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**Aramane is new Defence Secy, Joshi posted in DFS**

NEW DELHI, Nov 1: Seasoned bureaucrat Girdhar Aramane today assumed charge as the new Defence Secretary at a time the Government has been focusing on modernising the three services. Aramane, a 1988-batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer, was serving as (Contd on page 4 Col 1)

**Second highest ever GST collection**

NEW DELHI, Nov 1: GST revenues registered the second highest collection ever at Rs 1.52 lakh crore in October, reflecting pick up in economic activity in the festive season. The collections in October this year recorded a 16.6 per cent rise over Rs 1.30 lakh crore collected in the same month last year. Goods and Services Tax (GST) collection had touched a record high of nearly Rs 1.68 lakh crore in April. In September, it was Rs 1.48 lakh crore. (Contd on page 4 Col 1)

**2 SEs posted in H&UD Deptt**

JAMMU, Nov 1: The Government today ordered posting of two Superintending Engineers (SEs), promoted recently in the Housing and Urban Development Department. An official spokesman said that Mujib Ahmed Tak, I/C Superintending Engineer has been posted in Urban Environmental Engineering Department (UEED), relieving Fayaz Ahmed Mehta, Xen, S&D Division - I UEED of the additional charge. (Contd on page 4 Col 3)

**Dr Masood is new Principal GMC Srinagar**

SRINAGAR, Nov 1: Dr Masood Tanvir Bhat has taken the charge of Principal, Government Medical College (GMC), Srinagar after the retirement of Dr Samia Rashid. Dr Bhat, Head of the Department of Medicine, GMC, has taken over as the Principal GMC, Srinagar on the verbal orders issued by the H&ME Department while formal orders in this regard are yet to come. As per a separate order issued, Dr Zargar who was earlier in-charge of GMC, Srinagar, has been transferred to GMC, Jammu. (Contd on page 4 Col 3)

**3 I/C AEEs shifted in Jal Shakti Deptt**

JAMMU, Nov 1: Three In-charge Assistant Executive Engineers (I/C AEEs) have been transferred in Jal Shakti Department. According to an order issued by the Principal Secretary to Government, Jal Shakti Department today, I/C AEE Rocky Mahajan, under orders of transfer to PHE Sub Division Thathri has now been placed to PHE Sub Division Ramban against an available vacancy. He shall also hold the (Contd on page 4 Col 5)

**LG attends Ladakh Police Raising Day celebrations**

LEH, Nov 1: Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh RK Mathur today attended the Ladakh Police Raising Day celebrations as the chief guest, at District Police Lines in Choglamsar. Chairman, LAHDC Leh, Advocate Tashi Gyalsong, Executive Councillor, Ghulam Mehdi; Advisor Umang Narula; Additional Director General of Police (ADGP), SS Khandare; Principal Secretary Dr Pawan Kotwal; Principal Secretary Sanjeev Khirwar; Divisional (Contd on page 4 Col 1)

**Inaugurates CCTNS, CCTV Live**

The LG inaugurated the Crime and Criminal Tracking Networks and Systems (CCTNS) Live and Cloud Data Centre, Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) Live, Julley Tourist application and Leh City Surveillance Project during the event. He also released the CCTNS Ladakh Handbook 2022. He also inspected the stalls displayed by various wings of Ladakh Police. Mathur also inaugurated the (Contd on page 4 Col 1)

## 3 TRF hybrid militants arrested in Srinagar LeT comdr, foreigner among 4 militants killed in twin gun battles in Kashmir

Fayaz Bukhari  
SRINAGAR, Nov 1: Four militants including a foreigner and Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT) commander were killed in twin gun battles in South Kashmir while three hybrid militants of TRF were arrested from Srinagar today.



Troops during encounter at Awantipora on Tuesday. Another pic on page 4. -Excelsior/Younis Khaliq

Additional Director General of Police Kashmir, Vijay Kumar, said that three militants were killed in an encounter at Khandipora area of Awantipora in Pulwama district. He said that one among them is a foreigner while another is LeT commander Mukhtar Ahmad Bhat who was involved in several militant activities including killing of one Assistant Sub Inspector of CRPF and two RPF personnel. He said that his killing is a big success for security forces.

