

!! Continuations from Page 1 !! Decades of injustice...

transforming their lives. "Decades of injustice against tribals ended in August 2019. Various transformative initiatives have enhanced the socio-economic conditions of tribal brothers and sisters. Gurez was connected to grid power in 2023 for the first time since 1947. This reflects our commitment to Gurez and Dard-Shina community," he said.

On the occasion, the Lieutenant Governor dedicated the Shina Gilgit 88.8 FM Radio Station to the Dard-Shina tribal community. He said the community radio station will inspire young generation to preserve and cherish the values, knowledge and traditions of the community

The Lieutenant Governor suggested that the new radio station should broadcast the rich history of the tribal community, through a dedicated weekly program.

"Gurez was developed and established as the most favourite offbeat tourist destination of the country. Today Gurez is ranked as a top travel destination of the country and it is considered as a haven for outdoor enthusiasts with its serene landscapes and picturesque villages.

The community radio programmes must reflect its natural, artistic and cultural heritage," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor appreciated the Indian Army, Tribal Affairs Department, District Administration and various voluntary organizations for their dedication to promote the priceless cultural heritage of Dard-Shina community.

Captivating performances by the Artists from J&K and other states celebrating "Ek Bharat Shreshthha Bharat" received special appreciation from the Lieutenant Governor.

Members of the tribal community were also honoured for their service to the society and the Indian Army.

Javed Ahmed Rana, Minister for Tribal Affairs, Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment; Nazir Ahmad Khan, Member of Legislative Assembly from Gurez; Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; Prasanna Ramaswamy G, Secretary, Tribal Affairs Department; Manzoor Ahmad Qadri, Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, senior officials of security forces, civil and police administration, and people from all walks of life in large number attended the inaugural ceremony.

HIGHLIGHTS...

restored.

Central Government has always focussed on empowering the tribal community and transforming their lives.

Various transformative initiatives have enhanced socio-economic conditions of tribal brothers and sisters.

I consider Dard-Shina tribal community to be most precious treasure of India, which is inspiring people to preserve their traditions and rituals.

Gurez was connected to grid power in 2023 for first time since 1947. This reflects our commitment to Gurez and Dard-Shina community.

Gurez was developed and established as most favourite off-beat tourist destination of the country. Today Gurez is ranked as a top travel destination of the country and it is considered as a haven for outdoor enthusiasts with its serene landscapes and picturesque villages.

Anti-terror operation...

the forest area. "The operation has entered its sixth day and is going on," the official said, adding intermittent exchange of firing is going on.

Two terrorists have been killed while at least two security forces personnel were injured in the gunfight which began on Friday after security forces launched a cordon and search operation in a forest area at Akhal in the south Kashmir district, following specific intelligence inputs about the presence of terrorists there.

After an initial exchange of fire between the two sides on Friday evening, the operation was halted for the night, but the cordon was strengthened, and additional reinforcements were rushed to the area, officials said.

Firing resumed on Saturday morning, during which the two terrorists were killed, they said.

The identity and group affiliation of the slain terrorists has not been ascertained so far, they added.

Police asked to...

of the region ahead of Independence Day, they said.

Focus has been laid on intensified patrolling, night vigilance and border alertness in view of the threat perception, they said. The security audit of vital installations and public places should be carried out, they said, adding that the security setup along the border areas should be strengthened.

Modi to flag...

depart from Katra at 6:40 am and reach Amritsar at 12:20 pm, with stops at Jammu, Pathankot Cantt, Jalandhar City, Vyas etc.

The same train numbered 26405 will depart from Amritsar at 4:25 pm and reach Katra at 10 pm.

"The train will benefit passengers who plan to visit the Shri Mata Vishnu Devi shrine. It will take less time to cover the distance due to its advanced features," Singhal said.

PM expected to...

Modi last visited China in June, 2018 to attend the SCO summit. Chinese President Xi Jinping visited India in October 2019 for the second "informal summit".

However, the relationship came under stress due to the eastern Ladakh border face-off.

The military standoff in eastern Ladakh began in May 2020 and the clashes at the Galwan Valley in June that year resulted in a severe strain in ties.

The face-off effectively ended following completion of the disengagement process from the last two friction points of Demchok and Depsang under an agreement finalised on October 21 last year.

In the last few months, both sides revived the Special

Representative dialogue on boundary question and other dialogue mechanisms.

The decision to revive various dialogue mechanisms was taken at a meeting between Prime Minister Modi and Chinese President Xi in Kazan (Russia) on October 23, 2024.

The Modi-Xi meeting came two days after India and China firmned up a disengagement pact for Depsang and Demchok. The two sides also initiated a number of initiatives to rebuild the ties that included resumption of Kailash Mansarovar Yatra and New Delhi restarting issuance of tourist visas to Chinese nationals.

