

!! Continuations from Page 1 !!

Govt notifies 8...

50 per cent of the states after it was passed by Parliament. The committee will also analyse and recommend possible solutions to scenarios such as hung House, adoption of no-confidence motion, or defection or any such other event in case of simultaneous elections.

The committee has also been asked to recommend "necessary safeguards for ensuring the continuity of the cycle of simultaneous elections and recommend necessary amendments to the Constitution so that the cycle of simultaneous elections is not disturbed".

The issue of logistics is also on the agenda of the panel as the massive exercise would require additional number of EVMs and paper-trail machines, polling and security personnel.

It will also examine and recommend the modalities of use of a single electoral roll and electoral identity cards for identification of voters in elections to the Lok Sabha, state legislative assemblies, municipalities and panchayats.

A parliamentary committee had recently said that a common electoral roll will help reduce expenses and prevent manpower being deployed for a work on which another agency is already working.

The committee will hear and entertain all persons, representations and communications which in its opinion can facilitate its work and enable it to finalise its recommendations.

While the Election Commission is mandates to hold parliamentary and assembly polls, state election commission's hold local body elections.

The EC and SECs are separate bodies under the Constitution with a fixed mandate.

According to former chief election commissioner SY Quraishi, the original proposal was for simultaneous elections to all three tiers of democracy -- Lok Sabha (543 MPs), Vidhan Sabha (4120 MLAs) and the Panchayats/ Municipalities (30 lakh members).

The Saturday notification pointed out that elections to the Lok Sabha and legislative assemblies were mostly held simultaneously from 1951-52 to 1967 after which this cycle got broken and now, elections are held almost every year and within a year too at different times, which result in massive expenditure by the government and other stakeholders.

It also leads to diversion of security forces and other electoral officers engaged in such elections from their primary duties for significantly prolonged periods.

Frequent polls, it said, disrupt developmental work on account of prolonged application of Model Code of Conduct.

12 DySPs transferred...

Raina, DySP Traffic Ganderbal/Bandipora as CIO Shopian; Satish Kumar, DySP DAR Srinagar as SDPO/ PC Handwara; Intyaz Ahmad, DySP AILJ Srinagar as DySP Security Kashmir; Syed Sleet Shah, SDPO/PC Handwara as DySP Hqrs Srinagar; Ajay Jamwal, DySP IR-12th Bn as SDPO Banihal; Sumit Kumar Sharma, DySP PC Srinagar as SDPO Kothibagh; Khurshid Ahmad, CIO Avantipora as DySP IR-4th Bn; Nazir Ahmed Teli, DySP JKAP-3rd Bn (Security) as DySP DAR Ganderbal; and Mosoof Ahmed, CUO Shopian as AC HG Udhampur.

Further, Mohammad Amin Gatoo, DySP promoted vide Government Order No. 365-Home of 2023 dated July 17, 2023 has been adjusted as DySP Crime Branch (BOW) Kashmir.

"Sanction is accorded to the regularization/promotion of Inspector/ I/c Deputy Superintendents of Police namely Fayaz Ahmed Dar, Khalida Parveen and Ab. Majid as Deputy Superintendent of Police, Level-8 (47600-151100) in the Pay Matrix," reads another order issued by Home Department.

Man found dead...

officials said. A detailed forensic inspection of the crime scene has been done, they said, adding that a post-mortem is being conducted.

Legal proceedings have been initiated and an investigation is underway, they added.

India is front...

science, technology and education to the industries. Sinha said the ideas and ideals of Mahamana have led the path in the making of modern India.

Mahamana was among the first visionary to step in to create a fine balance

between modern science and technology and Indian ethos. He initiated four significant departments in 1916 focused on science and technology - Science, Engineering, Chemistry and Technology; to serve the country as well as its future aspirations, he added. The Lt Governor said that Mahamana transformed BHU into the breeding ground for well-trained manpower, who are not only serving the country but also contributing to the growth of various other nations.

Alumni of BHU and other prominent personalities from all walks of life were present on the occasion.

SIA arrests 2...

Act (TADA) and the Prevention of Terrorism Act (POTA), SIA has so far verified and identified 369 absconders -- 215 in Jammu and 154 in Kashmir.

