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Determined to take...

participation of citizens in the G20 Summit, Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra and Muharram procession after three decades, testify the beginning of a new era of peace and tranquility for the Union territory. Today, we stand firm in our determination to build the Jammu and Kashmir of our dreams". He called upon the people to realize their full potential and contribute in the resolution of 'Viksit Bharat' by 2047. He also stressed the need for making a resolve to work together to fulfill the vision and PanchPran of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"I am confident that our collective efforts will result in far greater prosperity for Jammu and Kashmir.

Referring to the successful G20 Summit, he said the event saw massive public participation, testifying that the citizens of Jammu and Kashmir have broken their shackles and they are raring to scale new heights. Notwithstanding the conspiracies and attempts of the neighboring countries to disturb the event, representatives from 27 countries participated in this historic summit - a loud and clear message to our adversaries. The international community, for the first time experienced peace, prosperity, stability and aspirations of the citizens of Jammu and Kashmir; and witnessed the all round progress of the Union Territory, he added.

Sinha said the G20 Tourism Working Group Meeting not only strengthened diplomatic ties, but also opened new avenues for global partnership that will help in tapping the tourism potential of Jammu and Kashmir: He took pride in stating that since the G20 event, there has been an increase of 59 per cent in foreign tourist arrivals in Kashmir Valley, as compared to the previous year. Further, 1.27 crore tourists have arrived till July this year, another record in the history of the tourism sector, he added.

Sinha said that another milestone in the list of achievements of 2023 in Jammu and Kashmir is the ongoing Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra - 2023, which marks the longest pilgrimage of Baba Barfani in history. The message of peace and stability in Jammu and Kashmir has attracted devotees not only from various parts of the country but also from abroad, fulfilling the decades old wishes of local and foreign citizens, he said.

"Our Shia brothers were able to take out the procession on traditional routes to pay tribute to the sacrifices of Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS) on Muharram after 34 years", the Lieutenant Governor added.

He said that during the past three years, diligently infused new momentum has been diligently infused in projects that were stalled for decades. Under the Prime Minister's Development Program, 32 projects, out of the sanctioned 53, have been completed and out of the remaining 21 projects, 13 projects shall be completed during the current financial year, he said.

Sinha said that the first Foreign Direct Investment proposal in the Union territory was approved earlier this year. Land has been allotted to Emaar Group for constructing a 1 million sq. ft. shopping mall in Srinagar and land for construction of two IT towers, one each in Srinagar and Jammu has also been allocated to the Emaar group. We have been ranked second among Union territories in NITI Aayog's Export Preparedness Ranking. We are the first UT to be integrated with the National Single Window System in Ease of Doing Business. More than 175 services are being provided through a single window system. 19 new industrial estates are being developed. GI tagging of 7 crafts has been approved. Handicraft exports have registered twice the growth in 2022-23 as compared to 2021-22, he added.

Sinha assured all artisans of Jammu & Kashmir that the administration is fully committed to honor and nurture their skills and to provide them with access to the global market. Thousands of village units have been set up under PMEGP and countless employment opportunities have been made available to the youth and artisans, he said.

The Lieutenant Governor said that regressive land laws have been abolished. Land owners have been empowered while strict action is being taken against land mafia. Illegally occupied land has been retrieved from the influential people who had encroached upon this valuable resource, he said, adding: "I have always emphasized that the poor and deprived has the first right on Government resources. The land that has been freed from encroachers shall be used for the welfare of the poor and downtrodden".

He said the new era of development and prosperity has brought new hope amongst the marginalized section of the society. Pucca houses bring in a sense of stability in their lives and augment overall development of the family. To fulfill their dreams of owning a house, the government has decided to allot 5 marlas land to each landless eligible Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (G) beneficiary that will ensure house is constructed under the scheme. Overall, 3.39 lakh houses have been sanctioned under PMAY(G) scheme and construction of 1.74 lakh houses has been completed. In the year 2023-24, sanction has been accorded to the construction of 1.99 lakh houses under the PMAY (G) scheme, he said.

"I believe it is our sacred duty to empower the deprived sections of society and provide them with new opportunities so that their potential can be harnessed and channeled in the right direction for nation building", he added.

