

From page 1



Arms and narcotics recovered by Army in Nowshera sector of Rajouri on Sunday.

Arms, narcotics seized in Rajouri

Based on intelligence inputs, the Army conducted operations near the LoC at Jhangar in Nowshera sector, leading to recovery of two sophisticated pistols, two kg narcotics and a two kg Improvised Explosive Device (IED), a Defence spokesperson said. "The operation has averted a major incident which could have been initiated by perpetrators using the weapons and the IED, funded by the narco terrorists," the spokesperson said. Recoveries in Nowshera sector of Rajouri came close on the heels

of huge haul of cash, US dollars, arms and narcotics from the house of PSA detenu Rafi Lala in the border district of Poonch. Soon after the recoveries, security forces conducted search operation at Jhangar and surrounding areas of Nowshera sector. However, no arrests were made.

Yesterday, police recovered five rusted grenades on the tip off given by a local at village Charangal in Gharota area of Jammu district which were destroyed in a controlled explosion by the Bomb Disposal Squad.

Power connections of ex-CM, BJP President, several Govt offices disconnected in Jammu

J&K Road Transport Corporation, Estates Officer IWPD Hill-II, Executive Engineer PWD at Narwal Bala, Police Station Trikuta Nagar, Kargil House near Jhelum Resort, Deputy Planner J&K Horticulture Produce Marketing Corporation, Superintendent of Police Panama Chowk, Chief Project Officer Marketing at Bahu Fort, Senior Project Officer Fisheries Marketing Division, Director Parks and Gardens Bagh-e-Bahu have been disconnected.

The notices for disconnection have been issued to Administrator Kala Kendra Bikram Chowk, Police Headquarters, J&K Handloom Development Corporation, former Deputy Chief Minister and senior BJP leader Kavinder Gupta, Managing Director J&K Police Housing Corporation, Assistant Labour Commissioner, Rail Head Complex, Managing Director J&K Cements, Director Floriculture etc.

Among the politicians, who have been served notices before disconnection of power connections are Asiya Naqash (over Rs 5 lakh arrears), Sunil Kumar (over Rs 4 lakh arrears), Raman Mattoo (over Rs 3 lakh arrears), J&K Apni Party Jammu (over

Banihal-Hingni stretch of USBRL project to be completed by June

expected to be completed by the end of this year. "Of the 111-km, 53 km falls in Ramban district and 87 percent of this length is covered by tunnels. The highest railway tunnel in the country, T-49 is constructed in the district," Deputy Commissioner, Ramban, Mussarat Islam said.

The work on the 12.758 km long T-49 tunnel, connecting Khari Aarpinchla and Sumbar, was completed on February 15 last year, surpassing the Pir Panchal tunnel of 11.2 km length constructed by USBRL on the Banihal-Qazigund section. "Given the pace of work, we are confident that the USBRL will be completed in the set timeline. The district administration has given full support to the execution companies whether it is Northern Railways, IRCON or Konkan Railway," Islam said.

Man kills woman; chops off her body to hide crime in Budgam

technical evidence was put to use and with the help of that, we were able to round up several suspects," he said. During the investigation, like others, Shahab Ahmad Wani, 40, son of Abdul Aziz Wani, resident of Mohandpora Budgam-who later confessed to the crime-was also rounded up for questioning.

"After sustained questioning, the accused confessed his involvement in the commission of the crime. He further revealed that he had cut the body of the murdered woman into several pieces and buried the parts at different locations to hide his crime. On his disclosure, the body parts have been recovered," he said. The SSP said that the head of the body was found at the residence of the accused while the rest, from neck to torso, was found under the Sebdan Bridge.

"Her limbs and arms were found in a water tank near the house of the accused; we have also recovered the weapon used in the crime-a knife-while the crime scene has been secured for further investigation," he said. Gilani said that the post-mortem has been conducted and that after the completion of all the medico-legal formalities, the body has been handed over to the family.

Specially abled job aspirants allege PSC, HED dissolving their reservation quota

made a detailed representation to the then Principal Secretary, Higher Education Department, Rohit Kansal who promised to look into their issues. "But, to our utter dismay on March 1, 2023, the Higher Education Department through PSC issued the 2021 notification afresh in which there was no mention of 4% horizontal reservation," Hajam further said.

