

!! Continuations from Page 1 !!

Complete dismantling of...

the Government is dedicated to the ideals of social justice and equality. Today, the poorest of the poor feel that the Government belongs to them, he added.

He said, "the biggest change is visible on the ground as people are living freely after so many decades. Street protests, closure of schools, colleges for 150 days a year, stone pelting and separatism have ended".

"Today, youth are going home late at night while holding a guitar and after spending quality time on the riverfront. Pakistan backed propaganda has failed on ground and everyone is enjoying the peace. I believe this is the biggest achievement," the Lt Governor said.

At the ceremony, the Lt Governor also acknowledged the significant contribution of various sections of society in J&K's growth and development. Youth, women and farmers are at the forefront of advancing and improving quality of life and all round development for inclusive J&K, he said.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor felicitated the candidates trained by Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE). Result for PARVAZ (NEET/JEE) was also declared.

He also launched Mission Youth's Protsahan Scheme and Soft Skill Training and Coaching Programme for Judicial and other Legal Services.

Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary; Ambarish Datta, MD and CEO, BSE Institute Ltd and Ashwani Bhatia, member SEBI also spoke on the occasion.

Sheetal Nanda, Commissioner Secretary Social Welfare Department; Vijay Kumar, ADGP Kashmir; Vijay Bidhuri, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, CEO Mission Youth; senior officials, officials of BSE, SEBI; beneficiaries and prominent citizens were present.

4 booked under...

Those booked under the PSA include Khursheed Ahmad Dar alias Shola and Riyaz Ahmad Rather, both residents of Nasrullahpora, who were arrested for drug peddling, he said.

Tausseef Ahmad Khambay, a resident of Warasangam in Soibugh and an overground worker of the Ansar Ghazwat-ul Hind, has also been booked under the PSA, the official said. He said Sarla Begum, resident of Lammdarhal in Rajouri, has been held for conning men after marrying them to her daughter; Shaheena Akhter:

"With a well-rehearsed script of her mother and some brokers, she (Akhter) had married these men and later duped them of cash and gold," the official said.

Cases have been registered against the mother-daughter duo in Budgam district.

Kashmir struck by..

70.77 degrees east at the depth of 181 km, officials said.

This was the third quake to hit J&K in the day.

Earlier the region was jolted by quakes occurring in Pakistan and in the Hindu Kush region at 8.36 am and 10.24 am. The two quakes, in that order, were measured 4.8 and 5.2 on the Richter Scale.

Three Army personnel...

They said a tight cordon was maintained throughout the night and the search operation was launched on Saturday morning to trace the ultras, believed to be three in number.

The officials said the group is believed to have reached Kulgam district through the Pir Panjal range.

They said additional troops have been rushed to the area and the search has been intensified.

Another search operation has been launched in the Kund area of the district after a blast-like sound was heard there, the officials said.

Some Army vehicles were passing through the area when the sound was heard, they said. A police team has rushed to the spot and further details were awaited, the officials added.

Maintain extra vigilance..

out at different levels. The DGP stressed for making smooth traffic arrangements during the Independence Day celebrations, particularly routes leading to venues of functions in Srinagar and Jammu.

Parking slots should be identified so that people participating in these functions should not face any inconvenience, he added.

Earlier, the DGP expressed grief over the martyrdom of three Army jawans in an encounter at Kulgam and two minutes of silence was observed.

While referring to the martyrdom of three Army Jawans, the DGP said, "We continue to make sacrifice wherever required for the sovereignty and integrity of the Country and for the safety of people."

He complimented the officers and personnel on ground saying that they are doing the job best to their capabilities.

Spl. DGP CID, J&K R R Swain, ADG CRPF, J&K Nalin Prabhat, ADGP Armed J&K SJM Gillani, ADGP Hqrs/Coord. PHQ M K Sinha, IG CRPF Srinagar Sector Ajay Kumar Yadav, IGP Hqrs/CIV PHQ B S Tuti, DIG CKR Sujit Kumar, DIG BSF Sector Sgr. Alok Kumar Chakravarthy, DIG CRPF KOS P K Mehra, BGS (Int) Pallav Mishra, DIG Traffic Kashmir Javid Ahmad Koul, DIG Armed Kashmir Shahid Mehraj, ASIG of PHQ, SsSP Srinagar, Ganderbal, Budgam, Security, Traffic Kashmir Rural & Traffic Srinagar attended the meeting in person at PHQ.

