

Govt limits diesel sales to 200 litres

NEW DELHI: The government has capped diesel sales to a vehicle in a day at 200 litres and restricted industrial, commercial, and institutional users from buying petrol and diesel from petrol pumps in a bid to prevent local shortages amid global supply disruption, according to an official order.

Retail outlets can sell diesel only into a vehicle tank or PESO-approved container, and not more than 200 litres per customer or vehicle per day.

Also, industrial, commercial and institutional consumers will no longer be allowed to buy petrol or diesel from retail outlets. They must source their fuel from their own consumer pumps.

The restrictions, which will be in place for up to 90 days, follows abnormal demand growth, particularly that of diesel, in some pockets after bulk users started buying fuel from petrol pumps due to the pricing difference. While diesel at petrol pumps costs **► P11**

Shah directs agencies for "foolproof" security during Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra

■ 'Robust arrangements must be ensured at tourist spots'



NEW DELHI: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday said a multi-layered, impenetrable security grid should be established by CAPFs, the Jammu and Kashmir Police and all security agencies along the Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra route and at tourist places to ensure a peaceful pilgrimage.

Chairing a meeting on the preparedness for the revered Yatra starting on July 3, Shah said the traditional security apparatus should be further strengthened through the extensive

use of drones, CCTV monitoring, surveillance systems and other modern technologies.

The meeting was attended by National Security Advisor (NSA) Ajit Doval, Jammu and Kashmir Lt Governor Manoj Sinha, Army Chief Gen Upendra Dwivedi, Home Secretary Govind Mohan, Intelligence Bureau Chief Tapan Kumar Deka, Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) Director General GP Singh, besides other senior security and administrative officials.

The 57-day pilgrimage to the 3,880-metre-high cave shrine in the Himalayas requires a massive security deployment, with the Central and Union Territory agencies working in close tandem.

Pilgrims will travel through the traditional 48-km Nunwan-Pahalgam route in Anantnag district and the shorter but steeper 14-km Baltal route in Ganderbal district.

Shah directed that locals and animals associated with the pilgrimage should be registered.

Identity cards featuring QR codes should be issued, and proper arrangements should be made for everything from pilgrim registration to healthcare services, he said.

The home minister said senior officers from the various CAPFs and the Jammu and Kashmir Police should continuously monitor the arrangements at the camp sites during the **► P11**

Shri Shiv Mahapuram Katha enters day 7 Shri Shiv Mahapuram reflects exceptional religious ideals: Swami Vishwatmanand Ji



■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

POONCH: The devotees brimmed with spiritual serenity and fervour attended the seventh day of the Shri Shiv Mahapuram Katha at Shri Krishan Temple at Krishna

Ghati area in Poonch district on Friday. Scores of devotees, from all walks of life, partook with enthusiasm in the religious congregation.

The holy Katha began under the guidance of His Holiness Atal Pethadeshwar Ra-



ajguru Acharya Mahamandaleswar Shri Shri 1008 Shri Swami Vishwatamanand Saraswati ji Maharaj on June 6, 2026.

Pertinent to mention, a huge "Kalash Yatra" was taken out with great zest and

zeal at Yogitila, Krishna Mandir, Krishna Ghati, Poonch.

The Yatra commenced from Gurudwara Sahib near Krishna Ghati headed by His Holiness Atal Pethadeshwar Rajguru Acharya **► P11**

Sinha, Omar mourn demise of JKAS Officer

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has expressed deep grief over the untimely passing of Shri Mohammad Younis Mir, an officer of the Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Service (JKAS).

In a condolence message, the Lieutenant Governor has said:

"Saddened to learn of the untimely demise of Shri Mohammad Younis Mir. He was a committed officer who served the people of **► P11**

CM takes up airport closure issue with Defence, Aviation Ministers

NEW DELHI: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah has separately met Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Union Minister for Civil Aviation Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu in New Delhi and raised concerns over the proposed closure of Srinagar International Airport from October 1 to 16, 2026, scheduled under Phase III of the runway resurfacing project.

During the meetings, the Chief Minister underscored the importance of maintaining uninterrupted air connectivity to Jammu & Kashmir, particularly during the



peak autumn tourism season when the Valley attracts a large number of visitors from across the country.

While acknowledging

that the resurfacing works are essential for operational safety and fully respecting the operational assessment of the Indian Air **► P11**

100-DAY NASHA MUKHT JK ABHIYAAN

DAY 63 The EARTH NEWS joins the campaign launched by Honourable Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Ji to eradicate drug menace from union territory of J&K.

Online drug network cracked, 2K intoxicant capsules seized in Doda

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: Police on Friday claimed to have busted an online drug supply network in Doda district and seized 2,000 pregabalin capsules meant for illegal distribution.

The operation was carried out as part of the ongoing crackdown against drug abuse and illegal trafficking of pharmaceutical intoxicants under the drug-free Jammu and Kashmir campaign.

Police said they received specific information regarding the illegal procurement and distribution of Prega-

balin-IP 300 mg capsules through online platforms and courier services.

Acting on the input, police launched surveillance and intelligence-gathering operations to verify the information and identify those involved.

Based on the intelligence, they apprehended a suspect, identified as Sarmad Ali Khan, a resident of Khanpura Phagsoo and presently residing at Nai Basti Thathri, immediately after he collected a suspicious parcel from a courier centre.

During examination, the parcel was found to contain

2,000 pregabalin capsules packed in 200 strips of 10 capsules each, police said.

