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LS, RS adjourned amid Oppn protest

NEW DELHI, Feb 3:

Lok Sabha proceedings were adjourned for the day today as Opposition members raised slogans demanding a discussion and a joint parliamentary committee probe into the fraud-allegation-triggered rout in Adani Group company stocks.

Soon after the House met for the day, Opposition members were on their feet shouting slogans and demanding a probe into the tanking of the Adani Group scrips and sought a probe

MeT forecasts snowfall

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Feb 3: The weatherman today said that there is a possibility of light snowfall at scattered places of Kashmir.

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Meteorological Department official said that mainly dry weather was expected thereafter for two weeks.

An avalanche hit a village in Gurez in North Kashmir's

4 HM activists plead guilty

NEW DELHI, Feb 3:

Four people associated with the Hizbul Mujahideen today pleaded guilty before a Delhi court in a money laundering case related to the Jammu Kashmir Affectees Relief Trust terror funding matter.

Mohammad Shafi Shah, Talib Lali, Muzaffar Ahmad Dar and Musthaq Ahmad Lone told the court that they did not claim trial in the matter and accepted the allegations labelled against them by the Enforcement Directorate (ED).

4 officers get JKAS Selection Grade

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 3: The Government today promoted four officers to Selection Grade of Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Services (JKAS).

They are Rajeev Kumar, Ghulam Mohd, Varunjeet Charak and Pritam Lal Thapa.

NIA gets threat of terror attack

MUMBAI, Feb 3:

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has received an email claiming that a person linked to the Taliban will carry out an "attack" in Mumbai, police said today.

The probe agency's Mumbai office received the threat mail on Thursday, following which the city police and the Maharashtra Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) were alerted, an official said.

According to the police, the email address used to send the

Army Comdrs, JKP officials attend meeting

CDS reviews security situation in Jammu

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 3: Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan, who was on a two-day visit to Jammu and Kashmir, chaired a high-level security meeting here which was attended by top Army Commanders and Jammu and Kashmir Police (JKP) officials.

The meeting comes at a time when security forces have launched massive operations to finish militancy in Jammu region and eliminate the militants responsible for killings of seven civilians from minority community at village Dhangri in Rajouri district.

The meeting was attended by Udhampur-based Northern Army Commander Lt General Upendra Dwivedi and Director

CBI searches in FAAs paper leak scam in 6 distts Houses of two Forest officials; 3 CRPF, IAF jawans among 37 locations raided

Sanjeev Pargal

JAMMU, Feb 3: In a major crackdown on the paper leak scamsters, the Central Bureau of Investigations (CBI) today

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conducted simultaneous raids at 37 locations spread over six districts of Jammu region including two CRPF constables, two employees of the Forest Department and an Indian Air Force (IAF) personnel involved in leaking the question paper of Financial Accounts Assistants (FAAs).

This was the third examination conducted by the Services Selection Board (SSB) which has been leaked by the touts in connivance with the SSB officials and sold to candidates appearing for the exams at heavy prices. Prior to this, two

*Ex SSB Member, SO among accused named in FIR



A house in Malik Market which was searched by CBI (left) and a police vehicle outside a residence during raid at Talab Tillo (right) on Friday.

papers of Sub Inspectors in Jammu and Kashmir Police (JKP) and JE Civil were also leaked and sold.

Officials told the Excelsior that raids were conducted at 30 places in Jammu district, two

each in Reasi and Rajouri districts and one each in Samba, Udhampur and Doda districts.

The raids were conducted at the houses of touts, who had leaked the paper and some beneficiaries who obtained it in lieu

of cash.

The then SSB officers including one from Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Services (JKAS) have also been named in the FIR in connection with paper leakage.

Two CRPF personnel whose premises were searched by the CBI today include Manohar Lal Sanjwal son of Madan Lal, a resident of Ward No. 32, Mohalla Panjpeer in Talab Tillo and Shiv Lal Ditta son of Bua Ditta R/o village Penthri in Taloor area of Samba.

