

!! Continuations from Page 1 !! LG lauds JKP...

the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor, in his address, called upon the athletes to inspire young people to pursue their goals and stay away from drug menace.

"Sports is a unifying force. I want our youth to act as powerful agents of change by leveraging their energy, discipline, perseverance and creativity," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor encouraged the youth to take an active role in community development, nation-building, and addressing climate change.

He said the public participation in preserving lakes, rivers, and natural resources has shown positive results over the past few years. This change is a reminder to the young generation that ponds, rivers, lakes are integral part of our life and necessary for our existence, the Lieutenant Governor further said.

The Lieutenant Governor also called upon the youth to lead the community service campaign during the 'Sewa Parv' starting from September 17th, 2025.

He emphasized that the young volunteers, along with J&K Police, should be ready for community initiatives like cleanliness campaign, tree plantation program, and helping the weaker sections of the society.

At the closing ceremony, the Lieutenant Governor took the ceremonial salute at an impressive pedal pass and also felicitated the winners of Jashn-e-Dal.

The three-day event witnessed the participation of around 750 athletes in different water sports disciplines.

DGP, Nalin Prabhat; S.J.M. Gillani, Special DG Coordination PHQ; ADGP Armed, Anand Jain; senior officials of Police and Civil Administration; members of various water sports associations and sports clubs; prominent sports personalities, and youth in large number attended the closing ceremony.

CM calls for...

the gathering. Managing Directors of Kashmir Power Distribution Limited and J&K Power Transmission Corporation Limited, besides senior engineers were also present on the occasion.

Emphasizing the critical role of the power sector, Omar Abdullah said, "This is the only way to change the financial situation of Jammu and Kashmir. We should generate electricity and sell it to other regions, especially when their production is low. But to achieve this, we must first bring down losses in the power sector."

Highlighting the challenges of hydropower vis-à-vis renewable energy, he said, "The installed cost of hydroelectricity is very high, though the per-unit cost reduces over time. With solar power now available at Rs. 2 to Rs. 2.5 per unit, competing becomes difficult. But hydropower remains our only viable resource, and we must continue developing projects alongside improving efficiency."

The Chief Minister reaffirmed that tariff rationalisation should be guided by people's capacity to pay, ensuring that the rich contribute more while the poor pay less. He assured the engineers that their demands and suggestions would be taken up in earnest, adding that by next Engineers' Day, "there should be no need for you to repeat the same demands."

Explaining his decision to personally retain the Power portfolio, Omar Abdullah said, "I chose to hold this department because if we really want to make J&K prosperous, the most important sector is the Power Development Department. I request you to maintain the momentum in reducing losses and improving efficiency."

The Chief Minister lauded landmark hydropower initiatives like the Baglihar project, which transformed J&K's power scenario despite challenges, including lack of counter guarantees.

Dispelling speculation about privatisation of power, Omar Abdullah categorically stated, "We are not talking about privatisation. If we reduce our losses, improve billing efficiency and enhance revenue generation, there will be no need for it. My vision is to strengthen and reform the power sector in J&K."

Will discuss plying...

reopened last week, but only for light motor vehicles.

Due to the closure of the highway for trucks and other heavy vehicles, fruit farmers are not able to transport their goods, resulting in losses.

"The highway is not with me, it is with Government of India. Had it been with us, I would have had it opened (for heavy motor vehicles) by now. If they (Centre) cannot manage it, they should give it to us," an agitated Abdullah told reporters.

He said he was told several times that the highway would be restored soon, but nothing has happened.

"After this programme, I will speak to Union highway minister Nitin Gadkari and ask him for restoration of the highway at the earliest so that the trucks can ply," he said.

Abdullah said he would ask the railway minister to increase the frequency of the cargo parcel trains.

"We are thankful for the one cargo parcel train that was ceremonially flagged off today. But one train is not enough. I will request the Union railway minister to increase the frequency of this service till the highway becomes stable," he said.

Three cab drivers...

of Berwar-Kishtwar and Mohammad Tayab of Chatroo- Kishtwar.

