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Any 'misadventure' ...

"I would like to tell you the operation is not over yet. If such dirty actions are repeated by Pakistan, our armed forces will give a befitting reply which they would not forget ever. What will happen this time will be an unprecedented action," he said.

Singh further said that in the prevailing situation, "our neighbour (Pakistan) can do any misadventure".

"If it does so, then like I told you, India's action would be unprecedented and decisive," he asserted.

He said that during the Congress-led UPA governments at the Centre, terror attacks were rampant in the country with no action being taken against them.

However, the NDA government has curbed terror attacks and taken decisive action against terrorism.

"Be it the surgical strikes after the Uri terror attack, or the air strikes in response to the Pulwama bombing of Indian security personnel vehicles or the operation Sindoer in retaliation for the Pahalgam incident, we have struck a strong blow to terrorism," he said.

In his address, he also mentioned the increasing importance of the maritime domain.

He emphasised that the maritime domain was no longer confined to trade routes and naval strength, but also has a role in "national resilience, economic growth, technological innovation and strategic autonomy".

The government was taking steps to make the Indian Navy the most powerful in the world by 2047, he said.

According to him, India was fast becoming self-reliant in defence matters.

"India, which was earlier dependent on defence imports, is now moving forward in the area. In 2014, India's defence exports were worth Rs 600 crore and now it has grown to Rs 38,500 crore," he said.

Singh noted that there has been a 62.66 per cent "record jump" in India's defence exports in 2025-26 as compared to 2024-25.

"In defence production, we have already crossed the milestone of Rs 1.5 lakh crore, and our aim is to increase it to Rs 3 lakh crore by end of 2029. This will be achieved, I assure you," he said.

Besides that, India was one of the few nations in the world which has the capability to build an aircraft carrier, the minister said.

At the event, attended by several ex-servicemen, Singh said while the Congress kept promising for four decades that it would implement the one-rank-one-pension, it was the BJP which did it.

"We also paid the arrears to former soldiers," he contended.

He pointed out that the BJP government built national war memorials in various parts of the country to remind citizens of the sacrifices made by the armed forces personnel and to inspire future generations.

"The Congress never built even one war memorial," he claimed.

The BJP government is also focused on employment and rehabilitation of veterans who retire from the armed forces.

He urged everyone to choose the BJP in the assembly polls as it was the correct political party to bring changes to the state, as it came with "Modiyude guarantees" (Modi's guarantees).

"His leadership is like 24-carat gold -- it is tried and tested," he contended.

The elections to the Kerala Assembly, which has 140 seats, will be held on April 9.

Meanwhile, India's annual defence exports touched an all-time high of Rs 38,424 crore in the financial year 2025-26, marking an over 62 per cent growth over the previous fiscal, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Thursday.

The "big jump" in the defence exports reflected the growing "global trust" in India's indigenous defence capabilities, Singh said in a social media post, adding the country is "scripting an impressive defence exports success story."

"India defence exports have touched a new all time high with a record Rs 38,424 crore in FY 2025-26. It marks a robust 62.66 per cent growth over the previous fiscal," the defence minister said.

"This big jump of Rs 14,802 crore in defence exports reflects the growing global trust in India's indigenous capabilities and advanced manufacturing strength," he said.

With DPSUs (defence public sector undertakings) contributing 54.84 per cent and private industry 45.16 per cent, this milestone showcases the power of a collaborative and self-reliant defence ecosystem, he said.

India's defence exports in 2024-25 was Rs 23,622 crore in 2024-25. It was Rs 21,083 crore in 2023-24.

West Asia ...

Minister S Jaishankar, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri, Power Minister Manohar Lal, Chemicals and Fertilizers Minister J P Nadda, Consumer Affairs Minister Prahlad Joshi and Minister of Railways, Information and Broadcasting, Electronics and Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnav.

In view of the "uncertain situation", the defence minister underlined the importance of round-the-clock monitoring of the situation and the need to respond in a calibrated manner to deal with any eventuality, an official readout said.

