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Speaker, Chairman adjourn Houses sine-die

their cooperation for smooth conduct of Business in the House. He maintained that being first timer as Member of the House, he had the opportunity to become the Speaker of this august House and learnt things gradually and with the cooperation of all parties he tried to do justice with all members to give them adequate time for the debate.

He also complimented the entire administration, Assembly Secretariat, media, security agencies, Civil Secretariat employees, Information Department and all other departments who played their role for the smooth conduct of the Budget Session.

Giving details of the business conducted during the session, Gupta said the session comprised of 27 working days, consuming 101 hours and 55 minutes. He in total 1165 questions received, 631 were starred, 534 un-starred. Out of these, 1110 were admitted, 187 taken up, 55 disallowed and 518 supplementary questions were raised during the session.

He said that total 21 Bills were received, 21 were introduced and 20 Bills were passed. One Bill was returned by the Governor and passed by the House with Amendment, while as one Bill was referred to the Select Committee.

He said that out of total 62 Private Member's Bills, 5 were introduced, one passed. Similarly, 143 Calling Attention Notices were received, out of which 59 were taken up and 10 disallowed. As many as 2271 Cut Motions were received, out of which 2229 were taken up and 42 disallowed.

Gupta further informed that during the session, 102 Resolutions were received, of which 88 were admitted, 14 balloted for being taken up, 3 were taken up in the House and one was adopted. Besides, 14 Papers were laid on the Table of the House, and 9 Reports of various Committees were presented.

Deputy Speaker Assembly, Nazir Ahmad Gurezi while speaking on the concluding day of the session thanked the Officers, media fraternity and staff of the Assembly Secretariat for their support and cooperation for the smooth conduct of the House.

Earlier, Ali Mohammad Sagar, Nawang Rizgin Jora, Mohammad Yousuf Tarigami, Hakeem Mohammad Yasin, Bashir Ahmad Dar, Pawan Kumar Gupta and Sat Paul Sharma also spoke on the concluding day of the session and appreciated the Speaker for giving ample opportunity to the Members for highlighting important public issues. They all were

SC restrains cops from acting against Major

A bench comprising Chief Justice Dipak Misra and Justices A M Khanwilkar and D Y Chandrachud also asked the counsel for Lieutenant Colonel Karamveer Singh, the father of Major Aditya Kumar, to share the copies of his petition with the office of Attorney General K K Venugopal and the Jammu and Kashmir Government.

Besides seeking Venugopal's assistance in dealing with the matter, the bench asked the State Government to file its response to the plea within two weeks.

As an interim measure, it directed the State Government not to take any coercive steps against Army officials.

The Apex Court had on February 9 agreed to hear the plea of Singh seeking to quash the FIR against his son.

Singh has said his son, a Major in 10 Garhwal Rifles, was "wrongly and arbitrarily" named in the FIR as the incident relates to an Army convoy that was on bonafide military duty in an area under the AFSPA and was isolated by an "unruly and deranged" mob pelting stones, causing damage to military vehicles.

Three civilians were killed when Army personnel fired at a stone-pelting mob in Ganovpora village in Shopian, prompting the Chief Minister to order an inquiry into the incident.

The FIR was registered against

unanimous to say that everyone should contribute for strengthening the Parliament values and restoring the high traditions of democracy rising above the party lines.

They also appreciated the role of Deputy Speaker in conducting the House and providing adequate time in debate. They also appreciated the Chief Minister, Mehbooba Mufti, Leader of the Opposition, Omar Abdullah and Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, Abdul Rehman Veeri for their regular presence in the House and taking part in important discussions during the session.

Meanwhile, Chairman, Legislative Council, Hajji Anayat Ali in exercise of the powers conferred on him under Rule-16 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Jammu & Kashmir today adjourned the House sine die.

In his brief speech, the Chairman expressed gratitude to all the members for conducting the House in a smooth manner. He informed that 403 starred questions were received from the members, out of which 356 Questions were taken up. Accordingly 189 un-starred questions were received out of which 169 were taken up during the session. He said that 4 short term questions were received of which 2 were taken up. Likewise, 13 Private Members' Resolutions were received of which 7 were discussed in the House.