FIR No 195/2025 U/S 132/126(2) BNS 177/ 179/201 MV Act has been registered at P/S Nagrota against the accused who have been arrested. The Cabs involved in the incident have also been seized.

The Traffic Police have appealed to the General public to follow traffic advisories strictly and avoid engaging with unauthorized transporters. Anyone violating traffic advisories or overcharging from passengers shall be strictly dealt with. For the updates, commuters can contact Traffic Police City Jammu at 0191-2459048; 94191-47732; 103 (Toll-Free)

New freight train...

to topography and heavy rains, causes damage to fruit growers. The freight train service starting from today will transport apples and other perishable goods every day, he said.

The Parcel train Service (Joint Parcel Product-Rapid Cargo Service) will be operational on all days and is suitable for all parcel commodities. The eight-Parcel-van coach train has the total weight capacity of around 180 tonnes (23 tonnes each coach). The booking for full parcel vans is available in online mode, while smaller consignments can also be booked through off-line mode. The Freight train departing from Budgam at 6:15 a.m., will make a stop at Bari Brahmana Jammu from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., and will arrive at Adarsh Nagar, New Delhi at 5:30 a.m., next day.

Divisional Railway Manager Jammu, Vivek Kumar, termed the development "a historic achievement and a matter of great pride", adding that "Indian Railways is committed to driving the nation's progress, and this new cargo train is a reflection of that vision."

Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Uchit Singhal, highlighted that the service between Budgam and Adarsh Nagar Delhi would "revolutionize freight transportation, strengthen trade, and provide a significant boost to the industrial and agricultural sectors of the Kashmir region."

Javid Ahmad Dar, Minister for Agriculture Production, Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, Cooperative and Election Departments; Vivek Kumar, Divisional Railway Manager, Jammu; Dr Manoj Singh, Additional Member Railway Board (Marketing & Business Development); Anshul Garg, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; VK Birdi, IGP Kashmir; Vivek Gupta, IGP Railways; Dr. Bilal Mohiuddin Bhat, Deputy Commissioner, Budgam; Dr GV Sundeeep Chakravathy, SSP Srinagar; Shri Uchit Singhal, senior Divisional Commercial Manager and other senior officials of Railways, Civil and Police administration were present.

2025 Waqf law...

waqf properties and ruled on the issue of non-Muslim participation in Waqf Boards.

The bench, therefore, directed the Central Waqf Council not to have more than four non-Muslim members in the total composition of 20 besides asking state waqf boards to have not more than three such members in the total of 11.

"The following part of clause (r) of Section 3 of the Amended Waqf Act 'any person showing or demonstrating that he is professing Islam for at least five years' shall stand stayed until the rules are framed by the State Government for providing a mechanism for determining the question as to whether a person has been practicing Islam for at least five years or not," the top court held.

The top court further stayed a provision which said a property should not be treated as "waqf property till the designated officer submits his report".

In addition, another provision stating, in case the designated officer determines the property to be a government property, he should make necessary corrections in revenue records and submit a report to the state government, was also stayed.

"Unless the issue with regard to title of the waqf property in terms of Section 3C of the Amended Waqf Act is not finally decided in the proceedings initiated under Section 83 of the Amended Waqf Act by the tribunal and subject to further orders by the high court, neither the waqfs will be dispossessed of the property nor the entry in the revenue record and the records of the board shall be affected," it held.

Till the final determination about the title of a disputed property by the tribunal and subject to further orders of the high court in an appeal, the bench held, no third-party rights would be created.

It, however, did not stay Section 23 (appointment of chief executive officer and his term of office and other conditions of service) of the amended law, but directed the authorities "as far as possible" an effort should be made to appoint the chief executive officer of the board who is the ex-officio secretary from the Muslim community.

The bench clarified its directions were prima facie and interim in nature, and would not prevent the petitioners or the government from advancing full arguments on the constitutional validity of the law during the final hearing.

According to the Act, Waqf refers to an endowment made by a Muslim for charitable or religious purposes, such as building mosques, schools, hospitals, or other public institutions.