Two Forest Department officials on whom the raids were conducted during the day by the CBI sleuths were Deepak Sharma son of Jai Paul Sharma of Bhatyari, Bishnah and Harneet son of Gurcharan Singh of Ward No. 2 at Chatha Bhour Camp.

An IAF personnel Amreek Singh's house was also searched in

(Contd on page 6 Col 1)

Affected 19 families shifted to safer locations

Joshimath type calamity hits Thathri, land sinking triggers cracks in houses

Sanjeev K Sharma

JAMMU, Feb 3: Already notorious for road accidents, District Doda has now been hit by a peculiar type of problem—land in Thathri area of the district has started sinking

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which triggered cracks in residential houses in the area exactly in the way in which things happened in Uttarakhand's Joshimath.

Navi Basti—the ill fated hamlet hit by the calamity is in Thathri area of Doda district of J&K. Surprisingly, width of the cracks in the affected houses at Navi Basti is increasing daily.

It is pertinent to mention here that gradual sinking of Joshimath—a small Himalayan mountain town in Uttarakhand

ultimately led to evacuation of about 200 families to safer places.

Local of Navi Basti, Abdul Farooq, 52, driver by profession, informed that initially some 4-5 houses developed some cracks few days back but now about four houses have been completely damaged while more than 15-16 houses have been affected in

Similar were the views of 50 years old Mohd. Shafi who claimed that 100 families used to live in the tragedy hit hamlet, most of which have now been shifted to safer locations by the district administration.

Some locals have demanded allotment of alternate lands and relief to continue their life normally.

When contacted, Vishesh Mahajan, DC Doda informed

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'85% people will support Admn for evictions' Influential persons misused official position to convert state land on names of their kin: LG

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 3: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said today that if voting is held on anti-encroachment drive, 85 percent people of Jammu and Kashmir will support the administration for carrying out the drive against influential persons who misused their position to grab the state land.

Addressing the gathering after inauguration of Civil Services Officers Institute (CSOI) here this evening, Sinha charged those who were earlier at the helm of affairs, albeit without naming politicians and bureaucrats, with misusing their official position and violating rules to grab the state land on the names of their family members and relatives.

"If an election is held today, 85 percent people of Jammu and Kashmir will say the administration has done one of the best job here by getting the encroached land evacuated from those who

had grabbed it by misusing their official position," he said.

"They (the influential persons who grabbed the Government land) tried to create a situation that two lakh people will be rendered houseless in Jammu and Kashmir (because of

the Government drive)," Sinha said.

However, he added, he per-

(Contd on page 6 Col 5)

*Monitoring drive regularly, Admn also on alert

Sonally met the senior officers from both the divisions including the Divisional Commissioners, Additional DGPs, DCs, SSPs among others and told them that whenever such directions are issued (like eviction of land encroachments), the poor and common man become the first victim.

"On encroachment is demolished and payment is taken from five others," the Lieutenant Governor said, adding in view of this he issued categorical directions that the

(Contd on page 6 Col 5)

Completion of USBRL to follow remote connectivity projects

J&K gets highest ever allocation of Rs 6003 cr in budget for Railways

Nishikant Khajuria

JAMMU, Feb 3: Work on several ongoing as well as proposed projects and Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Line project is all set to get further momentum as Rs 6003 crores have been allocated in the Budget 2023-24 for Railways in Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory.

This is the highest ever budget allocation for Railways in Jammu and Kashmir and six times more than the allotment from 2009 to 2014 during the UPA Government. This was stated by the Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, while addressing a press conference at New Delhi today.

This huge budget allocation is likely to fast track the work on several ongoing as well as pro-

posed Railway projects in Jammu Kashmir, particularly the ambitious Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Line (USBRL) Project, which is nearing completion by the end of this year.

According to the Railway Minister, progress of work on USBRL Project is very good and Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been regularly reviewing it after every one and half month.

"The Government thought process is that the completion of this big project be followed with the planning for remote connectivity projects by taking up surveys and preparing Detailed Project Reports for the same," he said.

