

From Page 1

# Efforts on ...

are being made to present the beautiful city of Jammu also famously known as city of temples, as a global center of spirituality and a prominent destination on the map of spiritual tourism.

"Through the Jammu Aarti in the sacred precincts of the Raghunath Temple, devotees of Mata Vaishno Devi and Baba Amarnath arriving from across the country and abroad will get the opportunity to truly experience the spiritual radiance of this holy land and the local economy too shall find renewed momentum," the Lieutenant Governor said.

He also observed that such rites and gatherings are perhaps the only means through which true self-realization becomes possible and younger generation gets an opportunity to understand and imbibe the values of spiritual legacy.

"Youth must realize that they have inherited a precious legacy. It is not an inheritance of wealth or position, but of an inner treasure," the Lieutenant Governor said.

Dr. Ritu Singh, Chairperson of Shri Raghunath Ji ki Jammu Aarti Sanstha, other office bearers, prominent citizens and devotees were present on the occasion.

## No full ...

singled out Union Minister Ramdas Athawale. Lamenting that wit and humour in the House had declined in the age of round-the-clock media -- "everyone has become extremely self-conscious", he said.

Modi added, "While members come and go, our Athawale-ji is truly evergreen. He is departing, yet I am confident that no one here will feel a void; he will continue to serve and contribute tirelessly."

Reflecting on the bicameral structure of Parliament, Modi likened the passage of legislation between two Houses to seek a "second opinion" -- a practice, he said, strengthened democratic decision-making.

Drawing on an everyday analogy, he said, "Whenever a significant decision must be made in life, family members often sit together to reach a consensus; yet, even then, they suggest -- 'Why don't you consult him? Just get a second opinion from that senior figure.'"

He applied the same logic to Parliament: "A decision taken in one House goes to the other for a second opinion. This gives new direction to the entire debate and the decision-making process."

Modi also noted that some outgoing members had the rare distinction of having served in both the old and new Parliament buildings. He closed by describing a six-year Rajya Sabha term as a transformative experience.

"The House serves as an open university. It offers the opportunity to gain insight into the intricate nuances of national life. In a sense, one receives both formal education and initiation here," he said. "The experience gained in Parliament is truly expansive."

Chairman C P Radhakrishnan opened the House proceedings by noting that a total of 59 members from 20 states, including nine women members, will retire between April and July on completion of their terms.

He framed the occasion in constitutional terms, noting that the retirement of one-third of the House every two years "ensures continuity in the functioning of the Council of States while also creating space for new members to join the House and enrich its deliberations."

He described Deve Gowda as "a distinguished leader whose presence has added great stature to the House," and said Kharge "has been an important voice in the democratic functioning of this House" across a long career spanning both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.

On Hariwansh, Radhakrishnan said he "presided over this House with dignity, impartiality and a deep sense of responsibility", adding that his contributions to international parliamentary forums, including the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, and the BRICS Parliamentary Forum, "will always be remembered with great regard".

Radhakrishnan urged the outgoing members to view their departure as a new beginning. "Retirement should not be viewed as an end but as the beginning of new roles and responsibilities," he said.

He closed with a Tamil sentiment that though one retires, the good done through one's deeds continues to live on. "The retiring members of this House have, through their public service and dedication, created such enduring contributions that will remain part of the legacy of this institution," he said.

Meanwhile, PM Modi on Wednesday hailed the Union Cabinet's approval of the Bharat Audyogik Vikas Yojana (BHAVYA) and the Small Hydro Power Development Scheme, among other decisions, and said these will attract investments and create employment in rural and remote regions.

Modi also said the NDA government is leaving no stone unturned to make the lives of farmers as easy as possible and in this direction, MSP funding for the 2023-24 cotton season was approved on Wednesday.

"A landmark step towards accelerating India's industrial growth! The Union Cabinet has approved Bharat Audyogik Vikas Yojana (BHAVYA). This will enable the development of 100 plug-and-play industrial parks, boosting manufacturing, investment and jobs across the nation," he said in a post on X.

The prime minister said the scheme will significantly enhance ease of doing business through streamlined approvals and single-window systems and boost the logistics and services sectors too.

