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Day not far when BJP will form its own govt in J&K: Nabin

ment opportunities for the youth and strengthening the local economy.

Earlier on his arrival at their airport, Nabin received a warm welcome from party workers as he began a two-day visit to Jammu and Kashmir aimed at reviewing the party's organisational affairs.

Accompanied by the party's national general secretary and Jammu and Kashmir in-charge Tarun Chugh, he was received by Union Minister Jitendra Singh and other senior party leaders.

Hundreds of party workers greeted the BJP chief with slogans, floral petals and bouquets.

Immediately after his arrival, Nabin headed for Mishriwala on the outskirts of Jammu city where he attended a workers' convention.

Later in the day, he chaired a meeting of BJP office-bearers at the party's Trikuta Nagar headquarters.

On Tuesday, the BJP chief will visit the highly revered Mata Vaishno Devi cave shrine in Trikuta Hills.

He is also scheduled to hold separate meetings with BJP MPs and MLAs, former elected representatives and participate in a "Yuva Samvad" at the Convention Centre here.

Women's empowerment key to Viksit J&K: LG Sinha

serve as a foundation of inspiration, confidence, and guidance for years to come," he said.

The LG paid homage to historical icons such as Rani Didda, Kota Rani, Lal Ded, Habba Khatoon & Mata Rupa Bhawani, who had shaped the consciousness of Jammu & Kashmir and contributed to its development. He highlighted that the women of J&K had always scaled the highest peaks of Nari Shakti.

"We have many such remarkable examples before us, and I wish for the women of Jammu & Kashmir to lead the region's development," he said.

He expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for empowering the women of Jammu & Kashmir by granting them their due rights and eliminating discrimination.

He outlined a progressive vision for the Union Territory, powered by women leaders.

"Women's empowerment is key to a Viksit J&K; their progress ensures the progress of society. I envision a Jammu Kashmir where women lead in academia, industry, social organizations and governance, shaping policies, driving entrepreneurship, and enriching our culture through art and literature," he said.

He exuded confidence that the fellowship programme of Kashmir Women's Organisation would propagate the core principle that women deserve equal, dignified participation across all social, cultural, economic and political spheres.

"We must remain steadfast in our resolve to accord due respect to our Nari Shakti, while creating an environment that fosters their capabilities and progress," he said.

"When women progress, society progresses; when women lead, the nation scales new heights; and when women realise their dreams, the entire world becomes more just, more compassionate, and more prosperous," he added.

The LG emphasized the need to address the rising challenge of substance abuse among women. He advised the fellows to conduct a comprehensive, region-specific analysis to identify its underlying root causes.

"This study will significantly strengthen rehabilitation frameworks and provide vital support to our daughters and sisters who have fallen victim to drug addiction," he said and commended the guides who mentored the fellows throughout the programme.

He hoped that the dedication of all the members of Kashmir Women's Organisation would serve as a catalyst for positive change in the lives of countless women in the years to come.

On the occasion, Sinha also released a book titled "Pan-chayati Raj Institutions and Municipal Council in India", written by Dr Nazrul Islam.

Kashmir Writers' Association president Fida Firdous, Kashmir Women's Organisation president Darakshan Hassan Bhat, members of KWA & KWO, and senior officials attended the felicitation ceremony.

Pak drone sighted; ops launched

the drone had dropped any payload, such as narcotics or weapons, officials said.

No suspicious or objectionable material was recovered during the operation, the officials added.

CI conducts raids in Jammu, Noida

at the office of a publisher at Noida, officials said.

The raids were in progress when reports last came in. The books in contention are titled 'Personalities and Legends of J&K', authored by Hilal Ahmad and Santosh Meena and published by Jammu-based Oberoi Book Service, and 'Great Personalities of Jammu and Kashmir', authored by Sushant Giri and published by Delhi-based Anurag Prakashan.

According to officials, 123 copies of one of the books were supplied to Jammu, Ramban and Udhampur districts, and 128 copies of the other book were supplied to Jammu and Baramulla districts.