Sinha said peace and stability have kindled new hopes of a bright future for the coming generation, schools and colleges are functional throughout the year now, and the future of a modern Jammu and Kashmir is being shaped by the implementation of the National Education Policy. Special emphasis is being laid on new skills, research, innovation and future technology under the guidance of the Higher Education Council. Common University Entrance Test has been adopted for admission to undergraduate, integrated, postgraduate, diploma, certification courses and research programs in degree colleges. Uniform academic calendar has been adopted in all higher educational institutions. Gyanodaya Express will provide new opportunities to the students to explore wealth of knowledge and learning beyond the four walls of class rooms. Design Your Degree initiative is triggering the curiosity of educationists from across the country. In the school education sector, emphasis has been laid on Early Childhood Education. Pre-primary classes have been started in more than 15,000 schools. School enrollment has increased by 17.2 per cent due to the Ao School Chale campaign. Through Talaash app, more than 95,000 out of school children have been identified and efforts are being made to re-enroll them in schools", he added.

He said the aim of his administration is to put a smile on the every person's face, asserting that sincere efforts have been made for the welfare of people in the Union territory.

Recalling his first I-Day speech as the LG of Jammu and Kashmir; Sinha said sincere efforts have bands made for the welfare of the people and ensuring peace in everyone's life.

"Three years ago, on this day, I said to you that I have no promises to make, but I have promises to keep. I have dedicated every moment of my life to keep those promises and to usher Jammu and Kashmir in a new era of peace and prosperity," he said.

"My ultimate aim is to put a smile on the common man's face. Every policy and every decision has been taken to ensure that all sections of society -- farmers, soldiers, labourers, women, teachers, engineers, doctors and businessmen -- are given a fair and equal opportunity for a brighter future, so that they can contribute in building a confident and self-reliant Jammu and Kashmir," Sinha said in his address.

The LG highlighted the steps taken by his administration including reviving tourism, holding G20 working group meeting in Srinagar; dismantling terror ecosystem, providing land to the landless and developing infrastructure in the Union territory.

Sinha termed 2023 as the golden year for Jammu and Kashmir:

The LG landed the security forces for their role in curbing terrorism in the UT.

"I want to assure our brave soldiers guarding the borders that citizens of Jammu and Kashmir and the entire nation stand shoulder to shoulder with you. We believe in peace, we believe in 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' and mutual goodwill. We are fully committed to safeguard national interests and if provoked, we are capable of giving a befitting response to any attempt of aggression," he added.

Earlier, the Lieutenant Governor took salute at an impressive march past of the contingents comprising of J&K Police, Security forces, Schools Students, besides Brass and Pipe bands of J&K Police and the BSF.

He paid tributes to the freedom fighters and brave hearts of police, army and CAPFs.

The Lt Governor felicitated and handed over cash prizes to the winners of the National Anthem singing competition at the UT level Independence Day event. He also felicitated the contingents and groups for best march past and cultural items.

Operations of 12...

per mandate of law and pharmacies operate strictly in consonance with the mandate of law and in the best interest of patient care.

Statutory Drug samples of nearly Two Hundred formulations of various categories were randomly found for determination of strength and purity. These samples were referred to Drug Testing Laboratories locate within the U.T of J&K for framing of legal opinion to ascertain their quality parameters and to ensure that quality medicines are being sold to the end users.

Operations of Twelve Retail Sale Establishments (Four in Jammu, Three in

Samba District, Two in Poonch District , One each in Kathua & Ramban, were disallowed u/s 22 (d) of Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 on spot. The reasons for suspension ranged from Non maintenance of Sales records, Impersonation, Improper storage conditions etc.

Moreover, Stocks of Drugs worth Rs 3,86,100 that were found to be contravening the provisions of the D&C Act have also been confiscated from the supply chain by the Regulatory Officers of the organization under section 23 of the Drugs & Cosmetics Act.

During the said drive, the stocks of drugs worth Rs 27,465 was seized on Form - 16 from an unlicensed shop being run at Lower Kud the custody /permission of which was obtained from the Court of Chief Judicial Magistrate Udhampur. Investigation in the matter has been initiated and Notice under section 18 (a) served upon the accused for further legal action in the matter:

Meanwhile, the Licensing Authority cancelled the license of a Wholesale firm at Rajouri that was found indulging in unethical trade practices.

Two notorious bovine...

