

From page 1

Court dismisses petitions seeking release of seized passport

record file that further investigation in the case is being conducted by CBI pursuant to the order of Govt of J&K vide No. GAD-VIGOSP/2/2021 dated 23.06.2021. Accordingly, and pursuant to the Government order for transferring the further investigation of the case to CBI, the then Investigating Officer, Kamal Sangra, Inspector of ACB (Central) Jammu handed over the record including the passport of accused/applicant in terms of seizure memo dated 26.07.2019 to Sanjay Malhotra, Inspector CBI, BS&FB New Delhi, the court said.

"The passports of the applicants seized by the police stated to be lying with the IO conducting the further investigation in the case. The authority quoted by the counsel for the applicants do not securely fitted to the facts of the instant case", the court said, adding "the other found not relevant to the issue involved in the matter".

With these observations, the court dismissed the application. "This court is devoid of competence to adjudicate upon the application seeking release of passports in their favour once proceedings in the main case have been stayed by the High Court", the Additional Special Judge said.

It is pertinent to mention here that Anti-Corruption Bureau had

registered FIR against Raj Singh Gehlot, J&K Bank officials and others for mis-utilising Rs 289.28 crore loan obtained from J&K Bank from the year 2009 to 2014 for the construction of 5 Star Hotel at Shahdara, Delhi.

ACB (Central) had filed a part charge sheet in the Anti-Corruption Court Srinagar on March 2021 and later, by the order of J&K Govt, the investigation was transferred to CBI for further investigation as the borrower had also obtained loan from different nationalised banks under consortium arrangement in which J&K Bank played the lead role despite lesser exposure.

It is pertinent to mention here that after the abrogation of Article 370, Anti-Corruption Bureau J&K had registered a number of FIRs in big corporate loans by J&K Bank and other State owned banks. Reportedly, Anti-Corruption Bureau has been given free hand by the LG Administration to choose his team so that the bank related cases in particular could be investigated and supervised by professional officers.

For the first time, an officer of the rank of SSP, S Balasubramony was posted in Anti-Corruption Bureau J&K on deputation from CBI Head Office who supervised all bank related cases including Aman Hospitality (P) Ltd. This case was investigated by Kamal Sangra, Inspector ACB Jammu.

Arguments on Kathua rape case on June 26

in Punjab following the direction of the Supreme Court. Ahead of it, the top court had in 2022 declared that Sangra was not a juvenile at the time of the offence and should be tried as an adult.

The apex court set aside the Jammu and Kashmir High Court's order of March 27, 2018 that had ruled that Sangra be treated as a juvenile.

The crime branch of Jammu and Kashmir police then filed a charge sheet against him before the Kathua court. Earlier, the same was filed before the Juvenile Justice Board.

Besides kidnapping and wrongful confinement, the charge sheet accused Sangra of offenses under IPC Sections 302 (murder) and 376 (rape).

During its last hearing on June 17, Sessions Judge Jatinder Pal Singh Khurmi said in his one-page order that all original records had been received by the court and "now, the case is adjourned to 26.06.2023 for consideration on the point of framing of charge".

Sangra has been shifted from Kathua jail to a sub-district prison at Pathankot.

The minor girl was kidnapped on January 10, 2018, raped in captivity and later bludgeoned to death. The brutality of the case

shook the nation. Eight people, including Sangra, were named as accused.

The case against seven of the accused was earlier transferred out of Jammu and Kashmir to Pathankot on the order of the Supreme Court on May 7, 2018.

The special court on June 10, 2019 sentenced three accused - Sanji Ram, the mastermind and caretaker of the 'devasthanam' (temple) where the crime took place, special police officer Deepak Khajuria and a civilian Parvesh Kumar - to life imprisonment "till last breath".

Three other accused - Sub Inspector Anand Dutta, Head Constable Tilak Raj and special police officer Surender Verma - were convicted of destruction of evidence to cover up the crime and handed down five years in jail and a Rs 50,000 fine each. They are out on parole.

The seventh accused, Vishal Jangotra, son of Sanji Ram, was acquitted.

The sessions court has also posted a bail application, moved by the accused, for Monday along with the main case.

