

From Page 1

274 fugitives ...

application of the PMLA led to the confiscation of assets worth Rs 17,874 crore and restitution of Rs 18,762 crore," he said. Shah said under the vision of a robust and secure India, the Modi government has pulled in the net, nabbing fugitives hiding abroad.

"Regardless of which country they absconded to, India's new approach to national security has ensured the return of 274 criminals since 2019, compared with a mere four per year during the UPA regime.

"Gone are the days when criminals were allowed to sneak through the gaps in the system. New India has addressed every gap in the old system through new laws, institutions, and global partnerships, weaving an unbreachable security net," he said.

The number of Interpol Red Notices issued has increased significantly in recent years, with 40 Red Corner Notices issued in 2022, 100 in 2023, 107 in 2024, 112 in 2025, and 182 have already been issued in 2026 so far, it said.

Over the past three years, Red Notices have been issued against 401 fugitive criminals, it said.

A Red Notice is a request to law enforcement worldwide to locate and provisionally arrest a person pending extradition, surrender, or similar legal action.

"Under the guidance of Union Home Minister Amit Shah, extradition requests are now being prepared in a more professional and standardised manner. In addition, written assurances are provided after carefully taking into account the documentary requirements and legal expectations of the requested country," the Home Ministry said.

It said India has developed an "integrated, intelligence-based, and technology-driven model" against fugitives, paving the way for stricter measures against them and facilitating their return.

In contrast, India secured the extradition of only four fugitives per year on average between 2004 and 2013, while 110 extradition requests remained pending, it said.

The Ministry said before 2014, the country's extradition framework had become outdated, and India had extradition treaties with only 37 countries, with no dedicated law to deal with economic fugitives or to confiscate their assets.

"In addition, incomplete documentation and slow processing made the extradition process highly cumbersome, often leading foreign courts to deny extradition requests. India's extradition efforts also faced legal and judicial hurdles, including the principles of double jeopardy and dual criminality, which frequently resulted in the rejection of extradition requests," it said.

It said the absence of effective coordination and a unified strategy among the Ministry of Home Affairs and other departments hindered progress as the sharing of information on fugitives, location tracking and the issuance of Red Corner Notices also moved at a slow pace.

"Previous governments lacked the political will to bring back fugitives; the Modi government has made the extradition of fugitives a 'national priority'. In line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision, the Union Home Minister has emphasised a three-pronged strategy against fugitives: global outreach, strong coordination and smart diplomacy," it said.

The Ministry said the effort to bring fugitives has been driven by close coordination among the Intelligence Bureau (IB), Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), Research and Analysis Wing (R&AW), National Investigation Agency (NIA), Enforcement Directorate (ED), Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), Directorate General of Goods and Services Tax Intelligence (DGGI), and State Police forces.

The constitution of a Standing Focus Group under the Multi Agency Centre (MAC) of the Intelligence Bureau (IB) in January 2026 marks a "significant institutional step" in strengthening India's fugitive management framework, the Ministry said.

"The Group is responsible for prioritising fugitive cases, standardising dossiers, bridging information gaps, ensuring sustained follow-up with foreign partners, and providing national-level support to cases initiated by State agencies. Fugitives operating from abroad are not dormant case files, they represent live operational threats that require sustained, coordinated, and proactive action," it said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi enacted the Fugitive Economic Offenders Act in 2018 to strengthen action against fugitives, it said.

The Modi government strengthened action against fugitives through the 2019 NIA and UAPA amendments, expanding enforcement beyond banned organisations to individual terrorists, handlers, financiers, and overseas networks, taking up the task of bringing back criminals on a mission mode, it said.

India hosted the 90th Interpol General Assembly in 2022, which gave further impetus to the country's attempts to bring back fugitives.

The CBI launched BHARATPOL in January 2025, connecting over 1,400 agencies by integrating the CBI, State Police Headquarters (through Interpol Liaison Officers - ILOs), and District Police Headquarters onto a single platform.

"In 2024, the Modi Government implemented three new criminal laws, incorporating special provisions relating to fugitive offenders. For the first time, Sections 355 and 356 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) provide for trial in absentia, enabling the entire judicial process -- from trial to prosecution -- to be completed even in the absence of a fugitive accused," it said.