He stressed on the need to leave no stone unturned to ensure that the people of the country face the minimum effect of the conflict, it said.

It was the second meeting of the IGoM after it was set up last month.

The IGoM was apprised of the measures being taken by the government in the wake of the ongoing West Asia conflict, Singh said on social media.

"We also deliberated upon the next steps to be taken by the government to mitigate any adverse impact arising due to the ongoing conflict," he said.

The defence ministry said in the readout said, "In the meeting, the seven empowered groups of secretaries briefed the IGoM on the steps being taken to tackle the situation."

"The IGoM was apprised about measures undertaken by the Ministry of Finance to address concerns arising due to global trade disruptions and provide relief and support to the industry, especially manufacturing, and bolster investor confidence," it said.

It listed measures including notification issued on Wednesday on full customs duty exemption on 40 critical petrochemical products till June 30.

Parliament clears ...

will repeal such a "discriminatory law" when it comes to

power.

The leader of opposition in the Lok Sabha said he wanted to speak on the bill in the House and had requested the government to make adjustments as he was visiting Assam, but it refused as it "does not want me to speak on this in Parliament".

Congress MP Manickam Tagore said due to the absence of Home Minister Amit Shah during the debate on the CAPF Bill, the opposition staged a walkout in the Lok Sabha in protest.

An amendment moved by Trinamool Congress (TMC) MP Mahua Moitra to refer the bill to a select committee of the Lok Sabha was also negated by a voice vote.

Responding to the debate, Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai said the opposition is confused about the measure and is, in turn, confusing people.

He said multiplicity of rules for different central forces was a hurdle in their smooth functioning and the new law will take care of such issues.

He asserted that the legislation is beneficial for all sections of central forces.

The Union minister also underlined that sufficient housing and healthcare facilities are available for the CAPF personnel.

The Central Armed Police Forces (General Administration) Bill comes after the Supreme Court, in October last year, dismissed the Centre's plea seeking a review of its 2025 verdict that directed that IPS officers' deputation in the CAPFs, up to the level of Senior Administrative Grade (SAG), should be "progressively reduced" and asked for a cadre review to be carried out in six months.

Global events ...

Narendra Modi, the chief minister said assurances have been given that supplies are being maintained through multiple sources.

"There is no need to panic at this stage. If there is any change in the situation, we will inform the public," he said.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister Abdullah today said he will address the issue of pending commitments related to the Ranjit Sagar Dam with his Punjab counterpart.

Abdullah's statement comes after the BJP raised concerns about alleged violations of the intergovernmental agreement overseeing the project.

The Ranjit Sagar Dam, also known as the Thein Dam, is a major 600 MW hydroelectric project on the Ravi river near Basohli in Kathua, Jammu and Kashmir and Pathankot, Punjab, completed in 2001.

In response to a question from BJP legislator Darshan Kumar, as well as a supplementary query from party colleague Sham Lal Sharma regarding the Punjab government's failure to provide a 20 per cent share of electricity from the project and pending compensation for affected families, the chief minister stated that he would remind the Punjab government of the commitments laid out in the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed during the project's construction in 1979.

"This is not an individual agreement but a sovereign commitment between the Government of Punjab and the Government of J-K, so there is no question of turning away from obligations. We will formally remind them (Punjab government) and emphasise that they must acknowledge and fulfil their commitments," Abdullah said.

The chief minister stated that J-K is entitled to a 20 per cent share of electricity from the Ranjit Sagar Dam in accordance with the sales agreement between Punjab State Power Corporation Limited and J-K Power Corporation Limited, signed in 2019. However, the supply has not commenced due to insufficient transmission infrastructure.

Regarding compensation, Abdullah mentioned that of the total Rs 85.48 crore allocated, about Rs 71.15 crore has already been released by Punjab, leaving nearly Rs 15.94 crore pending, including interest components. He noted that delays in disbursement are partly due to some claimants not submitting required documents such as Aadhaar, PAN, and bank details, despite several notices issued to expedite the process.

