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Police SI martyred...

"despicable act of violence".

"The incident is a grim reminder of the jinxed fate of our region. Such incidents will not further the cause of peace; such dastardly acts of violence will only impede the return of much looked-for peace to the region," Abdullah said.

He expressed deepest sympathies with the bereaved family and prayed for eternal peace to the departed in the highest echelons of heaven.

NC vice president Omar Abdullah termed the attack dastardly. "Sorry to hear about the death in the line of duty of Sub Inspector Arshid Mir of @JmuKmrPolice in a dastardly attack in the heart of Srinagar city. A young life with so much promise, another grieving family. May Allah grant Arshid place in Jannah," he tweeted.

PDP president Mehbooba Mufti expressed condolences to police official's family.

"Saddened to hear about the death of J&K Police Sub Inspector Arshid Ahmed killed by militants at Khanyar today. May his soul rest in peace & condolences to his family, she said.

People's Conference (PC) also condemned the "dastardly and cowardly" attack on Ahmad. "We extend our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family. Our thoughts and prayers are with them in this hour of grief," the PC wrote on Twitter.

PC chairman Sajad Lone said the killing has made an addition to the army of orphans.

"SI Arshid Ahmed martyred. May Allah grant him Jannah. The terrorists have yet again made an addition to the army of orphans, Lone said.

Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) strongly condemned the "ghastly act", terming it unfortunate, mindless and inhuman. In a statement, the JKPCC said the killing was barbaric and demanded stern action against the killers.

BJP general secretary organisation Ashok Koul conveyed deepest condolences to the bereaved family and said such inhumane acts will never be tolerated, demanding that those behind such attacks be identified for stern punishment.

Netizens also expressed grief over the killing.

The slain police officer's former batchmate and now a Jammu and Kashmir administrative services officer, Saddam, said he could not believe his friend was gone.

"Lost a former batchmate, a friend, a platoon member PSI Arshid Mir. I still can't believe that person who used to stand on my left side wearing PAU 257 and mine 256 is gone. Killers will be punished," Saddam said on Twitter.

Khurshid Ahmad Malik said the dastardly attack left another family orphaned and it deserved the highest possible condemnation.

"Day in and day out we are losing our gems, this must stop, Kashmir must wake up to this unending death terror cycle," he said.

Another user, Shabir Dar, said a young life was cut too short by "traders of blood".

Meanwhile an unidentified terrorist was killed in an encounter with security forces following a search operation in the upper reaches of Rajouri district, officials said.

The encounter started when terrorists opened fire on a joint search party of the Army and police in the forest area of Dori Maal near Barote Gali in Manjakote area, they said.

The encounter was still going on when last reports were received, the officials said.

They said the search operation was launched in the area and in parts of Thanamandi in the early hours of Sunday after intelligence inputs suggested movement by a fresh group of terrorists who managed to sneak into this side and were hiding in the forest area.

The identity and group affiliation of the slain terrorist were yet to be ascertained, the officials said.

The twin districts of Rajouri and Poonch in Jammu region have witnessed a spurt in infiltration attempts since June this year, resulting in the killing of nine terrorists in separate encounters. Three soldiers also laid down their lives in the earlier operations.

LG urges youth...

mind the expectations and aspirations of the youth. Our achievement in different fields is a sign of progress made in empowering youth, said the Lt Governor.

He observed that youth are the focal point of UT governments' developmental agenda and several reformative measures are being undertaken by the administration to address the concerning issues of the youth and tapping their full potential for developing a peaceful and progressive Jammu Kashmir.

The Lt Governor observed that during the course of his regular interactions with the youth in the last 13 months, he has noted that the youth of J&K have five important priorities today- first, they should get jobs according to their qualifications; secondly, they should get ample opportunities and handholding to become entrepreneurs; third, access to modern education in consonance with market requirements and dynamically changing skill sets; fourth, implementation of good governance practices and elimination of corruption completely from the system and their fifth priority is to have the opportunity to lead a healthy, peaceful, and secure life.

