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Chandrayaan-3 landing...

on the moon! We have our national pride placed on the moon." Hailing the role of women scientists in the success of Chandrayaan-3, he said, "the country's Nari Shakti played a big role" in it. The Prime Minister stated that the point where Chandrayaan 2 left its imprints will now be called 'Tiranga'.

This point, he said, will serve as an inspiration for every effort that India makes and remind us that failure is not the end. "Success is a guarantee where there is strong will power."

Declaring August 23 as the 'National Space Day,' Modi said it will celebrate the spirit of Science, Technology and Innovation, and inspire us for an eternity.

A large number of people, many of them waving national flags, accorded a grand welcome to the PM outside the HAL airport, where he landed straight from Greece, and at Jalahalli Cross, close to ISTRAC. He also held a road-show for a distance as people who lined up on either side of the roads cheered boisterously.

At ISTRAC, ISRO Chairman S Somanath briefed him about the Chandrayaan-3 mission and its progress.

In his address, Modi said in this period of 21st century, the country which takes the lead in science and technology, will move ahead. "Today, the name of Chandrayaan is resonating among children of India. Every child is seeing his or her future in the scientists".

The Prime Minister requested ISRO to organise national hackathons on "Space Technology in Governance" in collaboration with various departments of center and state governments. "I am confident that this National Hackathon will make our governance more effective and provide modern solutions to the countrymen," he said.

Modi also urged students across the country to take part in a huge quiz competition on Chandrayaan mission organised by Government of India portal MyGov from September 1.

The soft landing of Vikram lander on lunar surface was not an ordinary achievement, Modi said adding the feat was a "roaring announcement" of India's scientific accomplishment in the infinite universe.

"India is on the moon, he said adding, "we have our national pride played on the moon."

"We reached where no one else had reached. We did what no one else had ever done. This is today's India, a fearless India, India with fighting spirit," the Prime Minister said.

"This is an India, which thinks new and thinks in novel ways, which goes to the dark zones and spreads the rays of light. India of 21st century has the capacity to solve major problems of the world," Modi said addressing the space scientists.

"Today, from trade to technology, India is being counted among among the countries standing in the first row. In the journey from 'third row' to 'first row', institutions like our ISRO have played a huge role."

Hailing the space agency, the Prime Minister said it has taken "Make In India" to the moon.

On Wednesday evening as the Lander Module of Chandrayaan-3 mission successfully touched down on the lunar surface, Modi had joined the ISRO team at Mission Operations Complex (MOX) at ISTRAC virtually from Johannesburg, where he was attending the 15th BRICS summit.

Modi had also flown down to Bengaluru on the night of September six, 2019 to watch the planned touchdown of Chandrayaan-2 mission's 'Vikram' lander.

But in the early hours of September seven, barely minutes before it was slated to land, ISRO lost contact with the craft, just 2.1 kms above the lunar surface.

Jammu Smart City's...

The India Smart Cities Award Contest is organised under the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs' Smart Cities Mission. It recognises and rewards cities, projects and innovative ideas that promote sustainable development across the 100 smart cities.

The Jammu Smart City Limited also bagged the third spot under the Urban Environment Project category. The first position in this category was bagged by Indore while Shivamogga (Karnataka) came in at second place, the official said.

The Jammu Smart City Limited emerged as the winner in the India Smart Cities Awards Contest category from among 75 proposals submitted by 48 cities, he added.

"The award comes as a testament to the Jammu Smart City Limited's unwavering commitment to driving innovation in urban mobility and contributing to a greener, more sustainable urban landscape nationwide," the official said, terming the award as a "landmark achievement".

The e-Mobility project tackles pressing urban challenges, including traffic congestion, pollution and limited transportation options in the "vibrant city" of Jammu, the official said.

"The eAutos (eAutorickshaws) and eRickshaws are emission-free transportation with positive environmental impact. These electric vehicles stand out for their cost-effective operational dynamics, making them the preferred choice for both passengers and drivers," he said.

In another move towards sustainable urban mobility, Jammu and Kashmir Chief Secretary Arun Kumar Mehta recently flagged off electric bicycles in Jammu as part of the Smart Cities Mission's Public Bicycle System.