ADGP Jammu Zone Mukesh Singh, ADGP Kashmir Zone, Vijay Kumar, Range DIG DKR Range Dr Sunil Gupta, DIG NKR Vivek Gupta, DIG RP Range Dr. Mohammad Haseeb Mughal, DIG SKR Rayees Mohammad Bhat, DIG Traffic Range Jammu Shridhar Patil, DIG Armed Jammu Nisha Nathiyal and all district SsSP including Police districts attended the meeting through video conferencing.

Baru inaugurates 36 newly installed transformers in Ward 41



JMC Councillor Sanjay Kumar Baru inaugurating transformer.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: BJP senior leader and JMC Councillor Sanjay Kumar Baru inaugurated 36 newly installed transformers in the presence of BJP Talab Tillo Mandal president Keshav Chopra, PDD Junior Engineer Anjush Bhagat and local BJP leaders Jatin Sethi, Brijesh Gupta and Chaman Lal Bhagat at Hazuri Bagh in Ward 41.

Giving the details on the occasion, Sanjay Baru said that to upgrade the electricity infrastructure in the Ward last year, they had installed about fourteen 100KV and 250KV transformers with the help of PDD department. He added that even after that, there was a problem of fluctuation due to low voltage in some areas of our ward, we tried to solve this problem, two 200KV and thirty-four 25KV new transformers

have been installed with the estimated cost of 60 lakhs and today dedicated to residents of Ward 41.

Sanjay Baru further said that the Modi government has dedicatedly developed Jammu & Kashmir in recent times. He said that a large number of public welfare steps have been taken for the J&K people ever since

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Sahib Sarup Gupta, an entrepreneur, announced the grand inauguration of the new furniture showroom, 'ABC Furniture,' in the City of Temples.

The inauguration ceremony was graced by Arun Gupta, President of the Chamber of Commerce and Industries (CCI) Jammu, who served as the Chief Guest and conducted the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Article 370 was done away with and a new era of development initiated in the region.

Keshav Chopra, while speaking on the occasion, stressed that the BJP is committed for the welfare of the people. He said that every party worker is in touch with the masses on the ground. He said that the party worker must also act as a two way passage in between the masses and the party seniors.

BJP leaders Jatinder Khajuria, Lokesh Bhagat, S. Jangeet Singh, Onkar Verma, Varinder Gupta, Smt. Bhawana Dutta, Sanjay Sahni, Anil Kumar, Ajit Kumar, Kuldeep Sharma, locals and JMC Ward officials were present on the occasion.

CCI President inaugurates 'ABC Furniture' Showroom



CCI President Arun Gupta inaugurating a showroom.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Sahib Sarup Gupta, an entrepreneur, announced the grand inauguration of the new furniture showroom, 'ABC Furniture,' in the City of Temples.

Supporters of terrorism...

highlighted the efforts made in the last four years to establish a just, transparent, accountable, responsive, citizen-centric governance system in the UT.

"The Government has taken decisive steps against corruption and ensuring that seamless public services are delivered at the doorstep of the citizen. We have successfully broken the backs of the corrupt and those who were supporting the terrorist-separatists ecosystem," the Lt Governor said.

"Supporters of Terrorism, Separatism are the biggest enemies of peace and progress. I want all the citizens to work together with the Government to uproot the cancer of terror-secessionist ideology and corruption," he said.

After many decades, old and new generations are witnessing the era of peace and harmony. It is our collective responsibility to give a new shape to the society and to ensure pro-active governance for ease of living of the citizens, he added.

The Lt Governor appealed to the people to cooperate with the administration in installing smart electricity meters. He also invited all the citizens for the grand celebrations of Independence Day.

Junaid Azim Mattu, Mayor SMC and Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary also spoke on the occasion.

Vijay Kumar, ADGP Kashmir; Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; Athar Amir Khan, CEO Srinagar Smart City, senior officers, members of ULB, trade fraternity and civil society were present on the occasion.

Namrata, Kundal, Tony..

even once. We feel sidelined in the party and thus decided to say goodbye to it after making several failed attempts to reach out to the leadership," Tony told reporters .

He said they joined the AAP in Delhi last year after being influenced by its programmes and manifesto, besides seeing its rule in Delhi and Punjab.

"After the change of leadership in Jammu and Kashmir, the party has lost its track," Tony said.

"The urban local bodies and panchayat elections are round the corner but there is no discussion on these leave aside formulating a strategy for the polls," he said.

Kundal said over AAP 200 office-bearers, including its district presidents and secretaries, have resigned and are now free to join any "secular party".



BJP celebrates 4th...

lies, but the common people and the poor want development...Today, people have risen above dynastic politics, and they do not want any Abdullah or Mufti to befool them," he said in an apparent reference to National Conference (NC) chief Farooq Abdullah and Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) supreme Mehbooba Mufti.