He further informed that 27 Resolutions were received, of which 13 were taken up for discussion and two Resolutions were passed.

Chairman said that 90 Calling Attention Notices were received, out of which 41 were taken up. He said that under rule 60-A, 4 Resolutions were received out of which Half an Hour discussion were held on one Resolution. He said that under Rule 51-A, 16 Resolutions were received of which 7 were discussed. Hajji Anayat said that 21 Bills were received and accordingly passed by the House.

The Chairman appreciated the Chief Minister, Mehbooba Mufti, Leader of Upper House, Naem Akhtar, Council of Ministers and all the members of the House for their timely guidance in running the proceedings of the House.

He also thanked the Chief Secretary, B B Vivas, administration, staff of Council Secretariat including Secretary, print and electronic media, police, security, and others for their cooperation in maintaining the smooth functioning of the House.

personnel of 10 Garhwal Rifles, including Major Kumar, under Sections 302 (murder) and 307 (attempt to murder) of the Ranbir Penal Code.

The petitioner has sought directions for guidelines to protect the rights of soldiers and adequate compensation so that no Army personnel is harassed by initiation of criminal proceedings for bonafide actions in exercise of their duties.

It has also sought registration of FIR against people involved in terrorist activities which had caused damage to property of the Government.

Karamveer Singh has said in his plea that his son's intention was to save Army personnel and property and the fire was inflicted "only to impair and provide a safe escape from a savage and violent mob engaged in terrorist activity".

The unruly behaviour of the "unlawful assembly" escalated and they got hold of a Junior Commissioned Officer and were in the process of lynching him when warning shots were fired to disperse the violent mob and protect public property, the plea has said.

Singh has also referred to last year's incident of a mob lynching DySP Mohd Ayub Pandith to apprise the top court about the situation in the State and the condition in which Army officials were working to control violent mobs in Kashmir. (PTI)

Talks, not war, will solve problem: CM

"I am happy that this House from Opposition to ruling parties have strongly battled for holding talks as an alternative to resolve the problem of Jammu and Kashmir", she said.

She added that the people of Jammu and Kashmir are caught in the web of violence and turmoil as "we see encounters and attacks on the daily basis and loose our people".

She pointed out that even National Conference president Dr Farooq Abdullah has called for talks with Pakistan.

The Chief Minister hit out at the TV channels for holding debates on Jammu and Kashmir to increase their TRPs but are doing dis-service to the nation and the State by creating an environment of hatred among the people.

Taking a dig on selected TV channels and some section of people for dubbing those including her as anti-nationals if they bat for holding talks with Pakistan, Mehbooba said "if we cannot raise demand for holding talks who else can? Will a leader from Punjab raise that? It is we who have to raise it. Such an atmosphere has been created in the country in which raising the demand for talks amounts to being anti-national".

Criticizing a section of TV channels for using Jammu and Kashmir to increase their TRP, she said that they don't have any feeling about the sensitivity of Jammu and Kashmir.

"They hold worst debates with polarized mindset. They bring people from Kashmir who are not even known in their own colonies. They always speak anti-India. They are picked up because they use unparliamentary and bad language particularly against India and same type of people are picked from the other side to reply to them", Mehbooba regretted.

The Chief Minister said that because of these debates, the people of Kashmir and India are distancing more from each other rather than coming closer.

"Please stop these debates. It is not in the interest of the country and the State. The more you create this kind of environment on the debates, you can only distance people of J&K from the country", she said.

Invoking former Chief Minister and her father late Mufti Mohammad Sayeed, Mehbooba said that he always battled strongly for strengthening the institution of democracy by holding talks as democracy is battle of ideas.

She said that Mufti Sahib battled strongly for talks instead of use of force to resolve any issue.

Meanwhile, the Assembly's budget session ended on a bitter note as Opposition Congress, National Conference and CPI(M) members, barring one MLA, walked out from the House, accusing Speaker Kavinder Gupta of being biased.