The Jammu Smart Cities Limited is also gearing up for phased operationalisation of 100 eBuses with National Common Mobility Card-compliant digital ticketing solutions, the official said.

Search operation launched...

Buflaiz sector around 6 am, they said.

The search parties fired a few rounds in the Chamrer forest area on observing some suspicious movement but there was no retaliation from the other side, the officials said. Reinforcements have been rushed to the area for conducting a thorough search operation, they said.

CRPF inducts advanced...

The WhAP variant will provide a tactical advantage, the official said.

According to CRPF personnel, the WhAP vehicle lends a tactical advantage to the force. "This vehicle has very advanced technology. We can launch an assault while sitting inside the bulletproof vehicle. This will help in anti-terror operations as we can get closer to targets where terrorists are holed up," CRPF jawan Pratap Singh said.

Charri Mubarak reaches...

district besides the other sects and beliefs of the locality along with the representatives of the Mattan Tirith Trust.

It is pertinent to mention that Puja of the Chaddi Mubarak is held at various places enroute to Holy Cave and has to stay at various padavus (stations) as per the past Hindu religious practices.

The Chaddi Mubarak has to reach Holy cave on 31st of August on Sharvan Purnima. Puja of chaddi Mubarak was held by the sadu mandals and other devotees at Mattan in presence of a large number of locals and officials.

The DC on the occasion said that every possible facility was made available for the devotees of SANJY 2023 and this time more than 4.50 lakh pilgrims visited the shrine safely, and safety and comfortable yatra was the prime concern of the administration. He further added that all sects of society were helpful and cooperative for conducting a successful yatra and hospitality of Kashmiris was again appreciated by the Pilgrims.

Mahendra Depander Giri while speaking at Mattan briefly gave the religious and historic importance of the Anarnathji Yatra and Shrine.

He added that devotees showed satisfaction over the arrangements made by the District Administration and UT government of J&K for smooth conduct of SANJY and hospitality of Kashmiri people have always made the yatra enriching spiritually.

While answering the questions of the media, Mahant Mahendra Giri said that for prosperity to prevail, peace is the prerequisite condition and appealed to the people to shower love on everyone irrespective of creed, colour and caste.

The officers of District Administration, officials of the Health, MC Mattan, Information, Revenue and other deptts, were present on the occasion. President Mattan Tirith Trust, Ashok Sidha was also present in the ceremonies at Mattan.

Later, the Chadi Mubarak was taken to Gorishankar Temple, Pahalgam from Mattan where it shall stay for a night and leave towards Holy Cave tomorrow, halting for a night at each Yatra Station.

CS launches J&K...

proceedings initiated against employees. The launch was attended by the Commissioner Secretary, General Administration Department, Sanjeev Verma along with other senior functionaries of the J&K Government.

This portal will enable the concerned authorities to monitor the disposal of RDAs in a time-bound manner and will also ensure that there are no data losses vis-à-vis disciplinary proceedings. In consonance with the timelines prescribed for disposal of RDA, the portal has features to generate alerts wherever there is delay in timely completion of the requisite step prescribed in the disciplinary proceeding. This will

ensure that the misdemeanor does not go unpunished and will act as a deterrence. The need for portal was felt after it was noticed that some of the RDAs have stretched for more than a decade without closure and in some cases, employees getting superannuated with RDAs still intact even though the RDA is supposed to be completed in one year. This will also address any complaints of connivance of employees in keeping the RDA un-attended.

This initiative is in continuation to multiple steps taken to curb corruption in the past including Budget Estimation, Allocation and Monitoring System (BEAMS), Aapka Mobile-Hamara Daftar initiative - UMANG (Unified Mobile Application for New-age Governance), Rapid Assessment System (RAS), e-Office, J&K Employees Performance Monitoring Portal (EPM), Implementation of -tendering, AA/TS & JK/Paysys, PROOF app, JANBAGHIDARI, Digital Payment, e-stamping, e-GRAS, Electronic Vigilance Clearance System, Aapki Zameen Aapki Nigrani, Property Return System, Auto Appeal System (AAS) etc. which have ushered new era corruption free, transparent and accountable governance.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Mehta directed the General Administration Department to ensure that the portal is equipped with all the resources like sample templates/formats, training videos, orders/circulars, CVC guidelines etc. to act as a guide for time-bound completion of disciplinary proceedings in a user friendly manner.