He said the Union Cabinet has approved the Small Hydro Power Development Scheme, which will boost clean energy, attract investments and create employment across rural and remote regions.

"The Northeast in particular will gain significantly from the scheme," he said.

The prime minister said his government is leaving no stone unturned to make the lives of farmers as easy as possible.

In this direction, he said MSP (minimum support price for crops) funding for the 2023-24 cotton season was approved on Wednesday.

"This step of ours will ensure protection of the interests of cotton farmers across the country," Modi said in a post in Hindi on X.

He said the rapid expansion of connectivity across the country is among the Centre's top priorities.

"In line with this, the four-laning of the Barabanki-Bahraich section of the national highway was approved today. This will not only reduce travel time but will also boost the economic development of the region," he said.

## Weapon recovered ...

Khandif and its adjoining areas near Palma in Rajouri late Tuesday after a local reported movement of two suspicious individuals.

They said the suspected persons were seen moving through a nallah towards a nearby forest.

No contact has been made with the suspicious individuals so far, an official said.

Similar operations are also underway at several villages in Marmat in Doda after some locals reported movement of suspected terrorists.

Marmat is used by terrorists to move between Doda and Basantgarh in Udhampur, which also touches parts of the Ramban district.

The Police and Army also carried out searches in Dandi Dhara and Ari Sarooti in Poonch district, the officials said.

Meanwhile, Army's Northern Commander Lt Gen Pratik Sharma today visited a forward post along the Line of Control (LoC) in Rajouri district and reviewed the operational preparedness of troops, officials said.

The General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Northern Command, also lauded the troops for their alertness and foiling an infiltration attempt last week.

"Lt Gen Sharma visited Jhangar Battalion on successful conduct of Operation Ballyjan wherein the alert troops successfully eliminated the infiltration attempt.

"While reviewing the security situation, operational preparedness and interaction with all ranks, the Army Commander commended them for professionalism and resolute commitment towards ensuring peace and stability in the region," the Northern Command said in a post on X.

On March 10, a heavily-armed Pakistani terrorist was killed in an abortive attempt to infiltrate into Indian side from across the border in Nowshera sector.

Additionally, the General Officer Commanding (GOC), Rising Star Corps, Lieutenant General Rajan

Sharawat today reviewed operational preparedness of the troops in

Machhedri sector of Kathua district.

The Bani-Machhedri mountainous belt in Kathua district has witnessed several attacks and encounters in the last two years. It is considered an infiltration route to Doda, Kishtwar and Udhampur districts from the International Border (IB).

"GOC Rising Star Corps reviewed operational preparedness of troops in Bani-Machhedri sector (Kathua district)," defence PRO, Jammu, said on X.

The GoC lauded their battle readiness, high morale and steadfast commitment to mission success under all conditions.

To prevent infiltration, the Army deployed several companies in the high-altitude Bani-Machhedri area last year.

## SMVD shrine ...

arrangements for the convenience, safety, and smooth Darshan of the devotees. The foothall of pilgrims this year has reached 15 lakh, and it is believed that the yatra will further increase in the coming days," Vaishya told reporters in Katra -- the base camp for the pilgrims visiting the shrine.

The CEO said that multi-layer security arrangements have been made with personnel from the CRPF, Jammu and Kashmir Police, Shrine Board security staff, and the army. An Integrated Command and Control Centre is functioning round-the-clock, and high-tech CCTV cameras have been installed to keep constant watch on the situation, he said. Eight 'May I Help You' desks have been set up at different locations.

The CEO said a priority is being given to devotees with disabilities, and free battery car service, as well as pony service, like previous years, will be provided to them.

Vaishya said some new facilities have also been added this year, like Sadhana Kaksh for meditation, and a Yagyashala for Haven.

## Attack on ...

According to the notice issued by the Range Headquarters Jammu-Samba-Kathua, DIG Shiv Kumar Sharma appealed to all guests present at the function, members of the public, or anyone possessing digital evidence or information related to the incident to share it with the investigating agency.

"Contact numbers provided for the purpose include 9419150173, 9419131379, and 9419186210," he said.