Later, he said that he highlighted the matter with senior-ups and accordingly, an addendum to the PSC notification was issued afresh on March 8, 2023 that provided 4% horizontal reservation to the physically challenged persons having benchmark disabilities as identified in the Government order number 59-JK (SWD) of 2021 dated April 15, 2021. Bashir Ahmed Dar, Secretary, Jammu and Kashmir Public Service Commission (JKPSC), however, said that whatever the differently abled candidates have been alleging isn't true.

He said, "we had notified the 4% horizontal for persons with benchmark disabilities in the earlier notification as well". He appealed LG Manoj Sinha and other senior ups to look into the issues of the differently abled candidates on priority by ensuring them that the carry forward rule is implemented in letter and spirit.

NIA searches 5 locations in IS case

The searches were conducted by different teams at the houses of the suspected persons at four places in Seoni (Madhya Pradesh) and one location in Pune (Maharashtra), a spokesperson of the anti-terror federal agency said. Following up on the investigational leads, the official said, NIA teams searched the houses of suspects Talha Khan in Pune and Akram Khan in Seoni in the Islamic State- Khorasan Province (ISKP) case.

"This case was initially registered by Delhi Police special cell after the arrest of a Kashmiri couple - Jahanzaib Sami Wani and his wife Hina Bashir Beigh - from Okhla in Delhi. The couple was found to be affiliated with ISKP," the spokesperson said. During investigations, the role of another accused, Abdullah Basith, who was already lodged in Tihar Jail in another case being investigated by the NIA, emerged, the official said.

The NIA also carried out searches at three other locations in Seoni in the Shivamogga Islamic State conspiracy case. The places searched included the residential and commercial premises of suspects Abdul Aziz Salafi and Shobh Khan, the official said. On the Shivamogga case, the NIA said that as part of a conspiracy hatched from abroad, the accused persons - Mohamed Shariq, Maaz Muneer Khan, Yasin and others - based on instructions of their handler based abroad, targeted public and private properties such as warehouses, liquor shops, hardware shops, vehicles and other properties belonging to members of a particular community and committed over 25 incidents of arson and sabotage.

"They even carried out a mock IED blast. They were being funded through crypto-currencies by their online handler. As part of the larger conspiracy, accused Shariq planned to carry out IED blast at Kadri temple, Mangalore on November 19



Union Home Minister Amit Shah decorating Ashfaq Mohd of Reasi for his outstanding service during CISF Raising Day at Hyderabad on Sunday.

Separatism, terrorism will be dealt with firmly: Shah

face the challenges of the future. In this context, he said the Home Ministry has already drawn up an action plan. In the next 10 years, several opportunities would be available to CISF for the development. In the contemporary digital age, CISF has provided security to its stakeholders, he said adding that the security protocol has been made impenetrable by equipping it with state-of-the-art technologies like robotics, artificial intelligence. On the hybrid model adopted by CISF, the Union Home Minister said it is going to enhance the force's role in the times to come. The model would pave way for its use in advisory and many other roles in private companies as well.

In the coming decades, the central force would be able to safeguard even the private companies from security threats related to drones and modern technology. Observing that India has become a fast-growing economy today, Shah said it is our responsibility to keep the country's institutions, mines, ports and airports safe. The Union Home Minister further said there are several challenges facing the country today, such as counterfeit currency trade, infiltration and narcotics, and with a bright history, CISF has secured the country. Later, Shah paid homage to the CISF personnel who sacrificed their lives in the line of duty since its inception. CISF Director General (DG) Sheel Vardhan Singh spoke on the occasion. For the first time, the CISF held its annual Raising Day celebrations out of Delhi-National Capital Region (NCR) at the CISF National Industrial Security Academy (NISA) at Hakimpet here. (PTI)

Arms recovered in Handwara

which an old dump of arms and ammunition was unearthed. The spokesman said arms and ammunition include an AK 47 rifle with 2 magazines, 75 rounds, 10 grenades, 26 UBGL grenades, 8 UBGL boosters, 2

Kashmir witnesses change, atmosphere of peace: IB chief

are participating in the event. Deka complemented the Jammu and Kashmir Police for being at the forefront of protecting the country and its sovereignty. "The Jammu and Kashmir Police has made excellent arrangements for which I am thankful to the DGP and his team. Such flawless arrangements have been made for so many people, it is not easy," he added.

