

!! Continuations from Page 1 !!

2 LeT terrorists...

was instrumental in recruiting gullible youth in north Kashmir into LeT," he added.

According to the spokesperson, both of them, along with foreign terrorists Usman and Sajad alias Haider, were involved in the killing of BJP district president Waseem Bari, his brother and father in July last year.

Usman and Sajad were killed in an encounter at Kreeeri in August last year. "Therefore, all the four terrorists involved in the... killing of the BJP leader and his family have been eliminated," the spokesperson said.

Inspector-General of Police, Kashmir, Vijay Kumar appreciated the police and security forces for conducting a successful operation without any collateral damage. Meanwhile, a former Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) ultra on the run for 20 years was arrested in Kishtwar district, police said.

Bashir Ahmad alias Jaffar Khan, a resident of Nowgam village, was wanted in a 2001 abduction and murder case in the jurisdiction of police station Marwah, a police spokesman said.

Ahmad becomes the fourth absconding militant arrested by police in the district since September 15.

Before him, Nazir Ahmad, who was absconding for 12 years, was arrested on September 15. Two days later, police had arrested Abdul Gani alias Mavia who was on the run for 19 years.

Dulla alias Jameel was arrested on September 25 after a long 20-year hunt. The spokesman said police, acting on specific information, arrested Bashir Ahmad after raiding suspected locations in the Marwah area.

A local court has sent him to judicial custody, he said. Meanwhile, three army soldiers were injured when the alert troops foiled an infiltration bid by terrorists from across the line of control (LoC) in Uri sector, a national news agency quoting sources said.

Defence sources said alert troops challenged heavy armed terrorists who were trying to infiltrate in Uri sector on Saturday evening.

"An encounter ensued between the infiltrating terrorists and the army in which 3 soldiers were injured. The operation is still going on in the area," sources said.

Three soldiers injured belong to 12 Jat regiment. They have been shifted to hospital. Earlier on September 18, another major infiltration bid was foiled by the army in the same sector when a group of terrorists were forced to withdraw back after they were engaged in a sustained gunfight.

Zojila tunnel important...

Ganderbal district on Saturday evening on a two-day visit under the Centre's public outreach programme.

On the first day, Thakur conducted an inspection of the Zojila and the Z-Morh tunnel projects.

The minister stressed on putting in every effort to complete the projects well before the schedule deadline.

Expressing satisfaction on the progress made in the projects, he said that the Zojila tunnel is of significant importance with regard to national security, development and tourism for both Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh as it will provide round-the-year connectivity to Kargil and Leh.

He also highlighted important tunnel, rail and road projects that were completed on priority by the government keeping in mind border security alongside development.

Various infrastructure development projects are going on in full swing throughout Jammu and Kashmir for the last few years to boost the socio-economic development, Thakur said.

The project site of the Zojila tunnel is located on National Highway-01, starting from Sonamarg in Jammu and Kashmir and ending at Minamarg in Ladakh) at an elevation ranging from 2,700m to 3,300m, making it the longest tunnel (13.2 km) at this elevation in the Asia region.

The present site location falls in seismic zone IV and all precautionary measures have been taken to safeguard structures, officials said.

While inspecting the progress of work at the Z-Morh tunnel, officials of NHIDCL informed the minister that the project is being executed on DBFOT mode at an approximate cost of Rs 2,378 crore.

Regarding the physical progress, the minister was informed that the breakthrough of the escape tunnel was achieved on September 16.

The work on the main tunnel, which is 6,412 m long and for regular bi-directional traffic, is going on in full swing and its breakthrough is expected before the forthcoming winter season, the officials said.

The minister was also informed about various safety features of the tunnel. Expressing satisfaction over the progress, the minister said the Z-Morh tunnel will facilitate locals and tourists to access Sonamarg during the winter season as well and will facilitate socio-economic boost to the J-K in general and locals in particular.

Modi to launch...

5G, ASEAN cooperation, COVID vaccine partnership and announced a new 'Quad fellowship' for STEM.