During the meeting, BJP leaders highlighted the changes in Jammu and Kashmir after the Centre's 2019 decision, with Jasrotia saying there used to be shutdowns for the most part of the year in the Kashmir Valley, but now, there are no strikes.

BJP leader Koul said Jammu and Kashmir has witnessed a lot of changes post-2019.

"Kashmir has changed, stone pelting has ended, separatism has ended. International events have taken place here. There has been a record number of tourist arrivals," he said.

On the PDP's claim, Koul said he does not know about the issue and only the administration can answer. But, what would have the PDP done by getting permission for the event, he asked and said "they would have provoked people which could have caused more problems".

West Pakistani refugees, Gurkhas and Valmiki Samaj members took to streets in Jammu and Samba districts and celebrated the fourth anniversary of the article's abrogation, saying it facilitated them to get citizenship of Jammu and Kashmir after a long wait of several decades.

"We got real freedom four years ago, otherwise we were living like slaves in J-K. Now, we are the citizens of Jammu and Kashmir, and have all rights, including voting to choose our representatives, own land and ensure our children get higher education," West Pakistani refugees' leader Laba Ram Gandhi said.

ASI conducts scientific...

day before as well, on Saturday said the team started work in the morning and completed it by 5 pm. The survey work was stopped between 1 pm to 3 pm for lunch.

ASI officials told PTI that the survey work will resume again at 8 am on Sunday.

According to ASI officials, the team examined the central hall of the mosque where Namaz is offered. The team also surveyed a few basement areas in the complex.

Advocate Tauheed Khan for the Muslim side said two lawyers of the Intezamia Masjid Committee accompanied the survey team.

A lawyer for the Hindu side Sudhir Tripathi claimed, "Not idols, but fragments of idols have been found in the debris. We are quite hopeful that idols will also be recovered... The Intezamia Masjid Committee is cooperating... they gave the keys which they were not giving earlier."

Another lawyer of the Hindu side Subhash Nandan told reporters that the ASI team examined the central hall under the main dome.

Divisive elements hell...

strong bonding between different communities in Chenab Valley and Pir Panjal is an example of how people uphold and cherish secular values in their respective communities by living in harmony for ages despite disturbance in neighbourhood areas.

Cautioning the people about "elements inimical to peace" in Jammu and Kashmir, Azad directed the party leadership and workers to strive and strengthen bonds of social cohesion across the valley.

Stressing that development is linked to peace and stability, the DPAP chief said his party is committed to the development of the region.

"Chenab Valley continues to remain underdeveloped after so many decades due to pol-

itics of indifference. I and my party are committed to the development of all far-flung areas in Jammu and Kashmir which saw a golden era of progress during my tenure as chief minister even though it was a short period of two and half years," Azad said.

Directing DPAP leadership and party workers to strive and strengthen bonds of social cohesion, Azad stressed that development is linked to peace and stability.

The public meeting was also addressed by-Vice Chairman G.M.Saroori, Ab Majeed Wani Gen Secretary, Sr DPAP leader Ramesh Parihar, Asif Ghattu Distt President Doda.

BJP has reason...

than the mighty Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, who countered by saying that Rahul Gandhi was the only choice to stand against Narendra Modi. Gehlot's political clout in the Congress is not unknown. It is because of his refusal that the present incumbent is heading the party. The tussle is most likely to begin in the I.N.D.I.A after the vote on Delhi services bill.

The third reason for the BJP to be happy over the return of Rahul Gandhi is his lack of political understanding of the issues concerning the nation. He will be at the centre-stage of receiving brick-bats for defaming Indian democracy during his visit to the UK and the US. Criticism of the BJP alright but the tirade against the nation has not gone well with the compatriots. He has based his politics on undermining Indian democracy and its institutions. This might have got him a few cheers from the 'managed' crowds, reportedly comprising inimical nationals from some other countries in the closed-door meetings abroad but he is not seen as a serious political contender to the top post back home. Rahul Gandhi's off-the-cuff remarks on important national issues are not seen as a symptom of an immature political leader. Though he has demonstrated some leadership qualities after Bharat Jodo Yatra, which is more famous for his oft spoken term 'Mohabbat Ki Dukan', yet his role as a part time leader, frequently departing on foreign tours, has eroded his credibility hugely. His neglectful behaviour and remarks like 'flour in litres' can amuse the audiences but not lead them towards polling booths to vote his party to power. These attributes make him the best asset for the BJP. As late as in March this year, one of the most powerful and senior I.N.D.I.A leaders now, West Bengal Chief Minister is reported to have said in an internal meeting of TMC that Rahul Gandhi is BJP's biggest asset and the grand old party is busy promoting him to save his image.