Teg Ali and Feroz Din of Udhampur district's Manjla area, police said, adding that a case under relevant sections of law has been registered at the Samba police station. Samba Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Benam Tosh said that a total of 84 bovine smugglers have been arrested in the past seven months after the launch of a special drive. Police have registered 66 FIRs against the bovine smugglers and seized 56 vehicles used for bovine smuggling amid rescuing of 653 bovine animals.

Article 370: SC...

the States, the Bill has been referred by the President to the Legislature of that State for expressing its views thereon within such period as may be specified in the reference or within such further period as the President may allow and the period so specified or allowed has expired."

Article 4 allows for consequential changes in the 1st Schedule i.e. names of the States in the Union of India and IVth Schedule i.e. the number of seats allotted in the Rajya Sabha for each state.

Dhavan told the bench, also comprising Justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul, Sanjiv Khanna, BR Gavai and Surya Kant, that there is a mandatory condition under Article 3 and 4 of the Constitution dealing with the formation of new states and alteration of areas, boundaries or names of existing state where the president has to refer the matter to the state legislature.

Dhavan, who was arguing on the sixth day of hearing on the batch of pleas challenging the Centre's decision to abrogate Article 370, said reorganisation of the state could not have been done when the state was under the proclamation of Article 356 (imposition of President's Rule).

He said Parliament could not have substituted itself for the state legislature or the President for the Governor.

"The notification pertaining to Jammu and Kashmir's Reorganisation of 2019 created a constitutional amendment in Article 3 by suspending the mandatory provision of Article 3 (a reference by the president to the state legislature). It is a constitutional amendment which is subversive of the Constitution itself.

"If this suspension of mandatory provision fails in the eyes of law, the President Rule will fail and its extension in July, 2019 also fails," Dhavan said.

He asserted the Centre virtually amended the Constitution and that the entire Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act emanates from Article 3 and 4 of the Constitution.

CJI Chandrachud asked Dhavan, "How do we deal with Art 356 (1)(c) of the Constitution? Does the President have the power to suspend certain provisions of the Constitution during the operation of proclamation under Article 356?"

Article 356 (1)(c) of the Constitution says in case of failure of the constitutional machinery in state, the president on receipt of report from the governor of the state, may issue a proclamation to make such incidental and consequential provisions which according to him is necessary or desirable for giving effect to the objects of the Proclamation, including provisions for suspending in whole or in part, the operation of any provisions of the Constitution relating to any body or authority in the State.

"Yes," Dhavan replied, adding "The president can suspend a provision of the Constitution but it has to supplement the proclamation. Here, in this case, this goes beyond supplementing and a mandatory provision under Article 3 is actually taken out."

The CJI then asked Dhavan that normally when the legislature uses the word "means" and "includes" it is actually an indication of expanding the power.

"So, when the Constitution says 'make incidental and supplementary provisions' and then says 'including' this seems to widen the ambit of the earlier part. 'Including' would mean that what was otherwise not a supplementary or incidental provision, it is within the ambit of presidential proclamation. Isn't it?" the bench told Dhavan.

CJI Chandrachud told Dhavan if the president in a proclamation suspends the operation of any provision of the Constitution, then whether it is amenable to adjudication in a court of law on the ground that it is not incidental or supplemental.

The senior lawyer replied, "I have never seen a provision which actually takes away a mandatory provision. This is exceptional. If you expand the ambit of Article 356(1)(c), then you will say that the president has a card to amend any part of the Constitution. Article 356(1)(c) has to be read with a mandatory provision which it cannot dilute."

"The words 'necessary' or 'desirable' are not carte blanche powers of the president. Could he have suspended Part III of the Constitution (that relates to fundamental rights) under Article 356 of the Constitution? It has to be given a limited meaning," the senior lawyer said, adding Article 356 is an exception which overrides federalism and it brings down democracy in a state.

Dhavan, who argued for nearly four hours, said during the President's Rule, Articles 3 and 4 and Article 370 cannot be invoked.

"Why? Because they have conditionalities. The conditionality is specific to the legislature of the state...neither Parliament nor president can substitute the legislature or the governor," he said.

