

**!! Continuations from Page 1 !!
Whether in 2022...**

said that huge investments are being made in Jammu and Kashmir. There are proposals of Rs 56,000 crore investments and Prime Minister Narendra Modi had kicked started the schemes in a Jammu village on April 24 this year. Dubai companies are investing. Rapid development work is going on and the projects involving around Rs 38,000 crore investments are currently underway. On other fronts, he said the number of flights from Srinagar Airport has increased from 33-32 daily to 110 and 6 from Jammu Airport to 44. He said the road network has got a special impetus. Good roads are being laid. The Jammu-Srinagar journey being undertaken in 11 hours earlier is now possible in five and half hours. He said the day is not far when the distance will be covered in four and half hours.

We are trying to increase tourism; the Lieutenant Governor said adding that the government is endeavouring to bring some tourist destinations, hitherto unexplored, on the tourism map of Jammu and Kashmir. "Some places are known to the country and the world. Although some places are not known to the people of the country and the world, we are working for this", he said.

Sinha countered the question about the role of the bureaucracy, asserting that it (the bureaucracy) is not a hindrance in the holistic development work.

When asked about some opposition leaders having been put under house arrest, Sinha quipped, "Not a single political worker is under house arrest".

Regarding terrorism in the Valley, the Lieutenant Governor said there has been a decline in terrorist incidents. The security forces have edge over terrorists. Terror is being effectively tackled. He said that in the past three years, not a single innocent person has been killed by the Army, Police or the Security Forces' bullets. He said that narco terrorism is emerging as a big challenge and the neighbouring country is pushing youth to wall. He said several initiatives are being taken to keep the youth away from terror and drug addiction. In this context, he referred to the rehabilitation programmes being undertaken by the Social Welfare Department.

"We have clearly said that do not touch the innocent and do not spare the guilty-Be-Gunah Ko Chero Mat Aur Gunahgar Ko Chorro Mat". He said that Jammu and Kashmir is witnessing an era of peace and prosperity. Today the government is establishing peace, earlier the peace used to be bought, he said, adding that his administration has been very successful in winning the trust of the people.

The Lieutenant Governor said the government is on the way to fulfill the policy of settlement of Kashmiri Pandits in Kashmir in terms of housing and employment for them. As part of rehabilitation, 6000 posts and 6000 flats have to be put in place. While 3000 posts had been filled up, the process for filling up the remaining vacancies is gaining momentum. He said 1200 flats will be ready by October this year and within a year and half the target of accommodation is likely to be completed fully. He also referred to the launch of a portal for registering complaints by the Kashmiri Migrants-Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs-and said that 6,000 of the 8,000 complaints have been disposed of while 2,400 kanals of land has been retrieved.

Sinha said the people of Kashmir strongly believe that Kashmir is incomplete without Kashmiri Pandits. He said Sufism is the ethos of the land of Rishis and saints and hoped that this great tradition will restore the pristine glory of the Valley. He also referred to the spiritual ethos of Lala Ded.

When asked about the response to the Ghar Ghar Tiranga Campaign in Jammu and Kashmir, Sinha said that the people are enthused. He made an appeal to the people to make the campaign a success.

In a round of rapid-fire questions, Manoj Sinha said that he puts all of his capabilities and mind for the people here and that likes his gubernatorial assignment in Jammu and Kashmir.

JKP Sub-Inspector...

constituted an inquiry committee to look into the same. It was alleged that the accused entered into conspiracy with officials of JKSSB, Bengaluru-based private company, beneficiary candidates and others, and caused gross irregularities in conduct of written examination for the posts of sub-inspectors," the CBI said in a statement.

The initial inquiry showed that there were "abnormally high percentage" of selected candidates from Jammu, Rajouri and Samba districts.

"Violation of rules by JKSSB was allegedly found in assigning the task of setting question paper to Bengaluru-based private company," it said.

