!! Continuations from Page 1 !!

Govt to seek...

preparedness, strengthen embankments and put in place effective response mechanisms to safeguard lives and property. He further directed concerned Deputy Commissioners to submit report regarding admissibility of ex-gratia relief in favour of next of kin of families from J&K who lost their lives in Himachal Pradesh in recent land slide.

The meeting was attended by Ministers Sakina Itoo, Javed Ahmed Rana, Javid Ahmed Dar and Satish Sharma and Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani.

Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo; Additional Chief Secretary to the CM Dheeraj Gupta; Principal Secretary PWD; Commissioner Secretary Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs; Secretary School Education; Divisional Commissioners of Jammu and Kashmir divisions; Inspector General of Police (NH); Deputy Commissioners; and other concerned officers also attended the meeting. Several officials joined the meeting through virtual mode.

Earlier, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Anshul Garg presented a detailed report on the impact of the floods. He informed that losses in Kashmir division included 16 houses which were fully damaged, 57 severely damaged, and 791 partially damaged, with relief already disbursed in all cases. Tragically, one life was lost, for which compensation has been provided, while three other deaths in related incidents in Anantnag were compensated through the Red Cross. The meeting was informed about loss to live-stock, damage to cattle sheds and compensation disbursed in these cases.

Giving details of infrastructure damage, it was informed that nearly 90 km of roads were affected across 279 road stretches, of which 52 have been restored while the rest are under repair. Eighty-seven bridges and culverts were also damaged, with more than half already restored. A breach in the Jhelum at Zoonipora, Shalina in Budgam, is currently being repaired. In the power sector, over Rs 9.34 crore has been proposed for the restoration of damaged poles, conductors, and transformers. Out of 563 affected water supply schemes, 385 have been fully restored, while work is underway on the rest. Safety audits have been conducted on 115 school buildings, with certificates already issued for 43 schools.

Divisional Commissioner Kashmir gave account of agricultural losses with more than 12,500 hectares of land affected and nearly 315 hectares in Horticulture impacted, primarily in Anantnag, Kulgam, and Pulwama, districts with estimated losses of about Rs 59 lakh. On essential supplies, the situation was reported as stable, with stocks of petrol, diesel, and LPG sufficient for several days. Fruit transportation from Kashmir to Jammu and Delhi is progressing smoothly, with over 1.37 lakh boxes already moved.

Divisional Commissioner Jammu presented the situation in the Jammu Division, reporting several human and heavy material losses. He said the floods claimed 150 lives, left 178 people injured, and 33 missing, with Kishtwar recording the highest casualties. Housing losses were severe, with more than 4,200 homes fully damaged and over 8,600 partially damaged, the worst-hit districts being Udhampur and Jammu. Livestock losses stood at 1,455 and crops over 1,300 hectares were damaged.

It was informed that financial assistance exceeding Rs 40 crore has been disbursed from the State Disaster Response Fund, with an additional Rs 3.35 crore provided from the HCM Relief Fund. Restoration work is underway across sectors, with over 2,700 km of roads and more than half of the damaged bridges already temporarily restored. Permanent restoration of roads and bridges is estimated at nearly Rs 893 crore. The power sector was also badly affected, with over 49,000 distribution transformers hit-almost all of which have now been restored. More than 2,000 water supply works were damaged, with around 1,600 temporarily restored, requiring nearly Rs 195 crore for permanent restoration. The education sector also bore the brunt of the floods, with more than 8,800 schools audited for safety. Over 5,500 have been issued safety certificates, of which around 5,200 were deemed safe, while 758 were declared unsafe. In public health, 442 water samples tested and over 1,500 health camps were organized, screening nearly 80,000 people. Encouragingly, no warning signs of disease outbreaks have been reported.

GST reforms will...

cuts, which ensure zero tax up to the annual income of Rs 12 lakh. If we combine the income tax cuts and the Next Generation GST reforms, they add up to savings of nearly Rs 2.5 lakh crore for the people," he said.

"Your household expenses will reduce and it will be easier to fulfil aspirations such as building a home, purchasing a vehicle, purchasing appliances, eating out or planning a family vacation," the prime minister said.

Noting that the nation's GST journey, which began in 2017, was a turning point in freeing citizens and businesses from the web of multiple taxes, Modi said the GST united the nation economically.