Dr. Mehta further observed that the portal is employee friendly as it would help in fast-tracking closure of RDA and ensure that the employees found innocent are not harassed. He directed all the departments to ensure that legacy data of existing disciplinary proceedings is uploaded on the portal in one month's time and that General Administration Department shall conduct Capacity Building Programme for all the departments in this regard.

Srinagar lecturer suspended...

Mehta, Joint Director, School Education, Jammu is appointed as inquiry officer, who shall conduct an in-depth inquiry in the conduct of the delinquent officer," the order issued on Friday read.

Hailing from central Kashmir's Budgam district, Bhat who holds a law degree, personally appeared before the Supreme Court which is currently hearing a bunch of petitions challenging the scrapping of Article 370 that granted special status to the erstwhile state. The central government abrogated Article 370 and bifurcated Jammu and Kashmir into two Union Territories on August 5, 2019.

Sonia Gandhi arrives...

and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee president Vikar Rasool Wani. Immediately after her arrival, Sonia visited the Nigeen Lake here and enjoyed a boat ride, a senior Congress leader said.

Rahul, who was in the Union Territory (UT) of Ladakh for the past week, arrived in Srinagar on Friday after addressing a public rally in Kargil earlier in the day.

The Wayanad MP stayed at a houseboat in Nigeen Lake and the family is likely to stay at a hotel in the Rainawari area on Saturday.

Rahul's sister Priyanka Gandhi, along with her husband Robert Wadra, is also likely to join the duo, the party leader said.

The family is likely to visit Gulmarg on Sunday, he added.

The leader, however, said no political engagements are scheduled for the family during the visit.

"It is a completely personal, family visit and no political engagement or meeting with any party leaders will happen," he added.

Rahul reached Ladakh on August 17, his first visit to the region since it was granted UT status after being carved out from Jammu and Kashmir in August 2019. The erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir was also turned into a Union Territory with its special status under Article 370 revoked.

Over the past week, Rahul has visited almost all famous places in the region, including the Pangong Lake, Nubra Valley, Khardungla top, Lamayuru and Zaskar, on his motorbike before reaching Kargil on Thursday.

Azad assures tunnel...

ensure that the magnificent and untapped tourist spots are turned into 'Switzerland' as the successive governments have over the years ignored these far-flung villages.

"During my stay in Marwah and Warwan areas for four days, I could assess the situation myself. There is no electricity, mobile connectivity is zero while roads are nowhere to be seen. These landlocked areas need to be connected through tunnels so that the residents have access to rest of the country throughout the year," said Azad.

The residents recalled the contribution of the former chief minister in the establishment of hospitals, road, degree college and higher secondary and high schools.

Azad further assured them that a special police recruitment drive would be conducted for the youth of these areas.

"Apart from a special police recruitment drive for the youth of Marwah and Warwan areas, I will ensure that more blocks and schools on modern lines would be established once coming to power," he said.

Chairman DPAP was accompanied by Vice-Chairman G M Saroori, General Secretary Choudhary Haroon Khatana, Chief Spokesperson Salman Nizami, Provincial General secretary Shafiq Shabnam, District president Shabir Lone, Spokesperson Shariq Saroori, Block President Marwah Ghulam Mohd Wani, Sr DPAP leader Ch Anwar Phambra, Block President Warwan Ghulam Rasool Wani and other leaders during his three-day tour of distant Marwah and Warwan areas of Kishtwar district.

Bandh call affects...

the Peoples Democratic Party and the CPI(M). The Jammu High Court Bar association also extended its support.

Congress, National Conference and PDP supporters staged protests at different places in the city, while lawyers suspended their work. Some lawyers also blocked the Janipur Main Road outside the high court.

Raising slogans against the Lt Governor-led Jammu and Kashmir administration, traders and transporters marched from the from Chamber House Rail Head Complex Jammu to the Press Club to demand unconditional release of the detained YRS members.