Information sought by the CBI is now generally shared by other law enforcement agencies within 10 to 20 days, and in some cases, within 3 to 10 days, substantially improving the efficiency of investigations and extradition proceedings.

Union Home Minister has held a total of five important meetings in this direction, it said.

The CBI has established a Special Global Operations Centre which co-ordinates in real time with police agencies across the world through Interpol, enabling faster tracking and apprehension of fugitives.

"To facilitate the swift exchange of information, the CBI has also designated Interpol Contact Officers in every State as well as in all Central investigating agencies, significantly enhancing coordination and international cooperation in fugitive investigations," it said.

India also launched a crackdown on fugitives through Operation Trishul to geo-locate them with the support of Interpol. Under the operation, the locations of fugitives were established using satellite inputs, surveillance, and digital footprint analysis, it said.

"Many fugitives had changed their names or identities while residing abroad. However, through the use of advanced technology and profile mapping, Indian agencies were able to identify and trace them. Technology has also been leveraged to expedite extradition proceedings, including the use of video conferencing for court hearings, thereby helping to accelerate the legal process," it said.

Corporate governance ...

operate transparently, maintain financial discipline, and act swiftly against irregularities. The ICLS, through its responsibilities, continuously strengthens this trust, making it an essential guardian of India's economic credibility. Rapid economic growth, responsible institutions, transparent governance, ethical business conduct and a strong legal framework are vital for inclusive development. The ICLS will be a critical link in achieving this goal by creating a bridge of trust between industry and governance," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The ICLS Officer Trainees of 2023 and 2024 Batches, accompanied by Shri Haamid Bukhari, Registrar of Companies, J&K, shared the experience and learning from their visit to Jammu Kashmir, as a part of Domestic Study Tour.

They also briefed the Lieutenant Governor on the functioning of the offices of Registrar of Companies (ROCs) and the dual mandate of ICLS in maintaining the Regulation, developmental role as well as effective enforcement of multiple corporate laws.

The Lieutenant Governor was also briefed about the recently filed winding up petition on the basis of which the Assets of one Not-for-Profit Company was taken over by the Office of ROC cum Official Liquidator, J&K. This was probably the first case in which the corporate laws were invoked in the matter of National Security.

The Lieutenant Governor expressed confidence that ICLS officers will continue to strengthen transparent corporate culture, investors' confidence and strengthen India's journey toward becoming a leading global economy.

J-K achieves ..

ULLAS-Nav Bharat Saaksharta Karyakram is a centrally sponsored initiative that aligns with the National Education Policy. It aims to empower those aged 15 and above who missed formal schooling.

The ULLAS initiative focuses on foundational literacy and nu-

meracy, critical life skills and continuing education for non-literate adults. The programme promotes learning through community participation and volunteer support. Its implementation involves local authorities, educational institutions and other stakeholders working to provide learning opportunities to eligible beneficiaries aged 15 years and above.

Kejriwal's march ...

The AAP had begun the march with around 100 people to submit the petitions, collected from people across the country, against the government's policy of promoting E20 petrol, alleging that the ethanol-blended fuel was adversely affecting vehicle owners.

Addressing supporters before the march, Kejriwal said the party was carrying more than 2.30 lakh petitions signed by people from across the country and urged the government to listen to the concerns of crores of vehicle owners.

"We are going to the Prime Minister's residence with over 2.30 lakh petitions signed by people from across the country. We want the government to listen to the concerns of crores of vehicle owners who are facing problems because of E20 petrol," he said.

Police sources said the protesters would not be allowed to proceed beyond 5, Firoz Shah Road.

"No one will be allowed ahead of 5, Firoz Shah Road. We have deployed adequate security, including Delhi Police and paramilitary forces, to maintain law and order," a police source said.

The protest comes days after the AAP held an "Ethanol Town Hall" and launched a signature campaign against E20 fuel.

Kejriwal had earlier written to the prime minister seeking an appointment to discuss concerns over ethanol-blended petrol.

He had also demanded that consumers be given the option to choose between pure petrol and E20 at fuel stations.

Kejriwal alleged that the government was continuing with the policy despite concerns raised by the public.

"People are asking why the government is forcing E20 petrol despite complaints from vehicle owners. We only want people to have the choice of buying pure petrol and E20, and if E20 is being promoted, it should be sold at a lower price," he said.