Dhavan concluded his argument, saying President's Rule cannot override Article 370 or Articles 3 and 4 or substitute the executive and legislature of the Union for the executive and legislature of Jammu and Kashmir:

"Articles 3 and 4 of the Indian Constitution have special application to Jammu and Kashmir and require the consent of the Jammu and Kashmir legislature. President's Rule's provisions cannot obviate the provisions of Article 3 and 4 as also those of Article 370(1) as the requirements of consent, consultation, and concurrence therein are mandatory," he asserted.

The hearing remained inconclusive and will continue on Thursday.

On August 10, the top court had said the surrender of Jammu and Kashmir's sovereignty to India was "absolutely complete" with the accession of the former princely state in October 1947, and it was "really difficult" to say that Article 370 of the Constitution, which accorded special status to the erstwhile state, was permanent in nature. Several petitions challenging the abrogation of the provisions of Article 370 and the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019, which split the erstwhile state into two union territories - Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh- were referred to a Constitution bench in 2019.

Searches carried out...



Vinay Kumar SSP Poonch, CO 38 Bn CRPF and others during the meeting.

the temple.Police assisted by Army and CRPF cordoned off over a dozen villages in Gursai early this morning for a thorough search operation, the officials said, adding further details are awaited.

Earlier, Vinay Kumar SSP Poonch, CO 38 Bn CRPF, Concerned Army CO of Poonch Brigade reviewed the security, LNO / QRT deployments, access control and other allied arrangements viz, water supply, power arrangements, Langer stalls, accommodation, parking, traffic, venue security, contingency arrangements etc at Shri Dashnami Akhara, GDC Ground Poonch and other lodgment centres.

Other stakeholders viz Tahir Mustafa Malik ADC Poonch, Zaheer Ahmed Kaifi ACR Poonch, Narinder Mohan Suri DEPO (Yatra officer), Basant Ram Pradhan Shri Dashnami Akhara Poonch, Nishu Gupta, President VHP Unit Poonch, Davindra Singh 2 I/C CRPF 38 Bn were also accompanying the SSP Poonch during the review visit. Mohd Shafiq Dy.SP DAR Poonch, Afrat Hussain Dy.SP Hqrs Poonch among other officers were also present on the occasion.

Those facing arbitrary...

to translate operative parts of judgements in regional languages, Justice Chandrachud said till now, 9,423 judgements of the top court have been translated in regional languages

The CJI also talked about the efforts of the apex court to make all its 35,000 judgements available to citizens in regional languages.

He also said that there is a need to overhaul the infrastructure on a priority basis to make courts accessible and inclusive.

Union Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal, who was also present at the 77th Independence Day function of SCBA, said a roadmap was essential for making India a developed nation by 2047 and termed the rule of law the foundation of democracy. Besides the CJI and the law minister, several apex court judges, Attorney General R Venkataramani, SCBA office bearers, including its president and senior advocate Adish C Aggarwala and secretary Rohit Pandey, were present during the programme.

G20 events introduced...

the world, introduced the diversity if India to the world," Modi said.

The world is looking at India's diversity with astonishment, and this has led to increase in attraction for India, he asserted.

"The desire to know India has got accentuated," the prime minister said.

Recalling his visit to Bali, Modi said even leaders of developed nations were eager to know about Digital India.

"I told them that this wonder is not just limited to Mumbai and Chennai, youths of even tier-2 and tier-3 cities are helping shape the destiny of India," Modi added. "Our small towns may be small in size or population, but in having aspirations, endeavours and impact, they are not less than anyone. They have that capability," he said.

New apps, new solutions, technology devices are being developed by youths from across the country, Modi said.

In his address, the PM said India has put forth the concept of 'One Earth, One Family, One Future' for the G20 Summit, and working in that direction.

"As the world grapples with climate crises, we have shown the way and launched the Lifestyle for Environment Mission LiFE initiative. We formed the International Solar Alliance in collaboration with the world and many countries are now part of the alliance. We have emphasized the importance of biodiversity and advanced the establishment of the 'Big Cat Alliance'," Modi added.

A giant 'G20' logo made in a floral design was displayed in front of the ramparts of the Red Fort and old videos associated with the meetings of the influential bloc were also displayed on a big screen.

Gangyal Police favours...

middlemen and paid Rs 3 lakh to Rakesh Kumar as advance money.