"It is a symbolic strike to raise the genuine demands of the public. The Lt Governor-led administration should pay heed to the issues concerning the common people and try to resolve the same," JCCI president Arun Gupta said.

He expressed thanks to all the organizations including J&K High Court Bar Association Jammu, the transporters who have supported the Bandh Call and remained off the road and the business community from all over Jammu Province including Kathua, Samba and R.S.Pura for their wholehearted and overwhelming support to today's Jammu Bandh, thus supporting the cause of Jammu.

National Conference provincial president Rattan Lal Gupta, who led a protest in support of the Bandh outside the party's headquarters here, accused the administration of taking arbitrary decisions without taking people into confidence.

"The Bandh is the result of brewing anger among the people against the administration over its anti-people policies such as installation of smart meters, property tax, and illegal toll plaza at Sarore in Samba, and arrest of YRS activists," he said.

Ajay Kumar Sadhotra former minister demanded the immediate release of the detained protestors and withdrawing of all the cases registered against them.

The Congress party held a massive protest against the BJP government at the main road in Channi Himmat, Jammu to raise issues of installation of smart meters, Sarore Toll, among other issues. The protest was led by former Minister and senior Congress leader Yogesh Sawhney along with Th. Hari Singh Chib, District President Jammu (R).

The protesters burned the effigy representing the BJP government as a symbolic gesture to register their protest.

Sawhney condemned the BJP for implementing exploitative policies in Jammu and imposing unnecessary financial burdens on people.

JKPCC Chief Spokesperson Ravinder Sharma said that people were united in sending out a loud message to the centre government and UT administration that the authoritarian approach to crush every dissenting voice over the anti people decisions, is no longer acceptable to the people of Jammu.

Demonstrations were also held in Katra town, the base camp for the pilgrims visiting the Mata Vaishno Devi shrine in Reasi district.

Various Sikh organisations of J&K under the Chairmanship of Mohinder Singh chief organizer Bhai khanya Nishkam Sewa Society Jammu and Kashmir & Ex member DGPC Jammu held strongly protest demonstration at Jammu in support of Jammu bandh call to show solidarity with the people suffering from the issues.

Sikh organisations J&K appealed the centre government as well as Jammu and Kashmir government to release immediately all the arrested leaders and protestors who were protesting against toll plazas. It is pertinent to say that the Jammu band call is given by Jammu commerce and industries association.

On Friday, Divisional Commissioner Ramesh Kumar had assured people about the efficiency of smart meters, while listing the steps taken by the administration to dispel the doubts of consumers regarding the accuracy of power consumption readings.

"The installation of smart meters is not unique to Jammu and Kashmir but is being carried out across the nation," Kumar had said, explaining that smart meters are designed to empower end consumers by curbing power loss.

Clarifying the reasons for occasional high bills, he had said that any discrepancies

in bills were due to past pending amounts and assured that the new system's bill cycle has been rectified.

On the protest over the toll plaza, Additional Director General of Police, Jammu Zone, Mukesh Singh, said that "as a result of Lt Governor Manoj Sinha's efforts, a team from the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) is set to visit the affected area within the next two days."

"Singh said the YRS activists detained for "breach of peace" will be released if any "prominent person" guarantees on their behalf that they would not repeat such an offence.

Congress also take out a protest in Sunderbani town in support of the Bandh call over the demands of removal of Sarore toll plaza and release of detained YRS leaders in Jail.

Led by Block Congress President (DFO ret'd) Nain Chand Sharma and accompanied by large number of shopkeepers and local youth besides President Biepar Mandal lower market, Pankaj Raina, Dwarka Nath, Block President Siot Ajit Singh, Yog Raj Sharma, Om Parkash, Capt Joginder Singh Chib, Chuni Lal Sharma, Ashwani Kumar, Arvind Sudan Chhotu AYC president, Satish Sharma, Dr Ved Prakash & ors, the protestors took out a strong protest carrying Congress flags & raising slogans against central government seeking roll back of toll tax at Sarore, release of YRS leaders besides withdrawal of property tax.

Drug peddler sentenced...

Fifty-three gram of charas was recovered from his possession, the spokesman said. A case under relevant sections of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act was registered against him at Vijaypur police station.