India rejects ...

protests since last month over inflated living costs, alleged administrative apathy and political discrimination and atrocities against minorities.

"This so-called local election in PoJK is a complete farce. The real happening is that of public protests and wanton killings by Pakistani forces. Such hollow exercises cannot hide reality," MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said at a regular media briefing.

"Since June this year, at least 90 civilians have lost their lives in the continuing crackdown," he said.

Jaiswal said the Pakistani establishment has "answered public discontent with bullets, black outs, intimidation and repression, and now seeks to manufacture legitimacy through a hollow electoral exercise".

"It must be held accountable, and the world should see through the flimsy veneer of Pakistan's hypocritical lecturing on human rights," he said.

Jaiswal was responding to a question on elections in PoJK.

The Joint Awami Action Committee (JAAC) has been leading the protests amid local body elections in PoK.

Pakistani security forces used lethal force against the JAAC during its long march from Rawalakote to Muzaffarabad late last month and the crackdown reportedly resulted in the deaths of 40 civilians and left over 33 protesters injured.

The JAAC has officially appealed to United Nations Human Rights Council and international rights organisations for an immediate, independent investigation into what it described as "unlawful killings".

Jaiswal also called upon Pakistan to take strong action against cross-border terrorism.

"We call upon countries to take strong action against cross-border terrorism and those promoting it. We call upon Pakistan to take strong action against cross-border terrorism and dismantle the terrorist infrastructure operating from its soil," he said.

The MEA spokesperson also asserted that the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) will remain in abeyance till Pakistan stops supporting cross-border terrorism.

"The treaty is in abeyance and will remain so until Pakistan irrevocably and credibly abjures its support for cross-border terrorism," he said.

India decided to put the IWT in abeyance as part of a series of punitive diplomatic and economic measures unveiled soon after the Pahalgam terror attack in April last year that killed 26 civilians.

Eye Opener ...

education and accommodation for the top 500 rankers, besides school-wise felicitation of toppers.

Interestingly, the Joint Director's circular was issued on the same date as the company's letter and reproduced the scheme for dissemination through the official education machinery.

This raises an obvious question: Was there any independent scrutiny of the claims made by the private company before they were circulated through an official government channel?

The documents, as available, do not disclose such verification nor do they cite any Government policy, formal MoU, executive order, competitive process or other publicly disclosed authority under which a particular private coaching company was selected for such institutional support.

The experts were of the view that a government department informing students that private scholarship opportunities exist is one thing but directing schools and subordinate officers to disseminate and facilitate the programme of a specific commercial entity is another.

"Once such a direction comes through an official government circular, the private company potentially gains something that ordinary commercial competitors do not possess--the credibility and reach of the State's education network", the expert added.

The question is therefore not whether Physics Wallah can conduct PWN SAT. The question is whether the government should become the channel through which one private coaching company reaches students across an entire administrative division.

Another issue demanding clarification is the reference to KVs as they are administered through the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, functioning under the Union Government. The J&K School Education Department therefore needs to explain the precise administrative basis for including these institutions in a departmental direction concerning a private examination.

There is another striking feature that the official communications do not mention the date of the examination, which raises a further question about the nature and urgency of the directive.

If the Education Department believes that private scholarship examinations can benefit students, another question naturally follows: Why this particular coaching company?

If one private coaching provider can receive official dissemination and institutional support, are similar opportunities available to other coaching and educational organisations? Was there an open invitation? Was any selection process followed? Was the programme evaluated for academic, financial and child-safety safeguards? Was the Department satisfied about the precise nature of the scholarships, prizes and other benefits advertised? And was any formal agreement executed before the government machinery was instructed to cooperate?

There is no doubt in saying that across India, examination systems have come under intense public scrutiny following controversies surrounding competitive examinations, including the NEET-UG paper-leak controversy. In such an environment, every government decision involving examinations, student data, private educational entities and access to schools demands a high degree of transparency.

The issue here is therefore bigger than PWN SAT. It concerns the principle of institutional neutrality.

Government schools are public institutions. Their administrative machinery is funded and operated for public purposes. Government officers issue directions under official authority.

That authority should not, without a clearly disclosed policy basis, appear to confer an advantage on a particular commercial education provider.

