

!! Continuations from Page 1 !! Country's industrial ecosystem...

the Union Territory. Today, the country's top industrial houses should invest in Jammu Kashmir keeping in mind that it is their collective responsibility to ensure the complete integration and inclusive development of Jammu Kashmir," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor, in his address, commended the business leaders for their vision and reach and asked them to work together to realise the dream of developed India.

"The world has shown growing confidence in India. Now, it is the responsibility of the industry to rise to the challenge of making our growth processes faster and more competitive," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor emphasised the need for a focused approach to enhance productivity and export of MSMEs and foster innovation economy.

"Micro and Small Industries in J&K have demonstrated their ability to be globally competitive and we are open to new ideas on how we can spread industrialization across the UT and encourage new enterprises at Panchayat level," the Lieutenant Governor said.

He observed that the Next Generation Reforms will greatly benefit MSMEs and Handicrafts Units and building a self-reliant India.

The Lieutenant Governor also highlighted the need for private investment in Research & Development (R&D), with special focus on defense, space, agriculture, and manufacturing sectors.

He said, for a developed India, we must create an innovation economy where growth and wealth are driven by new technologies and innovations.

Anjali Singh, Chairperson, CII Northern Region; Dr. M.A. Alim, Chairman, CII J&K; Iqram Shafiee, Vice Chairman, CII J&K; Puneet Kaura, Deputy Chairman, CII Northern Region; Business & Industry leaders and members of Confederation of Indian Industry were present.

Dr GV Sundeep Chakravarthy, SSP Srinagar; Akshay Labroo, Deputy Commissioner Srinagar and other senior officials were also present on the occasion.

Omar calls for...

rewarding for industry to operate here."

The Chief Minister presented an overview of ongoing investments and incentives in J&K, noting that industrial hubs such as Kathua, Samba, Bari Brahmana in Jammu, and Lassipora in Kashmir continue to attract the highest inflow of capital.

He underlined recent government efforts to simplify procedures, while candidly admitting gaps in the single-window clearance system:

"We must ensure that our 'single window' is truly a single window, not one that leads to a ventilator, then an exhaust fan, and eventually nowhere. I have directed the Industries Department to engage directly with recent investors and learn from their experiences to fix this system once and for all."

The Chief Minister highlighted J&K's comparative advantages: cheaper land and electricity than neighbouring regions, GST reimbursement benefits, and availability of skilled labour. He encouraged manufacturers to explore J&K for investment in certain investor-friendly sectors which offer competitive advantage and to weigh their options in the wake of new GST rate slabs.

On the perception-versus-reality gap about peace and security in the region, Omar Abdullah said:"J&K today is calm, peaceful, and open for business. Yes, there have been difficult times, but those are behind us. Tragic incidents like the one at Pahalgam are aberrations, not the norm, and every step is being taken to prevent its recurrence."

The Chief Minister urged investors to look beyond subsidy-driven models and invest in sectors where J&K has inherent strengths. He cited examples from agriculture, horticulture, and dairy production, noting that only 4% of milk in Kashmir is processed, compared to 80% in Gujarat.

"This is a ready-made opportunity for value addition. We produce the raw material, we have the market, and yet we under-utilise our potential. The same is true for other sectors where J&K can provide both raw materials and skilled manpower."

Calling unemployment a pressing challenge, he stressed that the state cannot continue to rely only on government jobs. "Industrialisation and tourism together must create new employment avenues for our youth," he asserted.

The Chief Minister encouraged candid feedback from CII members so that the government will work on shortcomings, if any.

"Those of you investing in J&K, tell us what went well and what hasn't. Those of you who are reluctant, tell us why not-and if it is within our power, we will address it. Your feedback is critical to shaping a business-friendly future here."

Among others who addressed the gathering were CII Northern Region Chairperson Anjali Singh, CII Delhi State Council Chairman Puneet Kaura, Vice Chairman CII J&K Council MA Alim and CII Northern Region Director Rachna Jindal.

The event witnessed wide participation from industry leaders across the region.

The Chief Minister thanked CII for organising the meeting in Srinagar and reaffirmed his government's commitment to facilitate investment, promote value addition and build a sustainable industrial ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir.