On the topic of employment, the chief minister said that issues affecting more than 800 families have been raised with the relevant authorities.

However, he acknowledged that the jobs provided so far do not meet expectations and that further discussions with Punjab will be necessary to ensure that commitments made under the agreement and subsequent rehabilitation policies are fully implemented.

"Our objective is also to ensure that the money reaches the beneficiaries as soon as possible. However, it is also true that we cannot disburse the funds until all necessary formalities and procedural requirements are completed," Abdullah said.

"We will review the matter with the concerned management and make efforts to ensure that the commitments made under the 1979 agreement are properly implemented within the stipulated framework and time period," he said.

Accusing the Punjab government of not fulfilling its commitments made in the MoU, Sharma requested the chief minister to take up the matter seriously with the Punjab government.

"We are ready to contribute from our side as well. Since the second phase is now progressing, this is the right time to raise all pending issues," he said.

Kumar expressed concerns regarding the injustice faced by affected individuals, stating that those who have been provided jobs are often assigned roles such as cooks or labourers, with little opportunity for promotions.

"The agreement also stated that jobs would be provided near the project area, but instead, people have been sent to far-off places in Punjab. Highly educated youth, including post-graduates, are being made to do clerical work despite being accommodated under low-grade jobs," he said.

Omar tables ...

Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India on Union Territory Finances for two financial years.

These include the Report on Union Territory Finances for the year 2023-24 (Report No. 01 of 2025) and the Report on Union Territory Finances for the year 2024-25 (Report No. 02 of 2026).

Northern Railways..

route," the official said.

Regarding the timings and stoppages of the special train, he said the Train No 04081 will depart from New Delhi at 11.45 pm and arrive at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra at 12 pm the following day.

The Train No 04082 will depart from Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra at 9 pm and arrive at New Delhi at 10 am the following morning, he said.

During its journey, the special train will halt in both directions at Panipat, Kurukshetra, Ambala Cantt, Ludhiana, Jalandhar Cantt, Pathankot Cantt, Jammu, and Shaheed Captain Tushar Mahajan railway stations, he said.

He said the special train will comprise 21 coaches and is expected to significantly enhance passengers' chances of securing confirmed tickets.

LGassents...

moved by Legislator Narinder Singh Raina which reads, "this House urges for the proposal of establishment of a Veterinary and Animal Sciences University in the Jammu region: a strategic imperative for Viksit Bharat @2047".

Legislators Mir Saifullah of National Conference and Nizam-ud-Din Bhat of Congress moved amendments on the resolution which was Later disallowed with voice vote.

Sinha hands...

gangster in Kathua district.

Officials said the Rehabilitation Assistance Scheme is aimed at providing immediate financial stability and employment support to families of personnel who sacrifice their lives in the line of duty. The Lt Governor reiterated the administration's commitment to honouring martyrs and ensuring their families are not left in distress. He also directed concerned departments to extend all welfare benefits and facilitate timely assistance to the family.

34 IPS ...

Dhama for Ganderbal.

Sukant Shalija Lalbakh, awaiting posting, has been made the new SSP, Security, Jammu, replacing Rajesh Kumar Sharma, who will be the new Deputy Director at the Sher-e-Kashmir Police Academy, Udhampur.

Kamal Pal Singh Malhotra has been posted as SSP, Finger Print Bureau.

Among the 48 J-K Police Service officers, Shamsher Husain has been posted as SSP, Police Control Room, Jammu, Amit Gupta as SSP, CID, Jammu, Mohd Yousuf as SSP, Security, Civil Secretariat, and Sajad Khalid Bhat as SSP, Security, Kashmir, the order said.

Meanwhile, LG Manoj Sinha has relieved IPS officer Nikhil Borkar from the J&K Union Territory to take up a new assignment with the Government of India.

As per Government Order No. 198-Home of 2026 dated April 2, the officer has been relieved in pursuance of a communication received from the Ministry of Home Affairs and with the approval of the competent authority.