He said that the event will be an opportunity for these players to interact with the Jammu and Kashmir Police personnel and the people of Kashmir, get to know about the situation here and spread the message of peace and love all over the country. "Sports is a tool to strengthen team spirit, the biggest example of which is this football tournament," he said. Speaking to reporters on the sidelines of the event, JK Police chief Dilbag Singh said that while some incidents are taking place, violence has largely come down in Kashmir and attempts are being made to wipe out remnants of militancy. He, however, said that violence has not totally ended. "We have to remain cautious and alert", he added. "Targeted killings have also come down. Some incidents take place sometimes but we taken those seriously and counter measures are being taken. Attempts are on day and night to wipe out the remnants of terror and these will continue," he said.

The police chief also expressed happiness that youngsters who used to play with grenades are today taking part in sporting activities. "Today, they have bats and balls and the message of peace rather than grenades in their hands. I want to congratulate my people, my youth for this," he said. Singh said that while Kashmir is moving forward on the path of peace which is getting stronger but the enemy is finding it hard to digest it. "Our youth have to remain cautious and not fall prey to Pakistan's lust for violence and think about their families, society and its development," he added. The DGP said that the pro-Pakistan forces and Pakistani agencies have always indulged in violence in Kashmir and do not like peace here. "I want to appeal to our youth that the time has come to make these evil designs unsuccessful and strengthen peace," he added. Singh said that infiltration of militants from Pakistan is in control but it increases whenever the snow melts. "If there are any such attempts, we will foil those. We have taken all measures," he said. The DGP accused Pakistani agencies of running narcotics and terror together. "We have seized many such assignments. Both

FM to present J&K's 4th straight annual budget in LS today, increase likely

budget for next financial year. The Union Home Ministry has major say in budget of the Union Territories. This is more so in cases of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir as it has to spend a lot on Security Related Expenditure (SRE) due to over three decades long militancy. PTI Adds: The second leg of the Budget session will commence tomorrow with the Government asserting that its priority is to pass the Finance Bill and the Opposition planning to raise issues like the action of Central agencies against the BJP's political rivals and allegations against the Adani group.

The opposition parties will meet on Monday morning to evolve their strategy in both Houses of Parliament after protests by them on the Hindenburg-Adani issue overshadowed most of the first half of the Budget session. Congress leader K Suresh maintained that his party would continue to demand answers from the Government on the Adani-Hindenburg issue as it has been keeping a studied silence. The principal opposition party has been pressing for a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) probe. The opposition parties are also likely to vociferously raise the issue of recent raids by the CBI and the ED against opposition leaders, some of whom were questioned and even arrested in various cases. They have accused the BJP-led Government at the Centre of misusing the Central agencies to target leaders of the BJP's rival parties.

Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Arjunram Meghwal said that the top-most priority for the Government is the passage of the Financial Bill. "After that we'll look into the demands of the Opposition... The first responsibility of the Government is to get the Finance Bill passed. Then we will hold discussions on issues of the Opposition's demands," he said. The session, which began on January 31, is likely to conclude on April 6. Parliament is meeting after a month-long recess which allows various Parliamentary panels to scrutinise allocations made in the Union Budget for different Ministries.

Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Arjunram Meghwal said that the top-most priority for the Government is the passage of the Financial Bill. "After that we'll look into the demands of the Opposition... The first responsibility of the Government is to get the Finance Bill passed. Then we will hold discussions on issues of the Opposition's demands," he said. The session, which began on January 31, is likely to conclude on April 6. Parliament is meeting after a month-long recess which allows various Parliamentary panels to scrutinise allocations made in the Union Budget for different Ministries.