"Another defining feature of a Waqf is that it's inalienable- which means it cannot be sold, gifted, inherited or encumbered," it said.

On the issue of the law's validity, the bench referred to precedents and said, "Courts should be very slow in granting interim relief by way of staying the provisions of an enactment. Interim relief of such a nature can be granted in rare and exceptional cases..."

The verdict underlined courts' acceptance of the legal position of presumption always being in favour of constitutionality of an enactment and the burden being on the person who "attacks it" to show a clear transgression of the constitutional principles.

The order referred to legislative history since 1923 when the Mussalman Wakf Act of 1923 was enacted.

"Since the menace of mismanagement of the wakf properties was noticed by legislature, an enactment was found to be necessary as early as in the year 1923," it said.

While it did not find fault with the provision requiring a person practising Islam for five years to create a waqf, saying it cannot be called arbitrary, the bench held, "Since no mechanism or procedure has been provided as of now for ascertaining as to whether a person has been practising Islam for at least five years or not, such a provision cannot be given effect to immediately," it said.

On registration of waqf, it said if mutawallis (caretaker of waqf) have chosen not to get it registered for 30 long years, then they couldn't be heard to say the provision which now required the application to be accompanied by a copy of the waqf deed was arbitrary.

LoP Sunil Sharma...

and ensuring people's participation in the developmental process. He also flagged concerns related to internal security, emphasizing the importance of coordinated efforts to counter emerging challenges and safeguard the interests of the people.

Sunil Sharma briefed the Home Minister about his extensive visits to flood-affected areas and interactions with the local population. He reported large-scale losses, including damage to roads, schools, healthcare facilities, homes, and crops, along with the displacement of several families. Many remote areas, he noted, remain cut off due to damaged connectivity and broken communication lines.

Sunil Sharma stressed the urgent need for a coordinated relief and rehabilitation programme, coupled with long-term measures such as climate-resilient infrastructure, stronger disaster response mechanisms, and the setting up of early warning systems. He also apprised the Home Minister of the relief efforts undertaken by BJP cadres in flood-hit regions.

Home Minister Amit Shah assured his full support to the people of Jammu & Kashmir, reiterating the Union Government's commitment to strengthening security, promoting political stability, and enhancing disaster preparedness in the region.

Sunil Sharma expressed his gratitude to Amit Shah for his visionary guidance and unwavering support. He reaffirmed the need for close collaboration between the Centre and the Union Territory administration to ensure peace, stability, and progress in Jammu & Kashmir, along with timely relief for flood-affected communities.

Cloudburst triggers flash...

we ran away with our children from the houses towards upper areas," the villager said. Police rushed to the spot and reviewed the situation, officials added, confirming there was no loss of anything. A huge mudslide and debris were deposited on the road, which were later cleared by the men and machinery of the Public Works Department, officials said.

DB overturns acquittal...

revealed she was seeking reconciliation, suggesting marital discord and providing motive for the crime. The judges rejected the trial court's skepticism about the confession, holding it voluntary, reliable, and corroborated by circumstantial evidence.

The State was represented by Deputy Advocate General Diwakar Sharma, while Advocate Rohit Kohli appeared for the respondent.

With this verdict, the High Court convicted Rajan Lal under Section 302 RPC and awarded him rigorous life imprisonment, bringing closure to a case that had lingered for over 15 years.

Kashmir Crime Branch's...

purportedly from the Airport Authority of India, and forged land allotment documents allegedly issued by the Srinagar Development Authority (SDA).

"These acts constitute serious criminal misconduct. Based on the evidence collected, offences under sections 419, 420, 467, 468, and 471 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) have been invoked against the accused," he said.

Mir was produced before the Court of Judicial Magistrate Srinagar, which granted five days remand to the Economic Offences Wing for further investigation.

"Doordarshan Diaries: The...

Doordarshan should establish its own Global News Channel, dedicated to covering international news with an Indian perspective.