The Omar Abdullah Government and the School Education Department now have an opportunity to put the matter beyond doubt.

Who authorised the circular? Under what policy or legal authority was permission granted? Was an MoU signed with Physics Wallah? Were the company's scholarship and prize claims independently verified? Was any competitive process followed? Were other private

coaching organisations offered similar access? Why were Kendriya Vidyalayas included? Why does the circular not specify the examination date?

And most importantly: Should the government education machinery be used to promote a private coaching company's examination at all? These are legitimate questions of public interest.

The Government may have a perfectly valid explanation. If so, the Education Department should place the relevant approval, policy, agreement and verification on record.

For the J&K Government, this must be more than a routine circular. It is an eye-opener—and an opportunity to demonstrate that public education machinery remains accountable first to students, parents and the public, not to private commercial interests.

MHA posts ...

Rana to Puducherry, Pawan Kumar Goel and Akanksha Singh to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Arjun Gupta and Benjo P. Jose to Delhi, Tripti Kalhans to Arunachal Pradesh, and Buddhi Akhil to Mizoram.

The postings follow the completion of the officers' Phase-II professional training and mark their allocation to different segments of the AGMUT cadre.

The 2024-batch officers were appointed to the Indian Administrative Service through the civil services examination and are being assigned to their respective places of posting under the cadre allocation process.

CM reviews ...

Secretary to the Chief Minister Dheeraj Gupta; Additional Chief Secretary, Finance, Shailendra Kumar; Administrative Secretaries of the concerned departments; Director General Budget, Director General Codes and other senior officers.

At the outset, Additional Chief Secretary, Finance, Shailendra Kumar, gave a comprehensive presentation on the status of the Budget Announcements pertaining to the departments under review. He apprised the Chief Minister of the progress achieved so far and the implementation status submitted by the respective departments.

Administrative Secretaries of the School Education Department, Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs Department, Transport Department, Social Welfare Department and Health & Medical Education Department briefed the Chief Minister on the action taken to implement the Budget proposals and highlighted the milestones achieved in their respective sectors.

Reviewing the progress, the Chief Minister issued a series of directions to accelerate implementation of the approved initiatives and ensure strict adherence to prescribed timelines. He stressed the need for close inter-departmental coordination to facilitate seamless execution of projects and programmes announced in the Budget.

The Chief Minister underscored that the true success of the Budget lies in its effective implementation on the ground and directed all departments to focus on delivering measurable improvements in public services. He emphasised that efficiency, transparency and accountability must remain central to the execution of all Budget initiatives.

The Chief Minister reiterated the Government's commitment to ensuring that every Budget announcement is implemented in a time-bound manner for the welfare and benefit of the people.

Noreligion...

recur. "The killing is very unfortunate. It shouldn't have happened. No religion permits killing innocent people like this. Words are not enough to condemn it," Abdullah told reporters here.

"It is expected from those whose responsibility it is to maintain security that they will not let such attacks take place," he added.

The migrant labourers from Chhattisgarh were killed in a terrorist attack at a brick kiln on July 31.

SFs launch ...

In border district of Poonch, the officials said personnel of the Special Operations Group (SOG) of the Jammu and Kashmir Police, assisted by troops of the Rashtriya Rifles, launched a cordon-and-search operation in dozens of villages including Dhara Sangla, Gujjar Naar and Kherowali Dhok in Surankote tehsil.

The operation was initiated following reports suggesting the movement of two separate groups of suspected terrorists in the densely forested region, they said.

No contact had been established with the suspected terrorists so far, the officials said, adding the operation was continuing, with security personnel carrying out systematic searches to trace the suspects.

The officials said the police and Rashtriya Rifles also conducted searches at Kalaban and adjoining areas in Mendhar tehsil on Tuesday but no one was taken into custody.

In another development, an old rusted mortar shell was recovered from the courtyard of a house near the International Border in the Hiranagar sector of Kathua district on Tuesday morning, the officials said.

The unexploded shell came to light when labourers engaged in excavation work at the residence of Subash Chander in Kattal-Brahmana village noticed the suspicious object and immediately alerted the authorities, they said.

According to the officials, a police team, accompanied by the Bomb Disposal Squad (BDS), rushed to the spot, secured the area and safely removed the mortar shell for disposal.