With Sangra being tried in the case, the quest for justice for the child takes a decisive turn.

According to the Supreme Court order of 2018, the sessions court of Pathankot will be hearing the case and the appellate court would be Punjab and Haryana High Court.(PTI)



A Nullah flooded near Turtuk following rise in water level.

Troops rescue civilians, tourists from Turtuk on LoC with Pak

told the Excelsior that Glaciers and other snow bodies melted suddenly due to rise in temperature which was hovering between 30 to 32 degrees in Leh and Kargil during last few days though it was normal for the month of June.

"The water level suddenly rose after melting of Glacier and snow bodies and it entered some villages in Turtuk, Tyakshi and Thang," Lotus said.

Officials said soon after getting the call from locals and other sources, the Siachen Warriors of the Army swung into action and rescued locals and some tourists as lifeline for three villages was washed away in sudden floods.

"All locals and tourists, who were in dangers, were rescued. However, number of the tourists was very few," the officials said, adding there were no casualties. However, sudden floods caused damage to roads and some structures.

"Lifeline for the people of Turtuk, Tyakshi and Thang villages in Ladakh got washed away by sudden flashfloods in the Union Territory of Ladakh, which was caused by the seasonal melting of snow cover.

Egypt's highest honour 'Order of the Nile' conferred on Modi

third one refers to wealth and endurance.

The three units are connected to one another by a circular gold flower decorated with turquoise and ruby.

Hanging from the collar is a hexagonal pendant decorated with flowers of the Pharaonic style, and turquoise and ruby gems.

In the middle of the pendant, there is a protruding symbol representing the Nile that brings together the North (represented by the Papyrus) and the South (represented by the Lotus).

Over the past nine years, the Prime Minister has been conferred the Companion of the Order of Logohu, the highest civilian award of Papua New Guinea; the Companion of the Order of Fiji; the Ebaki Award by the Republic of Palau; the Order of the Druk Gyalp, the highest civilian decoration by Bhutan.

Modi has also been conferred with the Legion of Merit by the US Government; the King Hamad Order of the Renaissance by Bahrain; the Order of the Distinguished Rule of Nishan Izzuddin, the highest honour of the Maldives; the Order of St. Andrew award, the highest civilian honour of Russia.

Modi has also received the Order of Zayed Award, the highest civilian honour of the United Arab Emirates; the Grand Collar of the State of Palestine Award, the highest honour of Palestine; the State Order of Ghazi Amir Amanullah Khan, the highest civilian honour of Afghanistan; and the Order of Abdulaziz Al Saud, the highest honour of Saudi Arabia awarded to non-Muslim dignitaries.

Meanwhile, Narendra Modi today visited Egypt's historic 11th century Al-Hakim Mosque in Cairo, restored with the help of India's Dawoodi Bohra community.

On the second day of his state visit to Egypt, Modi visited the Fatimid era Shia mosque where he was received by Minister of Tourism and Antiquities of Egypt, Dr. Mostafa Waziri.

Modi was shown around the mosque whose latest restoration was completed about three months ago. He appreciated the intricate carved inscriptions on the walls and doorways of the mosque which was built in 1012.

"Honoured to visit the historic Al-Hakim Mosque in Cairo. It's a profound testament to Egypt's rich heritage and culture," he tweeted in both Arabic and English.

Prime Minister Modi also met the leaders of Bohra community, who are actively involved in the upkeep of this Fatimid era Shia mosque and highlighted the strong people-to-people ties between India and Egypt, the MEA said in a press release.

The mosque mainly performs Friday prayers and all five obligatory prayers.

Over a thousand years old, al-Hakim is the fourth oldest mosque in Cairo, and the second Fatimid mosque to be built in the city. The mosque covers an area of 13,560 square metres, with the iconic central courtyard occupying 5,000

"However, Siachen Warriors came to the rescue by reviving axis of the commute for community members and tourists," the officials said.

Lotus said now the Monsoon has arrived in parts of the Union Territory of Ladakh which will significantly bring down the temperature and prevent further melting of Glaciers and snow bodies. The Monsoon has reached Ladakh nearly five days ahead of normal arrival on July 1. Sometimes, arrival of Monsoon is around July 7.