Earlier, security forces including police and Army launched an operation in Khadipora village after inputs about the presence of militants. As the security forces conducted searches they were fired upon leading to a gun battle in which three militants were killed. A police official said that Mukhtar along with foreign militant was going for a fideyan attack on a security forces camp. One militant was also killed in another gun battle at Semthan village of Bijbehara in Anantnag district. Security forces cordoned off the village after inputs about the presence of militants in the village.

As the security forces were conducting searches of the village, they were fired upon in which one militant was killed. He has been identified as Shakir Ahmad son of Habibullah, resident of Ladermud. As per police records, he was linked to Hizbul Mujahideen and was involved in several militancy cases including attacks on police and security forces and civilians. Three hybrid militants of LeT were arrested in Srinagar and 10 kgs IED and two hand grenades were recovered from their possession.

"Today at a Naka in Harnambal, Srinagar police arrested three hybrid militants namely Aamir Mushtaq Dar, son of Mushtaq Ahmad Dar of Iqbalabad Sozaith Budgam and Kabil Rashid, son of Abdul Rashid Dar of SICOP Mohalla HMT Srinagar. Two grenades were recovered from their possession. They disclosed the name of their another associate as Aqib Jamal Bhat, son of Mohammad Jamal Bhat of Sozaith Budgam who was also arrested and during initial examination he disclosed about an IED in his possession," a police spokesman said.

"The IED of approximately 10kg has been recovered in Rangreth on his instance, by a joint team of Srinagar Police and 62 RR, police said, adding that a case under FIR number 69/2022 has been registered under the relevant Sections of UAPA, Explosives Act and Arms Act in Police Station Chanpora," the statement said.

He said that all three persons are affiliated with LeT/TRF.

## Maximum services pertain to I&C, FCS&CA, Forest, Revenue 43 more services of 7 Govt deptts brought under PSGA purview

Mohinder Verma  
JAMMU, Nov 1: For the convenience of the general public, the Government of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir has brought 43 more services of seven departments under the purview of Public Services Guarantee Act (PSGA) and even designated First and Second Appellate Authorities to decide the appeals of the applicants in case of detail of services within the prescribed timelines.

The Section 4 of the Jammu and Kashmir Public Services Guarantee Act states that the Government may, from time to time, specify the services to be the public services for purposes of the Act and shall specify the time limit within which such services shall be provided to the eligible persons.

The Sub-Section 2 of Section 4 read: "For providing services specified under Sub-Section (1), the Government may for different areas and for different services designate officers who shall be responsible for providing each of such services to the eligible persons".

Similarly, Section 8 states that the Government may by notification in the Government Gazette, designate officers who shall be First Appellate Authorities and Second Appellate Authorities in respect of each public service.

In exercise of these powers, the Government has notified 43 more services of seven key departments under the J&K Public Services Guarantee Act and specified the timelines for providing the same besides designating Appellate Authorities. These departments are Industries and Commerce, Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Department, Revenue Department, Forest, Ecology and Environment Department, Jal Shakti Department, Health and (Contd on page 4 Col 3)

First, Second Appellate Authorities too designated

Medical Department, Education Department, Information Technology Department and Labour and Employment Department.

The services of Industries and Commerce Department, which have been brought under the purview of PSGA, are assessment of raw material and finished goods; prior permission for additional products; prior permission for substantial expansion and additional line of activity; change in location; change in name and style; transfer of leasehold rights; merger of units; change in constitution; (Contd on page 4 Col 3)



Tourists enjoy snowfall in upper reaches of Gulmarg. -Excelsior/Aabid Nabi

## MHA, UT Govt list series of measures for agencies UAPA in narco-terror funding cases to freeze bank accounts, attach property

Financial investigations, help of national agencies to be taken

Sanjeev Pargal

JAMMU, Nov 1: The Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has listed a series of measures to check terror funding through narco trade in Jammu and Kashmir including coordination with different agencies at national and UT-levels, strict surveillance on darknet and crypto currency. The Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) meant for subversive activities is also being clamped on the narco-terror modules to facilitate freezing of their assets and attachment of properties.

Official sources told the Excelsior that both the Central and UT Governments are going tough on narco-terror funding following reports that proceeds of narcotics, in some of the cases, are being used for terror funding and now, in all such cases, the UAPA is being invoked along with NDPS Act which will help the investigating agencies involve stringent measures like freezing of accounts, (Contd on page 4 Col 3)

property attachment especially the disproportionate assets raised through narco trade.