The event marked a nostalgia celebration of Doordarshan's glorious legacy while underscoring the urgent need to adapt to contemporary media challenges.

CS directs unhindered...

Commissioner, Udhampur/Doda; and representatives from the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI).

The Chief Secretary sought a detailed appraisal from the Divisional Commissioner, Jammu regarding the present status of NH-44.

He was informed about the partial restoration of traffic on a single-lane stretch that had been severely damaged by flash floods, as well as diversion of vehicular movement through Mughal Road.

The Chief Secretary also took note of the number of vehicles crossing daily and emphasized the need to expedite restoration works so that traffic flows smoothly on both lanes in the shortest possible timeframe.

He directed that the restoration process be closely monitored at the divisional and district levels, with daily reports to be submitted on both traffic movement and progress of repair works.

Acknowledging the critical importance of NH-44 as the lifeline of J&K, the Chief Secretary stressed the need to prioritize movement of trucks carrying essential commodities. He instructed that fruit-laden trucks from the Valley, vehicles carrying perishable food items from Jammu, and petroleum and LPG tankers be given precedence to prevent any shortage of supplies.

Taking stock of the availability of fuel and foodgrains in the valley, the Chief Secretary was assured by the Commissioner Secretary, FCS&CA that the stock position was comfortable and sufficient. It was further informed that additional supplies of petroleum products and essential foodgrains have started reaching the valley since the partial reopening of the highway. The Chief Secretary also reviewed the arrangements for transportation of apple produce through parcel trains from the Valley to markets outside J&K. He instructed the Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir to ensure that produce from all apple-growing areas is ferried smoothly through this rail link. He further directed that fruit growers and traders be provided full assistance so that they can transport their produce without any hindrance, thereby safeguarding their economic interests during this harvesting season.

Reiterating the urgency of fully restoring NH-44, the Chief Secretary impressed upon the NHAI to mobilize all available resources and ensure completion of repair and restoration works within the shortest possible time. He emphasized that meticulous use of every working hour was essential, given the highway's critical role as the primary connectivity corridor linking Kashmir with the rest of the country. The Chief Secretary also called upon the concerned Deputy Commissioners to personally oversee restoration activities in their respective jurisdictions and maintain constant communication with traffic authorities and divisional administrations to ensure coordinated efforts on the ground.

While acknowledging the role of alternate routes such as Mughal Road in mitigating disruptions, Dulloo underscored that the complete and swift restoration of NH-44 remains our foremost priority.

Jammu south police tightens noose on drug traffickers; woman peddler nabbed with 31.27 grams heroin, cash

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Under the Supervision of SSP Jammu and the direct guidance of SP City South, SDPO City East and SHO PS Bahu Fort achieved a breakthrough with the arrest of a lady drug peddler and recovery of a heroin-like substance, Cash of RS 21,270 and one electronic weighing scale under Operation Sanjeevani.

Acting on specific information police team from Police Post Narwal , led by IC Police Post Narwal and assisted by other officials, arrested lady drug peddler from Rajiv Nagar (Boot Polish Mohalla).

The lady was identified as Sneha D/o Vikas R/o Rajiv Nagar Narwal Distt Jammu. Upon conducting a search, the police recovered 31.27 gram heroin-like substance,Cash of Rs 21,270 and one electronic weighing scale , from her possession.

A case FIR No. 273/2025 under sections 8/21/22/27A/29 NDPS Act 111 BNS has been registered at Police Station Bahu Fort Jammu and the accused lady has been taken into custody for further investigation.



Crackdown on illegal mining; 13 vehicles including 5 dumpers seized

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: Continuing its crackdown against illegal mining on successive day, Samba Police under the overall supervision of SSP Samba has seized thirteen (13) vehicles including five dumpers across the district, which were being used for illegal transportation/mining of the construction material.