"People will also get respite from the temperature," he added. Officials couldn't say as to whether there was rise in water levels in Pakistan occupied Jammu Kashmir (PoJK) also in the areas falling opposite to Turtuk.

Officials said senior officers of civil and police administration also visited the spot to assess situation and damages. However, since there was large presence of Army in Turtuk area as it falls close to the Line of Control with Pakistan, the rescue operations were carried out by the Siachen Warriors who also revived the roads by using their machinery.

square metres.

The Bohra community, which is settled in India, originated from the Fatimids. They renovated the mosque from 1970 onwards and have been maintaining it since then, he said.

"The Prime Minister has a very close attachment to the Bohra community who have also been in Gujarat for many years and it will be an occasion for him to again visit a very important religious site for the Bohra community," India's Ambassador to Egypt Ajit Gupte earlier said.

The historic Mosque has been named after Al-Hakim bi-Amr Allah, the 16th Fatimid caliph and is an important religious and cultural site for the Dawoodi Bohra community.

The Dawoodi Bohra Muslims are a sect of followers of Islam who adhere to the Fatimi Ismaili Tayyibi school of thought. They are known to have originated from Egypt and later shifted to Yemen, before establishing a presence in India in the 11th century.

Prime Minister Modi has a long-standing and warm relationship with the Dawoodi Bohras even before he became Prime Minister.

Meanwhile, Modi discussed Egypt-India ties as well as issues related to promoting social harmony and countering extremism and radicalisation with the Grand Mufti of Egypt, Dr Shawky Ibrahim Abdel-Karim Allam.

On his first state visit to Egypt, the Prime Minister apprised the Grand Mufti that India would set up a Centre of Excellence in IT at the Dar-al-Ifta - an Egyptian advisory body for Islamic legal research - under the Ministry of Social Justice of Egypt.

The Grand Mufti also appreciated the Prime Minister's leadership in fostering inclusivity and pluralism, the Ministry of External Affairs said in a press release on the meeting held yesterday.

The Grand Mufti fondly recalled his recent visit to India and highlighted the strong cultural and people-to-people relations between India and Egypt.

Discussions also focused on issues related to social and religious harmony in society and countering extremism and radicalisation, the press release said.

"I was honoured to meet the Grand Mufti of Egypt, Dr Shawky Ibrahim Allam. We had rich discussions on the relations between India and Egypt, especially the cultural and people-to-people ties," Prime Minister Modi tweeted after his meeting.

"I was honoured to meet Prime Minister Modi. It was a very nice and interesting meeting. In fact, he reflects a wise leadership for a big country like India," the Grand Mufti said.

He said he had earlier met Modi at one of the Sufi conferences in Delhi.

"Between the two meetings, I have noticed that there is a great development in India. It reflects that he is continuously working in India. It also reflects the wise policies being adopted by Prime Minister Modi bringing co-existence between various factions in India," he said.(PTI)

IMD declares arrival of Monsoon in J&K

some relief from the scorching heat as the temperature witnessed sharp fall this evening.

Director IMD, Srinagar, Sonum Lotus claimed that Monsoon arrived in Jammu and Kashmir and parts of Ladakh today and many areas experienced heavy rain this afternoon. This led to sharp fall in temperature in many parts of Jammu region. Many Nallahs and streams witnessed flash flood and disrupted movement of smooth traffic during rains.

Lotus said many parts of J&K are likely to receive moderate to heavy spells of rains during June 26-27 and light to moderate rain on June 28 and 29. He said rain may lead to localized flash floods and mudslides at vulnerable spots of Jammu region. The water level in rivers and Nallahs is also expected to rise. The active phase of Monsoon may commence from next couple of days, he added.

Another Meteorological department official predicted generally

Billawar areas, there has been sharp fall in temperature this evening. A MeT official said that about 4 to 5 degree fall in temperature has been witnessed during this evening in Jammu areas. The water level in Chenab has increased by 8 to 10 feet during last two days and a general alert has been sounded by District Magistrates of Ramban, Reasi and Jammu. The people have been advised not to venture near the river banks.

