

!! Continuations from Page 1 !!

7 ITBP personnel...

Those who were injured and are admitted in BB, Cantt Army Hospital Srinagar include ASI/GD Nandan Singh; HC/GD Atar Singh; Ct/GD Balwant Kumar; HC/GD Daya Ram; Ct/GD Satish Tiwari; Ct/GD Bablu Kumar; Ct/GD Manu Kumar; ASI/GD Khushal Singh; ASI/GD Inder Singh; ASI/GD Harish Kapari; HC/GD Yad Ram; Ct/GD Bhupender; HC/GD Kumar Nayak; HC/GD Jitu Prasad; Ct/GD Dinesh Chand; Ct/Cook Nikhil Kumar; Insp/./GD Rakesh Kumar; SI/GD Neel Kanth; Ct/GD Prem Singh; ASI/GD Ramesh Ram; Ct/GD Govind Kumar; HC/GD Khair Nabi Baru; HC/GD Harlik Merad; Ct/GD Ranjeet Boro; Ct/GD Khushpal Singh; ASI/Tele Mahesh Dagar; HC/GD Mohd Qayoom; Ct/GD Jeet Singh; Ct/SK Kaushik Roi; Ct/GD Naresh Singh; Ct/GD Dinesh Chand; Ct/GD Tsering Dorje and SGCT Sheer Khan.

Besides, the above injured Sg/Ct Sheer Khan of IRP 3rd Bn (driver of vehicle) who too was injured is also admitted in BB Cantt. Army Hospital Srinagar.

According to preliminary information, it appears that the brakes failed, but the exact reason will be known after an investigation, an ITBP spokesperson said in Delhi.

The area has treacherous winding roads and had been receiving rainfall, local residents said. President Droupadi Murmu, Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, former Congress president Rahul Gandhi and other leaders condoled the loss of lives in the accident and prayed for the speedy recovery of the injured. "The tragic loss of precious lives of ITBP personnel in the unfortunate accident at Anantnag, J&K fills me with sadness. My heartfelt condolences for the bereaved families. I pray for speedy recovery of the injured," Murmu tweeted. "Saddened by the loss of lives of Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) personnel in a bus accident ... My thoughts are with the bereaved families in this hour of grief. My prayers for the speedy recovery of the injured," the Vice President's Secretariat tweeted, quoting Dhankhar. J&K Lt Governor Manoj Sinha expressed grief over the loss of lives of the ITBP personnel in the unfortunate incident and extended his condolences to the members of bereaved families. "Deeply anguished by the bus accident near Chandanwari in which we have lost our brave ITBP personnel. My condolences to the bereaved families and prayers for the speedy recovery of the injured. All possible assistance is being provided to the injured personnel", said the Lt Governor. Several Union ministers, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, and National Conference vice president Omar Abdullah also took to Twitter to express their condolences.

"... I send my condolences to the families & colleagues of the brave ITBP jawans killed in an accident in Pahalgam today. A number of ITBP personnel have been injured. I send my best wishes for their speedy & complete recovery," Abdullah said.

"I'm deeply saddened by the tragic accident in J&K where 7 ITBP personnel lost lives. My heartfelt condolences to the family of the Bereaved. I stand with them in this hour of grief. We are taking care of the injured & wish for their speedy recovery," Sujoy Lal Thaosen, Director General of ITBP, tweeted.

LG visits injured...

room after performing Amarnath yatra duty. Seven other ITBP jawans died in the incident. "Visited Army hospital, Srinagar and met the injured ITBP Personnel. Gave necessary instructions to provide best of medical facilities," Sinha tweeted.

Ghulam Nabi Azad...

post of Campaign Committee Chairman of Jammu and Kashmir due to health reasons. He has conveyed this to the Congress leadership and has also thanked the leadership for giving him the responsibility," a national news agency quoted Congress sources as saying.

However, a TV channel quoted sources saying that Azad saw the appointments as a demotion for him as he is already a member of the party's all-India political affairs committee. Wani is seen to be close to former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Azad, who was part of the Group of 23 leaders who wrote to Sonia Gandhi in 2020 seeking a large scale organisational overhaul. Tariq Hamid Karra will be the vice chairman of the campaign committee while G M Saroori will be its convenor, according to the statement.