"'One Nation, One Tax' brought uniformity and relief. The GST Council, with the active participation of both Centre and states, took many pro-people decisions. Now, these new reforms take us further, simplifying the system, reducing rates and putting more savings in the hands of the people," he said.

"Our small industries, shopkeepers, traders, entrepreneurs and MSMEs will also see greater Ease of Doing Business and Ease of Compliance. Lower taxes, lower prices and simpler rules will mean better sales, less compliance burden and growth of opportunities, especially in the MSME sector," he said.

Asserting that the collective goal of the people is Viksit Bharat by 2047, Modi said that in order to achieve it, walking on the path of self-reliance is imperative.

These reforms strengthen our local manufacturing base, paving the way towards Aatmanirbhar Bharat, he said.

"On a related note, this festive season, let us also resolve to support products that are Made in India. This means buying Swadeshi products that have the sweat and toil of an Indian involved in their making, irrespective of the brand or the company that makes them," he said.

"Every time you buy a product made by our own artisans, workers and industries, you are helping many families earn their living and creating job opportunities for our youth," Modi said.

He appealed to shopkeepers and traders to sell products that are Made in India.

CS assesses progress...

completion up to September 2025, followed by 72 flats between October-December 2025, and 144 flats from January-March 2026.

Reviewing the financial progress, it was informed that the revised approved cost of the Zewan project stands at Rs197.37 Cr, out of which Rs124.07 Cr had been utilized up to March 2025. The balance cost of Rs73.30 Cr has been proposed as outlay for 2025-26, with Rs36.65 Cr already released during the current financial year.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Secretary emphasized the need to complete the project within the set timelines and ensure early handover of completed flats. "This project must be completed on time and the completed units should be allotted to the employees without any delay," he stressed.

Highlighting the locational advantage of the Zewan site, Dulloo added that the transit accommodations here are ideally suited for employees serving both in Srinagar and Pulwama districts. "This site is feasible for migrant employees posted in Srinagar as well as Pulwama, and it is therefore imperative that the flats are made ready for occupation at the earliest," he observed.

He directed the concerned executing agencies to maintain high standards of quality in construction and adhere strictly to timelines so that the objective of providing secure and dignified housing to migrant employees working in the Valley is fully realized.

Devotees make a...

the shrine till evening on Monday, they said.

"The Shrine Board has made very elaborate arrangements for the Navratri to ensure a comfortable yatra for the devotees," Sachin Kumar Vaishya, CEO, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, said.

Welcoming the devotees on the first day of the festival, Vaishya said the Shrine Board has deployed volunteers to guide the pilgrims, manage the rush, and ensure smooth movement along the 13-km yatra route.

Drinking water points, medical stations, and crowd management measures have been put in place to ensure a safe and comfortable pilgrimage experience for the devotees coming from across the country, Vaishya said.

This year, the Shrine Board has introduced wireless communication sets to enhance coordination and communication along the yatra route. A multi-tier security grid involving the police, CRPF, paramilitary forces, and quick-response teams will be in place throughout the festival, the officials said.

Chanting devotional hymns and singing bhajans, the devotees made their way towards the holy Bhawan after climbing a decorated serpentine path, with cries of 'Jai Mata Di' renting the air.

The devotees offered prayers and participated in rituals, celebrating the beginning of the nine-day festival with enthusiasm, the officials said.

The shrine has been adorned with floral decorations, creating a festive ambience for the thousands of devotees expected to arrive here over the next nine days.

Shat Chandi Maha...

Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board; other officers and staff of the Shrine Board, besides pilgrims were present on the occasion. The Maha Yagya, performed through the recitation of Vedic hymns and other religious ceremonies for universal peace, prosperity and well-being of mankind. The Yagya commenced today and will culminate on October 1 with Purna Ahuti on Mahanavami. Devotees can witness the proceedings live on Shraddha MH One channel daily from 12:00 Noon to 2:00 PM throughout the Navratras.