Batch of 964 ..

they said.

With the departure of the batch, the total number of pilgrims who have left the Jammu base camp for the annual pilgrimage has risen to 1,41,712, officials said.

This is the smallest batch that has left for the yatra so far. While 1,056 pilgrims left Jammu for the yatra on Monday, 3,886 pilgrims left Jammu on Sunday.

The 57-day annual pilgrimage is scheduled to conclude on August 28.

Meanwhile, security forces continued to maintain heightened security along the pilgrimage routes, with personnel deployed at key locations and checkpoints. Authorities are monitoring movement of pilgrims and vehicles closely to ensure their safe passage. The administration has also been coordinating arrangements for traffic management, medical assistance and emergency response.

Overall CAT ...

component of good governance and reforms must continuously improve accessibility, efficiency and ease of service delivery for government employees across the country.

The Minister said the transformation taking place across public institutions is being driven by a strong emphasis on technology, transparency and process simplification. He said digital platforms are helping institutions deliver services faster, improve accountability and reduce procedural delays, thereby making governance more responsive to the needs of citizens.

Referring to the progress made by the Central Administrative Tribunal, Dr. Jitendra Singh said the Tribunal's expanding digital ecosystem, strengthening infrastructure and sustained improvement in case disposal reflect the broader direction of governance reforms being pursued by the Government. He said these initiatives are contributing towards a more efficient and accessible administrative justice delivery system.

The Minister said expanding access to justice remains an important priority. He said the establishment of new Benches and commencement of Circuit Sittings in geographically distant regions have brought administrative justice closer to litigants, reducing travel and improving convenience for government employees serving in different parts of the country.

Dr. Jitendra Singh said institutional reforms are most meaningful when they produce measurable outcomes. He said continued improvement in disposal of cases alongside modernisation of judicial processes demonstrates the value of sustained reforms backed by technology and better administrative systems.

Justice Ranjit Vasantrao More apprised the Minister that the Tribunal has undertaken several important initiatives during the past few years, including establishment of new Benches at Jammu and Sri-

nagar and commencement of Circuit Sittings at Puducherry, Leh, Kargil and Vijayawada, thereby expanding access to administrative justice in remote and underserved regions.

The Chairman also briefed the Minister on the significant progress achieved under the Advanced Case Information System (ACIS), which has enabled a wide range of digital services including e-filing, virtual hearings, online display boards, SMS and e-mail alerts, online payment of court fees, mobile application, e-certified copies, digital inspection of judicial records, advanced search facilities, e-mentioning, e-listing and paperless court functioning through a document management system.

Dr. Jitendra Singh said such initiatives are fully aligned with the Government's vision of Digital India, where technology serves as an enabler of transparency, efficiency and ease of governance. He said digital transformation is creating institutions that are more accessible, responsive and future-ready.

During the meeting, Justice More informed the Minister that since its inception the Tribunal has received more than 10 lakh cases for adjudication and disposed of over 9.32 lakh cases, maintaining an overall disposal rate of more than 93 per cent. He also apprised the Minister that pendency has declined significantly in recent years despite continued inflow of fresh cases, while annual disposal during 2025 exceeded fresh intitions.

The Chairman further briefed the Minister on the implementation of e-Office across all Benches, onboarding of officers and staff on e-HRMS, adoption of the Public Financial Management System (PFMS), digital processing of pension cases through the Bhavishya Portal and implementation of e-SAM as part of the Tribunal's broader digital governance initiatives.

Dr. Jitendra Singh said the Government will continue to support reforms that strengthen institutional capacity, improve public service delivery and leverage technology to build efficient, accountable and citizen-centric institutions. He said the objective is to ensure that governance reforms continue to translate into tangible benefits for employees and citizens alike.

SMVD “Fake ...

appropriate action regarding the facts stated in the evidence-preservation plea and to submit a detailed report regarding the enquiry being conducted by him on the next date of hearing on August 18.

The application before the court sought preservation of the remaining silver or purported silver articles, samples, remnants and residues, along with stock and vault records, weighing and dispatch registers, assay and laboratory reports, transportation documents and the complete chain-of-custody record.

It also sought protection of CCTV footage, electronic inventory data, official emails, server logs, access records, audit trails, accounting records, reconciliation statements and other digital evidence connected with the alleged transactions.