When the complainants approached the owner of the land, they were shocked to learn that he had not received any money from Rakesh Kumar, which they had given him to get the deed executed. Desperate over the revelation, the complainants approached Rakesh Kumar regarding the deal, who told them that since the issue could not be settled with the owner of the land, he will return them Rs 3 lakh on August 11, 2023.

When the complaints, Parshotam Singh and Bhanu Partap Singh visited the office of Rakesh Kumar at Greater Kalash on the scheduled day to get back Rs 3 lakhs, he along with the other accused kept arguing. On being repeatedly asked about the advance money, the accused physically manhandled and thrashed the complainants, causing serious injuries to them. They even threatened them both by brandishing pistol, asking them to leave the office lest getting killed. However, the complainants managed to flee from the scene but Rakesh Kumar chased and attacked them again, as a result of which they further got injuries. The complainants were shifted to GMC Hospital for treatment under MLC 4802 on August 11, 2023.

The complainants submitted an application to the Dy S P South Gandhi Nagar, Jammu, requesting registration of an FIR against the accused under law. Accordingly, the SHO Gangyal registered the FIR 92/2023 under Section 341/323/506/147 IPC.

CCEA nod to...

of commodities such as foodgrains, fertilizers, coal, cement, fly-ash, iron and finished steel, clinkers, crude oil, lime stone, edible oil etc.

The capacity augmentation works will result in additional freight traffic of magnitude 200 MTPA (Million Tonnes Per Annum).

The Railways being environment friendly and energy efficient mode of transportation, will help both in achieving climate goals and for reducing logistics cost of the country, the ministry said in a statement.

The projects are result of PM-Gati Shakti National Master Plan for Multi-model connectivity which have been possible through integrated planning and will provide seamless connectivity for movement of people, goods and services.

Vaishnav said each of these projects would substantially reduce the journey time of passengers.

Highlighting the strategic significance of these initiatives, he emphasised that the projects are intricately interconnected and should be viewed holistically, as they collectively contribute to the modernisation of Indian Railways.

Chhari Mubarak taken...

the annual Amarnath pilgrimage, officials said.

The 39th batch comprising 614 males, 146 females, 67 seers and seven children left the Bhagvati Nagar base camp, in a convoy of 27 vehicles, for the twin base camps in Pahalgam and Baltal, between 3 am and 3.40 am, they said.

The 62-day annual pilgrimage to the 3,888-metre high cave shrine in the south Kashmir Himalayas commenced from the twin tracks of Pahalgam in Anantnag district and Baltal in Ganderbal district on July 1.

The traditional 48-kilometre Nunwan-Pahalgam route has so far been chosen by 586 pilgrims and they left for Amarnath in 20 vehicles.

The shorter but more challenging 14-kilometre Baltal route was preferred by the remaining 248 and they left Jammu in seven vehicles for the Amarnath. The yatra is scheduled to conclude on August 31.

Cabinet approves extending...

period between 2021-22 to 2025-26.

The extended Digital India programme will add on to the work done under the previous version of the scheme.

"The budget was allocated from time to time as per requirement. We have made changes in the schemes for which approval was required," Vaishnaw said, adding the Cabinet meeting, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the extension of the programme with the outlay of Rs 14,903 crore.

Under the extended programme, nine more super computers will be added under the National Supercomputing Mission(NCM).

The minister said that 18 super computers have been deployed under NCM.

In March 2015, the government approved installation of 70 supercomputers under NCM by 2022 with an outlay of Rs 4,500 crore.

The minister said the approval for nine supercomputers have come in addition to the earlier approved project.

Vaishnaw said the Digilocker app will be extended to micro, small and medium enterprises to help them avail credit and other services by verifying their document stores in the app.

Life in jail...

son Mohd Suleman, a police spokesperson said.

He said the boy was found dead under suspicious circumstances at his home on October 30, 2013 and during the course of inquiry, it came to the fore that Shaffi had given poisonous insecticide to the child, causing his death.

Accordingly, a murder case was registered on November 30, 2013 and the chargesheet was filed against the accused in the court on January 26, 2014, the spokesman said. He said Shaffi was finally awarded rigorous imprisonment for life and slapped with a fine of Rs 10,000.

In case of default of payment, the accused shall further undergo rigorous imprisonment for six more months, the spokesman said.



Justice N. Kotiswar Singh, Chief Justice, High Court of Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh calling on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday.