following the due procedure laid down under Drugs & Cosmetics Act related to lifting of statutory samples by Drug Inspectors. The samples were sent to Government Drug Testing Laboratories for framing of opinion w.r.t identity, purity & strength. The Government Analyst has reported certain discrepancies in the quality of the samples. State Drugs Controller J&K Lotika Khajuria has urged all stakeholders in the pharmaceutical supply chain to strictly comply with regulatory norms & help the department to maintain high standards of medical treatment. She has emphasized the need to adhere to the regulatory norms in letter and spirit.

**India, China review...**

that took place in Delhi.

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said the two sides also prepared for the next round of the Special Representatives' (SR) talks to be held in India later this year. Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi is expected to visit India for the SR talks. Wang and NSA Ajit Doval are the SRs for the talks.

The MEA said the two sides reviewed the situation in the India-China border areas. They expressed "satisfaction with the "general prevalence of peace and tranquillity in the border areas, leading to gradual normalisation of bilateral relations," it said in a statement.

**NC convenes workers' meeting in Billawar, commits to monthly public connect**

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
BILLAWAR: National Conference (NC) on Wednesday convened a significant workers' meeting at the Sub-District Headquarters in Billawar under the leadership of NC leader Manoj Gupta and former Sarpanch Jagdev Singh. Both veteran and newly joined party workers from the region actively participated in the session.

During the meeting, a unanimous decision was taken to organize regular monthly workers' meetings aimed at strengthening the party's grassroots presence in District Kathua. These meetings will be held on the 7th of every month at the Sub-District Headquarters, Billawar, and on the 25th of each month at Tehsil Ramkot.

Addressing the gathering, Manoj Gupta appealed to all NC workers-old and new to ensure their monthly participation and contribute actively

towards building a stronger and more connected organization at the grassroots level. One of the key issues discussed during the meeting was the alleged mismanagement in the implementation of the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in the Billawar constituency. The mission, launched by the Central Government in 2019 with the slogan "Har Ghar Jal", reportedly concluded in 2024.

Concerns were raised regarding deviations from the project's Detailed Project Report (DPR).

According to the workers, instead of laying water supply pipes 2.5 feet underground as per norms, contractors-allegedly in collusion with the concerned department-installed them just 6 inches below the surface. This shallow installation has led to frequent pipe damage during farming activities.

Further, it was highlighted that in hilly and forest areas, where GI pipes were specified, fiber pipes were used instead. These materials are highly susceptible to damage, especially during summer forest fires, potentially resulting in significant loss of public property. The party workers collectively urged the district administration to launch a thorough investigation into these irregularities and ensure accountability.

Prominent participants in the meeting included Ex-Sarpanch Jagdev Singh, Mian Jagdish Raj, SC Cell Incharge Shahabuddin, Mohammed Kasim, Abdul Rashid, Mohammed Nasir, Mohammed Sultan, Anil Kumar, Joginder Pal, and others.

**Two bovine smuggling attempts foiled; 2 smugglers arrested, 4 bovines rescued**

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SAMBHA: Continuing its drive against bovine smugglers and their propagators, Samba Police has successfully foiled two bovine smuggling attempts in the jurisdiction of Police Station Ghagwal, arrested two bovine smugglers and rescued four bovines from the clutches of bovine smugglers. The vehicles used in the illegal transportation of bovines were also seized.

Acting on reliable information, a Police team of PP Rajpura of PS Ghagwal intercepted an Auto Load carrier bearing registration No. JK02DG-4617 at naka Rajpura for its checking. During checking, a bovine was found inside the vehicle which was tied in a cruel manner and was being transported illegally without any valid permission. The bovine smugglers identified as Amjad Khan S/o Abdul Rashid R/o Phinder Khour Devian R S Pura district Jammu and Tripta Devi W/o Raj Kumar R/o Phinder R S Pura district Jammu have been arrested.

A case FIR No. 74/2025 u/s 223 BNS, 11 PCA Act has been registered at Police Station Ghagwal and investigation started.

In another bovine smuggling incident, a Police team of Police Station Ghagwal intercepted an Auto load carrier bearing registration No. JK21D-4187 at Naka Tappal and rescued three bovines which were being transported illegally without any valid permission. A case FIR No. 75/2025 u/s 223 BNS, 11 PCA Act has been registered at Police Station Ghagwal and investigation started.

**Missing girl traced, re-united with family**

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
DODA: Police traced out missing girl and re-united with her family

Official sources while giving details has said that a girl resident of Challer Tehsil Chilly Pingal District Doda was entered at PS Gandoh had gone missing and her missing report was entered at Police Station Gandoh on June 1, 2025.

Soon after registration of the missing report, search of the said girl was started. On the directions of SSP Doda, a team was constituted from PS Gandoh led by SHO PS Gandoh under the supervision of SDPO Gandoh in search of missing lady. The Police team by using all possible means as well as technical help, today on 23.07.2025 succeeded in tracing her out from Bathria area Gandoh. Accordingly, after completing all codal formalities, the girl has been handed over to her family and missing report has been closed.

**2 bootleggers held, 85 bottles of liquor recovered**

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
UDHAMPUR: Based on reliable information, the Police team from Police Station Udhampur led by its SHO intercepted one person who is moving towards Omara Morh from Main bazar Udhampur by foot.

Upon thorough frisking, police team recovered 72 bottles of illicit liquor (22 bottles of 250 ml and 50 bottles of 180 ml) from his possession who has been arrested on spot. The arrested person has been identified as Anil Kumar S/O Raj Kumar R/O Bharat Nagar, Udhampur. In this connection, A case FIR No. 267/2025 under sections 48 (a) Excise Act stands registered in Police Station Udhampur and further investigation is underway. Police team from Police Station Panchari led by its SHO while performing patrolling duty near Landar- Panchari road recovered 13 bottles of illicit liquor (750 ml each) from the possession of one person who has been arrested on the spot. The arrested person has been identified as Rattan Lal S/O Shonka R/O Latyar, Panchari. In this connection, A case FIR No. 36/2025 under sections 48 (a) Excise Act stands registered in Police Station Panchari and further investigation is underway.

**Kishtwar police books two notorious criminals under PSA**

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
KISHTWAR: Continuing its sustained crackdown on habitual offenders and anti-social elements, Kishtwar Police has booked two notorious criminals under the Jammu and Kashmir Public Safety Act (PSA) for their repeated involvement in burglary and theft cases across various parts of the district.

SSP Kishtwar Naresh Singh-JKPS, while sharing the details, stated that the first accused, Mohammad Rizwan S/o Altaf Hussain R/o Gurian, Tehsil & District Kishtwar, has been involved in multiple burglary cases and continued his criminal activities despite repeated legal action and warnings. His actions had become a serious threat to public peace and order.

The second accused, Rahul Singh Chib S/o Gopal Singh Chib @ Magar Singh R/o Himachal Pradesh, presently residing near TRC Kishtwar, was also found to be a habitual offender with several FIRs registered against him for burglary and theft. His persistent unlawful activities had created an environment of fear and insecurity among the general public. In view of the threat they posed to public order, dossiers were prepared and, upon receiving formal PSA detention orders, both accused were apprehended and detained. They were lodged in jail to ensure the preservation of public peace and safety.

**Bovine smuggling bid foiled, 6 bovines rescued**

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
POONCH: In the early hours of July 23, 2025, a team of Police Post Behrangalla, while conducting routine naka checking at Chandimarh, intercepted a suspicious vehicle bearing registration number JK12C 0266.

The vehicle was being driven by Mushtaq Ahmed, son of Sakhi Mohammad, resident of Behrangalla, Tehsil Surankote, District Poonch. He was accompanied by co-driver Mohd Zakir, son of Mohd Sharief, resident of Sailan.

Upon thorough checking, the police team found the vehicle loaded with 06 bovines, being transported illegally under the guise of a fake permission document.

Accordingly, cognizance has been taken at Police Station Surankote, and a case has been registered. Further investigation is underway to identify the network and individuals involved in the illegal transportation of bovines.

District Police Poonch remains committed to curbing bovine smuggling and maintaining law and order. Citizens are urged to report such activities to the nearest police unit for prompt action.

**Drug peddler arrested; 30gms heroin recovered**

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: In a determined move against drug trafficking, Police Post Sidhra, under the jurisdiction of Police Station Nagrota, achieved another success by arresting one suspected drug peddler and recovering 30 grams of heroin-like substance.

The accused have been identified as Mohd Yaqoob Dar S/O Ghulam Rasool Dar R/O Chathabal karan nagar Srinagar.

One person was seen coming on foot in suspicious manner from Bajalta towards Sidhra side. On seeing the police naka, he tried to turn back and escape but he was apprehended by incharge Naka Bajalta morh of PP Sidhra. During personal search 30gm of Heroin like substance was recovered from the possession of accused.

On this FIR No. 166/2025 has been registered at Police Station Nagrota U/S 8/21/22 of the NDPS Act Further investigation is underway to trace the source of the contraband and identify any links to a larger drug network.

**DC reviews flood protection measures across Poonch district**

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
POONCH: In a proactive move to strengthen disaster preparedness, District Development Commissioner (DDC) Poonch, Vikas Kundal today chaired a high-level meeting to review flood management measures and assess arrangements in light of the ongoing monsoon season.

The meeting focused extensively on issues related to rain-induced damages and landslides. The DDC directed all Sub-Divisional Magistrates (SDMs), concerned Tehsildars and Executive Engineers to vigilantly monitor vulnerable areas and initiate closure of roads wherever there is a potential risk of landslides or threat to human life.

Stressing the importance of swift road restoration, the DDC instructed the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) to immediately mobilize their manpower, machinery, and labour to ensure the timely maintenance and clearance of roads, especially in critical zones.

Additionally, the Disaster Management Authority, Mechanical Engineering Department (MED) and Civil Defence were directed to keep their personnel and equipment on high alert to respond effectively to any emergency.

The State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) has been tasked with monitoring riverbanks and deploying volunteers over the next 24 hours to ensure safety in flood-prone areas.

The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC), Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC), Assistant Commissioner Revenue (ACR), Assistant Commissioner Panchayat (ACP), Assistant Commissioner Development (ACD), SDMS, Executive Engineers, Tehsildars, SDRF, Civil Defence officials and other concerned departments.