Officials said that flood gates at Dul Hasti and Baglihar Hydrel Power projects on Chenab at Kishtwar and Ramban have also been opened for clearing silt and this has also led to increase in water level by 3 to 4 meters in the river.

Meanwhile, Jammu recorded a maximum temperature of 36.8 degree Celsius, holy township of Katra 31.0 deg C, Barote 27.6 deg C while Baderwah tourist resort recorded 31.4 degree Celsius temperature today. However, a sharp fall in night temperature ranging from 3 to 5 degree has been experienced in



Amidst heavy rain, some boys pulling a 'rehri' on a water-logged road in Jammu on Sunday.

cloudy weather with intermittent light to moderate thundershowers at many places particularly during late afternoon or evening hours till June 25 to 29. He said few places in Jammu Division may receive heavy rainfall with intense showers for a brief period.

There is a possibility of moderate to severe thunder-storm or lightning with strong surface winds at few places during the above period, while light rain or thundershowers at few places will occur on June 29 and 30, he said.

The MeT official also issued advisory of significant increase in water discharges in rivers, local Nallahs, flood channels due to melting glaciers, snow and rain during June 25-28 which may generate flash flood, mudslide and landslides at places. There are chances of torrential rains at few middle places of Jammu Division on June 25 evening and June 26, he said.

The erratic weather may cause temporary disruption of Srinagar-Jammu, Srinagar-Leh National Highway and other major hilly roads.

All tourists and travellers have been advised to be conscious and updated until June 29, the MeT official said.

With heavy rain in Jammu, Samba, Udhampur, Kathua and

Jammu youth rose against Emergency resisting pressure from Cong, NC: Dr Jitendra

made sacrifices and did not get lured to join the Congress and NC. This showed their strength of character and spirit for safeguarding democracy.

Dr Jitendra Singh said these youth activists resisted every temptation and displayed their strong will power to carry their struggle to uphold the values of democracy in the country.

He said these youth deserve actual tribute as they were at the formative stage of their career at that time but they could not be lured by Congress and NC and instead fought against these parties tooth and nail.

Dr Jitendra Singh said it was the Jana Sangh which was dissolved at that time to strengthen JP movement and form Janata Party to challenge the black law of emergency.

Dr Jitendra Singh said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's commitment to democracy had redeemed the wounds of Emergency, which would always remain a black spot in the history of post-independence India.

Quoting Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Dr. Jitendra Singh said, the Emergency imposed in 1975 trampled and suppressed democracy, but democracy is in India's DNA and that is why the nation could come out unscathed from that darkest period of post-independence times. India is indeed the Mother of democracies, he added.

Democracy runs in the spirit and veins of a common Indian, he said. Dr. Jitendra Singh said, evaluation of 'dark period' of the period of Emergency in India's history is important so that the young generation can understand the meaning and significance of true democracy, its value and the sacrifices given by our seniors to save and sustain it.

Hailing the commitment of leaders and the common masses in resisting the imposition of emergency, Dr. Jitendra Singh said, the leaders of Jan Sangh supported the pro-democracy movement led by Jai Prakash Narayan and rose against the draconian measures taken by the Government. Jan Sangh followed the Mantra of 'Nation First, Self Last' in true spirit and as a party dissolved itself to join the JP movement, he recalled.

Dr. Jitendra Singh said Prime Minister, Narendra Modi will always be remembered for laying the strong foundation of India's democracy as it was only possible during his period that each benefit of democracy reached the last man in the last

Society always welcomed pilgrims of Amarnath Ji with open arms: LG

"Let us all walk together, let our thoughts and resolve be one, and work together for the progress of the society with one mind and with the spirit of oneness," he said.

Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra provides social, economic and spiritual opportunity to the people. Under the intellectual leadership of prominent citizens of society, people get a chance to discuss new ideas and reforms, the Lt Governor said.

"Every citizen of J&K UT is a stakeholder of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra. All the suggestions and inputs are welcomed to make the pilgrimage more memorable for the devotees", he added.