Hotelier booked for...

and 14 of the Foreigners Act, which mandate timely reporting of foreign guests by accommodation providers," the spokesperson said.

He said hoteliers, guesthouse owners and landlords accommodating foreign nationals must strictly adhere to the legal procedures for reporting their stay to authorities.

"Any lapse will invite legal action in accordance with the law," the police spokesperson said.

Section 7 of the Act outlines that the online Form C is a mandatory document that needs to be filled up for all foreigners by the owners of hotels, homestays and guesthouses on the government website. Moreover, non-conformity to the above directions can attract imprisonment for a term that may extend to five years and shall also be liable to fine under section 14 of the Foreigners Act.

Soldier martyred as...

terrorists so far, they added.

Meanwhile, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha paid tributes to the brave army personnel, Lance Dafadar Baldev Chand, who made supreme sacrifice in the ongoing operations against terrorists.

"Salute to the indomitable courage of braveheart Lance Dafadar Baldev Chand, who made the supreme sacrifice for the nation during the anti-terror operation in Udhampur. The grateful nation will forever be indebted to his valour and unwavering commitment to duty. We stand united in solidarity with the family of the martyr in this hour of grief," the Lieutenant Governor said.

Northern Army Commander...

contributions in Operation Guddar in which two hardcore terrorists, including a Pakistani national, were neutralised in Kulgam district earlier this month.

On Friday, Lt Gen Sharma visited the Army's counter-insurgency force deployed in south Kashmir to review the security situation.

Spa centre running...

being used as a brothel house under the garb of running Spa services.

During the raid, three males and four females were arrested from the spot, for indulging in immoral trafficking activities. FIR 342/2025 under sections 3, 4, 5 of the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act has been registered at Police Station Udhampur. Further investigation is in progress.

India's biggest enemy...

dependence. The future of the coming generations cannot be left to others. If the country with a population of 140 crore is dependent on others, it compromises national self-respect," he added.

As per a popular saying, pain of 100 kinds has only one remedy; similarly, all problems of India have one solution, and that is atmanirbharta (self-reliance), Modi stated.

Targeting Congress, Modi said the talent of young people was suppressed after Independence by the then ruling party which brought in a "license Raj".

"As a result of consistently ignoring inherent strengths of India, the country couldn't achieve the success it truly deserved even after six to seven decades of freedom," Modi said and blamed "prolonged entanglement in the license-quota regime and isolation from global markets" as the main factors.

When the globalisation era began, the then governments focused solely on imports, which led to scams of thousands of crores of rupees, Modi said.

Citing India's shipping sector as a major example of the damage caused by flawed policies, Modi said that India once had a very vibrant ship-building industry.

"Ships built in India's coastal states once powered domestic and global trade. Even fifty years ago, India used domestically built ships, with over 40 percent of its import-export conducted through them.

"Till 50 years ago, our trade was carried out by 40 per cent ships made in India, but this has now come down to just 5 per cent," the PM pointed out.

He said India pays a staggering USD 75 billion or Rs 6 lakh crore every year to foreign shipping companies for their services.

"Can people imagine how much money has been paid in freight to other countries over the past seven decades? This outflow of funds has created millions of jobs abroad. If even a small portion of this expenditure had been invested by earlier governments in the domestic shipping industry, the world would have been using Indian ships today, and India would have been earning lakh of crores in shipping services," the PM added.

"Chips (semiconductor chips) or ships, we must make them in India," Modi said, adding that domestic ports are the backbone of India's rise as a global maritime powerhouse.

India's maritime sector is now moving towards next-generation reforms, he said, and announced that from today, all major ports in the country will be freed from multiple documents and fragmented processes.

"The implementation of 'One Nation, One Document' and 'One Nation, One Port' Process will simplify trade and commerce," he said.

He said a series of reforms have been initiated in the maritime sector; and five maritime laws have been introduced in a new form.

The PM said a historic decision has been taken to strengthen the maritime sector; with large ships now accorded the infrastructure status.

"Ship-building companies will now find it easier to secure loans from banks and will benefit from reduced interest rates. All benefits associated with infrastructure financing will now be extended to these ship-building enterprises," Modi added.