It was submitted that any further melting, refining, transfer or processing of the physical material or deletion or overwriting of electronic records could irreversibly affect the identity, composition, weight, purity and chain of custody of the evidence.

Sharma had also challenged the Crime Branch's action-taken report in the court, contending that it neither disclosed registration of an FIR nor detailed any meaningful investigation into allegations involving silver offerings by the devotees at the shrine.

According to the report placed before the court by the SSP, Crime Branch (EOW), Jammu, the complaint was received on May 11 and forwarded to crime headquarters on May 20 for approval regarding the further course of action.

Crime headquarters approved its reference to the zonal police headquarters, Jammu, on June 9, following which it was forwarded to the Inspector General of Police, Jammu Zone, on June 13. The matter was subsequently referred to the Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP), Reasi, for enquiry and was ultimately entrusted to the Deputy Superintendent of Police, Bhawan, Katra.

The report, however, did not disclose registration of any FIR and indicated that the matter remained at the inquiry stage.

Welcoming the CJM's order, Sharma said, "The order brings both the pending enquiry and the preservation of potentially crucial evidence under direct judicial scrutiny. My immediate concern is to ensure that no physical, documentary or electronic evidence is altered, melted, transferred, destroyed, deleted or overwritten".

SgCT sacked ...

FIR registered under various sections of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act at Billawar police station earlier this year.

The policeman was apprehended along with heroin during checking by a police party and was subsequently placed under suspension for grave misconduct and indiscipline with immediate effect on April 8, the spokesperson said.

He said a departmental inquiry was also initiated and entrusted to Superintendent of Police, operations who furnished his report on July 27, confirming the charges against the accused and recommending his dismissal from service.

Acting under Rule 335 of the J&K Police Rules, the SSP Kathua ordered his immediate dismissal in order to enforce strict institutional discipline and to serve as an exemplary deterrent to all ranks against any involvement in narcotics-related offences, the spokesperson said.

India to ..

management and price stability.

In addition, she said, the government is strengthening trade resilience by expanding its network of Free Trade Agreements and Comprehensive Economic Partnership/Cooperation Agreements.

To develop the manufacturing sector, she said, initiatives such as Production Linked Incentives scheme, Make in India, National Logistics Policy, National Single Window System and PM GatiShakti, scheme are aimed at enhancing domestic production, attracting investment, generating employment and improving competitiveness.

These efforts are complemented by targeted measures to strengthen the MSME sector, including enhancement of guarantees and the Emergency Credit Guarantee Scheme, revision of MSME classification norms, strengthening the Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDS) ecosystem, simplified Udyam Registration, wider access to Government e-Marketplace (GeM), and support under the PM Vishwakarma Scheme, she said.

The services sector is being strengthened through the development and deployment of Digital Public Infrastructure, promotion of Global Capability Centres (GCCs), Medical Value Travel and the Orange Economy, strengthening the artificial intelligence and digital ecosystem, and targeted initiatives for skill development and enhancing workforce employability, she said.

The Union Budget 2026-27 has announced a number of initiatives to unlock the growth potential of the services sector, including the establishment of the National Institute of Hospitality, creation of Regional Medical Hubs, expansion of Allied Health Professional institutions, development of AVGC (Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming and Comics) Content Creator Labs, and support for university townships, she said.

In agriculture, she said, the focus is on improving productivity through facilitating investments in irrigation, technology adoption, digital agriculture, crop diversification, post-harvest infrastructure and better market access.

The Union Budgets in recent years have also identified and emphasised on strategic sectors such as semiconductors, electronics, biopharmaceuticals, rare earths, chemicals, capital goods, clean energy and advanced manufacturing as important drivers for growth, she said.

These initiatives are complemented by the Pradhan Mantri Skilling and Employability Transformation through Upgraded ITIs (PM-SETU) scheme, which aims to strengthen industry-aligned skilling and create a future-ready workforce for these emerging sectors, she said.

Collectively, she said, these measures are expected to strengthen India's medium-term growth prospects and support its long-term vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047.

Replying to another question, Sitharaman said banks have registered 2,15,709 cases under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI) in FY25 with an amount involved Rs 1,03,180 crore.

Of this, banks were able to recover Rs 32,466 crore, she said.