The campaign committee comprises 11 leaders with PCC president and working president its permanent invitees. Gandhi also set up a political affairs committee with Karra as its chairman and it included Azad, Mir and Saifuddin Soz. The political affairs committee comprises nine leaders with AICC In-charge, PCC president and working president being permanent invitees in the panel. The party also formed an 11-member coordination committee headed by Mir; 12-member manifesto committee under the chairmanship of Soz and nine-member publicity and publication panel led by Mula Ram. A seven member disciplinary committee has been formed with Taj Mohiuddin as the chairman. A Pradesh Election Committee headed by PCC chief has also been set up.

Meanwhile, Congress President Sonia Gandhi has accepted the resignation of Ghulam Ahmed Mir from the post of President, Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC), a party statement said.

According to list issued by K C Venugopal, MP; General Secretary, All India Congress Committee, **Campaign Committee**: Ghulam Nabi Azad (Chairman), Tariq Hamid Karra (Vice Chairman), G.M. Saroori (Convenor), Ghulam Ahmed Mir; Tara Chand, Thakur Balwan Singh, T.S. Bajwa, Shabir Khan, Neeraj Kundan, Abdul Majeed Wani, Fairoz Khan and PCC President and Working President will be the Permanent Invitees. Political Affairs Committee: Ghulam Nabi Azad, Tariq Hameed Karra (Chairman), Ghulam Ahmed Mir; Saifuddin Soz, Peerzada M. Syed, Taj Mohiuddin, Tara Chand, Mula Ram, Khemlata Wakhlu and AICC In-charge, PCC President and Working President will be the Permanent Invitees.

Coordination Committee: Ghulam Ahmed Mir (Chairman), Manohar Lal (Vice Chairman), Yogesh Sawhney (Convenor), Jugil Kishore Sharma, Basheer Ahmed Magre, Ramzan Matoo, Indu Pawar, Mohammad Amin Bhat (Wazirgund), Haji Abdul Rasheed Dar, Abdul Majeed Wani and Shanawaz Chaudhary.

Manifesto Committee: Prof. Saifuddin Soz (Chairman), Adv M.K. Bharadwaj (Vice Chairman), Ravinder Sharma (Convenor), Naseer Gupta, Ghulam Nabi Monga, Zahida Khan, Shameema Raina, Jahangir Mir; Manzoor Ahmed Ghani, Dr. Jahanzaib Sarivali, Ifthikar Ahmed and Vikram Bhandari.

Publicity And Publication: Mula Ram (Chairman), S.S. Channi (Vice Chairman), Dr. Rashid Chaudhary (Convenor), Ashok Sharma, Vinod Mishra, Bashir Ahmed Khan, Imran Zafar; Satish Sharma and Uday Bhanu Chib.

Disciplinary Committee: Taj Mohiuddin (Chairman), K.K. Pangotra (Vice Chairman), Shah Mohammed Chaudhary (Convenor), Thakur Balwir Singh, Kanta Bhan, Pramav Shagrota and Abdul Ghani Khan.

Pradesh Election Committee: PCC President (Chairman), Working President, Ghulam Ahmed Mir; Tara Chand, Taj Mohiuddin, G.M. Saroori, Mula Ram, Haji Abdul Rasheed Dar, Shabir Ali Khan, Ravinder Sharma, Thakur Balbir Singh, Gulzar Ahmed Wani, Anwar Bhat, Abdul Majeed Wani, Chudhary Mohd Akram, Yogesh Sawhney, S.H. Channi, Mamnahan Singh, Chaudhary Shanawaz, Adv. Deepika Pushkar Nath Singh Rejawat and Heads of all Frontal organizations will be the Special Invitees of the Pradesh Election Committee.

Several portals peddling...

"... Whereas, there is every apprehension that if the operations of these fake news portals remain unchecked, the peaceful fabric of the district shall be disturbed..." Islam said in his order issued under section 144 CrPC.

He said it has become important to prevent the dissemination of fake news in the district by banning the operations of these portals with immediate effect.

"Any person associated with these fake news portals shall be immediately booked under the extant rules governing the subject, if found operating in the district and peddling fake news," the order said, directing the Senior Superintendent of Police of Ramban to implement it in letter and spirit.