As per directions of the Chairman SMVDSB Lt. Governor, Manoj Sinha, several inclusive and facilitative measures have been implemented to enhance the pilgrimage experience. These include complimentary pony and battery car services for differently-abled devotees, priority access to darshan at the sanctum sanctorum and the establishment of dedicated help desks at key locations to assist pilgrims at large. Besides, comprehensive arrangements have been made for uninterrupted water and power supply, intensified sanitation and cleanliness drives, round-the-clock medical facilities and the availability of special fasting-related food items at Langars and catering outlets of the Shrine Board. The Bhawan, Atka and surrounding areas have been adorned with indigenous and exotic fruits and flowers, elaborate reception gates and decorative pandals. The entire Bhawan complex has been illuminated with vibrant façade lighting, offering a visually captivating experience for pilgrims.

During his visit, the CEO, Shrine Board interacted with pilgrims to assess the arrangements and expressed satisfaction with the facilities being provided at both Bhawan and Katra.

24 killed in...

explosive devices (IEDs) and sniper training.

The militants have established centres within civilian populations, stockpiling explosives to restrict access for security forces. However, due to unsafe storage and training activities, these stockpiles often detonate, causing casualties.

There has been an uptick in the incidents of terrorism in Pakistan since the Taliban took over the government in Kabul in 2021, dashing hopes in Islamabad that a friendly government in Afghanistan would help to tackle militancy.

Nana Patekar turns...

distributed Rs 42 lakh in aid to 117 families, who either lost a member or suffered house damage between May 7 and 10.

Operation Sindoor was launched with the Indian armed forces launching missile strikes to destroy terror infrastructure in Pakistan.

The strikes were made in retaliation for the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack that left 26 people, mostly tourists, dead.

At least 28 people were killed in retaliatory shelling, missile strikes, and drone attacks by Pakistani forces along the Line of Control.

"It is a small contribution for the families who are our own and suffered only because they are living on the borders. We want to convey a message to them that they are not alone," said Patekar, who was flanked by General Officer Commanding of 25th Infantry Division Maj Gen Kaushik Mukherjee and Deputy Commissioner Rajouri Abhishek Sharma.

"It is our responsibility to come forward and adopt at least one such family … We should not always rely on the government, which is doing whatever it can," Patekar told reporters at Rajouri Garrison.

The actor also named Amitabh Bachchan and Johnny Lever as fellow philanthropists from the film industry.

"I am just a face in the front. It is just a beginning, and we will continue such efforts," he said.

Patekar said that though he is visiting Rajouri for the first time, he did his bit in the 1999 Kargil war and performed duties in different parts of Jammu and Kashmir, visiting even forward areas guarded by the BSF.

Northern Railways introduces...

wagon accommodated almost 76 special containers, each weighing 40 kilograms," officials said.

In another effort to support the apple industry, the Jammu Railway division arranged for crates and racks meant for apple storage in cold storage units in Lassipora in Pulwama district, South Kashmir, to be loaded onto a BCN rake from Bari Brahmana Railway Station destined for Anantnag.

For the first time, puff panels -- insulated steel panels used for temperature-controlled apple storage -- were also unloaded at Anantnag. "These puff panels provide insulation and energy efficiency, enabling better temperature-controlled storage houses for apples," an official said.

The Jammu division of Northern Railway continues to operate parcel trains carrying apples from Kashmir to Delhi to transport perishable goods efficiently.

"Continuing this trend, over 6,400 tons of apples have been transported from Kashmir to Adarsh Nagar, Delhi, using both BCN covered wagons and parcel coaches from Anantnag Goods Shed Terminal," they said.

The service commenced on September 11, 2025, with two parcel van coaches -- one destined for Jammu and the other for Adarsh Nagar, Delhi.

"Each parcel van coach was loaded with approximately 23 tons of goods. This was considered a historic achievement, as a parcel van coach reached Adarsh Nagar from Budgam Railway Station in less than 21 hours, and another reached Jammu in less than six hours," an official said.

On September 15, Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha flagged off an eight-parcel van coach train, each with a weight capacity of 23 tons, from Srinagar to Adarsh Nagar in Delhi.

"These eight parcel van trains reached Delhi significantly faster than road transport," officials said.

Expanding the parcel train service to transport other goods, over 500 tons of mustard oil and other food items have been transported from Bari Brahmana to Budgam so far, ensuring that essential supplies remain unaffected despite disruptions in road connectivity.

Armed forces were...

infrastructure in territories controlled by Pakistan.