He said the government is working on three major schemes to make India a major maritime power:

Senior IAS Officer Shailendra Kumar bereaved

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Lalan Prasad, father of senior IAS officer Shailendra Kumar passed away at Srinagar this afternoon.

The last rites of the deceased will be performed at Shamsan Ghat, Karan Nagar, Srinagar on Sunday, 21st of September at 1200 hrs.

SSP Ramban chairs crime review meeting

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAMBAN: Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Ramban, Arun Gupta (JKPS), chaired a comprehensive crime review meeting at District Police Office (DPO) Ramban. The meeting was attended by Additional SP Ramban, SDPOs, DySP DAR, Sr. PO DPO, SHOs, and Incharge Police Posts from



across the district. The review meeting covered a wide range of critical policing and law enforcement issues, with a focus on enhancing operational efficiency and public trust. Key agenda points included follow up of directives issued from PHQ J&K ,ZPHQ Jammu and RPHQ Batote from time to time besides threadbare discussions on key areas which include Police Station-wise review of ongoing investigations, inquest proceedings, crime trends, implementation of new criminal laws, and handling of cyber crime cases; disposal of pending cases and effective execution of court orders; action against drug trafficking, bovine smuggling, crimes against women, and other social offences; progress tracking in tracing missing persons, arresting absconders, solving theft and burglary cases, and executing court processes; preventive policing measures with a focus on visible presence in sensitive and vulnerable areas; community engagement and grievance redressal, with an emphasis on youth involvement, awareness campaigns, and regular Police-Public meetings to build trust and cooperation. A detailed discussion was held on cases under the NDPS Act, with specific emphasis on identifying and disrupting backward and forward linkages in the drug trade.

During the meeting, SSP Ramban issued on-the-spot directions to ensure quality investigation and stressed the need for rigorous trial follow-ups. Officers were directed to conclude investigations on merit while leveraging technological advancements to enhance the effectiveness of both investigation and prosecution.

The SSP reiterated the commitment of Ramban Police to uphold the rule of law, ensure public safety, and strengthen community-police relations through proactive and professional policing.

Army officer dies in line of duty

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: An Army officer has died in the line of duty in Baramulla district, the force said on Saturday.

Major Apraant Raunaaq Singh made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty in Baramulla district on Friday, the Srinagar-based Chinar Corps said.

"Chinar Corps Commander paid homage to Braveheart Maj Apraant Raunaaq Singh, SM, who made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty in Baramulla district," it said in a post on X.

"Chinar Warriors salute the valour and sacrifice of the braveheart. We stand in solidarity with the bereaved family and are committed to their well-being," it added.

Major Singh was awarded Sena medal in 2023 for his role in eliminating two hardcore terrorists during an encounter in Kulgam district in November 2021, the Army said.

Northern Army Commander Lieutenant General Pratik Sharma also paid homage to Major Singh.

"Lt Gen Pratik Sharma, #ArmyCdrNC and all ranks of #NorthernCommand pay homage to the #Braveheart Maj Apraant Raunaaq Singh, SM, who made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty. NorthernCommand stands firm with the bereaved family in this hour of grief," the Northern Command said on X.

Authorities ban flying of drones in Anantnag

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Authorities in Jammu and Kashmir's Anantnag district on Saturday banned the flying of drones, UAVs or other aerial devices in view of security considerations.

In a public advisory, Anantnag police said that, given the prevailing security considerations, flying of drones, UAVs or any other similar aerial devices is strictly prohibited within the jurisdiction of Anantnag district without prior permission from the competent authority.

The advisory stated that individuals, institutions, media personnel, and event organisers intending to use drones must seek prior approval from the competent authority well in advance.

Any unauthorised flying will be dealt with under relevant legal provisions, and such equipment may also be seized, the advisory said.

The public is requested to report any suspicious drone activity to the nearest police station or on the district police helpline 9419051940, 019322-2222870, the advisory added.

VDG shoots himself dead

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KISHTWAR: A village defence guard allegedly committed suicide on Saturday morning by shooting himself with his rifle in Kishtwar; officials said.

The incident occurred at his residence in Akra village of Kuntwara area.