Prime Minister held his first in-person bilateral meeting with US president Joe

Biden after the latter was elected in 2020 . Both the leaders discussed trade, India's permanent UNSC seat, Afghanistan situation, Indo-Pacific challenges and COVID efforts.PM Modi then addressed the UNGA for the fourth time and later the Global Citizen programme, marking an end to his 3-day tour.

Accompanying PM Modi, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, National Security Adviser Ajit Doval and Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla too held bilateral meetings with their counterparts.

Meanwhile Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch the Pradhan Mantri Digital Health Mission on Monday via video conference, his office said.

The pilot project of National Digital Health Mission had been announced by the prime minister from the ramparts of the Red Fort on August 15, 2020.

Currently, the Pradhan Mantri Digital Health Mission (PM-DHM) is being implemented in pilot phase in six Union Territories.

In a historic initiative, Prime Minister Modi will launch the PM-DHM on September 27, 2021 at 11 AM via video conferencing, which will be followed by his address on the occasion, the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) said in a statement.

The nationwide rollout of PM-DHM coincides with National Health Authority (NHA) celebrating the third anniversary of Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY), the statement said.

Union Health Minister Mansukh Madaviya will be present on the occasion.

Based on the foundations laid down in the form of Jan Dhan, Aadhaar and Mobile (JAM) trinity and other digital initiatives of the government, PM-DHM will create a seamless online platform through the provision of a wide-range of data, information and infrastructure services, duly leveraging open, interoperable, standards-based digital systems while ensuring the security, confidentiality and privacy of health-related personal information, the PMO said.

The mission will enable access and exchange of longitudinal health records of citizens with their consent, it said.

The key components of PM-DHM include a health ID for every citizen that will also work as their health account, to which personal health records can be linked and viewed with the help of a mobile application, a Healthcare Professionals Registry (HPR) and Healthcare Facilities Registries (HFR) that will act as a repository of all healthcare providers across both modern and traditional systems of medicine.

This will ensure ease of doing business for doctors and hospitals and healthcare service providers, the statement said.

PM-DHM Sandbox, created as a part of the mission, will act as a framework for technology and product testing that will help organizations, including private players, intending to be a part of National Digital Health Ecosystem become a Health Information Provider or Health Information User or efficiently link with building blocks of PM-DHM.

This mission will create interoperability within the digital health ecosystem, similar to the role played by the Unified Payments Interface in revolutionizing payments, the PMO said. Citizens will only be a click-away from accessing healthcare facilities, it said.

COVID: 1 more...

56 cases followed by 13 in Baramulla district.

There are 1,514 active cases in the Union Territory, while the number of those who have recovered from the infection has reached 3,23,072, officials said.

The death toll stands at 4,422 after one more fatality was reported in the past 24 hours, they said.

Officials said there were 46 confirmed cases of Mucormycosis (black fungus) in the Union Territory as no fresh case has been reported since Saturday evening.

Meanwhile, one person tested positive for COVID-19 in Ladakh, taking the overall infection tally to 20,778, officials said.

They said the active cases in the Union Territory dropped to 157 after the recovery of nine more patients from the disease.

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

A total of 4,789 persons were tested for COVID-19 in the twin districts on Saturday and the reports of one of them returned positive in Kargil, the officials said. They said nine COVID-19 patients were discharged from Leh, taking the tally of cured patients to 20,414, they said.

With this, the total number of active cases in Ladakh has come down to 157, including 153 in Leh and four in Kargil.

TRF terrorist arrested...

associates who provided support to him for reconnaissance, the spokesman added.

On the basis of credible inputs about the movement of Kashmir-based terrorists to Jammu for a specific task to create terror in the area, he said Jammu and Kashmir Police's Special Operations Group (SOG) Jammu laid ambushes at different locations in Jammu city.

During checking near railway station Jammu, a two-wheeler driver dropped a pillion rider about 50-60 metres behind the check point and sped away, the spokesman said. He said the suspected person, carrying a bag, started moving fast towards a nearby bylane but was chased by police and overpowered at some distance.

The search of the suspect led to the recovery of a pistol loaded with seven cartridges, the spokesman said.