Opposition members expect

India to ask Pak to takeover bodies of slain fideyees

"There was enough evidence with Jammu and Kashmir Police that all three fideyees killed during two days operation were Pakistani nationals. The evidence has been forwarded to the External Affairs Ministry through official channels.

"The External Affairs Ministry would now take up the issue of

Slackness at its peak: JMC registers only 23% expenditure under AMRUT Scheme

Vihar via Bharat Nagar (Kamla Palace), Sunder Nagar, Sharika Vihar and along Tawi Canal in Extension Trikuta Nagar; construction of drainage network in ST Mohalla backside of FCI Godowns and JKAP Lines Channi Rama, Swagat Vihar Deeli with its outfall in nullah at Deeli and improvement of main Rehari nullah on back side of GGM Science College Jammu. However, an amount of only Rs 300 lakh was spent by the JMC.

Likewise, an amount of Rs 444 lakh was released for development of pedestrian walkways, footpaths and cycle tracks; intelligent traffic system and construction of multi-tier parking at Panjthirthi. However, the Jammu Municipal Corporation has registered expenditure of only Rs 128 lakh.

As far as development of green space on both sides of different nullahs is concerned, an amount of Rs 111 lakh was released by the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. Shockingly, not even a single penny was utilized by the JMC.

The slackness on the part of JMC in utilization of funds under AMRUT Mission was highlighted by none else than the Deputy Chief Minister Dr Nirmal Singh, who is also Minister Incharge

Housing and Urban Development, in response to the question of National Conference MLA Ali Mohammad Sagar in the Legislative Assembly today.

The National Conference legislator had sought work-wise details of amount spent under AMRUT Scheme by Jammu Municipal Corporation and Srinagar Municipal Corporation during the last two years.

On the other side, the Srinagar Municipal Corporation has fully utilized the funds made available under AMRUT Mission during 2016-17 financial year.

As per the data provided by the Deputy Chief Minister, SMC has fully utilized Rs 1444 lakh released under drainage, urban transport and green spaces sectors.

In drainage sector, SMC has registered expenditure of Rs 444 lakh while as under urban transport it has utilized Rs 888 lakh. Similarly under green spaces sector, SMC has registered expenditure of Rs 112 lakh.

It is pertinent to mention here that thrust areas under AMRUT Mission are water supply, sewerage facilities and septage management, storm water drains to reduce flooding, pedestrian, non-motorized and public transport facilities, parking places and enhancing amenity value of cities by creating and upgrading green spaces, parks and recreation centres especially for children.

Pak will have to pay for misadventure: DM

conducted the attack may have infiltrated sometime back and there is a possibility of them having enjoyed local support before the final operation," Sitharaman said.

To a specific question whether Rohingyas, who have been settled in a locality close to Sunjuwan Military Station, the Defence Minister didn't give a categorical reply but said all evidences will be shared with Jammu and Kashmir Police.

"Army has very good coordination with Jammu and Kashmir Police. We will be sharing every information we have, with the police".

She disclosed that the operation was called off at 10.30 am today though sanitization and related operations continued.

She added: "it is likely that the fourth terrorist was a guide and may not have entered the premises".

"We will continue to thwart any attempt by Pakistan sponsored terrorists to cause violence in our country," she said.

The Defence Minister, who had half an hour long meeting with Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti, was posed a couple of questions on Mehbooba's repeated demands for dialogue with Pakistan at a time when the neighbouring country continued to sponsor terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir.

To this, Sitharaman said: "I met Mehbooba Ji. She expressed deep anguish and concern over the killings in terror attack. She too visited the Military Hospital to inquire condition of the injured and was emotionally charged. I shared grief with her. We discussed few things".

On registration of FIR against Army in Shopian incident and mentioning of Major Aditya's name in it and whether the FIR was registered with her consent as Mehbooba had spoken to her, Nirmala Sitharaman said the matter was sub-judice as the Supreme Court today issued notices but added that the Prime Minister (Narendra Modi) and the Defence Ministry fully stand by Army and "we won't let Army down".