Police teams headed by SHO PS Vijaypur, SHO PS Ghagwal, Incharge Police Posts Rakh Amb Talli & Supwal of PS Samba and Incharge Police Post Rajpura of PS Ghagwal under the supervision of SDPO Vijaypur and DySP Hqrs Samba while performing patrolling duty in their jurisdictional areas, have seized five dumpers bearing registration Nos. JK21H-5888, JK21G-7817, JK21F-1543, JK21G-5654, JK14H-8607, three tractor trolleys bearing registration No. JK21B-2685, JK21J-2847, JK21C-6914 & five tractor trolleys without Nos. which were being used for illegal transportation/mining of the construction material in the area.

The above-mentioned vehicles have been seized by Samba Police and handed over to the Geology & Mining Department, Samba for further legal action.

Two FIRs registered; rotten meat seized

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BUDGAM: To curb the transportation and sale of unsafe food items, the special Flying Squads comprising members from all concerned departments, during a joint market inspection, seized rotten meat from two separate locations in Budgam district.

Subsequently, FIR No. 255/2025 was registered at Police Station Budgam against Wazwaan Point Restaurant, and FIR No. 143/2025 was registered at Police Station Magam against Big Boss Restaurant, Magam for selling rotten and unhygienic Wazwaan items prepared from meat.

Legal action under Sections 271, 272, and 275 of the Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 has been initiated against the offenders.

Boy injured in landmine blast Anantnag dies

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The teenage boy who was injured in a landmine blast in Anantnag district of Jammu and Kashmir a day earlier has succumbed to injuries at a hospital here, officials said here on Monday.

Shahid Yousuf (17) died at the Army's 92 Base Hospital.

The boy was injured when a landmine, planted for the security of the ammunition depot at Khundru, went off on Sunday. The youth was rushed to a hospital in Anantnag from where he was referred to the Army's 92 Base Hospital.

It was not immediately clear if the youth had stepped on the landmine or not. Further details of the incident were awaited, the officials said.

Thief arrested, stolen property worth Rs 1.20 lakh recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A thief was arrested and stolen property worth Rs 1.20 Lakh recovered by Police Station Janipur, Jammu.

A complaint regarding theft of two cows was lodged at Police Station Janipur on Feb 26, 2024 and a case FIR No. 30/2024 was registered & investigation taken up accordingly.

After hectic efforts and use of scientific aids, Police Station Janipur arrested the accused namely Sadeeq Ahmed, son of Abdul Karim, resident of Kalakuppar, Nagrota. Stolen property worth Rs 1,20,000 has been recovered. The accused was evading arrest since last two years. Further investigation is going on.

JMC conducts anti-defacement drive to restore city aesthetics

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a continued effort to maintain the cleanliness and aesthetic appeal of the city, the Enforcement and Revenue Wing of Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC), on the directions of Commissioner, JMC and under the direct supervision of Joint Commissioner (R&E) and Deputy Commissioner (North/South), on Monday conducted a comprehensive anti-defacement drive.

The operation was carried out in key areas including the stretch from Bikram Chowk to Panama Chowk via University Road and from Panama Chowk to Railway Station and Trikuta Nagar.

The drive, a crucial part of the ongoing anti-defacement campaign, aimed to remove unauthorized banners, posters and advertisements that disfigure public walls, Electricity poles, buildings, flyovers and footpaths. This initiative is in strict accordance with the provisions of the J&K Public Property Act, 1985 and is a response to numerous complaints regarding the defacement and disfigurement of public spaces.

The JMC enforcement teams systematically removed a large number of illegal hoardings, flex boards and other advertising material. The drive is part of a scheduled action plan to address the issue of visual pollution and restore the civic aesthetics of Jammu. It is not a one-time event; the JMC is committed to a sustained campaign to ensure public spaces remain clean and free from defacement. During Swachhta Hi Seva Campaign and Sewa Parv till 2nd October 2025, these anti-defacement drives will be intensively carried out in all wards of Jammu City.

The Jammu Municipal Corporation urges all citizens, commercial establishments and organizations to cooperate by refraining from putting up unauthorized advertisements. Violators will face strict action as per the law. The JMC remains dedicated to creating a cleaner, more beautiful and well-organized city for all its residents and visitors.