They added that out of 369 verified absconders, 80 have died, 45 are residing in Pakistan or Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) and other countries, 127 remained untraced and four are lodged in jails.

Army Chief visits...

exhorted troops to maintain highest state of readiness. The General Officer commanding in Chief (GoC-In-C) northern command visited forward areas in Surankote sector; army officials said.

The Army commander was briefed on operational preparedness, security situation and augmentation of operational capability.

NIA arrests 2...

of Rajouri, Poonch and Reasi districts of J-K and examined a large number of suspicious entities and later zeroed in on the two accused who had provided "logistics support to the terrorists for more than two months".

The case was initially registered at Police Station Rajouri under various sections of the Indian Penal Code, Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act and Arms Act. NIA re-registered the case on January 13.

"They had provided logistics support to the terrorists for more than two months and had sheltered them in a hideout, constructed by them on the directions of Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) handlers namely Saifullah alias Sajid Jutt, Abu Qatal alias Qatal Sindhi and Mohd Qasim," the agency said.

Further investigations of the case continue to be under process, it said.

Azad seeks LG...



DPAP Chairman Ghulam Nabi Azad along with new entrants of party.

format of committees. Prominent among those present in the meeting included provincial and zonal committees of Jammu Central Zone including, R S Chib, Jugal Kishore Sharma, Ch Gharu Ram, Arvinder Singh Micky, Vinod Mishra, Anita Thakur, Prabha Slathia, Gurmeet Kaur, Brijeshwar Singh 'Indoo', Birinder Pratap Singh, Balbir Singh, Vishal Chopra, Khursheed Bhatt and Pinky Manhas.

General Secretary R S Chib and Jugal Kishore Sharma, Provincial President reminded people about the tenure of Ghulam Nabi Azad as chief minister and described it as a golden period of governance. They also welcomed the new entrants on behalf of all leaders present over there.

Chugh welcomes One...

opposition parties must join hands with the Modi government to evolve the new system of one election throughout the country simultaneously.

Chugh also welcomed the appointment of former President Ram Nath Kovind as head of the panel that would study the whole process to be undertaken.

He reaffirmed that the new concept will bring consistency and continuity in policies and programmes of the Central and state governments as these two would focus on developmental activities.

'Opposition in panic...

of welfare schemes for 140 crore Indians. Chugh said it is a fractured group, both, ideologically and politically. But they are all opportunistic, who are aiming at petty political gains, he added.

Chugh said the Modi government has earned laurels on international level as also within the country for its visionary and progressive policies.

The entire opposition is rattled by it and are giving a panic reaction, he added. He said the Mumbai meet is also an expression of panic in the opposition.

Kashmir's post-pandemic...

addresses challenges in sustainable tourism growth and suggests policy interventions to meet tourism targets, he said.

The Union government has allocated a record budget of Rs 786 crores for the Jammu and Kashmir tourism sector; a substantial increase from previous allocations, to harness tourism's potential for job creation and inclusive economic growth, the statement said.

Planned allocations for all 20 districts of the Union territory have more than doubled from Rs 5,136 crores in 2020-2021 to Rs 12,600 crores in 2021-2022, it added. The report explores various potential scenarios for the future and what the industry can achieve by the time India celebrates its 100th year of Independence, it said. The document envisions a dynamic, vibrant hospitality industry that contributes to the nation's development goals, said MP Bezbaruah, secretary general of the Hotel Association of India.

HAI released the report following a meeting with Union Secretary (Tourism) V Vidyavathi, during which the association presented her with a copy of the report.

Aditya-L1 launched...

said. The strategic placement at the L1 Lagrange point ensures the spacecraft can maintain a constant, uninterrupted view of the Sun. This location also allows the satellite to access solar radiation and magnetic storms before they are influenced by Earth's magnetic field and atmosphere, the space agency informed.

Additionally, the L1 point's gravitational stability minimises the need for frequent orbital maintenance efforts, optimising the spacecraft's operational efficiency.

Aditya-L1 will stay approximately 1.5 million km away from the Earth, directed towards the Sun, which is about 1 per cent of the Earth-Sun distance.