An FIR was registered on Saturday last under Sections 49 (abetment), 61(2) (criminal conspiracy), 152 (endangering the sovereignty, unity, and integrity of India), 196 (promoting enmity, disharmony) and 353 (publishing, or circulating false statements, rumors, or reports) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), besides Section 13 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.

After filing the case on Saturday, the Counter Intelligence unit launched raids on the premises of one of the publishers at Bahu Plaza in Jammu city, the officials said.

On Saturday, LG Manoj Sinha suspended eight officials of the School Education Department, removed a contractual staff and ordered an inquiry into the two controversial books found containing "highly inappropriate content".

ACC approves key IPS appointments

2029, the date of his superannuation, or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

Amit Garg, presently serving as Director, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy (SVPNPA), has been appointed as Director, National Crime Records Bureau

(NCRB) at Level-16 in the pay matrix.

The post of Director, NCRB has been temporarily upgraded to DG level on personal basis. He will hold the charge from the date of joining till October 31, 2027, the date of his superannuation, or until further orders, whichever is earlier. He will replace Shri Alok Ranjan.

Sujeet Pandey, presently working in cadre, has been appointed as Director, SVPNPA at Level-16 in the pay matrix. He will serve from the date of joining till July 31, 2028, the date of his superannuation, or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

NHA project director held in graft case

said.

According to the statement, the accused official instructed the complainant to pay an advance of Rs 4 lakh as part of the alleged bribe and asked him to hand over the money to a private person in Guwahati.

"The said private person in turn asked the complainant to hand over the bribe to another private person at Guwahati," the CBI said.

The agency said it laid a trap and "caught the accused private person red-handed while demanding and accepting bribe/undue advantage of Rs 4 lakh from the complainant".

Following the trap, the project director and both the private persons -- Punit Agarwal and Manish Agarwal -- were arrested, while searches were conducted at their respective premises, the CBI said.

Further investigation into the matter was underway, it added.

Flashfloods block Doda-Ktwar road, bury vehicles at Kwar project

dents were also reported from high-altitude areas of Reasi district, officials said.

The administration had earlier issued a weather advisory warning of heavy rainfall, thunderstorms, flash floods and landslides in vulnerable areas of Jammu and Kashmir, urging people, particularly those living near riverbanks and nallahs, to remain alert and avoid unsafe locations.

According to the meteorological department, Samba recorded the highest rainfall in Jammu region during the previous 24 hours ending at 8.30 am on Monday with 90 mm, followed by Kathua (66.2 mm), Katra (44.4 mm), Doda (42 mm), Jammu (41.8 mm), Udhampur (40.6 mm), Bhanderwah (33.6 mm), Kishtwar (24 mm), Reasi (10.5 mm), Batote (4.7 mm), Ramban (4.5 mm) and Banihal (0.4 mm).

J&K integral part of India: Shah

125th birth anniversary of Syama Prasad Mookerjee in Kolkata, he said Mookerjee had sacrificed his life while opposing the special constitutional status of Jammu and Kashmir under the slogan, "Ek desh mein do Vidhan, do Pradhan, do Nishan nahi challenge" (One nation cannot have two constitutions, two prime ministers and two flags).

"Dr Mookerjee gave his life for the complete integration of Jammu and Kashmir with India. Prime Minister Narendra Modi fulfilled his resolve by removing Article 370. Today, Jammu and Kashmir is an inseparable part of India," Shah said.

The Home Minister also recalled Mookerjee's opposition to the Nehru-Liaquat Pact, saying he had resigned from the first Union Cabinet because he believed the agreement failed to safeguard the interests of Hindus who had remained in Pakistan and East Pakistan (now Bangladesh).

Shah said the Modi government had also fulfilled another of Mookerjee's objectives by enacting the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA), which provides a pathway to Indian citizenship for persecuted religious minorities from neighbouring countries.