During the trial, the spokesman said, the magistrate found sufficient evidence to convict him.

Govt employee chargesheeted...

of Ghulam Hassan Bhatt, resident of Qazipora, Chadoora District Budgam, in the court of law for judicial determination after allegations of cheating were proved during the investigation, a spokesperson of the agency said.

He said Amreek Singh, son of Late Bishamber Lal of Bakshi Nagar, Jammu, lodged a complaint against Bhat, claiming that he had duped him of Rs 3 lakhs on the pretext of arranging a government job for his wife in Doda district.

Preliminary verifications were initiated against the accused and the allegations were prima facie substantiated, leading to the registration of a formal case for in depth probe, the spokesperson said.

Army felicitates Veer Naris, widows, spouses of ESMS

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NOWSHERA: Army continues to foster strong relationships with its Veterans, their families, and the courageous Veer Naris (war widows) as part of its ongoing commitment to support and assist those who have served the nation. In line with this commitment, the Indian Army organized a significant interaction at Kalal in Rajouri District, aimed at addressing the concerns and well-being of these individuals.

The event, attended by Veterans and Veer Naris from the area, provided a platform for open discussions regarding various social and personal challenges. The Indian Army recognized the importance of addressing the grievances faced by these brave individuals and ensured that their voices were heard by the organizers.

The interaction proved to be productive, with participants engaging in meaningful conversations with the organizers. This interaction not only enabled the attendees to express their concerns but also highlighted the Indian Army's dedication to providing practical solutions and support to its community members.

As a token of appreciation and respect, a felicitation ceremony was held at the conclusion of the event. This ceremony aimed to honor the indomitable spirit, resilience, and determination of the Veterans, Veer Naris, and widows. These individuals have displayed remarkable strength in overcoming adversity and working towards the betterment of society and the region.

Army's unwavering commitment to its Veterans, Veer Naris, and their families underscores its holistic approach to support and community-building. By creating opportunities for open dialogue, addressing grievances, and acknowledging the contributions of these individuals, the Indian Army continues to uphold its values of service and care.



Army officials along with ESMS during the event.

Army conducts yoga camp at Primary School Thana

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
DODA: To commemorate Fit India Movement, Indian Army carried out Yoga Camp by organising a mass performance at Primary School, Thana Gei. During the yoga session, various asanas, pranayama and meditation were conducted.

A total of 42 students and 02 teachers attended the event. The session was later followed by an interaction between the participants and representatives of Indian Army in which various health benefits of yoga were discussed.

Army Gei addressed the gathering that Yoga embodies unity of mind, body, thought and action. It is not only brings harmony between man and nature but also inculcates holistic approach to health and well being. He also added that Yoga could significantly contribute to peace and development globally. Populace thanked the Indian Army camp for organising such an event which will go a long way in stimulating a healthy bend of mind amongst the students.



Students taking part in yoga session.

Justice Mohan Lal Manhas pays obeisance at Mata Sarthal Devi Bhawan

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
KISHTWAR: Justice Mohan Lal Manhas of the Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh High Court, who holds the esteemed position of Administrative Judge for District Kishtwar, embarked on a spiritual journey today by paying his respects at the revered Mata Sarthal Devi Ji Bhawan.

The visit was marked by a solemn Pooja Archana performed by Justice Manhas.

In the company of Justice Manhas were esteemed individuals, including Manjeet Singh Manhas, Principal District and Sessions Judge of Kishtwar, and Dy SP Dr. Ishan Gupta. The visit was facilitated and orchestrated by Sanjeev Parihar and Advocate Kuldeep Sharma, representing the revered Shri Sarthal Devi Ji Management Council.

Justice Manhas's visit to Mata Sarthal Devi Ji Bhawan holds deep significance, reflecting his spiritual reverence and commitment to the cultural and spiritual ethos of the region. The performance of Pooja Archana further symbolized his connection to the divine.

The warm reception and arrangements made by the Shri Sarthal Devi Ji Management Council showcased the harmonious relationship between the legal and spiritual realms, fostering a sense of unity and respect within the community.



Justice Mohan Lal Manhas during visit to Mata Sarthal Devi Ji Bhawan.