The accused have been identified as Dr. Karnail Singh, Ex-Medical Officer, BSF Frontier Hqrs, Paloura, Ashok Kumar, ASI, (Munshi of Police Station Kanaclhak), son of Paras Ram, resident of Choudharwala, Ashwani Kumar, Ex CRPF Official, son of Mela Ram, resident of Kachhriah, Avinash Gupta, owner of EDUMAX Classes, Akhnoor, Akshay Kumar, Manager of EDUMAX Classes, son of Darshan Kumar, resident of Shamachak, Akhnoor, Roshan Bral, RET teacher, Narayan Dutt, JKAS, then Member, JKSSB, Bishan Dass, then Under Secretary, JKSSB, Anju Raina, then Section Officer, JKSSB, MeritTrac Services Private Limited, Bengaluru, Edumax Classes Library opposite BSNL Exchange Akhnoor, Sourav Sharma, son of Bhushan Bral (DDC Bhalwal Brahahanna), Sunil Kumar Verma, Jai Suriya Sharma, Bandana Sharma, Sourav Bral, Rohit Choudhary, son of Romesh Choudhary, resident of Mattu, Ravi Kumar, Kapil Sharma, Paras Sharma, son of Ashok Kumar, son of Ward Number 4, Jourian, Sumit Sharma, Dheeraj Sharma, son of Darshan Lal, resident of Chak Kirpalpir, Shubham Patyar, Sahil Patyar, Rahul Singh, Mamta Langleh, Rohit Langleh, Rahul Sharma, Tarlok Singh, Sachdev Singh, Anshuman Sharma, Aakash Jalotra, Ankita Sharma, Shubam Padyar, Sahul Padyar, both sons of Saroop Sharma, resident of Gurha Brahahanna, (private persons) and unknown others.

These accused were booked on the allegations of irregularities in written examination for the posts of Sub-Inspectors in the J&K Police held on March 27, 2022, conducted by J&K Services Selection Board (JKSSB). Soon after the results were declared and more than four to five siblings of particular families qualified the test. This was the cause of the protests and J&K administration ordered an inquiry.

A committee was set up to probe the alleged irregularities in the written test for sub-Inspector posts in J&K police, which submitted its report.

August 5 to...

for their outstanding performance in the matriculation exam. Apart from this, the top two students have also been felicitated with a cash award

**Allowing retired officers to continue at CUS: Govt
Govt appoints Dheeraj Gupta as inquiry officer**

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Government on Friday appointed IAS officer as Inquiry Officer to conduct a time-bound enquiry into the matter of allowing retired officers to continue in Cluster University, Srinagar.

"Sanction is accorded to appointment of Dheeraj Gupta IAS, Principal Secretary, Housing & Urban Development Department as Inquiry Officer to conduct an enquiry into the matter of allowing retired officers to continue in Cluster University, Srinagar and to fix responsibility of the officers/officials who exceeded their authority and passed orders without approval of Competent Authority," reads an order issued by Principal Secretary, Manoj Kumar Dwivedi,

"The Special Secretary to the Government, Higher Education Department shall be the Presenting Officer in the case," ita stated and added the Inquiry Officer shall submit the report within a period of one month.

**183 pilgrims left for Amarnath
cave shrine from Jammu**

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Over 180 pilgrims on Friday left Jammu city for twin base camps of 3,880-metre-high cave shrine of Amarnath in south Kashmir Himalayas, officials said.

A total of 183 pilgrims left in 36th batch from Bhagwati Nagar Yatri Niwas here in a convoy of 8 vehicles amid heavy security of CRPF this morning, the officials said.

They said that 62 pilgrims heading for Baltal were the first to leave the Bhagwati Nagar camp in three vehicles followed by the second convoy of 5 vehicles carrying 121 pilgrims for Pahalgam.

With this, a total of 1,44,490 pilgrims have left from the Bhagwati Nagar base camp for the Valley since June 29, the day the first batch of pilgrims was flagged off by Lt Governor Manoj Sinha

The annual 43-day yatra commenced on June 30 from the twin routes -- traditional 48-km-long Nunwan-Pahalgam in south Kashmir's Anantnag and 14-km shorter Baltal in central Kashmir's Ganderbal district.

The yatra is scheduled to end on August 11 on the occasion of Raksha Bandhan.

of Rs one lakh each. Besides, tablet computers & sports kits were distributed among hostel students. Smart Cards were distributed to Migratory Tribal Population to ensure their smooth seasonal migration.

The Lt Governor also flagged off exposure tour of 200 tribal hostel students to various parts of the country under "Bharat ko Jano" programme which will instill the spirit of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' among the tribal youth.

Dedicating new initiatives to the people of tribal community, the Lt Governor said that the schemes by Tribal Affairs Department will unleash the productive potential of the youth, holistic development of tribal community free from all discrimination, fear and insecurity.

Expressing gratitude towards Prime Minister Narendra Modi for securing the rights of the tribal community in J&K, the Lt Governor reiterated the government's commitment to empower the tribal population of J&K who were neglected for decades.

We are working with a resolve to make the development process holistic, universal and impacting all sections of the society. For the first time in the history of J&K, the tribal population is feeling fully integrated, connected with the mainstream of development. For the first time, their voice is being heard and they have been given their due rights, said the Lt Governor.