Responding to another question on whether situation has improved or deteriorated in Jammu and Kashmir, Sitharaman said: "there is an elected Government in place in the State. New Delhi and J&K Government have to work together for restoration of peace".

As far as Army is concerned, she said, Army is fighting enemy and was engaged in severe struggle. Everyone was conscious of Army's role, she added.

On amnesty extended to stone pelters, she said first time offenders have been given amnesty and she was aware of it.

"I can assure people of Jammu and Kashmir and entire country that Army, State Government and Centre, all are looking the issue through seriousness," she remarked.

On constructions around Army installations, the Defence Minister said this problem was not confined to Jammu and Kashmir but also in other parts of the country.

"We are facing problems. Just around peripheral walls of Army installations, the civil constructions have come up. It's tough to remove them as some of them have permissions. We are studying the problem," she added.

Sitharaman said that the Central Government is undertaking measures in procuring modern electronic surveillance systems for the Army.

"Although, the terrain configuration and snow conditions make it difficult to completely stop the infiltration, the Government is undertaking a host of measures in procuring modern electronic surveillance systems to implement the Philip Compose Committee Report which was instituted to review the security of all military installations for which a sum of Rs 1487 crores has been allocated," she said.

She added: "with a view to enhance alertness along the borders, additional sensors,

NIA to probe militant's escape

An FIR was registered by the local Police at Karan Nagar in Srinagar district.

In this incident, two police personnel Head Constable Mushtaq Ahmed and Constable Babar Ahmed were martyred.

Rajnath reviews J&K security

The Home Minister directed the officials that action must be taken to check infiltration attempts from across the border, another official said.

Those who attended the meeting included Union Home Secretary Rajiv Gauba and Director of the Intelligence Bureau Rajiv Jain. (PTI)

presentation about the situation in the State, particularly attack on an Army camp in Jammu and a gunfight between security forces and militants in Srinagar.

Singh was told that the highest level of security has been put in place in the entire State and steps were being taken to foil attempts by terrorists to disturb peace, an official said.

Pak will have to pay for misadventure: DM

conducted the attack may have infiltrated sometime back and there is a possibility of them having enjoyed local support before the final operation," Sitharaman said.

To a specific question whether Rohingyas, who have been settled in a locality close to Sunjuwan Military Station, the Defence Minister didn't give a categorical reply but said all evidences will be shared with Jammu and Kashmir Police.

"Army has very good coordination with Jammu and Kashmir Police. We will be sharing every information we have, with the police".

She disclosed that the operation was called off at 10.30 am today though sanitization and related operations continued.

She added: "it is likely that the fourth terrorist was a guide and may not have entered the premises".

"We will continue to thwart any attempt by Pakistan sponsored terrorists to cause violence in our country," she said.

The Defence Minister, who had half an hour long meeting with Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti, was posed a couple of questions on Mehbooba's repeated demands for dialogue with Pakistan at a time when the neighbouring country continued to sponsor terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir.

To this, Sitharaman said: "I met Mehbooba Ji. She expressed deep anguish and concern over the killings in terror attack. She too visited the Military Hospital to inquire condition of the injured and was emotionally charged. I shared grief with her. We discussed few things".

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Responding to another question on whether situation has improved or deteriorated in Jammu and Kashmir, Sitharaman said: "there is an elected Government in place in the State. New Delhi and J&K Government have to work together for restoration of peace".

As far as Army is concerned, she said, Army is fighting enemy and was engaged in severe struggle. Everyone was conscious of Army's role, she added.

"I can assure people of Jammu and Kashmir and entire country that Army, State Government and Centre, all are looking the issue through seriousness," she remarked.

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"We are facing problems. Just around peripheral walls of Army installations, the civil constructions have come up. It's tough to remove them as some of them have permissions. We are studying the problem," she added.

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BJP MLAs protesting against NC Legislator Mohammad Akbar Lone in the Assembly on Monday. -Excelsior/Rakesh

BJP MLAs for FIR against Lone

As the House assembled this morning, the agitating BJP MLAs rose on their feet demanding apology, suspension of the member and filing of a sedition case against him.