The PSLV C57 is the 59th flight of the launch vehicle, a trusted workhorse of ISRO and is the 25th mission using PSLV-XL configuration, ISRO said.

The atmosphere of the Earth as well as its magnetic field act as protective shield and block harmful wavelength radiations. In order to detect such radiation, solar studies are carried out from space. Aditya-L1 mission carries seven scientific payloads to carry out the study. The Visible Emission Line Coronagraph, which studies the solar corona and dynamics of Coronal Mass Ejections (CME), will be sending 1,440 images per day to the ground station for analysis on reaching the intended orbit. The Solar Ultraviolet Imaging Telescope payload images the Solar photosphere and Chromosphere in near Ultraviolet and also measures the solar irradiance variations. The Aditya Solar Wind Particle Experiment (ASPEX) and Plasma Analyser Package for Aditya (PAPA) payloads study the solar wind and energetic ions as well as the energy distribution. The Solar Low Energy X-ray Spectrometer and the High Energy L1 Orbiting X-ray Spectrometer (HEL1OS) study the X-ray flares from the Sun over a wide X-ray energy range. The Magnetometer payload is capable of measuring interplanetary magnetic fields at the L1 point. The Science payloads of Aditya-L1 are indigenously developed with the close collaboration of various centers of ISRO.

Woman arrested for...

promised him that the process would be completed within 2-3 days, the spokesperson said.

Suspecting deception, Hasan reported the matter at the Kunzer police station, following which a case was registered and an investigation was launched, he added.

During the investigation, the police arrested the accused whose real identity was revealed as Bisma Yousuf Sheikh, a resident of Tappie Khag in Budgam district, the police said.

The investigating team recovered a police uniform and Rs 10,000 from her possession that she had fraudulently obtained from Hasan, they added.

Four SHOs among seven officers transferred

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: Senior Superintendent of Police Samba Benam Tosh on Saturday ordered postings of four Inspectors as Station House Officers (SHOs) and three Inspectors as Incharge Police Control Room (PCR), Incharge District Special Branch (DSB) and Incharge Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) Team.

According to District Police Headquarters (DPO) Samba Order, Inspector Sumit Sharma has been posted as SHO Police Station Bari Brahmana, Inspector Amit Kumar Sangra as SHO Police Station Ramgarh, Inspector Sandeep Charak as SHO Police Station Vijaypur and Inspector

Daljeet Singh as SHO Police Station Samba.

Moreover, Inspector Rajeshwar Singh has been posted as Incharge Police Control Room (PCR) Samba, Inspector Surinder Kumar as Incharge District Special Branch (DSB) and Inspector Sudesh Kumar is posted as Incharge District Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) Team.

"The postings of Inspectors have been ordered in the interest of administration and consequent upon the transfers, adjustment & detachment of Inspectors ordered by Zonal Police Headquarters (ZPHQ) Jammu and Range Police Headquarters (RPHQ) Jammu", DPO order reads.

Agriculture Dept to be set up in University of Ladakh: LG Mishra

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: Lieutenant Governor Brigadier (Retd) B D Mishra has decided to set up an agriculture department in the University of Ladakh and transfer various units of SKUAST to it, an official said on Saturday. Mishra took the decision at a meeting convened at Raj Niwas here to discuss the handing of assets of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST), an official spokesperson said.

The spokesperson said the Lt Governor decided that the full-fledged agriculture department would be established under the University of Ladakh in affiliation of SKUAST Kashmir.

Mishra also decided that various SKUAST units in Ladakh would be transferred to the agriculture department of the University of Ladakh.

He directed the Vice Chancellor of University of Ladakh, Prof S K Mehta to expedite the process of creating the agriculture department. Commissioner, Higher Education,

Ladakh, Padma Angmo suggested that SKUAST should hand over the assets as well as the posts to the administration of Ladakh.

SKUAST Kashmir Vice Chancellor Prof Nazir Ahmad Ganai informed the meeting about the university and its existence in the Union Territory. He said two research institutes, two Krishi Vigyan Kendras and six SKUAST units were established in Ladakh during the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir. Ladakh was granted Union Territory status after being carved out from the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir in August 2019. Jammu and Kashmir was also turned into a Union Territory with its special status under Article 370 revoked. Gania said 45 non-technical posts are lying vacant in six units of the university and are reserved for the residents of Ladakh.