Both sides are also discussing modalities to resume direct flight services between the two countries.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and National Security Adviser Ajit Doval visited China in the last two months to attend SCO meetings.

China is the current chair of the SCO.

It is not immediately clear whether PM Modi and President Xi will hold a bilateral meeting on the sidelines of the SCO summit.

It is expected that Russian President Vladimir Putin will be among the top leaders who will participate in the SCO summit.

CM meets public...

Kashmir, met the Chief Minister to highlight the lack of job opportunities for architects in Jammu and Kashmir. They urged the government to create posts and integrate architectural expertise for urban development planning.

A deputation representing transporters and shopkeepers of the Old Batamaloo General Bus Stand also met the Chief Minister. They demanded the revival of commercial activity along with basic civic restoration at the Batmaloo.

The Chief Minister also held a separate meeting with former Minister and senior political leader Sajjad Ahmed Kitchloo, who discussed the developmental scenario in the Chenab Valley.

Scores of individuals also called on the Chief Minister and apprised him of various personal and public concerns.

The Chief Minister gave a patient hearing to all delegations and assured that the issues raised would be appropriately addressed through the concerned departments.

Trump singles out...

all actions necessary to protect its national interests.

Trump signed an executive order - Addressing Threats to the US by the Government of the Russian Federation - imposing the additional tariff over and above the 25 per cent levy which comes into effect from August 7.

After this order, the total tariff on Indian goods, barring a small exemption list, will be 50 per cent.

"The ad valorem duty imposed...shall be in addition to any other duties, fees, taxes, exactions, and charges applicable to such imports..." the order said.

While the initial duty becomes effective on August 7, the additional levy will come into effect after 21 days or August 27.

"I find that the Government of India is currently directly or indirectly importing Russian Federation oil. Accordingly, and as consistent with applicable law, articles of India imported into the customs territory of the United States shall be subject to an additional ad valorem rate of duty of 25 percent," it said.

India buys about 88 per cent of its crude oil, which is converted into fuels like petrol and diesel, from overseas. Russian oil made up for hardly 0.2 per cent of all crude oil that India imported till 2021. After Moscow invaded Ukraine, Russian oil was available at a discount to international benchmarks due to western sanctions, and was quickly lapped up by Indian refiners. Russia is now India's largest oil supplier.

According to exporters, the move would affect India's USD 86 billion worth of exports to the US severely.

"It is extremely shocking. It will impact India's 55 per cent of exports to US," Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) DG Ajay Sahai said.

In 2024-25, the bilateral trade between India and the US stood at USD 131.8 billion (USD 86.5 billion exports and USD 45.3 billion imports).

The announcement is being seen as a pressure tactic to get New Delhi to agree to demands made by the US in the proposed BTA.

The US is seeking duty concessions on certain industrial goods, automobiles, especially electric vehicles, wines, petrochemical products, agri goods, dairy items, apples, tree nuts, and genetically-modified crops.

The two countries are aiming to conclude the first phase of the pact by fall (October-November) this year.

Father, daughter killed...

Bakerwal family at Kanzalpathri in the upper reaches of Waltango Kund, police said, adding that a small landslide occurred in the area due to rain and strong winds.

"Four members of the family were inside the tent when the incident took place. Two family members, Mohammad Shafi Boker and his daughter Reshma, died on the spot, while two others were injured," a police officer said.

The injured have been admitted to a hospital in Qazigund, where their condition is said to be stable, the officer said.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has condoled the loss of lives in a tragic incident at Kund area of Kulgam.

"Saddened by the loss of lives in the tragic incident at Kund in District Kulgam. My heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family members who have lost their loved ones. I pray for the early recovery of the injured," the Lieutenant Governor said.

Rescuers retrieve one...

of rubble lay on the site with the ITBP, Army and SDRF personnel rummaging through it for those trapped underneath amid continuing rain and road collapses.

Officials said the army's Ibx brigade which had helped in rescue operations in the Mana avalanche of February is

preparing to take the help of ground penetrating radars to search the missing.

Two more NDRF teams are en route to Dharali but have been unable to get there because continuous landslides have blocked the Rishikesh-Uttarkashi highway.

According to Mohsen Shahedi, NDRF deputy inspector general (DIG) operations, two NDRF teams are to be airlifted from Dehradun, but they can't be moved as bad weather is preventing a successful sortie.

Earlier in the day, Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke to Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami to get an update on the situation and assured him of the Centre's assistance.

Dying art of...

but by reviving safe and traditional kite flying practices. Schools and community centres could play a vital role in educating children about the cultural significance of this disappearing art.

As the sky grows quieter each year, and the echoes of childhood thrill fade away, it's time to ask: can we bring back the joy of kite flying - not just as a pastime, but as a cherished tradition that once united generations under the same sky?