Terrorists gun down...

group claimed responsibility for the attack but security forces believe it to be an act by the terrorists of banned Jaish-e-Mohammed.

Heated arguments were witnessed outside the residence of the victim when officials from the administration visited the family. The brother of Balkrishen Bhat confronted the officials and accused them of failing in their duties to ensure the safety of minorities.

"After my brother was shot, I personally met the Deputy Commissioner of Shopian and Divisional Commissioner of Kashmir for our safety. They told me nothing can be done and we should continue to stay where we live," Anil Bhat claimed.

An agitated Bhat held the administration responsible for the killing and alleged it has failed in its duty to safeguard people's safety.

There are only two or three Kashmiri Pandit families in Chotigam, nearly 10 km from the Shopian district headquarters and 70 km from Srinagar. The region is a hotbed of terrorism and is considered a stronghold of the terrorist groups like Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jaish-e-Mohammed.

The increased terror attacks in the past week have left the security agencies worried as the terrorists have now again started targeting members of minority community, police personnel and outside labourers.

A policeman was killed in Nowhatta on Sunday and a migrant labourer was shot dead in Bandipora last week. Two grenade attacks took place in Budgam -- in which a Kashmiri Pandit civilian was injured -- and in the Police Control Room at Srinagar on Monday.

Tuesday's killings saw widespread condemnation from administration and political parties.

Condemning the killing, National Conference leader Omar Abdullah tweeted, "Terribly sad news from South Kashmir today. An accident and a militant attack have left a trail of death and suffering. I condemn the militant attack in Shopian unequivocally in which Sunil Kumar was killed and Pinto Kumar injured. My condolences to the family."

PDP president Mehbooba Mufti while condemning the killing said Jammu and Kashmir has become cannon fodder in "Delhi's quest for manufactured normalcy".

"Terribly sorry to hear about the targeted killing in Shopian. Condolences to the deceased's family. GOI continues to behave like an ostrich with its head buried deep under the sand. Every resident of J&K has become cannon fodder in Delhi's quest for 'manufactured normalcy,'" she said. BJP spokesman Altaf Thakur said, "Strongly condemn the dastardly act of terror on innocent minority community members at Shopian in which Sunil Kumar was killed and another injured. Terror has no religion. Killers should be punished." People's Conference chairman Sajad Ganj Lone condemned the attack as a "heinous act of violence" and expressed his condolences to the family of the victims.

Kashmiri Pandit Conference (KPC) strongly condemned the barbaric killing of an innocent Kashmiri Pandit Sunil Kumar and seriously injured his brother Pinto Ji , who even left the valley during the turmoil also. Kundan Kashmire, President KPC said that such unending barbaric acts continue to happen from the last 32 years. He said these terrorists strikes has further created a sense of insecurity among the Kashmiri Pandit residents living in Kashmir including PM package employees and others, as they have become soft target for these gun-totted youths who are killing the KP's for sadistic pleasure. He also demanded that Government must revisit its Kashmiri policy and urgent steps taken for consolidated rehabilitation all displaced KPs at "one place" in valley with fool proof security. Other KPC leaders and activists which include Dr. H.L. Saraf, Tej Pandita, MK Raina, Sushila Ji Bhat, R.L. Raina and others expressed their similar view and sentiments over this gruesome incident. Former minister and senior National Conference leader, Ajay Kumar Sadhota on Tuesday condemned the terror attack on two brothers, belonging to minority Kashmiri Hindu community, in Shopian, rendering one dead and another critically injured. "This is the most inhuman and barbarous act", Sadhota said in a statement issued here this afternoon, adding that no words are enough to express shock and grief over the demise of Sunil Kumar. Sadhota wished speedy recovery to Sunil Kumar's brother, Pinto Kumar, who were working in their apple orchardists when the barbaric terrorists struck and made them their victims. Several groups staged protests against the killing and demanded adequate measures to ensure safety of the minority community members in the valley. The protesters, who gathered at different places including Rani Park, Press Club and Panama chowk in the heart of Jammu, also raised slogans against Pakistan and the terrorists besides criticising the government for its alleged failure to stop targeted and selective killings. A group of people also staged a protest at district headquarters in the border town of Poonch.