"We have removed Article 370, granted citizenship to persecuted Hindu refugees through the CAA, and we will identify and remove every infiltrator from Indian soil to make the country more secure," he said.

Speaking at the event, Shah announced that a 125-ft statue of Syama Prasad Mookerjee would be installed in Kolkata, describing it as more than a memorial and calling it "the beginning of the resolve for Sonar Bangla." He said a Syama Prasad Mookerjee Institute dedicated to research on India's national security would also be established alongside the statue.

Shah said Mookerjee's vision of combining cultural nationalism with modern development was being realised under Prime Minister Modi's leadership.

"His belief was that the policies of independent India should reflect the fragrance of India's own soil, not be influenced by Western thinking. Under Prime Minister Modi, that vision has begun to take concrete shape," he said.

Referring to Mookerjee's role in founding the Bharatiya Jana Sangh, Shah said the organisation had grown into the Bharatiya Janata Party, which now governs a majority of India's population and territory.

The Home Minister also praised the West Bengal government for declaring Mookerjee's birth anniversary a public holiday and said the state had begun implementing several commitments, including welfare schemes, anti-corruption measures, women's safety initiatives, and steps to identify illegal infiltrators.

Shah accused previous Communist and Trinamool Congress governments of pushing West Bengal backwards and expressed confidence that the current government would fulfil its electoral promises and lay the foundation for a "Sonar Bangla."

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recorded message was also played during the event, which was attended by West Bengal Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari, Union Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and other dignitaries.

Another batch of 5,794 pilgrims leaves for Amarnath shrine

Manoj Sinha on July 2 morning from Bhagwati Nagar base camp here simultaneously for the traditional 48-km Nunwan-Pahalgam route in Anantnag district and the shorter but steeper 14-km Baltal route in Ganderbal district. The yatra will conclude on August 28.

Authorities have put in place multi-layered security arrangements along the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway and at all transit camps to ensure the safe and smooth movement of the yatra convoys. A multi-tier security setup has been activated in and around the Bhagwati Nagar base camp.

The commencement of the yatra marks the beginning of one of the country's most revered spiritual pilgrimages and reflects the coordinated efforts of the administration and all stakeholder departments to facilitate a secure, seamless

and memorable pilgrimage experience for every devotee.

Traffic restrictions will remain in force on various stretches of the highway till August 28, with daily advisories and sector-wise cut-off timings to regulate traffic, officials said.

Govt modifies CDF guidelines

Poverty Line (BPL) families and other notified economically weaker categories.

Under the revised guidelines, financial assistance can be sanctioned up to a maximum limit of Rs 5 lakh for organ transplantation, Rs 2.75 lakh for cancer treatment, and Rs 1 lakh for chronic kidney disease requiring dialysis, alongside other diseases notified by the government.

To ensure optimum utilisation of resources, the assistance will be admissible for the uncovered portion of the treatment cost only after the patient has exhausted all eligible benefits under existing schemes, including PM-JAY SEHAT, Medical Aid Trust (MAT), and the Cancer Treatment and Management Fund for Poor (CTMFFP).

This welfare decision taken by the government was expected to benefit the poor patients suffering from critical ailments belonging to BPL families and economically weaker categories to be notified by government.

Omar assures reliable, affordable power supply to every household

(AT&C) losses, transmission projects and the roadmap for future reforms.

It was informed that Jammu and Kashmir had made significant strides in implementing power sector reforms under RDSS, with projects worth over Rs 5,700 cr under execution across the region. Of these, works worth nearly Rs 4,700 cr relating to loss reduction had largely been awarded.

Reforms related to metering were expected to improve billing efficiency, reduce losses and empower consumers through transparent energy usage.

The meeting also reviewed the progress of extensive loss reduction works, including installation of aerial bunched (AB) cables, feeder segregation, augmentation of distribution transformers, underground cabling and strengthening of the distribution network. Officers informed the meeting that several districts have recorded substantial progress under these components, with many packages nearing completion.