The initiatives launched today are part of the continuous endeavours of the Government to promote the welfare of tribal community and ensure that the present & future generations of the community have all the facilities which their previous generations were deprived of, observed the Lt Governor.

Dedicated focus is being given towards facilitating best education to the new generation of the tribal community. We expanded the scope of pre-matric scholarship to 1.5 lakh students and 12,500 children were selected for post-matric scholarship. Rs 50.62 crore worth scholarships are being given for the education of the children of tribal community, which is a big record in itself, the Lt Governor added.

We are also spending Rs 40 cr to convert 200 schools in tribal areas into smart schools. Till 31st March, 100 schools have been converted into smart schools and the work of remaining 100 schools will also be completed soon, the Lt Governor further added.

Under initiatives of Host-50 and Top-50, 100 meritorious students of tribal community, including 45 girls will be provided coaching for the first time in Government Empanelled Institutes for NEET/JEE exams, besides scholarship worth Rs.70,000 to Rs.75,000 per year will be given to those who would crack the competitive examinations.

100 tribal youths aspiring for civil services exams like UPSC and JKAS will get the quality coaching in the reputed institutes under Stars-100 scheme, and the administration will bear the expenses of tuition fees, study material for the talented tribal graduates belonging to poor families.

Moreover, 2000 tribal youths will be trained in formal skill development in different professions, and many such youths who have already taken informal training in any occupation will also be certified.

In yet another important step, pre-matric scholarships for the tribal communities have been on-boarded on the National Scholarship Portal. Now, the scholarship amount will be transferred directly to the accounts of 10,000 tribal students in a completely transparent manner. Besides, we have taken a step forward to encourage sports culture among the tribal youth, said the Lt Governor.

Under the 'Technology Enabled Education Scheme', Tablet computers preloaded with course wise study material distributed to 800 tribal hostel students of 10th, 12th and PG will prove to be an important factor in promoting digital literacy among the youth of the tribal community; it was informed.

A Video clip on reformative measures taken by the government for students of tribal population of J&K was displayed on the occasion, besides the testimonials of several tribal children expressing their feelings after benefiting from various initiatives dedicated to children of tribal community.

Besides handing over cash prizes and felicitating meritorious students belonging to tribal community of J&K UT and providing them Laptops, Tablet computers and sports kits, the Lt Governor also felicitated the wardens of tribal hostels for their continuous support to students in their education journey.

Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary while speaking on the occasion said that the Government is taking dedicated steps and initiatives for tribal people. The laptop and tablets provided to students would make them able to script a bright future with their hardwork and determination, he added.

Dr Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, Secretary to the Government, Tribal Affairs Department, in his welcome address gave details of the inauguration of various major initiatives for the tribal community of J&K.

B K Singh, Principal Secretary School Education; Pandurang K Pole, Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir, besides large number of students from tribal community & their wardens and members of tribal community were present during the grand ceremony of major initiatives of Tribals Affairs Department.

24 JKAS Officers...

Deputy Secretary, General Administration Department reads while mentioning their date of birth and retirement.

"In order to verify these details, the officers are hereby informed to furnish a self-attested copy of 'Date of Birth certificate' and 'First page of Service Book' duly authenticated by the concerned DDO within fifteen days positively, through e-mail at servicesection226@gmail.com, enabling this department to issue the retirement notification for the calendar year 2023 for the members of the Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Service, failing which the details available with this department shall be treated as final," the GAD notification stated.

As per the notification, the JKAS officers, scheduled to retire in 2023, included Abhay Ram Gupta, Deputy District Election Officer, Kathua, Iftikhar Rasool Hamdani, Deputy Secretary, J&K Public Service Commission, Anjali Fotedar, Deputy Secretary to the Government, Department of Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction on January 31; Choudhary Mohammad Rashid, Special Secretary, Floriculture, Parks and Gardens Department on February 28; Manzoor Hussain, Additional District Dev. Commissioner; Shopian, Masooda Akhter, Deputy Director; Social Welfare, ICDS, Kashmir, Mushtaq Ahmad Wani, Deputy Director, District Employment & Counseling Centre, Budgam on March 31; Babu Ram, Additional Secretary, Agriculture Production Department, Mohammad Altaf Wani, Chief Executive Officer, Tourism Development Authority, Kokemag, Irshad Ahmad Programme Officer, ICDS

**It reeks of bigotry: India on OIC's
statement on J&K**

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: India on Friday hit out at the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) for its latest statement on Jammu and Kashmir and said it "reeks of bigotry".

In a strong reaction, External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said such statements only expose the OIC as an organization devoted to a "communal agenda being pursued through terrorism".