According to the order, Nikhil Borkar (IPS, AGMUT:2017) stands relieved from J&K with effect from April 2, 2026 (afternoon), to join his new posting at the Centre.

The order has been issued by Principal Secretary Home Chandraker Bharti (IAS) by order of the Lieutenant Governor.

Over 16K ...

are issued under the provisions of the Jammu and Kashmir Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, and regular eviction and demolition drives are conducted in co-ordination with the district administration and police," the chief minister said.

He added that field inspections occur regularly to prevent new encroachments, and the eviction of illegal occupants is being implemented in a phased and time-bound manner, following statutory procedures.

Regarding details about the encroachers, including whether they are politicians, bureaucrats, private individuals, or organisations, Abdullah noted that the JDA does not maintain records categorised by these groups.

"Encroacher lists are received from the Revenue department and maintained on a land parcel-wise or location-wise basis," he said in his response, emphasising that actions are taken strictly according to legal provisions to ensure transparency and accountability.

Meanwhile, CM Abdullah today said that outstanding electricity dues across government departments, public sector units and security establishments in the Union Territory have surged to over Rs 3,747 crore, with major liabilities concentrated in key infrastructure and utility departments.

These details of outstanding power dues were shared by the chief minister, who is in charge of the Power Development Department (PDD), in response to a question raised by PDP MLA Aga Syed Muntazir Mehdi in the Assembly.

According to the data, the total outstanding stands at Rs 3,74,735.42 lakh, including Rs 2,31,022.41 lakh under Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL) and Rs 1,43,713.01 lakh under Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (JPDCL).

The Public Health Engineering (PHE) department has emerged as the single largest defaulter, with dues amounting to Rs 1,30,043 lakh, followed by the Irrigation and Flood control department at Rs 58,059.72 lakh.

Among security agencies, the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) owes Rs 29,638.45 lakh, while the Army has pending dues of Rs 19,719.94 lakh and the Border Security Force (BSF) Rs 1,116.87 lakh.

The Home department has accumulated dues of Rs 22,306.46 lakh, while the housing and urban development department stands at Rs 14,449.47 lakh.

The power development department itself has outstanding liabilities of Rs 10,756.53 lakh, and the Power Development Corporation Rs 2,277.51 lakh.

Municipal bodies account for a significant burden, with municipalities alone owing Rs 24,163.80 lakh. The Revenue and Relief Department has dues of Rs 8,227.62 lakh, while the Health and Medical Education Department owes Rs 11,989.31 lakh.

Other major contributors include the Tourism Department (Rs 4,759.05 lakh), Education Department (Rs 2,866.40 lakh), Public Works (R&B) Department (Rs 1,951.21 lakh), and Rural Development Department (Rs 1,062.95 lakh).

The data also reflects dues from central agencies and PSUs such as NHPC, NHAI, Railways, Power Grid Corporation of India, BSNL and Prasar Bharti, besides several development authorities and corporations including JDA, UDA, SIDCO and SRTC.

In his reply, Abdullah said that power distribution companies (DISCOMs) are actively pursuing recovery of outstanding dues from defaulting departments and establishments.

The disclosure highlights the mounting financial stress

on the power sector in Jammu and Kashmir, with a substantial portion of unpaid dues locked in government and institutional consumption.

DCs directed ...

significant emphasis on prioritization of ongoing works, mandating that at least 70 percent of the Capex allocation be utilized for completion of ongoing projects and 30 percent may be earmarked for new works. This measure aims to prevent spread of resource thinly over a number of years, ensure timely completion of projects and to avoid starting large number of under-funded works.

Departments have also been instructed to prioritize pending JPKCC projects and address funding gaps in languishing projects within the available ceilings. All such works must be clearly identified on the BEAMS portal with proper coding.

The timeline for completion of new works has been fixed between one to two years, extendable up to three years only in exceptional cases involving mega projects. All spillover and ongoing works expected to be completed during 2026-27 or shortly thereafter shall be treated as the first charge on the Capex Budget.