The Lt Governor assured that continuous efforts are being made across different sectors to streamline the system and provide a conducive ecosystem for proper channelling of Youth energies by creating a host of opportunities in the field of education, employment, healthcare, and security.

With sustained systematic interventions like Mission Youth, creations of Youth Clubs, Women Entrepreneurship programmes like 'Tejaswini', 'Hausala' and 'Saath', providing access to modern education, and a host of youth-oriented schemes, the government is providing a vibrant medium for youth engagement and empowerment in J&K, facilitating them to become ambassadors of peace, prosperity and socio-economic growth, added the Lt Governor.

The talent that UT possesses is no less than any other part of the country. We are

encouraging innovation, entrepreneurship, up-skilling, and developing scientific temper amongst the youth right from the beginning so that they can meet the requirements of the future world, the Lt Governor said.

The Government with its schemes like Mumkin, Tejaswini, Rise Together, Tourist Village Network, Parwaz, and others, is empowering the Youth Capital of J&K and making them an active partner in the journey of prosperous, powerful, and self-reliant Jammu and Kashmir, the Lt Governor observed.

Industries were never allowed to flourish in Jammu and Kashmir before. But, now the UT is witnessing industrial revolution which will go a long way in creating sustained livelihood opportunities for the local population.

With Rs 28,400 crores worth new Industrial development scheme attracting huge investments into J&K, we are aiming at providing employment opportunities for at least 10 lakh youth. Under the Back to Village program, 20,000 young budding entrepreneurs have been empowered financially to start their own enterprise and fulfil their dreams, added the Lt Governor.

The government has been liberal in providing funds for Education and Sports. The combined budget of education and sports of Jammu and Kashmir is Rs 2386 crores, which is relatively higher than several bigger States.

We are also providing world-class sports facilities and infrastructure for the youth. The budget for youth services and sports this year is Rs 513 crore, which itself speaks about the government's commitment to bringing out the best sporting talents to the fore, the Lt Governor said.

Remembering the words of Mahatma Gandhi -"Strength does not come from physical capacity. It comes from an indomitable will", the Lt Governor called upon the Youth to use their potential for the good of the society, take inspiration from the young achievers, and contribute in nation-building.

"Challenges and Struggles hone an individual's personality, bring the best out of them", remarked the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor congratulated the young achievers who have received the award and asked them to be the flag bearers of new ideas and change. We are proud of our youth who are making their mark in different fields and bringing laurels to J&K and making the UT proud, added the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor lauded the young leaders who are actively working in drug addiction activities and bringing back the misguided youth into mainstream life.

As many as 46 Young achievers for various fields including health, education, sports, adventure sports, social work, journalism, environment conservation, Art, Music, Women empowerment, etc have been awarded on the occasion.

Senior government officials; prominent citizens from all walks of life; family members of the awardees were present on the occasion.

ANTF seizes 1,000...

arrested. On further investigation, it was revealed that another truck carrying poppy straw had already left for Leh from there.

"This third vehicle was intercepted near Leh and poppy straw like substance weighing 200 Kgs was recovered from the vehicle. Driver of the vehicle namely Amandeep Kumar, son of Darshan Lai, a resident of Bora Hushiyarpur, Punjab, has also been arrested," he said.

"In total, 1,000 kgs of poppy straw has been recovered which is one of the biggest catch in the recent past," he added.

A case has been registered and more arrests are expected, he said.

Four of family...

cloudburst hit last night, killing five persons of nomad family.

The deceased were from Rajouri who died after a massive cloudburst hit Kafarnar Bahak in the upper reaches of Rafaibad in north Kashmir's Baramulla district.

On the occasion, the DC took review of the ground situation wherein he directed the concerned authorities to provide every type of support to the living family members. He also expressed his grief over the loss of human lives besides extending his deep condolences. Moreover, DC assured that every possible assistance shall be provided from district administration following due assessment of the loss.

The DC also emphasized upon the officers to immediately restore the essential services like water and power supply, that may have been disrupted due to the flash floods driven by the cloudburst.

Meanwhile, DC paid a visit to the hospital where the injured persons have been admitted and enquired about their health. He interacted with them and directed the health authorities to provide proper medical treatment to such persons.