The strikes triggered four days of intense clashes that ended with an understanding on stopping the military actions on May 10.

The defence minister also highlighted the progress achieved by India in the last decade under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Despite geopolitical challenges, India has emerged as the fastest-growing major economy, and is poised to enter the top three soon, he said.

Singh highlighted India's digital transformation, rapid strides in the knowledge economy, and the surge in startups from 18 unicorns a decade ago to 118 today. Singh underlined the "remarkable growth" of India's defence industry, which has achieved production worth Rs 1.5 lakh crore and defence exports exceeding Rs 23,000 crore to more than 100 countries.

Custodial torture of...

be sustained in law. It held that "bare denial" by police personnel cannot be accepted at face value without proper investigation. The CJM clarified that the FIR should not name any officer specifically at this stage, leaving the matter open for an independent probe. The case stems from June 29, 2025, when the two labourers were allegedly tortured by a team led by SDPO Basohli Suresh Kumar, along with other officers and officials, and subsequently booked in FIR No. 61/2025 at Police Station Basohli. The next day, when produced before the Munsiff/JMIC Basohli, the court noted visible injuries on the duo and recorded that Supreme Court guidelines in D.K. Basu vs. State of West Bengal had not been followed.

The labourers have also moved a contempt petition in the High Court of J&K and Ladakh at Jammu against 11 police personnel, alleging violation of apex court guidelines in D.K. Basu and Arnesh Kumar cases. On July 21, 2025, the High Court issued notices to the implicated officers, including SDPO Suresh Kumar, SHO Geetanjali (JKPS), and nine other personnel.

8 arrested, Rs...

PS Bahu Fort. Meanwhile, SP South Ajay Sharma emphasized that these operations are part of a larger sustained crackdown. From January to September 2025, Sub Division East has delivered: 31 FIRs registered under NDPS Act; 1.183 kg heroin recovered (valued at Rs 2-3 crore internationally), 10 kg Ganja seized. 35 accused arrested in drug cases, 220 preventive detentions in drug-related activities. 07 vehicles, 26 tower batteries (Rs 35 lakh) recovered from thieves Total arrests (recent highlight): 04 accused in two latest operations adding the recent seizures, the total heroin recovery in the period stands at 1.463 kg (1,183 gms + 280.5 gms). SP South credited IGP Jammu Zone Bhim Sen Tuti for his strategic supervision and guidance, which has been crucial in maintaining operational intensity against criminals.

Police urged citizens to remain vigilant and share information on drugs and suspicious activities. Park vehicles in secure spaces and report theft incidents immediately. "With public cooperation, Jammu Police is determined to wage a relentless war against drugs and crime, ensuring a safe and secure future for the citizens of Jammu," SP Ajay Sharma concluded.

GOC reviews ongoing...

They said though there was no contact with the terrorists after the initial gunfights in Seoj Dhar and Keshwan forests, helicopters were seen hovering over the dense forests which remained besieged with joint parties of army, police and CRPF on the ground carrying out the combing operation.

Drones and sniffer dogs were also deployed in the area to help track down and neutralise the terrorists, the officials said.

Meanwhile, security forces also launched a cordon and search operation in Malhar area of Kathua district after getting information about suspected movement of two terrorists.

The operation is going on but there was no trace of the suspected persons so far, the officials said.

Former DGP Jeelani passes away; Sinha, Nalin express grief

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, has condoled the passing away of Shri Gulam Jeelani Pandit, former Director General of Police (DGP), Jammu Kashmir.

In a condolence message, the Lieutenant Governor said: "Saddened to learn about the passing away of Shri Gulam Jeelani Pandit Ji, former DGP of Jammu Kashmir. He will always be remembered for his devotion to duty and service to the nation.

My thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends in this hour of grief. I pray for peace of the departed soul".

Nalin Prabhat , DGP , expressed grief over the demise of Gulam Jeelani Pandit , IPS Retd , the 4th DG-P of J&K ! He prayed for peace to the departed soul and strength to the bereaved family.

Drug peddler nabbed with heroin

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: Continuing its drive against drug smugglers/peddlers, Samba Police has arrested one drug peddler in the jurisdiction of Police Station Ghagwal and recovered approximately 6.12 grams of heroin (chitta) like substance alongwith weighing machine from his possession.