Reinforcing outcome-based governance, departments have been directed to prepare Annual Plans clearly outlining measurable outcomes, including the number of works to be completed and the number of beneficiaries. The focus, the government said, must remain on public benefit rather than mere expenditure.

Strict financial discipline has been emphasized, with clear instructions that Capex funds shall not be diverted for revenue expenditure. Departments have also been advised against funding incomplete DPRs, such as projects lacking essential components like equipment, utilities, or infrastructure support.

Further, all Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) and NABARD projects must reflect both Central and UT shares on the BEAMS portal to ensure complete financial transparency.

To streamline project execution, it has been made mandatory that land compensation, forest clearance costs, and utility shifting components be included in DPRs. Forest compensation, in particular, is to be requisitioned in one go to avoid delays.

The Finance Department has also directed that no deviation from approved project scope or bill of quantities shall be permitted beyond prescribed limits. Executing agencies must upload pre-, during- and post-execution photographs on the PROOF application to ensure transparency and monitoring.

Administrative Departments and DDCs have been asked to review and rationalize previously uploaded works on BEAMS by eliminating non-priority or non-starter projects, thereby focusing resources on impactful initiatives.

The government has reiterated that all directions issued by the Chief Minister and the Council of Ministers, along with inputs from elected representatives during budget discussions, must be incorporated while finalizing annual plans.

Departments have been cautioned against creation of any liability arising from unapproved or unauthorized works, with controlling officers shall be held personally accountable for any such deviations.

In respect of multi-year Capex schemes, strict adherence to approved targets and budget ceilings has been mandated. Departments have also been directed to requisition 100 percent funds for physically completed works to ensure their financial closure, as well as for court-mandated payments where no legal remedy remains.

The Finance Department has assured that funds under Centrally Sponsored Schemes will be released within one day of receiving mother sanctions and visibility on the PFMS portal. Similarly, bills processed through Cyber Treasury will be pushed to PFMS within one day, with delays to be reported immediately.

Special emphasis has been laid on implementation of Budget Announcements and deliverables for 2026-27 on priority, with periodic reviews at the highest administrative level, including the Finance Department.

Pending Capex bills that could not be uploaded due to time constraints at the close of the previous financial year will be given first charge in the 2026-27 budget.

For key infrastructure departments such as Public Works (R&B), Jal Shakti, Forest, and Power Development, the second installment of funds will be released only upon full implementation of the Works Activity Monitoring System (WAMS), covering the entire project cycle from sanction to payment and monitoring.

61 illegal ...

said 64 commercial structures operating in violation of building norms were sealed between July 2025 and February 2026. "Additionally, nearly 61 illegal commercial structures have been demolished since October 2024 for operating without proper authorisation and in contravention of prescribed regulations," it said.

However, it said separate data regarding unauthorised community halls, banquet halls and similar establishments is not maintained by the Jammu Development Authority (JDA).

Action against all unauthorised constructions is being taken as per building bye-laws and the COBO Act, 1988.

The reply further said that a writ petition filed in 2010 by owners of banquet halls is pending before the high court, which had directed that such establishments should not be closed till further orders.

On illegal parking operations, the government said that a complaint was received regarding unauthorised collection of parking charges at a JDA parking lot near the RTO office in Narwal.

Acting on the complaint, instructions were issued to lodge an FIR against the accused under relevant provisions of law, it added.

Regarding enforcement, the government said no instance of contractors allowing parking beyond sanctioned capacity has been reported so far, but strict action would be taken in case of violations.

On accountability, it said disciplinary action has been initiated against erring officials, including warnings, red entries, suspensions and transfers.

Two JDA officials have been suspended while one has been shifted from the Enforcement Wing for inefficiency, it added.

Red entries have also been made in the service records of officials Pankaj Sambyal and Romesh Kumar for their alleged involvement in encroachment of JDA land in Jammu South, it said.