The DIG said that the incident occurred on March 11 during a wedding at Royal Park, Greater Kailash in Jammu. Police Station Gangyal has registered an FIR in connection with the case, and a Special Investigation Team (SIT) has been constituted to probe the matter.

He emphasised that public cooperation would significantly assist the SIT in collecting crucial evidence and ensuring a transparent investigation.

Jammu Zone Inspector General of Police (IGP) Bhim Sen Tuti on Sunday ordered the setting up of the SIT under the supervision of the deputy inspector general of police, Jammu-Samba-Kathua Range, considering the "seriousness and sensitivity" of the case.

Last Wednesday night, Abdullah, the former chief minister, had a miraculous escape when a gunman opened fire on him from behind while he was leaving a marriage function at the Royal Park banquet hall in the Greater Kailash area.

The 63-year-old accused, identified as Kamal Singh, was overpowered and arrested on the spot. A revolver used in the crime was recovered from his possession.

## Oil tanker ...

from each side have managed to sail to safety. LPG carrier Shivalik reached Mundra on Monday while another LPG tanker Nanda Devi reached Kandla port in Gujarat early on Tuesday morning. The two ships carried about 92,712 tonne of LPG - equivalent to a day's requirement of cooking gas in the country.

Two LPG carriers started their journey on March 13 and crossed the Strait of Hormuz early on March 14.

Another tanker, Jag Prakash, carrying gasoline from Oman to Africa, had previously safely crossed the strait and is en route to Tanzania.

This takes the number of Indian-flagged vessels or ships to have safely navigated through the war zone to four.

Of the 24 Indian-flagged vessels, 22 are on the west side of the strait with 611 seafarers onboard, while two are on the east side.

Of the 22 remaining Indian-flagged vessels on the west side of the Strait of Hormuz, six are LPG carriers, one is a liquefied natural gas (LNG) tanker, four are crude oil tankers, one is transporting chemical products, three are container ships, and two are bulk carriers. Additionally, one vessel is a dredger, another is empty with no cargo, and three are in dry dock undergoing routine maintenance.

The Strait of Hormuz, the narrow waterway that connects the Persian Gulf to the open ocean, has effectively been shut following the US and Israel attack on Iran and Tehran's sweeping retaliation.

Overall, close to 500 tanker vessels remain confined within the Persian (Arabian) Gulf. These include 108 crude oil tankers, 166 oil product tankers, 104 chemical/product tankers, 52 chemical tankers and 53 other tanker types.

Analysts say Iran may be allowing select vessels to transit the strait after verification. At least 4 vessels have transited outbound the strait in the last couple of days with a short diversion via the Larak-Qeshm Channel.

This, they say, appears to be a verification process whereby Iran confirms the ownership, cargo and vessel are not of the US, or belongs to those that Iran has permitted transit to.

The ships that have passed are 3 bulk carriers (2 Greek / 1 Indian) and one Aframax tanker (Pakistan).

India imports about 88 per cent of its crude oil, 50 per cent of natural gas, and 60 per cent of LPG. Before the war broke out, more than half of the crude oil that India imported came from countries like Saudi Arabia, Iraq and the UAE, which use the strait for shipping.

As much as 85-95 per cent of LPG and 30 per cent of the gas came through the strait. While the disruption in crude oil has been partially offset through alternative sources, such as Russia, West Africa, the US and Latin America, gas and LPG supplies to industrial and commercial users have been curtailed.

## 2.6 lakh ...

Additional Secretary (Gulf), Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Aseem R Mahajan, said that on Wednesday, around 70 flights were expected to operate from various airports in the UAE to different destinations in India.

The flight situation is "reassuring," he said. MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal spoke about a telephonic conversation between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and UAE President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan on Tuesday.

"The two leaders discussed the current situation in West Asia. The prime minister reiterated India's strong condemnation of all attacks on the UAE that have resulted in loss of innocent lives and damage to civilian infrastructure," he said.

The two leaders agreed on the importance of "ensuring safe and free navigation through the Strait of Hormuz," Jaiswal said.