The deceased, identified as Tek Chand (45), was upset over the past few days after his teenage daughter, a class 10th student, went missing, with locals claiming that she had eloped with a local boy from her own community, a source stated.

Chand had lodged a complaint, but was depressed and allegedly took his own life, the source added.

Upon receiving information, a police party rushed to the scene. The body has been sent for a postmortem and will be handed over to his family for the last rites, officials stated.

CIW conducts searches at eight locations across Valley

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Police's Counter Intelligence Wing on Saturday conducted searches at multiple locations in the valley in a terror-related case, officials said.

Searches were being conducted by the Counter Intelligence Kashmir (CIK) at eight locations across the valley as part of its investigations in the case, the officials said. They said the searches were being conducted in the districts of Srinagar, Baramulla, Anantnag, Kupwara, Pulwama, and Shopian.

"The searches are in pursuance of a search warrant obtained from the competent court in case FIR number 3/2023 of P/S CIK," the officials added.

Search operation launched after

Pakistani drone movement near IB

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Border Security Force (BSF) launched a search operation after picking up the movement of a Pakistani drone along the International Border near here on Saturday, officials said.

The drone was seen flying into the Indian side from across the border near Jajawal village in the RS Pura sector around 7 pm, officials added.

They further stated that BSF troops immediately launched a search operation in the area falling under Border Outposts Chakroi and Jugmunchak. The search operation was continuing when the last reports were received, they mentioned.

100 Kg rotten fish seized from Srinagar

Airport; seller booked

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BUDGAM: In a major crackdown against the sale of unsafe food items, the Budgam District Administration, in coordination with Budgam Police and the Food Safety Department, seized 100 kilograms of rotten fish during a joint inspection at Humhama Chowk on Saturday.

According to police officials, the operation was carried out by a special Flying Squad formed to monitor and curb the transportation of substandard and unhygienic food products into the district. The Flying Squad includes members from all concerned departments, including the police.

During the inspection, Mehdi Hasan Lashkar, son of Attaullah Lashkar, a native of Hawgul Dori, West Bengal and currently residing at Safa Kadal Chowk Srinagar, was found in possession of two parcels containing the rotten fish. He was transporting the consignment from Srinagar International Airport to his shop when intercepted.

The accused was arrested on the spot, and a case under FIR No. 263/2025 has been registered at Police Station Budgam. Legal proceedings have been initiated under Sections 271, 272, and 275 of the Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023.

Police have set up checkpoints at all major entry points to the district to ensure strict monitoring of food-related consignments. Authorities reaffirmed their commitment to public health and warned that strict action would continue against individuals involved in the sale or distribution of unsafe food items.

The public has been urged to remain alert and report any suspected food safety violations to their nearest police station.

Crackdown on illegal mining; 5 vehicles seized

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a determined move to clamp down on illegal mining and safeguard natural as well as public resources, the Jammu Police has intensified its operations across the Rural Zone, resulting in the seizure of five vehicles involved in the unauthorized extraction and transportation of minerals.

Police Station Jhajjar Kotli seized two dumpers loaded with illegally mined material, bearing registration numbers JK14/08386 and JK79/7581.

Similarly, Border Police Post (BPP) Gajansoo seized two tractor trolleys- one Mahindra bearing registration number JK02 DH 7027 and another John Deere identified by Chassis Number PY3050DDCCA004435 - both loaded with mining minerals.

In another operation, Police Post Pouni Chack seized a dumper bearing registration number JK02 CR 5811, which was found loaded with Bajri.

The vehicles were found engaged in illegal mining activities, in clear violation of mining laws. In each case, the respective District Mining Officer was promptly informed for further legal action under the relevant provisions of law.

Missing girl recovered within 24 hours

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a swift and effective operation, Jammu Police, South Zone has successfully traced and recovered a minor girl within 24 hours of her being reported missing.

On 19.09.2025, a complaint was lodged by a person stating that his 13-year-old daughter had gone missing. Despite exhaustive efforts at their own level, the family could not trace her. Acting promptly on the complaint, a case was registered at Police Station Bahu Fort. During investigation, Bathindi Police Post, with the assistance of technical surveillance and swift police action, successfully recovered the missing minor from Kathua within 24 hours.