A Police party of Police Station Ghagwal during vehicle checking near Gura Jattan Mandi Ghagwal, intercepted a scotty without registration number for its checking. During frisking of the rider, approximately 6.12 grams of heroin like substance and an electronic weighing machine were recovered from his possession.

The drug peddler identified as Sunil Singh @Sunny S/o Ashok Singh R/o Gurra Jatan tehsil Ghagwal district Samba has been arrested and contraband item has been seized. The scotty has also been seized in the instant case.

A case FIR No. 92/2025 U/S 8/21/22/25 NDPS Act has been registered at PS Ghagwal and investigation started.

Three criminals arrested with sharp edged weapon

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A police party of police Station Peer Mitha was on patrolling duty. During patrolling an information received from a reliable source that some criminals with sharp edge weapon roaming near DPS school and threatening the passer and creating a fear in the area As the police party consisting of PSI Anshu Dubey, PSI Usman Butt and others under the supervision of SHO Peermitha,Inspector Raza Ali reached the spot ,these three were seen roaming with a sword in hand. After seeing the police party they tried to run but were captured without failure and a sharp weapon ,a naked sword was seized.

All the three Criminals have been arrested and Sharp edge weapon (Sword) Seized.

During investigation three accused persons were identified as : Adil Ahmed s/o Kurdish Ahmed R/o Gujjar Nagar; Karan Kumar s/o Krishna Lal r/o Bawe wali gali, Jammu and Mohd Shoaib s/o Mohd Iqbal r/o Gujjar Nagar .From their possession a sword was recovered .

In this regard, a case FIR No. 38/2025 U/S 3(5),351 BNS and 4/25 Arms act has been registered at PS Peer Mitha. Further investigation of the case is underway.

TRAVEL TIME!

Jammu to Srinagar	
IndiGo	10:05 AM - 10:45 AM
SpiceJet	11:10 AM - 12:00 PM
Air India Express	12:50 PM - 1:40 PM
Air India Express	1:35 PM - 2:45 PM
IndiGo	1:55 PM - 2:35 PM
IndiGo	6:40 PM - 7:20 PM
Srinagar to Jammu	
IndiGo	11:45 AM - 12:35 PM
Air India Express	12:10 PM - 1:05 PM
SpiceJet	12:35 PM - 1:30 PM
Air India Express	2:20 PM - 3:35 PM
IndiGo	3:15 PM - 4:05 PM
IndiGo	5:20 PM - 6:10 PM

FIND TRAIN SCHEDULE

11078 Jhelum Express
Departure : 23:35 from Jammu Tawi
Arrival : 11:15 at New Delhi

12426 Jammu Tawi - New Delhi Rajdhani Express
Departure : 21:25 from Jammu Tawi
Arrival : 05:55 at New Delhi

12446 Uttar Sampark Kranti Express
Departure : 21:50 from Jammu Tawi
Arrival : 06:55 at New Delhi

Train 26401 - Katra to Srinagar (Morning Service)
Departure : 8:10 AM from Katra
Arrival : 11:10 AM at Srinagar
Intermediate Stop : Banihal at 9:58 AM
Fare:
Chair Car (CC): 715
Executive Chair Car (EC): 1,320
Booking: Available on IRCTC

Train 26403 - Katra to Srinagar (Afternoon Service)
Departure : 2:00 PM from Katra
Arrival : 05:00 PM at Srinagar
Fare:
Chair Car (CC): 660
Executive Chair Car (EC): 1,270
Booking: Available on IRCTC

FIND CINEMA

MIRAI (HINDI)
WAVE ONE MOVIE JAMMU 04:00 PM
PVR KC JAMMU 02:20 PM

JOLLY LLB 3 (HINDI)
WAVE ONE MOVIE JAMMU 9:30 AM / 10:00AM / 12:45 PM / 1:15 PM / 4:30 PM / 7:10 PM / 7:45 PM / 10:20 PM / 11:00 PM
PVR KC JAMMU 9:00 AM / 1:10 PM / 04:252 PM / 7:40 PM / 09:00 PM / 10:55 PM

AJEY THE UNTOLD STORY OF A YOGI (HINDI)
WAVE ONE MOVIE JAMMU 4:15 PM

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