Court should enquire...

into the antecedents of the man who is applying for bail to find out whether he has a bad record, particularly a record which suggests that he is likely to commit serious offences while on bail," the bench said.

The top court said that while granting of bail, the factors among other circumstances which are required to be considered are -- the nature of accusation, the severity of punishment in case of conviction and the nature of supporting evidence, reasonable apprehension of tampering with the witness or the apprehension of threat to the complainant; and *prima facie* satisfaction of the court in support of the charge.

The SC's observations came while it was hearing an appeal against a Punjab &

ed to the safer place.

Extortionists' gang busted; 3 arrested

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KULGAM: Police on Sunday busted a gang of extortionists by arresting three persons involved in the commission of crime.

As per the details, Kulgam Police received specific information that during the intervening night of 11/12 September 2021, three persons namely Rahil Ahmad Shah, son of Mohd Afzal Shah; Aadil Ahmad Bhat, son of Ghulam Mohd Bhat and Aamir Ahmad Shiekh, son of Manzoor Ahmad Sheikh all the residents of Churat Qazigund entered forcibly into the residential house of Shahzada wife of Nisar Ahmad Shah resident of Churat and snatched Rs 26000 from her.

Accordingly, a case vide FIR No. 219/2021 under relevant sections of law was registered in Police Station Qazigund and started investigation into the matter.

A special investigating team led by SHO Qazigund under the supervision of SDPO Qazigund Shri Govind Rattan was constituted to nab the culprits. After strenuous efforts and by using all available means investigating team arrested all the three accused persons. Besides, a cash of Rs 8,000 (extorted money) were also recovered from their possession. Further investigation into the matter is going on and more recoveries are expected.

The SC's observations came while it was hearing an appeal against a Punjab &

ed to the safer place.

Sensational Akalpur murder case solved; 7 arrested

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Domana Police on Sunday solved sensational Akalpur murder case by arresting seven accused persons who were evading arrest after committing the crime.

The accused have been identified as Vishal V. J. Singh alias Vishal, son of Sai Dass, resident of Ghomanhasan, Marh Jammu; Aman Singh, son of Gulchhan Singh, resident of Akalpur, Marh Jammu; Raghbir Singh alias Chhotu, son of Ramesh Singh, resident of Akalpur, Marh Jammu; Karanveer Singh alias Kush, son of Suresh Singh, resident of Gumpul, Jammu; Vishav Sharma, son of Jaipal Sharma, resident of Gangu Chak Marh, Jammu; Jagjeet Singh alias Jaggi, son of Bhupinder Singh, resident of Gole Gujral, Jammu and Ravi Choudary, son of Chander Bhan, resident of Gajansoo, Marh Jammu.

In this attack, one of the victim namely Deepak Singh alias Deepa, resident of Gho Manasa died on the spot and other was shifted to hospital, and after committing the offence all the above mentioned accused fled from spot.

On this, an instant case FIR No. 229/2021 under sections 302/307/382/147/148/149 IPC, 4/25 Arms Act got registered in Police station Domana and investigation started.

All the accused involved directly in this gruesome murder case got arrested after

Haryana High Court granting bail to an accused in connection with an FIR at Police Station Sadar Jalandhar, District Jalandhar under Sections 302 (murder), 120-B (criminal conspiracy), 34 (common intention), 201 (causing disappearance of evidence) of Indian Penal Code and section 25 of the Arms Act, 1959.

The bench said the high court has failed to appreciate and consider the nature of the accusation and the severity of the punishment in case of conviction and the nature of supporting evidence.

"The High Court has also failed to appreciate the facts of the case; the nature of allegations; gravity of offence and the role attributed to the accused. As per the allegations, the accused Inderpreet Singh, respondent no.1 herein is the main conspirator who hatched the conspiracy along with other co-accused and that too from the jail. "The High Court has also failed to notice the serious allegation of hatching conspiracy from the jail. The High Court ought to have considered that if respondent no.1 accused Inderpreet Singh -- can hatch the conspiracy from jail, what he will do if he is released on bail," the bench said.