88 posts of Judicial Magistrates lying vacant in J&K

that there are 88 vacant posts of Judicial Magistrates as against the sanctioned posts of 245 in district and subordinate courts across the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. Some of the posts are lying vacant for quite long time and one such instance in the post of Judicial Magistrate at the Munsiff Court in Gool area of Ramban district, which is lying vacant for more than one year. Recently, the Judicial Magistrate at Ramban was given the additional charge of Gool but he sits only twice a week (Thursdays and Fridays) in Gool Munsiff Court and the court continues to remain non-functional for rest of the days leaving litigants and lawyers in the lurch. As per the reply, 752 cases are pending for disposal in Munsiff Court at Gool.

Advocate Mumtaz said that a permanent Judicial Magistrate is very important for Gool because it is approximately 50-60 kilometers from the District Court at Ramban. "People are suffering a lot due to the vacant post of the Judicial Magistrate in the Gool for more than a year. Giving additional charge to the Judicial Magistrate at Ramban has not helped and is only causing difficulty to people at both Gool and Ramban since the Ramban Judicial Magistrate sits at Gool for two days and at Ramban for the remaining days", she added. One has to travel 50 to 60 kilometers to the District Court at Ramban to get even an affidavit attested.

People have trusted poll results: CEC

BENGALURU, Mar 12: India has stabilised its social, political and linguistic issues peacefully in 70 years through dialogue mainly because of established democracy which was possible as people trust election results but still the Election Commission has to undergo 'Agnipariksha' after every poll, Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar said here.

He made these remarks at a press conference on Saturday while responding to a question on whether the people of Karnataka can trust the poll panel for free and fair elections in the State. He said with the conclusion of polls in Tripura, Nagaland and Meghalaya, the Election Commission has completed the 400th State Assembly election. There have been 17 Lok Sabha polls and 16 Presidential and Vice Presidential elections, he noted. "Results are accepted election after election and the transition of power each time has been smoothly done by ballot. This is in stark comparison to what has been recently happening even in many developed countries," he said. "In the last 70 years, India has stabilised its social, cultural, political, geographical, economic, linguistic issues peacefully and through dialogue mainly because of established democracy which is possible only because people trust election results. Still, ECI gives 'Agnipariksha' (trial by fire) every time after each election," he said.(PTI)

Single-day rise of 524 COVID cases

NEW DELHI, Mar 12: India logged 524 new Coronavirus cases after a gap of 113 days, while the active cases rose to 3,618, according to the Union Health Ministry data updated today. The death toll has increased to 5,30,781 with one death reconciled by Kerala, the data updated at 8 AM stated. The COVID case tally was recorded at 4.46 crore (4,46,90,492). The national COVID-19 recovery rate has been recorded at 98.80 per cent, the Ministry said. The number of people who have recuperated from the disease surged to 4.41,56,093, while the case fatality rate was recorded at 1.19 per cent. According to the Ministry's website, 220.64 crore doses of COVID vaccine have been administered in the country so far under the nationwide vaccination drive. (PTI)

WEATHER section with temperature, humidity, and sunrise/sunset times for Jammu and Srinagar.

DISCLAIMER section stating that the newspaper does not take responsibility for the contents of advertisements and that readers should verify the contents themselves.

CINEMA section listing showtimes for various movies at different theaters in Jammu.

Advertisement for Kamal Rohmetra and owned by Daily Excelsior, Executive Editor Neeraj Rohmetra, providing contact information and details about the publication.

JAMMU MUNICIPAL CORPORATION Executive Engineer, JMC Division-III, Jammu e-NIT No. JMC/D-III/80 of 2022-23 Dated:09-03-2023. For and on behalf of the Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Jammu, the Executive Engineer, Division-III, Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) invites online tenders on Percentage basis from registered class of Contractors/Firms as per the prescribed format for the works shown here under:

Table with columns: S.No, Name of work, Advertised Amount (In Lacs), Tender Fee In Rs., EMD 2% In Rs., Class, Time for completion. Includes details for construction/upgradation of lane along H/O Kewal Krishan to S K Gupta upto H/O Vishal and other and covering of drain along H/O Mangal Chib at Muthi in Ward No. 66.