Rajnath hands-over...

It said the infantry protected mobility vehicles and assault boats will enable the troops deployed along the borders to respond to any "challenge in a befitting manner".

The ministry said these vehicles will provide mobility and more protection to a large number of infantry soldiers posted at the Northern borders, adding quick reaction fighting vehicles will enhance mobility of the troops in eastern Ladakh.

"It facilitates quick deployment of troops and will enable much faster reaction...It will facilitate in creating moral ascendancy in our Northern borders," the ministry said about the advantages of these vehicles.

Gol approves ASHAs...

J&K initiated the first survey of the transhumant tribal population. It was aimed at welfare planning in the wake of the long-felt need for focused development. For catering the health care needs of such nomadic population, J&K has got the sanction of Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs). The ASHAs for these areas will be chosen among nomadic population which is surveyed by tribal department.

Mission Director, NHM J&K, Yasin M. Choudhary while giving details informed that as per the report received from the Tribal Affairs Deptt, more than 80 thousand transhumant populations undertake biannual migration between valleys or villages and highland pastures, along with livestock. To provide better healthcare services to these nomads, we have got the approval of about 334 ASHAs from the Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, New Delhi. ASHAs being engaged by NHM, J&K are working as abridge between Health Department and the community. All the health schemes of NHM/ J&K Govt, are being implemented by ASHAs at the grass root level. ASHA is a link through which the health care needs of the people are being catered. At present, J&K has engaged about 13000 ASHAs who are serving the rural as well as urban population of J&K. All the health schemes, whether Centrally sponsored or State Govt, schemes are being implemented by ASHA at the grass root level. Tribal ASHA shall be a literate woman from within the tribal community who shall be trained for implementing all the health schemes of NHM/ J&K Govt, among her Tribal community. By engaging the ASHAs for nomadic population, J&K Govt, shall provide access to health care services to this big transhumant tribal population, which they are lacking till now, Yasin added.

Over 75 pc...

have been completed, the official said. He said the work on the project is going on in full swing and "we are hopeful about commissioning the final phase to connect Kashmir with the rest of the country next year." Referring to the completion of the overarch deck of Chenab railway bridge in Reasi district with the laying of the 'golden joint' on August 13 as a milestone, the official said the "minor" works on the nearly 1.3 km bridge is expected to be completed by November this year. The paradigmatic bridge is located 359 m above the Chenab riverbed in Kauri village and is 30 m higher than the Eiffel Tower in Paris. Once completed, the bridge will be able to withstand winds with speed up to 260 kmph and will have a lifespan of 120 years, the official said. The project has other firsts like the longest railway tunnel having overall length of 12.75 km situated between Sumber and Arpinalha in Sangaldaan area of Ramban district which has been made through on February 15 and first cable-stayed bridge which when completed would be an engineering marvel of 21st century. In addition, the official said a 205-Km access road has also been completed which provides connectivity to far flung and inaccessible remote areas, leading to socio-economic development of the local residents. The cumulative expenditure on Katra-Banihal section up to June is Rs 23,071 crore, he said. The officials said the electrification work on the railway line from Banihal to Barumulla is in progress and is likely to be completed by October.

Advisor Bhatnagar hoists...

school children. While extending his Independence Day greetings to the participants, Advisor Bhatnagar in his address said that Jammu & Kashmir is an integral part multi-cultural and multi ethnic India. "August 5, 2019 marks a new dawn in the history of J&K and since then, the region has embarked on a journey of impartial and equitable governance", he said.

The Advisor said that due to the events post-reorganisation of Jammu and Kashmir, over 20 thousand PoJK refugees have been provided democratic rights and are being recognised equal citizens of the nation while being provided opportunities to be a part of India's march towards progress. They have also been provided a relief of worth Rs 5.5 lakh per household, he added

To provide robust healthcare system to the citizens of Jammu & Kashmir, the Advisor said that during the Covid pandemic, all efforts were made to ensure that there is no shortage of oxygen supply or hospital beds. He highlighted that all individuals above 18 years of age have been vaccinated. Similarly, 87 percent kids in the 12-14 age group have been provided the first dose and 77 percent of them have also received the second one", he continued.