DCO intercepts illegal...

routine surveillance of courier networks, Drugs Control Officers, under the supervision of Assistant Drugs Controller (HQ) J&K Pankaj Malhotra, on Wednesday conducted a targetted inspection at a local courier facility.

During the inspection, a suspicious parcel was identified and opened in the presence of authorised personnel. The team recovered 4,400 tablets of Tapentadol 100 mg (TD NERV-100), a centrally acting opioid analgesic often mis-used for intoxication. The tablets were concealed and lacked valid documentation. The team immediately seized the consignment on the spot using Form-16 under provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940.

Preliminary investigations indicate that the consignment originated from a neighbouring state and was intended for illegal sale in Jammu and Kashmir. Authorities are verifying consignee details and continuing efforts to trace the parcel's origin and intended destination, with further legal action likely under the relevant provisions of the Act.

State Drugs Controller, Lotika Khajuria, reiterated the Government of J&K's commitment to eliminating illegal drug trafficking. She stated that surveillance on courier services, transport agencies and pharmaceutical distribution channels has been intensified, and strict action will be taken against violators in accordance with the law.

Woman killed as mini...

were injured in the accident and shifted to district hospital Udhampur where one of them Santosh Devi succumbed to injuries, the officials said, adding the condition of two other injured persons was stated to be serious.

J&K Police unmasks major terror-funding network in Delhi; two arrested

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The counter-intelligence wing of Jammu and Kashmir Police has unmasked a major terror funding network in Delhi and arrested two persons in an operation targeting the financial arteries of the proscribed outfit Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), the agency said on Wednesday.

In a major breakthrough, the Counter Intelligence Kashmir (CIK) struck deep into the financial underbelly of terrorism, conducting swift and surgical raids in a business unit titled 'Shalimar Textiles' in Lajpat Nagar, New Delhi, an agency spokesman said. The raids were aimed at dismantling a sophisticated cross-border terror-funding syndicate, he said.

The raids were backed by legal sanction through search warrants issued by a special judge designated under the NIA Act in Srinagar, and were part of a wider investigation under UAPA sections 13, 38, 39, 40 r/w 120-B of IPC, the spokesman said.

The case unravelled a chilling conspiracy orchestrated by Let handlers and commanders from across the LoC, who in connivance with Pakistani nationals settled in Gulf nations and other foreign territories are pumping terror money into the heart of Kashmir through a network of couriers disguised as pilgrims, businessmen, and expatriates, he said.

The spokesman said it came to light that Mohammad Ayoub Bhat, a resident of J-K's Budgam, who operated a business establishment titled 'Shalimar Textiles' in Lajpat Nagar, was masquerading as a legitimate trader while acting as a key financial conduit for LeT's terror activities in the Valley.

"Working hand in glove with him was Mohammad Rafiq Shah, a resident of the Bemina area in Srinagar, who along with Bhat were at the nerve centre of this covert financial operation," he said.

Digital evidence, including suspicious communications with Pakistani handlers, foreign remittances routed through underground 'hawala' networks, and encrypted chats with terror affiliates were seized during the raids, the spokesman said.

The devices and documents are being forensically analysed and are expected to blow the lid off a larger, deeply entrenched funding web, he said.

Acting on confessions and technical leads, CIK teams along with Delhi Police searched the premises in Lajpat Nagar, recovering vital documentary and electronic evidence which are expected to fuel the next stage of this high-profile investigation, the spokesman said.

"Initial interrogation of the arrested individuals has already begun, peeling back layers of an international terror financing ring involving foreign-based handlers, Gulf-based sympathisers, and local over ground workers (OGWs) -- all connected through a covert cash pipeline aimed at fomenting unrest and bloodshed in J-K," he said.

"This operation marks a critical turning point in India's war on terror financing, and the trail uncovered today is likely to trigger further nationwide crackdowns in the days to come," he added.

Will raise J&K statehood issue in INDIA bloc meet today: Farooq

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Ruling National Conference (NC) president Farooq Abdullah Wednesday said he would raise the restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir issue in the meeting of INDIA bloc parties in Delhi the following day. Farooq Abdullah was responding to a question about Chief Minister Omar Abdullah's letter on Tuesday to the presidents of 42 political parties, including Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge, urging them to press the Centre to bring legislation in the ongoing Parliament session to restore statehood to J-K.