BJP MLAs RS Pathania, Rajiv Sharma and Rajiv Jasrotia said it was not a minor issue and demanded a statement from the National Conference to clear its stand on the action of its member.

"We demand an apology from the NC MLA and an FIR be registered against him," Pathania said.

The National Conference members countered the BJP and said the Speaker had already expunged Lone's remarks. The party too had disassociated itself from the slogan.

Despite intervention by Speaker Kavinder Gupta, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Abdul Rehman Veeri, Deputy Speaker Nazir Ahmad Gurezi, CPI(M) MLA, M Y Tarigami and Independent MLA Hakeem Mohammad Yaseen, the BJP members continued their protest and exchanged heated words with the opposition NC members.

Tarigami said that "we should not polarise" the situation. However, calm was restored in the House after the Speaker said "we should take lessons from whatever happens in the House".

"We will not allow this House towards the CRPF camp. The sentries immediately opened fire at around 4.30 am as they noticed two suspicious persons carrying backpacks and weapons", he said.

The firing from the CRPF forced the militants to enter into an under-construction building adjacent to the camp. As the security forces searched the building, the hiding militants opened fire on the killing a CRPF man, Mujahid Khan of 49th Battalion of the CRPF. A cop Javid Ahmed was also injured in the gun battle.

Police and CRPF rescued around 20 persons including children and women from the area. They were taken to safer locations before assault was launched against the fideyean.

Army was later called in to take on the two fideyean, who are said to be of LeT. Sources said that the fideyean called their handlers telling them that their mission has failed and they are holed up in a building adjacent to the CRPF camp.

Huge explosion were heard from the encounter site during the day as Army used grenades and rockets to blast the building. However, militants were firing at the security forces intermittently.

The operation was put on hold for the night and cordon around the building was strengthened to prevent militants from fleeing the area.

Clashes broke out between the youth and security forces outside CRPF camp in Karan Nagar area of Srinagar, in the afternoon. Youth in large numbers assembled near the encounter site and pelted stones on the security forces, triggering clashes. Security forces retaliated by firing teargas to disperse the protesters.

Authorities suspended high-speed mobile internet services in Srinagar soon after the encounter started. "The mobile internet speed was reduced to 2G as soon as we got the order to do so," a Telecom official said.

The decision about the suspension of the high-speed mobile internet was taken in view of the Karan Nagar gunfight.

Srinagar-Qazigund NH misses 3 deadlines in 7 years

National Highways Authority of India who supported the project further," an official of RAMKY said.

He said except some stretches, most of the highway is functional and the pending work would be completed soon. "Two bypasses are functional and most of the highway is ready, except some of the stretches and some bridges on which minor work is pending," the RAMKY official said.

He said the four-lane highway comprised of five sections- Qazigund Bypass, Bijbehara Bypass, Awantipora Bypass, Pampore Bypass and widening of existing highway. "The highway near Malpora is complete except an issue with the high tension electricity line which is to be shifted. In Laram Ganjipora, only 80 meters

to become a stage to divide the people on the name of religion or against the nation. One learns lessons from a mistake and henceforth it will not be repeated," the Speaker said.

Veeri said the NC had already disassociated itself from the statement of Lone and requested the BJP members to take their seats.

National Conference MLA Mohammad Shafi Uri said party president Farooq Abdullah had already issued a statement and the Speaker had expunged the remark.

"The stand of our party is that we respect the sovereignty and integrity of the country. Nobody challenged the sovereignty and integrity of the nation so how it is the violation of the oath," he said.

He accused the BJP of making an issue out of nothing after the remark was expunged.

CPI(M) legislator Tarigami said whatever the political differences, nevertheless "we have certain common ground as well and that every member of this House is on oath about the sovereignty and integrity of the country. Whatever had happened at that time, the House unanimously disapproved that leading to the expunging of the remarks".

The House proceedings remained disrupted for half an hour during Question Hour due to uproar created by the BJP MLAs.

Two LeT men holed up, encounter on

In the meantime, security forces have been put on high alert following an input that Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) is trying to carry out fideyean attack in Kashmir valley. According to