The assets of SKUAST-Kashmir will be taken over by the Agriculture Department of the Ladakh University when it becomes fully functional, the spokesperson said.

is allegedly selling expired and noxious bakery items to the general public. Acting swiftly, a police party from Police Post Palhalan raided the said bakery shop & during the operation, a substantial quantity of expired bakery items and cakes were seized. The police team arrested the shop owner & shifted him to police station where he remains in custody.

A case under relevant sections of the law sands registered at Police Station Pattan and investigation has been taken up.

Burglary case solved; accused arrested, stolen property recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BARAMULLA: Police on Saturday solved a burglary case by arresting an accused person involved in the commission of crime and recovered stolen property from his possession.

As per details, On August 10, 2023, Police Station Pattan received a written complaint from one person namely Gulshan Ahmad Parray son of Ali Mohd Parray resident of Yall Pattan stating therein that on 08/08/2023, his scooter bearing registration number JK05L-7626 was stolen by some unknown burglars near the front gate of his house.

Accordingly, a case FIR No. 262/2023 under relevant sections of law was registered at Police Station Pattan and investigation was initiated.

During the course of investigation, some suspects were called for questioning besides, with the help of technical & human resources, investigating team zeroed in on one suspect identified as Amir Ahmad Wani son of Ab Hameed Wani resident of Domvanni Kegam Shopian. During questioning, officers learnt about his involvement in the commission of crime and accordingly got arrested. Stolen scooter was also recovered from the house of the arrested accused person.

2 drug peddlers arrested, contraband substance recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KULGAM: Continuing its efforts to eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, police have arrested 02 drug peddlers on Saturday and recovered contraband substance from their possession.

As per details, a police party led by Incharge Police Post Mirbazar at a specific check-point established at Malpora Chowk intercepted a vehicle (Tata Mobile) bearing registration No. JK02-2950 with two persons on board. During search, officers were able to recover 10Kgs of Poppy Straw like contraband substance from the said vehicle. They have been identified as Abdul Qayoom Gofree son of Mohd Masheer Gofree resident of Pawan-Pur Bidda, Reasi and Showkat Ali Malik son of Mohd Shafi Malik resident of Daman, Kathua. They have been arrested and shifted to police station where they remain in custody. Vehicle used in commission of crime have also been seized.

In this regard, a case vide FIR No. 188/2023 under relevant sections of law has been registered in Police Station Qazigund and further investigation has been taken up.

Enforcement team of ARTO Bandipora cracks whip on two-wheelers; seizes 15 RCs, 10 DLs

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BANDIPORA: Taking stringent action against erring two-wheelers, the Enforcement team of Assistant Regional Transport Officer (ARTO) Bandipora Saturday seized 15 Registration Certificates (RCs) and 10 Driving Licenses (DLs) from offenders who failed to wear helmets, emphasizing the importance of road safety.

During the operation, the enforcement team identified numerous individuals riding two-wheelers without proper headgear.

In adherence to traffic safety laws and regulations, the ARTO Bandipora team issued on-the-spot notices to the offenders and collected a total fine of Rs. 15,000 from erring. Speaking about the action, Assistant Regional Transport Officer (ARTO) Bandipora, stated that Road safety is a paramount concern and wearing helmets is a crucial aspect of protecting oneself while riding two-wheelers.

We will not tolerate negligence in this matter and our operations will continue to ensure safer roads in Bandipora, he added.

The ARTO urged young riders not to risk their lives by riding two-wheelers without wearing helmets and encouraged them to be responsible road users. He said that there is a Zero tolerance mechanism approach in place against traffic violators in the district.

Woman dead after being hit by train in Jammu

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A 35-year-old woman died after being hit by a train here, an official of the railway police said on Saturday.

The woman was hit by the Hemkund Express at Bajalta on Friday evening, he said.

She died on the spot and her body has been sent to the Government Medical College, Jammu, for post-mortem examination and identification, the official added.