They added that the medicine, though prescribed for medical use, is often misused as an intoxicating substance. The consignment was seized on the spot, and a case was registered under the relevant provisions of law.

The accused was later produced before the Executive Magistrate First Class (EMIC), Thathri, who remanded him to six days' judicial custody at District Jail Bhandarwah, they said.

Police said the operation exposed an illegal **► P11**

One Kg Ganja seized

JAMMU: Continuing its sustained drive against drug trafficking under the ongoing Nasha Mukht J-K Abhiyaan, Jammu (Rural) Police achieved another success by apprehending a drug peddler in the jurisdiction of Police Station Domana.

On specific information received through reliable sources, a police party of Police Station Domana laid a naka near Shiv Temple, Muthi and intercepted one **► P11**

Police solve 2 NDPS cases; 626 gm heroin recovered

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: Continuing its sustained drive against drug trafficking and substance abuse, Jammu Police achieved a major success by registering two separate cases under the NDPS Act involving recovery of commercial quantity heroin in the jurisdiction of Police Station Bahu Fort.

In the first case, during the intervening night of 10/11 June 2026, a police

party of Police Station Bahu Fort, while conducting routine naka/night checking in the Narwal area, intercepted a suspicious Hyundai i20 vehicle (White Colour). During checking, one person identified as Mushtaq Ahmed Sheikh S/o Abdul Majeed Sheikh R/o Persha Mohalla, Bijbehara, District Anantnag was apprehended. Upon personal search, 309.78 grams of heroin-like substance was recovered from his **► P11**

Residential house worth Rs 15.85 lakhs attached



■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

PULWAMA: Continuing its sustained crackdown against drug trafficking and

its financial networks, Police in Pulwama has attached a single-storey residential house worth Rs 15.85 lakh belonging to a drug **► P11**

Impersonator claiming to be IB officer held

JAMMU: A man allegedly impersonating an Intelligence Bureau (IB) official was held by police in Kathua district, officials said.

The accused was identified as Ankush, a resident of Kathua district, they said. Acting on specific information, police on Thursday morning intercepted a two-wheeler being ridden by the suspect and subjected him to verification.

During checking, the identity card he was carrying was found to be fake, they added.

Preliminary investigation revealed that the man had been introducing himself to people as an Intelligence Bureau official, the officials added. **► P11**

Rajnath: India won't let Sindhu waters reach patrons of terror

HYDERABAD: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Friday condemned Pakistan's support for terrorism and said the NDA government would not allow the waters of the Sindhu river to reach those who sponsor it.

Addressing an 'Intellectuals Meet' organised in Hyderabad by Telangana BJP, he said that through Operation Sindoor, the government had shown the world that it knows how to respond to those who do not understand the language of peace and harmony—in their own language.

He criticised Congress and other opposition leaders for questioning Operation Sindoor and the bravery of soldiers, saying the government had stated it would stop the supply of grain and water to Pakistan if terror attacks were car-



ried out against India.

"After the Pahalgam terror attack, by suspending the Indus Waters Treaty, we said that those whose **► P11**

Bring Back PoJK: Bharat should save its people from atrocities of Pakistan



The issue of Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK) continues to remain one of the most sensitive and historically significant chapters of the Indian subcontinent's history. Decades after the 1947 aggression, the people living in these areas continue to face political uncertainty, economic challenges and allegations of human rights violations. For India, the question of PoJK is not merely about territory but also about the people who have been separated from their historical, cultural and emotional roots.

The recent discussions around PoJK have once again

brought attention to the historical circumstances under which Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh were divided. When India gained independence in 1947, the princely state of Jammu and Kashmir acceded to India after an armed invasion by Pakistan-backed forces. The attack resulted in the occupation of a significant portion of the erstwhile Jammu & Kashmir State by Pakistan. Since then, the region has remained divided, with generations growing up amid conflict and political uncertainty.

Historically, the regions currently under Pakistan's control were deeply connected with the erstwhile

Jammu and Kashmir state. Areas such as Mirpur, Kottli, Rawalakot, Bhimber, Haveli and parts of Poonch had strong historical links with Jammu. These regions were not merely geographical units but part of a shared cultural and social identity that existed before the conflict changed the course of history.

The people of Jammu, in particular, carry a deep emotional connect with these areas. Thousands of families were displaced and migrated to India during the conflict, leaving behind homes, properties and ancestral lands. The pain of displacement and separation became a

long-lasting reality for many families who struggled for rehabilitation and recognition. Over the years, reports and accounts from PoJK have highlighted concerns related to governance, political representation, economic development and freedom of expression. Critics have repeatedly alleged that local voices in Pakistan-occupied areas have been suppressed and that people have faced restrictions while demanding greater rights and development opportunities.

The recent protests and public dissatisfaction reported from parts of PoJK have once again drawn attention towards these con-

cerns. In the age of technology and social media, events that were earlier limited to regional boundaries are now reaching a global audience. Images and videos emerging from these areas have triggered debates over governance and the aspirations of local populations.

India has consistently maintained that Pakistan's control over these territories is illegal and has reiterated its stand that the entire region of Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India. The Indian government has also highlighted the need for development, connectivity and empowerment of border communities, arguing that

peace and prosperity should remain the ultimate goal for all people of the region. The transformation witnessed in Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh in recent years has also become part of this broader discussion. Infrastructure projects, improved connectivity, expansion of education and healthcare facilities and increased focus on border development have changed the landscape of these Union Territories. Supporters of the government argue that similar opportunities should reach people living across the Line of Control (LoC) as well.

The history of Jammu and Kashmir is also deeply **► P11**