On the third anniversary of the revocation of Jammu and Kashmir's special status and its bifurcation, the OIC called on the international community to take steps to resolve the "dispute" in accordance with

the relevant UN resolutions.

"The statement issued by the General Secretariat of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) on Jammu and Kashmir today reeks of bigotry," Bagchi said.

He asserted that the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir "is and will remain an integral and inalienable" part of India.

"As a result of long-awaited changes three years ago, it today reaps the benefits of socio-economic growth and development," Bagchi said.

"The OIC General Secretariat, however, continues to issue statements on Jammu and Kashmir at the behest of a serial viola-

tor of human rights and notorious promoter of cross-border, regional and international terrorism," he said in a clear reference to Pakistan.

"Such statements only expose the OIC as an organization devoted to a communal agenda being pursued through terrorism," he added.

Pakistan has been making concerted efforts to internationalise the Kashmir issue.

The neighbouring country stepped up an anti-India campaign after New Delhi announced in on August 5, 2019, its decision to withdraw the special powers of Jammu and Kashmir and bifurcate the state into two union territories.

Police dismisses claim about house-arrest of Farooq Abdullah

STATE TIMES NEWS

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir Police on Friday dismissed a claim made by the National Conference that its president Farooq Abdullah was placed under house arrested hours after chairing a meeting at the party headquarters here.

"There is fake news going that some NC and PDP leaders have been placed under house arrest in Gupkar Road. This news is completely baseless," a police spokesman said.

He was reacting to claims of the National

Conference, including its vice president Omar Abdullah, that Farooq Abdullah, the Lok Sabha member from Srinagar, had been placed under house arrest.

"It seems they have to place this truck outside the gate out of some compulsion because it's a senseless act (aside from being totally illegal). He went to the office, went for Namaz, went for a condolence visit. The truck arrived after he had nowhere else to go today. Fools!!" Omar Abdullah tweeted.

The NC spokesman had tweeted about the

**COVID: 823 new cases, 2
fatalities reported in J&K**

STATE TIMES NEWS

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir registered 823 fresh COVID-9 cases on Friday, taking the infection tally in the union territory to 4,68,245, officials said here.

Two fresh deaths were also reported due to the Coronavirus, they said. While 190 cases were reported from Jammu division, 633 cases were reported from Kashmir valley, the officials said. The death toll due to the virus rose to 4,776 as two fresh deaths were reported from the union territory, the officials said. There are 5,133 active cases of the disease in the union territory, while the number of recoveries has reached 4,58,336, the officials said. The officials said there were 51 confirmed cases of mucormycosis (black fungus).

**Tehsildar Marheen assesses
damage to crops**



Tehsildar Lekh Raj taking stock of damages caused to crops.

STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: Tehsildar Lekh Raj of Marheen, along with the Additional Executive Engineer of Irrigation Department and employees of Revenue Department took stock of the damage caused to paddy crop due to floods in Salapur and Khandwal villages of Marheen Tehsil. Giving information, the Tehsildar, he visited the above villages and assessed the damages caused to crop which is about 8 kanals in Khandwal village. He further told that the crop sown in a large area in Salapur has been damaged due to flood water. Tehsildar said that due to the rupture of a Tusi dam built over Salapur last year, the water of the Uji river had entered the fields due to which farmers suffered loss.

Project, Budgam, Bashir Ahmad Bhat, Joint Secretary in the J&K Sports Council, Srinagar and Mehraraj ud Din Wani, Deputy District Election Officer, Kupwara on April 30; Kusum Badyal Secretary in the Department, Industries & Commerce, Abdul Salam Mir Director, Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Kashmir, Syed Muriad Hussain Shah, Additional Secretary, ARI & Trainings Department and Shahida Parveen, Programme Officer, ICDS Project, Doda, Archana Raina, Deputy Secretary, Social Welfare Department to be retired on May 31; Masood Ahmad Qazi, Revenue Attorney in the office of Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir on June 30; Zameer Ahmad Rishu, awaiting orders of adjustment in the GAD on July 31; Anresh Kotwal, Deputy District Election Officer, Doda on August 31; Ramesh Chander, Additional District Dev. Commissioner, Jammu, Devinder Paul Deputy, Commissioner-Commercial Taxes, State Taxes (Stamps), Jammu Dewakar Khajuria, Deputy District Election Officer, Samba on September 30; and Dr. Rajinder Kumar, Additional Secretary, Information Technology Department on December 31.

Govt committed for...

was speaking after a meeting with the delegation of Pahari leaders, led by J&K BJP General Secretary and former MLC Vibodh Gupta, which called on him and highlighted a number of issues being faced by the Paharis, including grant of ST status.

