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JAMMU, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2023

REGD. NO. JK-71/21-23  
 RNI No. 28547/65

Vol No. 59  
 No. 39

14 Pages

₹ 6.00

## 'I wear 140 cr Indians' trust as protective shield' Those who said tricolor will disturb peace, joined tiranga yatra in JK: PM

**Record tourist arrival, festival of democracy being celebrated | I unfurled tricolor at Lal Chowk in 1991 braving terror threats**

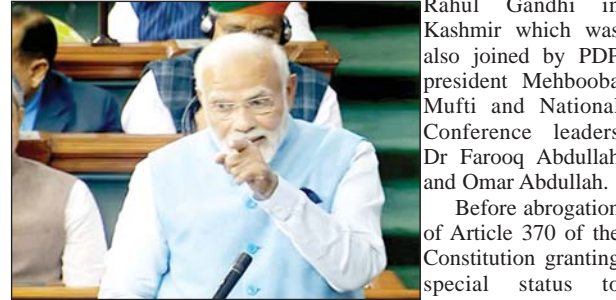
**Sanjeev Pargal**

JAMMU, Feb 8: Prime Minister Narendra Modi said today that peace has returned to Jammu and Kashmir, tourist arrival has broken all records, democracy festival is being celebrated there, every house observed 'Tiranga Festival' and separatists are nowhere to be seen.

Modi made these remarks while replying to debate on Motion of Thanks to the President's Address in Lok Sabha this afternoon.

Without naming anyone, the Prime Minister said some leaders used to say that 'tiranga' (tri-

color) will disturb peace. "See how the time has changed. Now these leaders recently by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi in Kashmir which was also joined by PDP president Mehbooba Mufti and National Conference leaders Dr Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi speaking at Lok Sabha in New Delhi on Wednesday. (UNI)

Mehbooba had given a statement in the Valley that if this themselves joined 'tiranga' (Contd on page 4 Col 5)

## 5 of family die of asphyxiation

**Excelsior Correspondent**

SRINAGAR Feb 8: Five members of a non-local family,

**\*Watch video on www.excelsionews.com**

living at Kralpora in Kupwara district, died due to suspected

(Contd on page 4 Col 1)

## HC directs personal appearance of top SSB officials

**Excelsior Correspondent**

SRINAGAR, Feb 8: The High Court today directed for the personal appearance of Chairman and Secretary of Services Selection Board (SSB) in case it fails to finalize the

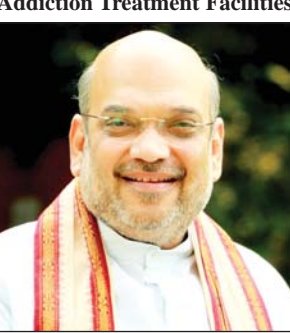
(Contd on page 4 Col 3)

## Centre to bear cost of posts, infra Shah to dedicate 6 ATFs to J&K through virtual mode today

**\*Besides GMC-J, SKIMS; 4 to be set up in distts**

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, Feb 8: Union Home Minister Amit Shah will tomorrow dedicate six Addition Treatment Facilities



(ATFs) in Jammu and Kashmir including five in Jammu region and one in

(Contd on page 4 Col 3)

Kashmir division through virtual mode in a function to be held in New Delhi.

He will dedicate a total of 25 ATFs to the nation. Dr Virender Kumar, Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment will also be present at the function.

Official sources told the Excelsior that six ATFs in Jammu and Kashmir will come up at Psychiatric Hospital, an Associate Hospital of Government Medical College (GMC) Jammu, Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS) Soura in Kashmir; Kathua, Rajouri, Poonch and Kishtwar District Hospitals, all in Jammu region.

## VDGs constituted in Rajouri, Poonch for protection of villagers: MHA

**\*Highest number of anti-militancy ops in 2022**

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, Feb 8: The Centre today informed The Rajya Sabha that 27 persons including 25 security personnel and two civilians were killed in militant attacks across Jammu since August 5, 2019.

In a written reply, Union Minister of State in the Ministry Of Home Affairs (MHA), Nityanand Rai said that a total of 25 security personnel including two from Jammu-one each in 2019 and 2022, 2 in Rajouri in 2020, five in 2021 & four in 2022, 9 in Poonch in 2021, one in Ramban in 2019, one in

(Contd on page 4 Col 1)

Kishtwar in 2020 and one in Doda in 2020 were killed in militant attacks post August 5, 2019.

He also said two civilians were killed in Jammu region, which include one in Rajouri in 2021 and one in Udhampur in 2022.

He further said 48 security personnel have also been injured in militant attacks, which include 10 in 2019, four in 2020, 14 in 2021 and 15 in 2022 and 20 civilians have also been injured including one in 2020, nine in 2021 & 19 in 2022.

Replying to another question, the MoS Home said that the

## 859 POCSO cases pending in UTs of J&K, Ladakh Acting CJ takes serious note, passes clear directions for speedy disposal

**\*Progress of Judicial Officers to be reviewed on monthly basis**

**Mohinder Verma**

JAMMU, Feb 8: Taking serious note of pendency of cases under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO) in the Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, Acting Chief Justice Tashi Rabstan has directed the Judicial Officers dealing with such cases to ensure strict compliance to the timeline fixed under the Act.

Reliable sources told EXCELSIOR that in a meeting held through virtual mode with Special Judges designated under the POCSO Act of various dis-

tricts of the Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, Acting Chief Justice Tashi



Rabstan, who is also Chairperson of the Juvenile Justice Committee, took stock of

the disposal of cases and award of compensation to the POCSO victims during the year 2022.

He expressed concern over pendency, delay in disposal of cases and non-awarding of compensation to the victims and urged all the judges dealing POCSO cases to decide the pending cases in a time bound manner. Moreover, he emphasized the need of awarding compensation to the victims strictly as per Rule 9 of the POCSO Rules, 2020 to provide relief and rehabilitation to the child victims, sources informed.

Pointing towards Section 35 of the POCSO Act, 2012, Justice (Contd on page 4 Col 3)

## 'Ultras hiding in Rajouri hills' Few people facilitating movement, survival of militants: Police

**Excelsior Correspondent**

RAJOURI, Feb 8: The Jammu and Kashmir Police has said that terrorists involved in the Dhangri village attack are hiding in the upper reaches of Rajouri district and announced a reward of Rs 10 lakh for anyone providing information about them.

**\*Watch video on www.excelsionews.com**

In an advisory, police also warned of stern action against those facilitating the terrorists in any way.

Seven people were killed and 14 injured as terrorists attacked Dhangri village in Rajouri on



Army searching absconding militants in a snow-bound area of Rajouri - Excelsior/Imran

January 1. While five people, including two brothers, were killed after the terrorists opened fire at some houses, two chil-

(Contd on page 4 Col 7)

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**Manoj Sinha**  
Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir

**Narendra Modi**  
Prime Minister

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