Jammu South Police arrests two snatchers, stolen property recovered



■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: On Sept 17, 2025, a written complaint was lodged at Police Station Bagh-e-Bahu by Manjeet Singh S/o Rattan Singh R/o Tadu Arnas, District Reasi, alleging that two persons, namely Ainsih Din S/o Saif Ali R/o Barneen Dhanal, Tehsil Ramnagar, District Udhampur, and Joginder Pal S/o Banshi Lal R/o Mandal Kotwalta, District Samba, assaulted him near Balidan Stambh, Bahu Fort area, and snatched away his mobile phone, and cash amounting to ₹11,000/-.

On receipt of the complaint, FIR No. 52/2025 U/S 304(3)(5)/351(2) BNS was registered and investigation was taken up. Acting swiftly, the Police team of PS Bagh-e-Bahu led by Inspector Ashwani Kumar SHO PS Bagh-e-Bahu under the supervision of SDPO East and SP South apprehended both the accused within hours. On sustained questioning, the accused confessed to the crime, and the stolen mobile phone, and snatched cash were recovered from their possession. Both accused have been arrested and are in police custody. Further investigation of the case is in progress.

Missing lady traced, re-united with family

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

DODA: A missing report of a woman resident of Tipri Neota Tehsil Bhalla, District Doda was entered at PS Bhaderwah on 19-06-2025 and now she has been traced and re-united with her family.

Official sources while giving details has said that woman R/O Tipri Neota Tehsil Bhalla, District Doda had gone missing and her missing report was entered at Police Station Bhaderwah on 19-06-2025.

Soon after registration of the missing report, search of the said lady was started. On the directions of SSP Doda Sh. Sandeep Melhta JKPS, a team was constituted from PP Bhalla under the supervision of SHO PS Bhaderwah & SDPO Bhaderwah in search of missing lady.

The Police team by using all possible means as well as technical help, succeeded in tracing her out today on 20-09-2025 from Palampur District Kangra, Himachal Pradesh. Accordingly, after completing all codal formalities, the lady has been handed over to her family and missing report has been closed.

6 bovines rescued, accused arrested

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

DODA: Continuing its efforts against bovine smuggling, Doda Police has rescued 06 bovine from the clutches of smugglers in Pul Doda area falling under the jurisdiction of PS Doda.

Official sources has said that today on 20/09/2025, a police party of Police Station Doda, during naka checking at Ganpat Bridge, intercepted a vehicle Mahindra Veero bearing registration No. JK06C-4056, driven by Liyaqat Ali S/O Mohd Iqbal R/o Haneja Gadsuo, accompanied by Gulzar Ahmed S/O Mohd Yousuf R/O Sooli Kastigrah.

During checking of the vehicle, 06 bovine animals were found mercilessly tied with ropes, without provision of food or water, and were being transported without any valid permission from Bhaderwah towards Kashmir Valley for sale. On this a Case FIR No. 216/2025 U/S 223 BNS & 11 PC Act has been registered at Police Station Doda and investigation started. Both the accused have been arrested and vehicle has also been seized.

Ramban Police nabs two with over 21 kgs of poppy straw

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BANIHAL: Continuing its relentless drive against drug trafficking, Ramban Police achieved a significant breakthrough by apprehending two drug peddlers near Shafa Pani, Banihal.

During a routine naka/checking operation, a police team from Police Station Banihal intercepted two individuals moving suspiciously from Banihal Railway Station towards the market area. Upon conducting a search, the team recovered a total of 21.284 kilograms of poppy straw-like substance from their possession.

The arrested accused have been identified as Ajay, son of Tarseem, resident of Balmiki Mohalla, Tanda, Hoshiarpur, Punjab - from whom 11.252 Kgs of contraband was recovered and Raman Kumar, son of Bal Krishan, resident of Chak Kasim, Dasuya, Hoshiarpur, Punjab - from whom 10.032 Kgs of contraband was recovered.

Accordingly, a case FIR No. 97/2025 under sections 8, 15, and 29 of the NDPS Act has been registered at Police Station Banihal, and an investigation has been initiated.

Both accused were arrested on the spot, and the contraband was seized after completing all legal formalities. The investigation is currently underway to identify backward and forward linkages in the drug supply chain.