The apex court said that in the facts and circumstances of the case, the High Court has committed a grave error in releasing Singh on bail and therefore the impugned judgment and order passed by the High Court is unsustainable and the same deserves to be quashed and set aside.

Omar says BJP's...

was everyone able to get ration?....Earlier only those who used to say 'Abba Jaan' were digesting the ration, Adityanath said in Kushinagar.

Omar wrote on Twitter, I've always maintained the BJP has no intention of fighting any election with an agenda other than blatant communalism & hatred with all the venom directed towards Muslims. Here is a CM seeking re-election claiming that Muslims ate up all the rations meant for Hindus.

India to get...

Experts and those engaged in the business of attracting investments to Switzerland said the move would help clear misconceptions about all fund inflows into Swiss assets being illicit and would go a long way in establishing Switzerland as a preferred investment destination, including for real estate properties.

Himanshu, Founder and CEO of Switzerland For You SA, the parent firm of IDDI Investments, which is engaged in the business of attracting investments from India and other countries to Switzerland including in startups and real estate, said transparency has its own virtues and the proposal of the Switzerland government to share information about property ownership of foreign clients with other countries including India is welcome.

"We find no valid reason for Swiss authorities to hide such information. After all, the ownership of property is not something which can be kept under wraps," said the India-origin entrepreneur who goes by his first name only and is settled in Geneva for many years.

"Sharing of such information with other countries under AEOI will bring in more transparency and act as deterrence for those intending to buy Swiss properties from ill-gotten wealth. The move will go a long way in making Switzerland an attractive investment destination," he added.

J&K reports 105...

out of 13939341 test results available, 13612437 samples have been tested as negative till today.

Till date 3388281 persons have been enlisted for observation which included 8439 persons in home quarantine including facilities operated by government, 1285 in isolation and 465336 in home surveillance. Besides, 2908807 persons have completed their surveillance period.

Meanwhile, one fresh COVID-19 case pushed Ladakh's tally to 20,601, while the number of active cases in the union territory came down to 34, officials said.

No fresh death was reported, they said.

Since the outbreak of the pandemic last year, Ladakh has registered 207 COVID-related deaths -- 149 in Leh and 58 in Kargil.

Of the 34 active cases in Ladakh, 30 are in Leh and four in Kargil, the officials said.

Six more people, all from Leh, recovered from COVID-19 in the union territory the previous day. With this, the number of recoveries has increased to 20,360, they said.

A total of 3,741 people were tested for COVID-19 in Leh and Kargil on Saturday, they said.

Noted Kashmiri writer...

Several organisations, political parties and leaders have expressed condolences over Hajin's demise.

Dr Aziz Hajin's demise has left a big void in the literary circles of J&K. Hajin Sb, a noted writer & former Secretary Cultural Academy was also the author of numerous acclaimed books. His absence in Art & culture circuit will be deeply felt. May his soul rest in eternal peace, the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) wrote on Twitter.

May Allah (SWT) bestow the departed soul place in Jannah and perseverance to the bereaved family for this irreparable loss, the People's Conference said.

Secretary, Culture and Tourism, Sarmad Hafeez has condoled the sad demise of Dr. Aziz Hajin.

In his condolence message, the Secretary expressed profound grief over the passing away of eminent scholar and has termed it as a great loss to Kashmiri language.

Sarmad also said that Dr. Hajin's contribution to Kashmiri Language and literature was immense and his death has created a void in the literary society of J&K.

The Secretary conveyed his heartfelt sympathies and condolences to the members of the bereaved family and prayed for peace to the departed soul.

dedicated Investigation Team headed by SDPO Domana Kosheen Koul and SHO Domana Insp. Mahesh Sharma assisted by Incharge Police Post Pouni Chak SI Dilawar kumar under the supervision of SP Rural Jammu Sanjay Sharma and under the overall supervision of SSP Jammu Chandan Kohli started investigation during which vital leads were received.

Taking investigation forward on these vital leads, police arrested the above mentioned accused along with the weapons used for committing the crime, also many important evidences were taken from the scene