"Both leaders will continue to work together for the early restoration of peace, security and stability in the region," the MEA spokesperson said.

This was for the second time Modi spoke to the UAE President since the US-Israel combine launched an attack on Iran on February 28.

Tehran has retaliated by attacking several Gulf countries hosting US military bases.

The Indian Embassy in Tehran is aiding Indian nationals, especially students, Jaiswal said. Many more Indians have expressed the wish to cross the Iranian border to go to Armenia and Azerbaijan, he said.

"Our embassy has issued an advisory and we appeal to all to follow them to ensure safe transit across Iran-Armenia and Iran-Azerbaijan borders," he added.

On a query on the supply of fuel to some of the neighbouring countries of India, the MEA spokesperson said, "This particular question I have already addressed before. I would like to reiterate that we have received these requests, and we are examining those re-

quests, keeping in mind our own requirements and availability."

Mahajan said the MEA "continues to monitor developments" in the Gulf and the West Asia region "very closely".

"We continue to assist seafarers, stranded Indian nationals and short-time visitors for visas, consular services, and logistical support wherever required... We have made special efforts to help Indian students in the Gulf region," he said.

Since February 28, around 2.6 lakh passengers have returned from the region to India, Mahajan told reporters.

He said that the missions in the regions have reached out to schools, including those affiliated with the CBSE.

The class 10 exam on Sunday was cancelled, as was the class 12 exam, he said. The ICSE and Kerala board exams have also been cancelled, he said.

"The respective boards will announce the formulation and determination of marks in these cases in due course," the additional secretary (Gulf) in the MEA said.

He added that in Tehran, the Indian Embassy has facilitated the relocation of several Indian students.

On the flight situation, Mahajan said, while there have been operational closures in some countries, "overall the flight situation continues to improve" with additional flights operating.

On March 17, around 70 flights operated from airports in the UAE to India.

Today, around 70 flights are expected to operate from various airports in the UAE to different destinations in India, he said.

The Qatar airspace remains partially open. Qatar Airways operated five flights to India yesterday.

Qatar Airways also announced flights to nine destinations today, the MEA official said.

In Kuwait, airspace has been closed since February 28, he said.

Special non-scheduled commercial flights by Jazeera Airways of Kuwait are expected to operate in the coming days to India, from the Al Qaisumah international airport in Saudi Arabia, the MEA official said.

Jaiswal was also asked about US President Donald Trump's comments on NATO. "Yes, we have seen those reports," he said.

Trump on Tuesday said NATO and most of America's other allies have rejected his calls to help secure the strategic Strait of Hormuz.

## Higher reaches ...

said. The other weather stations across the Valley also registered below normal temperatures.

In the past few days, Kashmir has been experiencing colder days and warmer nights due to cloud cover.

The lower day temperature broke the trend of unusually high temperatures that prevailed in the Valley over the past few weeks. The meteorological department has forecast erratic weather till March 20, with a possibility of intermittent light to moderate rain/snow at many places.

A few higher reaches in the Chenab Valley and south Kashmir may receive moderate to heavy snowfall, it said.

According to the weather office, another wet spell is likely from March 26-28 with light rain or snow at scattered places in the higher reaches.

There is a possibility of thunder/gusty winds, about 40-50 kmph, at a few places till March 20, with the possibility of hailstorms at isolated places, it said.

The MeT office has advised farmers to suspend farm operations till March 20.

## Railways deploy ...

emergencies and other issues arising due to crowd pressure, they said.

Senior Divisional Commercial Manager Uchit Singhal said the deployment of Scouts and Guides would play a vital role in managing passenger flow and providing essential train-related information, particularly to elderly travellers.

The Railway administration has appealed to pilgrims to remain patient, avoid carrying excessive luggage and follow the instructions of railway staff, Scouts, Guides and security personnel.

Passenger safety and convenience remain the administration's top priority, the officials added.

Chaitra Navratri will begin on March 19 and end March 27, with the shrine board expecting a heavy rush of devotees from across the country.

## Cabinet clears ...

through a challenge mode, ensuring that only high-quality, reform-oriented and investment-ready proposals are taken forward.