"The idea is to break the backbone of militancy which is already crumbling. However, Pakistan is trying to sustain the militancy through narco-terror module by using proceeds of the trade to fund militancy. Use of UAPA will help the investigating agencies to block the terror-funding channels," sources said.

They added that chapter of financial investigations has been added to the probe in narco-terror funding case. The Union Home Ministry as well as the UT Government have asked the investigating agencies to follow money trail in narco recoveries case which would help in ascertaining exact source of funding and might lead most of the cases to terror funding.

"After plugging hawala channels, the militant outfits and their mentors sitting in Pakistan are trying to fund the militancy through narco trade. Accordingly, the investigating agencies including police, (Contd on page 4 Col 3)

Intelligence and other stakeholders have also shifted their strategy and are taking all possible measures to ensure that this strategy of the militants too don't succeed," the sources said.

The Government has also asked the investigating agencies to take all possible measures to check misuse of darknet and crypto currency in terror funding.

Asserting that certain measures have definitely been taken to plug misuse of darknet and crypto currency, sources, however, maintained that they can't be disclosed as revealing them would help the militants, narco smugglers and others indulging in terror funding.

"Definitely, a mechanism is in place but it can't be disclosed as it would help the terror sponsors," they said but admitted that some anti-national elements using darknet have been intercepted using different secret means, trapped and even arrested.

The Central and UT Governments have also called (Contd on page 4 Col 3)

## Rains lash Kashmir, snowfall in hills; MeT forecasts more wet weather

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Nov 1: Rains lashed Kashmir valley and snowfall was recorded in the hills while Meteorological Department forecast more wet weather in coming days.

"Today weather will be generally cloudy. There is possibility of light to moderate rain/snowfall (1-2 inches over middle and higher reaches). No snow in the plains," a MeT official here said today.

He said that between November 2 and 4, partly to generally cloudy weather is expected. "Light rain/snow may occur at isolated places, although chances are less," he said.

He further said that between November 5 and 8, weather is (Contd on page 4 Col 1)



People walking down the Dalgate during rain in Srinagar on Tuesday. (UNI)

expected to be cloudy with scattered light to moderate rain/snowfall over middle and higher reaches. "There is no forecast of heavy snowfall (fore- (Contd on page 4 Col 1)

surface transportation, mainly over Zojila, Sinthantop and Mughal Road between November 5 and 7.

The hills of Kashmir received light snowfall today and the Valley was lashed by rains since early this morning. The Sun came out in Srinagar after the morning rains but it was raining intermittently in the afternoon.

A MeT official said that Srinagar received 1.8mm of rainfall, Qazigund had traces of it while Pahalgam received 0.5mm, Kupwara 0.2mm and Gulmarg 0.8mm.

Meanwhile, he said, Srinagar recorded a low of 7.6°C against 3.9°C the previous night. The temperature was 4.8°C above (Contd on page 4 Col 5)

**5 officers transferred**

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Nov 1: The Government today ordered transfer and postings of five JKAS officers.

Kusum Badyal, Secretary in the Industries & Commerce Department was transferred and posted as Secretary in ARI & Trainings Department.

Nitu Gupta, Additional Commissioner, State Taxes (Administration and Enforcement), Jammu, has been transferred and posted as Secretary in the Finance Department.

Namrita Dogra, Deputy Commissioner, State Taxes (Recovery), Jammu, was transferred and posted as Additional Commissioner, State Taxes (Administration and Enforcement), Jammu. (Contd on page 4 Col 1)

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**WEATHER**  
JAMMU:  
Partly cloudy  
TEMPERATURE  
Max: 29.4 Degree C  
Min: 18.3 Degree C  
RELATIVE HUMIDITY  
RH-I (Morning): 73.0 per cent  
RH-II (Evening): 71.0 per cent  
Sunset on Wednesday: 05.44 p.m.  
Sunrise on Thursday: 06.51 a.m.  
SRINAGAR:  
Possibility of light rain/thundershowers  
TEMPERATURE  
Max: 17.6 Degree C  
Min: 7.6 Degree C  
RELATIVE HUMIDITY  
RH-I (Morning): 87.0 per cent  
RH-II (Evening): 64.0 per cent  
LEH:  
TEMPERATURE  
Max: 15.0 Degree C  
Min: -3.8 Degree C