Offering 675 services...

creating an era of efficiency, fairness and equity for all.

While enumerating the advantages, he made out that the introduction of initiatives like BEAMS, Janbhagadari, Aapki Zameen Aapki Nigrani (AZAN), e-tendering and e-office has transformed the administration into more responsive, accessible and transparent system and has empowered the citizens of J&K by bringing in accountability and openness.

The Chief Secretary went on to elucidate that the financial discipline brought in by BEAMS has ensured that no work which does meet the criteria of e-tendering, Administrative Approval, Technology Sanction, and photographic evidence can be paid which has accelerated the completion of projects by 10 times. BEAMS has been the engine of change in J&K, drastically reducing arbitrariness and corruption. He mentioned that the cost of projects has reduced significantly due to competitiveness.

He stated that earlier contractors were moving from pillar to post to get their payments released. Now the process has been made hassle-free and they are able to see releases without running after officials.

He made out that the efficiency and timely disposal of official business has well been ensured by the introduction of e-Office in the UT. He said that this IT tool has brought in greater transparency in government functioning as the movement of each file can be tracked with time-series data analysis.

He also recalled that the 'Janbhagadari' portal and 'Aapki Zameen Aapki Nigrani' has put all the details of works or land records in public domain where thousands of people are accessing and evaluating these on daily basis. He called it the real empowerment where people have themselves been put on the driving seat.

He mentioned that in terms of the number of projects completed the UT has made phenomenal progress. He stated that earlier the number used to hover around 9000 which has grown to over 925000 works for the previous financial year. He noted that E-Compendiums of these works are made public and there is no complaint from public about any of these works.

On the Occasion the Principal Secretary, IT, Prerna Puri informed him about all the initiatives the Department has taken to make the system more responsive and bring governance at the doorsteps of the people.

She revealed that from 35 online services in 2019 the number has reached to 675 currently. She made out that the feedback from public on Rapid Assessment System (RAS) is quite encouraging as 86% of it is positive. She also gave out that nearly 40 lakh messages have been sent to the public to give their feedback and more than one crore visits have been made till date to the AZAN portal providing insights about the people's land records.

Earlier the Chief Secretary launched the new version of the Directorate of Information and Public Relations produced youth oriented Online program 'Beats of J&K 2.0'. It aims at encouraging and facilitation of the local artists of Jammu and Kashmir to showcase their talent providing them a platform to grow and make a mark in their chosen fields of their musical interest.

On the occasion, the Chief Secretary advised the officers to provide due opportunity up to Block level so that the creativity and talent of youth gets a chance to flourish.

He called it the most useful platform which can be used by the youth of J&K to achieve success and realize their dreams. He felicitated the Department for coming up with this talent hunt program which can give vent to the hidden talent.

While giving description about this online program the Director Information, Minga Sherpa apprised the gathering that its first version was a grand success in which hundreds of artists across different languages and social backgrounds displayed their artistic abilities.

Theft case solved within hours, accused arrested, stolen property recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

MIRAN SAHIB: Police on solved a theft case within hours by arresting the accused and recovered stolen property.

As per details, On August 5, 2023, one complaint was received at Police station Miran Sahib from the office of Block Medical Officer R S Pura regarding theft of 01 Desktop, 01 mouse , 01 keyboard and 01 Charger from PHC Simbal Camp. On this information, FIR No. 129/2023 under section 457/380/IPC was registered and investigation started. On this, a team of Police Station Miran Sahib led by SDPO RS Pura Nikhil Gogna assisted by SHO Miran Sahib Inspr Bopinder Singh rounded up one suspected person namely Rajinder Singh, son of Varinder Singh, resident of Simbal Camp Ward no. 01 Tehsil R S Pura Distt. Jammu. During questioning accused person confessed his involvement in above said case and on his disclosure stolen property was recovered from his possession.

JKAP delegation calls on XEn PDD, discusses issues



JKAP leader Shakti Dutta calling on XEn PDD Romesh Raina.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Shakti Dutta, leader of Jammu and Kashmir Apni Party (JKAP) on Saturday, called on Executive Engineer PDD Romesh Raina and discussed issues faced by the locals of Wards 24, 25 and 26. The discussion highlighted the need for collaborative efforts to address the electricity crisis and installation of smart metres with the issue of increment in the monthly dues. Romesh Raina assured the JKAP leader about the prompt redressal of issues. On this occasion Rahi Singh, Sahil Bhagat, Keshav Bali, Arif, Ishu Jamwal, Tofeq, Kaka Dutta and Sourav were also accompanying Shakti Dutta.