Jammu to Srinagar	
IndiGo	10:05 AM - 10:45 AM
SpiceJet	11:10 AM - 12:00 PM
Air India Express	12:50 PM - 1:40 PM
Air India Express	1:35 PM - 2:45 PM
IndiGo	1:55 PM - 2:35 PM
IndiGo	6:40 PM - 7:20 PM
Srinagar to Jammu	
IndiGo	11:45 AM - 12:35 PM
Air India Express	12:10 PM - 1:05 PM
SpiceJet	12:35 PM - 1:30 PM
Air India Express	2:20 PM - 3:35 PM
IndiGo	3:15 PM - 4:05 PM
IndiGo	5:20 PM - 6:10 PM

FIND TRAIN SCHEDULE	
11078 Jhelum Express	
Departure	: 23:35 from Jammu Tawi
Arrival	: 11:15 at New Delhi
12426 Jammu Tawi - New Delhi Rajdhani Express	
Departure	: 21:25 from Jammu Tawi
Arrival	: 05:55 at New Delhi
12446 Uttar Sampark Kranti Express	
Departure	: 21:50 from Jammu Tawi
Arrival	: 06:55 at New Delhi
Train 26401 - Katra to Srinagar (Morning Service)	
Departure	: 8:10 AM from Katra
Arrival	: 11:10 AM at Srinagar
Intermediate Stop	: Banihal at 9:58 AM
Fare:	
Chair Car (CC): 715	
Executive Chair Car (EC): 1,320	
Booking: Available on IRCTC	
Train 26403 - Katra to Srinagar (Afternoon Service)	
Departure	: 2:00 PM from Katra
Arrival	: 05:00 PM at Srinagar
Fare:	
Chair Car (CC): 660	
Executive Chair Car (EC): 1,270	
Booking: Available on IRCTC	

HELPLINE	
TELEPHONES	
Directory Enquiry	197
Fault Repair	198
Local Assistance	199
Trunk Booking	180
Trunk Assistance	181
International Trunk Booking	2447952, 2577951, 2573638
Billing Complaints	2543896, 2548415
Billing Complaints Computerize	1955
Change No. Announcement	1951
Gandhi Nagar Exchange	2451953, 2430953
HOSPITALS	
Government Medical College	2584290, 2484291
Psychiatry and Disease Hospital	2577444
Ambulance Rajouri	257147, 257084, 257357
Blood Bank/Eye Bank - SMGS Hospital	2547639, 2547637
Emergency	2549669
Blood Bank	2547637, 2547638
Chest Disease Hospital	2577064, 2548012
Dental Hospital	2544670
Govt Hospital Gandhi Nagar	2430041
Emergency	2431740
Child Hospital	2577023
Acharya Shri Chander College of Medical Sciences and Hospital	262270
AMBULANCES	
Indian Red Cross Society	2549413
Jammu University	2453165, 2543525, 2435248
FIRE STATIONS	
Gandhi Nagar	101, 2435283, 2457705
City	2544263
Canal	2554064
Roop Nagar	2597522
Gangyal	2480026
Barı Brahmana	220020
Akhnoor	252481
Kathua	234313
Samba	243280
Katra	232451
Udhampur	270897
Police Control Room	100, 2542001, 2545481-82
Police Exchange	2547621-22, 2547624
Civil Defence Control Room	2549100, 2548645, 2544920
Joint Defence	2548645, 2549100, 2544920
Hot Line	383
TOURISM	
Tourist Officer, Airport	2431917
Tourist Officer, Railway Station	2430078
Tourist Reception Centre	2579554
BUS SERVICES	
JKSRTC General Manager	2435262
JKSRTC Bus Stand	2577475
JKSRTC Jammu Srinagar, Service	2576562
Punjab Roadways	2542782
WATER SUPPLY	
Company Bagh	2542582
Parade	2544979
Bakshi Nagar	2543557
Panjthirhi	2547501
Narwal	2430031
ELECTRIC SUPPLY COMPLAINTS	
Canal	2554147, 2554199
Parade	2542289, 2543398
Nanak Nagar	2430776
Gandhi Nagar	2430180
Shastri Nagar	2430781
Janipur	2543828, 2579258
Satwari	2452816
FIRE SERVICE : (Control Room)	
CIVIC SERVICES	
Municipality	2547846, 2542192
Health Officer	2547440
Garbage / Carcass Removal	2547440

FIND CINEMA	
SAIYAARA (HINDI)	
WAVE ONE MOVIE JAMMU 9:30 AM / 02:05 PM / 08:00 PM / 11:00 PM	
PVR KC JAMMU 09:55 AM / 03:55 AM / 9:55 PM	
DHADAK 2 (HINDI)	
WAVE ONE MOVIE JAMMU 12:30 PM / 05:05 PM / 10:55 PM	
PVR KC JAMMU 04:20 PM	
MAHAVATAR NARSIMHA HINDI (3D)	
PVR KC JAMMU 10:30 PM	
SON OF SARDAR 2 (HINDI)	
Wave One Movie Jammu 10:30 AM / 1:30 PM / 7:30 PM / 10:35 PM	
PVR KC JAMMU 10:00 AM / 01:10 PM / 7:20 PM	
SAAMRAAJYA	
Wave One Movie Jammu 11:00 AM	