Building on the success of Industrial Smart Cities developed under the National Industrial Corridor Development Programme (NICDP) framework, Vaishnav said BHAVYA will be implemented in partnership with states and private sector players.

At the heart of BHAVYA lies a strong push for deregulation and ease of doing business, with streamlined approvals, effective single-window systems, and investor-friendly reforms led by states.

The scheme will deliver plug-and-play industrial ecosystems, enabling industries to move from intent to production with speed and certainty, he said.

With pre-approved land, ready infrastructure, and integrated services, BHAVYA will significantly reduce entry barriers for investors, he added.

The proposed industrial parks will be developed as future-ready and sustainable ecosystems. They will be aligned with the PM GatiShakti principles to ensure seamless multimodal connectivity and efficient last-mile access.

The parks will promote green energy and sustainable resource utilisation, supported by integrated underground utility corridors that enable a 'no-dig' environment.

This will facilitate efficient maintenance and ensure uninterrupted industrial operations.

Overall, these parks aim to set new benchmarks in industrial infrastructure by enhancing reliability, reducing inefficiencies, and boosting productivity across sectors.

The BHAVYA scheme is expected to generate large-scale employment, creating significant direct and indirect job opportunities across manufacturing, logistics, and services while attracting substantial investments.

The initiative will be implemented across all states and Union Territories, generating lakhs of employment opportunities nationwide and accelerating industrial growth.

By promoting cluster-based development and enabling the co-location of industries, suppliers, and service providers, BHAVYA will strengthen domestic supply chains, encourage regional industrialisation, and open up new opportunities for millions.

The scheme will directly benefit manufacturing units, MSMEs, startups, and global investors seeking ready-to-use industrial infrastructure, workers, logistics providers, service sector enterprises, and local communities.

The National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation Limited (NICDC), under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, is spearheading the development of world-class greenfield industrial smart cities to enhance manufacturing competitiveness, attract investments, and generate employment. NICDC is currently implementing 20 projects across 13 states.

NICDC-led initiatives are built on the concept of plug-and-play industrial parks -- ready-to-use ecosystems where land, utilities, approvals, and infrastructure are pre-developed, enabling industries to start operations quickly without delays related to land acquisition or infrastructure setup.

## LG, CM greet ...

symbolizes the triumph of truth, righteousness and virtue over evil.

"On this auspicious occasion, I extend my warm wishes to everyone for their success, happiness and well-being," he said.

The Chief Minister also extended his felicitations to the Kashmiri Pandit community on the occasion of Navreh.

"May these festivals strengthen the bonds of brotherhood and inspire us to dedicate ourselves to the service of humanity," he added.

Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary, today also extended his warm greetings to the people on the auspicious occasion of Navratri.

He said that the festival holds immense religious and cultural significance and symbolizes the triumph of truth over falsehood and good over evil. He emphasized that Navratri inspires people to uphold righteousness and strengthen the values of compassion, unity, and devotion.

Additionally, Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo today extended her heartfelt greetings to the people of Jammu and Kashmir on the auspicious occasion of Navratri.

In her greetings, the Minister highlighted the spiritual and cultural importance of Navratri, describing it as a festival that symbolizes the triumph of faith, positivity and collective harmony. She underlined that this sacred nine-day festival is dedicated to the worship of Goddess Durga and symbolizes the victory of good over evil and truth over falsehood.

Sakeena Itoo emphasized that festivals like Navratri strengthen the bonds of unity and mutual respect among communities and serve as an opportunity to reaffirm shared values of coexistence and social harmony. She urged people to celebrate the festival with devotion while promoting kindness, inclusiveness and care for the vulnerable sections of society.

The Minister also prayed for the well-being and good health of all citizens, as well as peace, progress and prosperity of entire Jammu and Kashmir.

Meanwhile, Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Information Technology, Transport, Youth Services & Sports, and Science & Technology, Satish Sharma today extended warm and heartfelt greetings to the people of Jammu and Kashmir on the auspicious occasion of Navratri.