The meeting also discussed arrangements for the upcoming Eid-ul-Adha festival and celebration of Prakash Parv of Sri Guru Hargobind Sahib Ji. The Lt Governor informed the prominent citizens that a district-wise review was conducted recently to monitor preparations and ensure all the arrangements for Eid festival.

Junaid Azim Mattu, Mayor SMC; Dr Darakhshan Andrabi, Chairperson, J&K Waqf Board; DDC Chairpersons, civil society members, representatives of various organizations, religious heads and community leaders shared their valuable suggestions and assured support and cooperation to the administration in the peaceful and smooth conduct of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra.

Responding to the demands and issues projected during the interaction, the Lt Governor assured that the appropriate steps will be taken to meet the developmental needs of the region.

Srinagar recorded a low of 19.8 degree Celsius against 22.4 degree Celsius the previous night and it was 2.5 degree Celsius above normal for the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir. Srinagar also received 1.2mm of rainfall during the past 24 hours till 0830hours today.

Qazigund on Srinagar-Jammu highway had a low of 17.8 degree Celsius against 20.0 degree Celsius a day ago and it was 2.1 degree Celsius above normal for the gateway of Kashmir.

Famous tourist spot of Pahalgam in south Kashmir settled at 13.1 degree Celsius against 13.3 degree Celsius and it was 2.4 degree Celsius above normal for the famous tourist resort.

Kokernag recorded a low of 20.0 degree Celsius against 19.3 degree Celsius and it was 5.9 degree Celsius above normal for the spot in while frontier Kashmir district of Kupwara experienced 19.2 degree Celsius against 19.6 degree Celsius the previous night and it was 3.8 degree Celsius above normal in the town.

Gulmarg recorded a low of 4.6 degree Celsius against 14.4 degree Celsius the previous night and it was 6.8 degree below normal for the famous skiing resort of north Kashmir, the MeT official said.

Recalling Winston Churchill's words that India won't survive as a democracy even for half a century after gaining freedom, Dr. Jitendra Singh said, had Churchill been alive today, he would have regretted his statement seeing India growing as a vibrant democracy under Narendra Modi and leading the world in every sphere. Today India has even left behind Churchill's UK in many spheres including economy, he said.

The world today, said Dr. Jitendra Singh, not only recognises India as a stable democracy but also a force to reckon with. This was evident from PM Modi's just concluded USA visit, when even the USA visibly accepted India as an equal partner in all the bilateral engagements, he said.

Under PM Narendra Modi, Dr. Jitendra Singh said, India's moment has arrived. It is India's decade and India's century, he said.

Ravinder Raina, president, Jammu and Kashmir BJP presided over this sammelan and MP Lok Sabha, Jugal Kishore Sharma was special invitee on the occasion.

BJP General Secretary & Incharge Intellectual Sammelans, Vibodh Gupta, assisted by Rakesh Mahajan, Incharge All Cells of BJP and Ved Sharma, co in charge All Cells, organised the event.

Ravinder Raina, while addressing the Sammelan, said that it was on this day in 1975, when emergency was imposed in the country to fulfil the political aspirations of the then Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi. On this day, a black chapter was written in the history of independent

the people. Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary; RK Goyal, ACS Home; Dr Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, CEO, Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board; Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board; Administrative Secretaries, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, senior officials of police and civil administration were also present during the meeting.

Meanwhile, Sinha today said that he was proud of the new generation in Jammu and Kashmir which is leading the change to peace and development of the place.

The LG while addressing cyclists who took part in the 'Pedal for Peace' event held here said: "I am proud of the new generation of Jammu and Kashmir which is leading this change to peace and development. No power can stop you from touching new heights of development if you are determined to excel".

He said that it is the collective responsibility of the society to rehabilitate youngsters who have fallen prey to the drug addiction conspiracy hatched by a neighbouring country.

"A lot of youngsters have become victims of drug addiction due to the conspiracy of our neighbouring country. It is the collective responsibility of the society to take them out of the muddle and help them achieve their dreams," Sinha said.

He appealed to the youth, to lead this campaign against drug addiction.

He said youngsters of Jammu and Kashmir are becoming a shining example of progress in the country.

Promptly furnish details of contracts given on nomination basis, backdoor appointments: CS

the all the contracts given on nomination/single source basis with effect from 2010 to 2023.