The BJP National General Secretary, after giving a patient hearing to the visiting delegation, said that present Government has always tried to fulfill aspirations of every section of society. "It is the endeavour of ruling dispensation that all those, having talent and caliber, were provided right platform and opportunities to realize their dreams, as there is no space for favoritism in the Government led by Prime Minister, who too has risen to this level with his hard-work and dedication," he asserted. Assuring all possible support to highlight genuine demands and issues of Pahari community of J&K put forth by the visiting delegation, Clugh said that he would take up the same with the Government and is hopeful that the same would be resolved at the earliest.

Land-grabber turned...

Hawala racket connecting ex-minister Babu Singh, ascertained the illegal and anti-national activities of Sartaj. Accordingly after gathering all data, a raid was conducted at his house and office on May 7.

Huge number of incriminating documents, mobile phones, Tabs and SIM cards were seized. All these substantiate Sartaj's links with Pak-sponsored terror groups, said an officer accompanying raiding team.

The seized material included Jamaat-e-Islami (Banned Organisation) literature related to Doda region, forms for medical admission in Pakistan, a report regarding a person named Abdul Rehman, a Pak national, who visited the area and was later deported, literature related to so-called Jammu Kashmir freedom movement, a phone diary containing Pakistan numbers, cash register regarding various accounts, an identity card pertaining to Iran, photographs with Jamaat-e-Islami leaders, meeting notices regarding so-called Jammu Kashmir freedom movement and stamps. As per the details, during investigation of FIR 27/2022 registered under sections 10/13/39/Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act of Police Station Peermitha, Jammu, it has come to fore that the owner of Rah-e-Manzil, Urdu Daily News Paper, situated at Talab Khatikan, Jammu namely Mohd Sharief Sartaj, son of Shamas-Ul-Din Rather, resident of Changa Bhalessa, Tehsil Gandoh, District Doda at present Sunjwan has been printing nearly 150 newspapers on daily basis, but has dishonestly reflected 18,000 newspapers for pecuniary gain of obtaining advertisements from Information Department J&K and for certain other reasons. On this, FIR 41/2022 under sections 420/IPC has been registered at Police Station Peermitha and investigation has been set into motion.

It is pertinent to mention that during investigation of earlier FIR 01/2022 which was lodged at Police Station City, several raids were conducted at various suspected places and relevant documents were seized in huge number.

After scrutinising the records, FIR No. 27/2022 under sections 10/13/39/Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act was registered and investigated was entrusted to SDPO North Sharad Kalu. In furtherance of that investigation certain important revelations emerged which led to the registration of the instant case. Here it is pertinent to mention that Mohd Sartaj along with a few local associates are involved in land grabbing. The government land has been allegedly sold to many innocent buyers in Jammu by Sartaj to earn crores of rupees.

Civilian killed, soldier...

and a civilian sustained injuries in the gunfight, he said, adding it was unclear how the civilian was injured.

The civilian, identified as Manzoor Lone of the Redwani Bala area of Kulgam, succumbed to injuries in the evening.

"Injured civilian namely Manzoor Lone S/O Abdullah Lone R/O Redwani Bala Kulgam succumbed to his injuries. Injured Army Jawan Kiran Singh of 1RR, R/O Ramban is hospitalised at 92 base Hospital Srinagar. Search operation concluded," the police said on Twitter.

Procession taken out...

Anjuman-e-

Imamia Jammu, Secretary Anjuman-e-Imamia, Prof Sujat Khan and other speakers also spoke on the occasion. The proceedings were conducted by Syed Ayaz Naqvi Joint Secretary of Anjuman-e-Imamia, who also delivered formal vote of thanks.



Muharram procession being taken out in Jammu on Friday.

house arrest of the former J and K chief minister. "Dr Farooq Abdullah has been placed under house arrest after returning from Nawai-Subha where he had earlier presided over a meeting and said 'We will peacefully fight for our RIGHTS that were illegally, unconstitutionally and undemocratically snatched from us on August 5, 2019,'" he said.

However, the police spokesman said additional security personnel were deployed at certain places on Gupkar Road in view of "certain inputs of a terror attack".

"Ms Melbooba Mufti visited her party headquarters around noon time and Dr Farooq Abdullah visited Hazratbal shrine and his friend in Shalimar in the afternoon. Media friends are advised to verify news from authorities before circulating (them). JKP is a fully professional police force and is well aware of its duties," he said.

The police spokesman also posted the latest photographs from outside the residences of Abdullah and Mufti which showed no presence of security vehicles.