Reviewing the financial health of power sector, the chief minister noted encouraging improvement in revenue realisation. It was informed that annual revenue realisation had increased significantly over the past several years, while the gap between power purchase cost and revenue realisation had narrowed owing to sustained reforms, better billing and improved collections.

The meeting was informed that billing efficiency had improved from 56 per cent in FY 2021-22 to 77 per cent in FY 2025-26, while overall AT&C losses had declined drastically during the same period. The ACS-ARR gap has also reduced significantly, reflecting improving financial sustainability of the power utilities.

Omar also reviewed the impact of reduced hydro power generation during the current summer due to low water availability, which has increased dependence on power procurement from the energy exchange during peak demand hours.

Officers briefed him on measures being taken to ensure uninterrupted supply despite seasonal challenges.

Reviewing the roadmap ahead, the chief minister stressed the need to maintain the momentum of reforms beyond the ongoing RDSS programme. He directed the department to ensure timely completion of all sanctioned works, to closely monitor project execution, remove implementation bottlenecks and improve accountability at every level.

He also emphasised the importance of expanding AB cable coverage, strengthening the transmission network and leveraging emerging technologies to improve reliability and reduce system losses. He called for focused efforts to improve consumer services while ensuring the long-term financial sustainability of the power sector.

He was informed about proposals for additional infrastructure investments, including expansion of AB cable networks, critical transmission projects, battery energy storage systems and rooftop solar initiatives aimed at improving grid stability, enhancing renewable energy integration and providing reliable electricity in remote and border areas.

The meeting also reviewed the progress of electrification works in uncovered habitations, ongoing transmission projects, feeder-wise power curtailment, tariff proceedings for FY 2026-27 and proposed interventions to further modernize the power sector.

Reiterating that reliable and affordable electricity remains central to the government's development agenda, he directed the department to adopt a results-oriented approach to ensure quality power supply, improve consumer satisfaction and build a modern, efficient and financially sustainable power sector for Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, Additional Chief Secretary, Power Development Department Ashwini Kumar, ACS to the Chief Minister Dheeraj Gupta, Managing Director Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Limited Guralp Singh, Managing Director KPDCI Mehmood Ahmad Shah, Chief Electrical Inspectorate PDD Sanjay Sharma, senior officers of JKTPCL, senior engineers and other concerned officers.

Hafiz Saeed named by NIA in supplementary chargesheet

during Operation Mahadev in July 2025, as well as two others who were arrested later.

It had also charged the proscribed LeT/TRF terrorist organisation as a legal entity for its role in planning, facilitating, and executing the Pahalgam terror attack.

The deadly attack at Pahalgam in Kashmir on April 22, 2025 involved religion-based targeted killings by the Pak-sponsored terrorists.

The terrorists had sprayed bullets on innocent holiday-makers who were enjoying with their families, massacring 25 Hindu tourists and a local. An FIR in this regard was initially registered at Pahalgam Police Station in Anantnag district of the valley.

However, after initial investigation by police, the case was transferred to NIA by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs.

NIA continues to probe the case to unravel the complete conspiracy hatched by Pakistan, which has been actively

sponsoring terrorism on Indian soil from across the border.

To avenge the killings, India had launched Operation Sindoor and targeted terror hubs inside Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied J&K, killing several terrorists and damaging terror infrastructure.

After the Indian action, heads of several Pak-based terror outfits had gone underground.

India has warned Pakistan of a similar military action in case the country was again attacked by the terrorists sponsored by it.

Police bust 2 terror modules plotting attacks in Delhi

videos exchanged with Pakistani handlers were recovered from them.

During interrogation, Danish disclosed that he had come in contact with Rana Humain through social media in April this year and was assigned the task of conducting reconnaissance of potential targets, including vital installations and police establishments in Delhi.

Police said he had been promised Rs 20,000 after successfully carrying out the attack and was receiving operational instructions over the phone from his handler in Pakistan.