The directions were also issued for submission of lists of backdoor appointments made with effect from 2010 to 2023 and the number of projects completed during this period. It was further directed that these lists should be furnished to the office of the Chief Secretary treating the matter as most urgent in any case not later than a month.

"Though the one month time-frame fixed by the Chief Secretary is over yet majority of the departments have not furnished the details to the office of Chief Secretary and this issue again came up for discussion in a meeting of the Committee of Secretaries held few days back", sources said, adding "the Chief Secretary has now directed all the departments to furnish the awaited information expeditiously".

As per the sources, large number of contracts were given on nomination/single source basis and without following the guidelines in the erst-

while State of Jammu and Kashmir particularly in the Public Health Engineering, Public Works, Housing and Urban Development Departments, Jammu and Kashmir Projects Construction Corporation and Jammu and Kashmir Power Development Corporation.

Similarly, several backdoor appointments were made in the Urban Local Bodies which fall under the administrative control of Housing and Urban Development Department, Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council Secretariats in blatant violation of the laid down norms.

Meanwhile, acting on the directions of the Chief Secretary, the Department of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs has written to the Legislative Assembly Secretariat and a cell of the erstwhile Legislative Council to furnish names of the 'illegal' appointees as early as possible.

"Majority of the appointments in the Legislative Assembly Secretariat and in the erstwhile Legislative Council were made on the directions of respective Speakers of Assembly and Chairmen of the Council that too without following due procedure", sources said.

No doubt Speakers and Chairmen were competent to make appointments as per the rules but transparent procedure was required to be followed to give chance of appointment to all the eligible candidates as per the provisions of the Constitution, they added.

Apart from identifying the appointments made by the respective Speakers of the Legislative Assembly without following transparent procedure, the Secretariat of the House has also set into motion an exercise to amend the rules governing the appointments, sources said, adding "in the rules the Government is going to clearly mention that non-gazetted posts should be referred to the Jammu and Kashmir Service Selection Board and gazetted posts to the Jammu and Kashmir Public Service Commission for filling the vacancies in transparent manner".

The amended rules after being cleared by the Department of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs will be submitted to the Government for approval by the Administrative Council, headed by Lieutenant Governor", sources said.

Army chief offers prayers at Golden Temple

Pande was honoured by the officials of Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee at the information centre of the Golden Temple with a set of Sikh religious books, a replica of the Golden Temple, and shawls.

Before leaving the information centre, he wrote in the visitor's book, "I feel blessed to have the privilege to pay obeisance at the Golden Temple. I pray before the Almighty for the wellbeing of Army personnel of all ranks and their good health." (PTI)

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, PROCUREMENT, JPDC, JAMMU, RAIL HEAD, JAMMU J&K

PHONE NO. 0191-2473402 TELEFAX- 0191-2472350 e-mail: epcljmm@gmail.com

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of UT of Jammu & Kashmir, Superintending Engineer, Procurement, JPDC, Jammu invites online e-bids from original Govt. registered manufacturer for supply of material as under for the requirement of JPDC:

Table with 2 columns: S/N, Description of Material& Quantity (KM), SE/PR/23/2023-24 dated 22.06.2023. Includes items like XLPE insulated Armoured Single Core Cable and XLPE insulated Armoured Three Core Cable.

Detailed NIT may be downloaded from the website http://jktenders.gov.in upto 17th of July 2023 till 14:00 Hrs. The tender shall be accepted through online mode only. In case, the tender process does not get completed due to any reason, no corrigendum will be published in the newspapers. The details regarding corrigendum may be seen on the above mentioned website.

DIP/J-1323-P Date: 24-06-2023 Superintending Engineer, Procurement, JPDC, Jammu

WEATHER section for JAMMU and SRINAGAR, providing temperature, humidity, and sun/sunrise data.

DISCLAIMER notice regarding the newspaper's responsibility for advertisements.

CINEMA section listing showtimes for various movies like APSRA AUDI, WAVE CINEMA, and PLATINUM CINEMA.

Advertisement for Daily Excelsior newspaper, including contact information and subscription details.