Pertinent to mention that under USBRL project, broad-gauge railway line is being constructed through the Himalayas for connecting Kashmir region

with rest of the country. Construction of the first three phases of the project has been completed and the line is in operational use for running of trains between Baramulla-Banihal in Kashmir valley and Jammu-Udhampur-Katra in Jammu region. Work on the intervening 111 Km section Katra-Banihal, the most arduous and treacherous portion due to its geology and extensive riverine system replete with deep gorges, is ongoing. Most of the rail track in this section is slated to be in tunnels or iconic bridges.

The highest ever allocation in Budget 2023-24 for Railways in Jammu and Kashmir will enable speedy construction activities on all the ongoing as well as proposed projects.

Besides Rs 250 crores

(Contd on page 6 Col 3)

6 JeM associates arrested in Kulgam; arms, ammunition recovered

Fayaz Bukhari

SRINAGAR, Feb 3: Security forces today arrested six militant associates of Jaish-e-Muhammad (JeM) in Kulgam district and recovered a huge cache of arms and ammunition from them.

A police spokesman said that on the basis of specific information regarding carrying out subversive activities in Mirhama and Damhal Hanjipora areas of district Kulgam, a major breakthrough was achieved with the arrest of six militant associates in joint operation of Kulgam police and 9RR of Army. "A huge cache of arms and ammunition were recovered at the instance of the accused", he added.

Those arrested have been

identified as Shahid Ahmad Padder alias Jeela, son of Ghulam Ahmad Padder resident of Mirhama, Ubaid Ahmad Itoo son of Mushtaq Ahmad Itoo, resident of Mirhama, Danish Ahmad Dar son of Azad Ahmad Dar resident of DH Pora, Nawaz Ahmad Ganie son of Mohd

(Contd on page 6 Col 3)

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Abdullah Ganie resident of Dangerpora, Aabid Mushtaq alias Raju son of Mushtaq Ahmad Naik resident of Mirhama and Kifayat Ahmad Lone alias Rinku son of Mohammad Maqbool Lone resident of Mohammad Pora.

The arms and ammunition recovered on their instance include one pistol, one pistol

magazine, 18 pistol rounds, one hand grenade, four UBGL shells, two mortar shells, 30 AK 47 rounds, 446 M4 rounds, eight M4 magazines, one AK 47 magazine, one Insas magazine, one wireless set, four walky talky and other incriminating materi-

(Contd on page 6 Col 3)

Foreign currency, cell phones, laptops seized

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Feb 3: The State Investigation Agency (SIA) today carried out raids

ing case in Srinagar.

The SIA sleuths conducted raids in Parimpora, Jawahar Nagar, Natipora, Chhanapora, Bulbul Bagh and Qamarwari

by the police and Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) during these raids which lasted for several hours.

The raids were conducted at the houses of Fareeda Begum wife of Late Fayaz Ahmad Sheikh resident of Bulbul-Bagh Barzulla, Srinagar; Zubair

(Contd on page 6 Col 3)

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The meeting was attended by Udhampur-based Northern Army Commander Lt General Upendra Dwivedi and Director

A series of issues including coordination between Army and JKP reportedly figured at the meeting. Army and JKP have jointly conducted a series of successful operations against the militants. Only yesterday, police arrested a Government teacher-turned-militant who was involved in four terror strikes including two blasts at Narwal, Katra bus explosion and Shastri Nagar power transformer blast.

Situation prevailing along the Line of Control (LoC) in twin border districts of Rajouri and Poonch especially Pakistan's attempts to flare up militancy in

(Contd on page 6 Col 1)



CDS Gen Anil Chauhan chairing a security review meeting in Jammu on Friday.



A police vehicle outside a house raided by the SIA in Srinagar on Friday.

at multiple locations in connection with a militancy-fund-

ing areas of Srinagar city this morning. The SIA was accompanied

(Contd on page 6 Col 3)



Jaish activists arrested by security personnel in Kulgam on Friday. (UNI)

als. "During preliminary investigation it surfaced that the militants were affiliated with the JeM outfit and were in touch with militant handlers via various social media platforms. The

(Contd on page 6 Col 3)

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