Salman, a friend of Danish, had accompanied him to Delhi and was assigned the role of recording videos of the proposed attack. He, too, had allegedly been promised Rs 20,000 upon completion of the operation, officials said.

The second module, police said, was part of a cross-border arms trafficking network being operated by another Pakistan-based handler, Hassan Gujjar, who is also claimed to be associated with Bhatti.

"The network received consignments of sophisticated weapons smuggled into India through drones from across the international border. The proceeds from the sale of these weapons were allegedly intended to finance terror and criminal activities in the country," the officer said.

Three members of the module -- Tayyab (27) of Shaheen Bagh in Delhi, Jubair Khan (24) of Ghaziabad and Ali Fazal (26) of Meerut -- were arrested from the Kalindi Kunj area with three pistols and five live cartridges, the police said.

The fourth accused in the module, Malkiat Singh (36), was later arrested in Punjab.

Police also seized two vehicles -- a Hyundai Verna and a Ford EcoSport -- allegedly used by the accused, besides mobile phones containing chats, photographs and videos purportedly linking them to Pakistani handlers.

They said Tayyab had established contact with Gujjar through social media and was entrusted with arranging the movement and sale of weapons smuggled into India.

Police said Tayyab instructed his associate, Jubair Khan, to travel to Amritsar and collect a consignment of pistols and ammunition from Malkiat Singh.

Jubair stayed overnight at Malkiat Singh's residence before taking delivery of the weapons, which were later handed over to Ali Fazal for sale to prospective buyers in Delhi and Uttar Pradesh.

According to police, Ali Fazal is Tayyab's brother-in-law and was tasked with disposing of the weapons in the illegal arms market.

Malkiat Singh allegedly acted as the receiver of drone-delivered arms consignments from across the border before supplying them to members of the network for onward distribution.

Preliminary investigation indicates both modules were operating independently under different Pakistan-based handlers but were ultimately linked to the Shahzad Bhatti network.

"We are examining the digital devices recovered from the accused to ascertain the extent of the network, identify additional associates and determine whether they were linked to other terror or organised crime activities," the officer said.

The police are also probing financial transactions, communication records and social media accounts used by the accused to remain in contact with their handlers in Pakistan.

Further investigation was underway.

Holistic development of students my sacred responsibility: Kavinder

leadership, emotional resilience, values, discipline, physical well-being and life skills among students through experiential learning.

Gupta expressed keen interest in the concept and said that the Life Transformation Centre model addresses what conventional education often overlooks.

"The Life Transformation Centre is a unique initiative that goes beyond conventional higher education. It focuses on developing character, leadership, discipline and emotional strength - qualities that are equally important as academic excellence. Students from Himachal Pradesh should also have the opportunity to experience such a transformative programme. I look forward to exploring how this model can benefit our youth," he said.

He was also briefed on the work of the MIT School of Government (MIT-SOG) - India's pioneering institution dedicated to nurturing ethical, capable and socially committed public leaders through academic programmes, leadership training and policy engagement.

Gupta appreciated the vision behind MIT-SOG and noted its relevance in today's rapidly changing governance landscape.

He emphasised that quality education, character building and holistic development of students remain his highest priority.

He expressed his resolve to explore collaboration between Himachal Pradesh's State Universities and MIT-WPU in the areas of research, innovation, governance education and student development programmes.

He appreciated the remarkable vision and lifelong dedication of Dr Vishwanath Karad, Founder and President of MAEER's MIT, Pune, whose conviction that education must transform lives - not merely careers - laid the foundation of this globally respected institution four decades ago.

He also commended Dr Rahul V Karad for carrying forward this legacy with equal passion, innovation and commitment, and for taking MIT World Peace University to new heights of academic excellence and social impact.

Earlier, welcoming the governor, Rahul V Karad said that MIT-WPU believes in developing complete individuals rather than merely producing degree holders.

He expressed the university's keenness to work with Himachal Pradesh for expanding transformative educational opportunities to students across the state.

Senior officials of MIT-WPU and the university's academic leadership, were among those present during the meeting.