

# Landslides block Jammu-Udhampur track Narrow escape for passengers

**Excelsior Correspondent**  
UDHAMPUR, Aug 6: Passenger of Jammu bound Malwa Express had a narrow escape when the train had to

Cooking staff sustained minor injuries in the accident that took place at the exit of tunnel number 16 around 7.20 am. Due to blockage of exit way of the tunnel with boulders and



Tunnel number 16 on Jammu-Udhampur rail track blocked due to landslides on Tuesday.

Even as driver of the train applied emergency brakes, engine of the Malwa Express rammed into the debris but a major accident was averted.

On getting information, DySP General Railway Police Rajinder Kumar Kichloo along with GRP Jawans and other staff reached the spot and evacuated the passengers, who were shifted to DMU and local transport.

Due to sudden applying of brakes, burn injuries were received by two cooking staff members as hot cooking oil fell on both. They were identified as Shankar and Bablu of Uttar Pradesh.

Even as the restoration work was immediately started for clearing the track, the train traffic on Jammu-Udhampur section is unlikely to be resumed by tomorrow. A Railway Keyman Arvind mud, the train traffic was suspended on the Jammu-Udhampur track. Reports said that due to overnight rains, landslide took place near the exit of tunnel number-16, minutes before the Malwa Express was scheduled to pass on the track for reaching Jammu and onward journey to Madhya Pradesh.

Pathak who was on routine track checking when the landslide took place, immediately fired signal bomb and waved red flag to the Malwa Express, which was approaching nearer.

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"It is saddening to note that the investigation of the case is going on at a snail's pace. The occurrence dates back April 25, 2012 but no attempt appears to have been made to secure the attendance of the petitioners before the investigating officer in this case of a hapless victim of kidnapping", the Court said.

With these observations, Court denied pre-arrest bail to all the accused persons.

## Court denies pre-arrest bail to four in kidnapping case

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, Aug 6: Principal Sessions Judge Kathua, M K Hanjura has rejected anticipatory bail applications of four accused involved in the kidnapping of a minor.

According to the police case, on April 25, 2012, the prosecutrix went missing and on enquiry it was found that she was kidnapped by the accused/petitioners namely Harbans Kour, Jatinder Singh, Inderpal Singh and Amandeep Singh. Accordingly, a case for offences under Section 363/109 RPC was registered against them at police Station, Kathua.

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Governor, N N Vohra chairing meeting of SASB on Tuesday.

# SASB reviews all aspects of ongoing Amarnathji Yatra

**Excelsior Correspondent**

SRINAGAR, Aug 6: Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board met here today under the chairmanship of N. N. Vohra, Governor, who is Chairman of the Board, and undertook item-wise review of all aspects of the ongoing Yatra. The Board expressed satisfaction over the tremendous improvements brought about in the management of the pilgrimage under the Governor's sustained direction and lauded the continuing initiatives being taken for the environmental protection of the Yatra area.

Those present in the meeting included the Board Members, Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, Pt. Bhajan Sopori, Justice (Retd) G. D. Sharma, Dr. (Prof.) Ved Kumar Ghai, Sumita Narain and Vijay Dhar. Besides, Navin K. Choudhary, Chief Executive Officer of the Board, and Preet Pal Singh, Additional CEO, attended the meeting.

The Board was informed that till last evening 3,20,968 pilgrims had secured Advance Registration for undertaking the pilgrimage while 99,203 Yatis had availed On-spot Registration facility and, further, that upto 5th August evening, 3,45,037 pilgrims had performed Darshan at the Holy Cave Shrine, which included 43,114 Yatis who traveled by the Helicopter services from Baltal and Pahalgam upto Panjtarni. Members expressed appreciation of the close coordination between the State Government and the Board and noted with high satisfaction the initiative taken to install CCTV Cameras at Access Control Gates at Chandanwari and Domel linking them up directly with the Raj Bhavan via Internet, which has provided the Governor and CEO to monitor movements of Yatis on real-time basis every day.

The Governor informed Members that, for the Yatra 2014, efforts will be timely made to also put in place a system through which the counting of Yatis crossing the Access Control Gates at Chandanwari and Domel could be done automatically. In this context, CEO was advised to take timely measures that the registration system for Yatra 2014 does not have any subsisting loophole.

The Board appreciated the initiatives taken for hosting all Yatra related information on the Board's website for the benefit of the pilgrims.

The CEO made a detailed item-wise presentation on each of the important aspects of Yatra 2013, bringing out the initiatives taken for bringing about all round improvements in the logistics and other arrangements to facilitate the Yatis.

Referring to the measures taken for protection of environment of the Yatra area, Mr. Choudhary said that Sewage Treatment Plants at the Base Camps of Nunwan and Baltal have been upgraded and the required arrangements have been made for round the clock sanitation and cleanliness at the Base Camps and the Camps enroute. Additional toilets, baths and dust bins have been provided to keep the Yatra area neat and clean.

The Chairman requested Sunita Narain to depute a team of experts to pay an early visit to the Yatra area, before the conclusion of the ongoing pilgrimage, to review the impact of the upgraded Sewage Treatment Plants set up at the Nunwan and Baltal Base Camps, assess the efficacy of the Biodegester toilets set up at the Holy Cave on pilot project basis and take stock of the sanitation measures at other Camp locations and advise further action, as necessary.

As suggested by Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, the Board decided to bring out an easy to read booklet in Hindi and English languages, to enable better understanding of the Shri Amarnathji pilgrimage.

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# Shab-e-Qadr observed across Kashmir

**Excelsior Correspondent**

SRINAGAR, Aug 6: Night long prayers were observed across Kashmir on the occasion of Shab-e-Qadr, last night.

Similar congregations were held in different Masjids across Kashmir. The night long prayers rented the air throughout across Kashmir.

Shab-e-Qadr, celebrated on the 27th night of Ramadan. It is



Women during special prayers on 27th night of Ramadan at Srinagar on Tuesday.

the night when Holy Quran was revealed to Prophet Muhammad (SAW). The night is considered to be the blessed night of Gous-ul-Azam Dastgeer (RA) at Khanyar, Khwaja Naqashband Sahab (RA) and other shrines in Kashmir valley.

Thousands of people offered prayers at the historic Jamia Masjid in Old City and other shrines in Kashmir valley.

## Injured BSF jawan flown to Delhi

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, Aug 6: A BSF jawan, injured in firing from across the Indo-Pak border in Samba district, was flown in an air ambulance to New Delhi for specialised treatment, BSF officials said today.

The victim, Head Constable Ram Niwas Meena was flown in an air ambulance this evening from Jammu to New Delhi for specialised treatment at the AIIMS, he said.

There was a sniper firing from the Pakistan-side along the IB near the Narainpur Border Out Post (BoP) in Ramgarh sector of the Samba district at around 1555 hours yesterday, the official said.

Meena, guarding the borderline at the BoP, was injured as bullets hit the right side of his chest, the officer said, adding the jawan was shifted to Government Medical College (GMC) hospital here for treatment.

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