To strengthen the health sector, 5 hundred projects worth Rs 7000 crore have been taken up. 2 AIIMS, 7 Government Medical Colleges and 15 new Nursing Colleges are being set up in addition to 2 Cancer Institutes and 2 Bone and Joint Hospitals", he continued.

The Advisor lauded implementation of the PM-JAY SEHLAT scheme and said that it is the only Union Territory of the country to provide free universal health insurance cover of Rs 5 lakh per family, since its implementation from December 2020. '108 Jan Aushadhi Centres have also dedicated towards the welfare of the public since April this year. 80 percent families have been registered under the insurance scheme and 72.57 lakh Golden Cards have been issued under the scheme', the Advisor remarked.

ROADS

Speaking on infrastructure, the Advisor said, 'J&K ranks third in works under PMGSY for constructing 6452 km roads over the past two years. In the year 2021-22, 7610 km roads were black topped, and a goal of 8 thousand kilometres has been set for present financial year as well'. '208 bridges were built during the past financial year while construction of 150 odd bridges has been aimed at during the present financial year.'

The twin tube Qazigund-Banihal tunnel has been completed at a cost of Rs 3127 crore under PM Development Fund and has been set open for traffic already. 'Works have been sanctioned on 4.38 km Marog-Digdol and 3.2 km Digdol-Khooni Nala four-lane twin tube tunnel; 6 km long viaduct between Mompsi-Sherbibi and another viaduct tunnel between Nashri-Ramban section. Once completed, the projects would shorten travel distance between Jammu and Srinagar up to four and half hour.'

Works are ongoing at the 6 lane Delhi-Amritsar-Katra expressway at a sanctioned cost of Rs 8681 crore and the project is expected to complete by 2024. The double lane project over Akhnoor-Poonch road is also set to complete by March 2024 at a projected cost of Rs 3109.27 crore. 'Double lane project, at a cost of Rs 4034 crore, over NH-244 spanning Chenani, SudhMahadev, Gohla, Khalleni, Kishtwar, Chhatri, KhanabalKhad is also being completed with deadline of August 2023. The 58 km long 4-lane ring road project would also finish by December this year', the Advisor continued.

HAR GHAR NAL SE JAL

The UT government has already made substantial efforts in successful implementation of the Har Ghar Nal Se Jal scheme of the Union Government. In this regard, we have already provided tap water to 58 percent households of Jammu & Kashmir so far: 23160 schools, 24163 Anganwadis, 3324 health institutions and 1666 gram Panchayat Bhawans have been provided tap water under the mission and all targets are set to be achieved by 2024, the Advisor remarked.

He highlighted that the Union Government has given nod to Ujh Multipurpose Project while as the ShahpurKandi Dam project is also slated to be complete by March 2023.

POWER

Projects worth Rs 12922 crore have been sanctioned to ensure that people of J&K are

provided round the clock power supply by 2025. In just two years, the government has revived power projects which would generate additional 3000 MW electric power. Paperwork has completed for generation of additional 3284 MW power at a cost of Rs 29600 crore', the Advisor said.

"Underground cable project at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi shrine has also been taken up. The Amarnath Shrine has also been connected with grid to ensure uninterrupted power supply at a cost of Rs 13.55 crore' he added.

AGRICULTURE

Speaking on agriculture sector, the Advisor said, "Rs 1999.12 crores have been transferred to bank accounts of farmers of J&K under PM KISAN and Kisan Credit Cards have been issued to 91 percent of them so far". He added that J&K stands 3rd in monthly farmer household income and 5th in overall performance in farming sector.

Tourism

Tourism is an indispensable sector of J&K; the Advisor remarked and said that tourist influx to the region has increased manifolds during the past couple of years. 'More than 1 crore visitors, including 4523 foreigners have come to J&K in this calendar year so far' he said. '37 new tourist places in Jammu and 38 in Kashmir regions have been identified to be developed by the government and boost border tourism in Jammu region. Beating the Retreat parade ceremony has been started in the RS Pura sector also', he said.

YOUTH

Addressing the youth, the Advisor said, Polytechnics and Industrial Training Institutes are being set up to make our youth employable. MoU has been signed on establishment of two Centres of Excellence under academic-industrial accord with Tata Technologies. Two centres of automotive