In his message, the Minister underscored the spiritual and cultural significance of the nine-day festival, which is dedicated to the worship of Goddess Durga and symbolizes the victory of good over evil, light over darkness, and truth over falsehood. He said that Navratri is not merely a religious observance but a celebration of faith, devotion, inner strength, and the enduring values that bind society together.

Satish Sharma noted that the festival serves as a reminder for all to reaffirm their commitment to righteousness, compassion, and self-discipline. He emphasized that such sacred occasions provide an opportunity to strengthen the bonds of communal harmony, brotherhood, and mutual respect among people of all communities across Jammu and Kashmir.

## Centre gets ...

2022 and 19,53,057 in 2023.

In the next two years, 26,15,321 and 22,78,256 grievances were received, and between January and February this year, 4,23,922 were recorded, he said.

"In the year 2025, the average time for disposal of public grievances for central government ministries/departments was 15 days, and 82.1% of grievances were disposed of within the prescribed timeline of 21 days," the minister said.

The Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) regularly reviews grievance disposal performance of ministries and departments and states and Union territories through monthly review meetings, he said.

"Ministries/departments and states/UTs with higher pendency or delays are advised to take corrective measures," Singh said.

The government has undertaken several measures to improve accountability and efficiency of the grievance redressal mechanism under CPGRAMS, including implementation of the 10-step reforms, he said.

Further, the Comprehensive Guidelines for Effective Redressal of Public Grievances, issued in August 2024, rationalised the grievance redressal timeline from 30 days to 21 days and mandate the establishment of dedicated grievance cells, emphasis on root cause analysis, action on citizen feedback, and strengthening of grievance escalation mechanisms, Singh said.

A review meeting module has also been operationalised in CPGRAMS to facilitate senior-level review of public grievances, he said.

<b>BEFORE THE COURT OF LEARNED PRINCIPAL DISTRICT JUDGE JAMMU</b>	
AND <b>BEFORE THE COURT OF LEARNED MUNSIFF BISHNAH, JAMMU</b>	
Bharat Bhushan Age 65 Years S/o Late Sh. Puran Chand R/o Ward No 01 Bishnah Tehsil Bishnah District Jammu UT of J&K	CAVEATOR...
	V/S
1. Public at Large 2. Onkar Nath S/o Late Sh. Puran Chand 3. Chandan Sharma S/o Late Sh. Subash Chander 4. Sham Lal S/o Sh. Rattan Chand	NON- CAVEATORS...
IN THE MATER OF : CAVEAT PTTITION UNDER SEC- TION 148-A CPC	
May It Please Your Honour !	
The caveator most respectfully submits as under :-	
1. That the caveator is the owner as well as possessor of the piece of plot which is boundary walled, comprising under Khasha No 142 situated at Bishnah Tehsil Bishnah.	
2. That the caveator is holding the peaceful possession of the aforesaid plot but non-caveators kept evil eye over the same they might file any case or may cause to file any mater from the general public , therefore by any means they may tried to disturb the possession of the caveator or may tried to get any exparte injunction or any other matter against the caveator .	
3. That the non caveators has not any right , title or interest on the aforesaid plot of the caveator, which solely belongs to caveator. Thereby there is every apprehension in the mind of the caveator that the non-caveators may sought an ex-parte order against the caveator by concealing the material facts.	
4. That Now non caveators are expected to file a civil suit / petition /interim application with concocted story and false facts with the ulterior motive only to harass the caveators / applicants.	
5. That in case any such suit / application is being filed by the non caveators against the caveator and same comes up for the hearing before the Honourable Court, then notice of such application / suit may be given to caveator / applicant before passing any ex parte order against the caveator , so that he may protect his rights.	
6. That the copies of the present petition was duly published in daily news paper and have been sent to the non caveators by the way of Registered post and postal receipts is annexed herewith for kind perusal of Honourable Court.	
<b>In the premises :-</b>	
It is therefore most humbly prayed that the present petition may be accepted and caveator / applicant may be given an advance notice of hearing of civil suit / application filed by the non caveator before passing any order against the caveator in the interest of Justice and fair play.	
Date: Mar, 2026	Caveator Through Counsel RAJESH KUMAR SHARMA

||
||
||