More than 2.78 lakh EVs registered

in India in Jan-March 2023: Gadkari

'Russia-Ukraine conflict provides valuable pointers'

Counter terror ops shouldn't affect conventional response preparedness: Army Chief

NEW DELHI, Mar 23:

The Russia-Ukraine conflict has proved false the assumption of future wars being short and swift, have proved that distances need and the relevance of "hard power" stands reaffirmed, Chief of Army Staff Gen Manoj Pande said and stressed on indigenisation of said. defence production and technological development.

In his address at the 'PHDCCI DEF X TECH INDIA 2023' on Wednesday, he warned about the Army Chief said. "legacy of unsettled borders" that India has and highlighted the of Russian Navy guided missile "grey-zone aggression" concept, cruiser Moskva in April. saying it is increasingly becoming a preferred strategy for conflict res-

able pointers. The relevance of hard power stands reaffirmed with domain of warfare and notion of victory still being land centric," he said while talking about the lessons learnt from the conflict.

"The suppositions on duration pared for a full spectrum conflict said. even for a prolonged duration," the

He said one of the major takeaway from import dependency. balancing the new and the old. "The pursuit to infuse technology

Long-range precision fires equipment, Gen Pande said.

shoulder fired air defence missiles, said. manned, unmanned systems have democratised the air litoral," the

He also mentioned the sinking and better compatibility.

"Sinking of Moskva with just two hits of anti-ship cruise missiles said. highlights that even in the maritime "The current Russia-Ukraine domain, weapon platforms are conflict provides some very valu- more vulnerable than ever to low cost defence systems," he said.

"Technology I believe has also land continuing to be the decisive emerged as a new strategic arena of developments. "Our adversary's geo-political competition," Gen pursuit in grey zones continues

"The conclusion that we can draw is that self sufficiency in critical technologies and investment in ues and it is important to recognise of war I think needs to be reevalu- R&D (research and development) that infirmities in border manageated. Short, swift war which we is an inescapable strategic imperahave been talking of for some time tive. The security of nations cannot now may prove to be a false be outsourced, nor can it be the ambit of security and not just assumption and we need to be pre- dependent on other nations," he

On modernisation, he said the aways is that India needs to wean application, but also stressed on Pande said. At present, 47 per cent of the

Bhoomi, JKAACL launch campaign against drug abuse

Excelsior Correspondent

and Languages (JKAACL).

paign presented many attractive "Clean India" programmes in Kashmiri language. During these programmes, the Muthi , Nagrota and Jagati many people came out and expressed their interest.

In order to promote the comprehensive awareness programme show. of anti drug, Swachh Bharat and safe drinking water, J&K Bhoomi Human Welfare Society presented a series of Nukud Nataks, staged Jammu and Kashmir Art and

JAMMU, Mar 23: The series of the programme mainly of Awareness campaign against expressed to keep away from the drug addiction and drug traffick- drugs and lives happy life and also ing, for Swachh Bharat, Save appealed to the audience especialwater, Beti Bachao Beti Padao ly children to be the eyes and ears was held in Muthi, Nagrota and of the nation and pledge to put Jagti township today by Jammu maximum efforts to make J&K and Kashmir Bhoomi Human State free from menace of drug Welfare Society and Jammu and addiction and ensure Swatchh Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture Bharat which has been objective of all the saints, politicians and The artists during the cam- great souls whose dream is of

The programme based on the

theme drug abuse, the characters

All the people living around township actively participated and the artists showed their best performance during the series

Meanwhile, artists include Vinay Pandita, Daisy Bazaz, Sunny, Aryan Koul, Priya Dhar, shows under the auspices of Jetinder, Susheel Ji and Vijay Raina enthralled audience with their performance.

Dr Vikas Padha awarded by Govt of Punjab

JAMMU, Mar 23: The Dr Vikas Padha,

Marriot Hotel Chandigarh.

Government of Punjab awarded renowned Orthopaedic Surgeon Senior from Jammu and Kashmir was Consultant Orthopaedics and presented this award for his out-Joint Replacement at Shri Mata standing work he has been doing



of India Award by Punjab Govt.

healthcare pioneer of India today. Jammu without any problem, Cabinet Minister of Punjab, Aman high risk hip replacement a statement issued today. He said few small pockets of Kashmir Pillars of India (Shaping The Replacement Surgeries he has Felicitation 2023 been doing regularly.

Dr Vikas Padha who is a

Joint Replacement,

especially for his Orthopaedics and oint Replacement Surgeries in very elderly age group of population.

During felicitaion ceremony, the Record Surgery done by Dr Vikas Padha being presented the Pillars Dr Vikas Padha

upon a male patient Government of Punjab with "The cessful high risk hip surgery done Pillars of India Award" for being on 104 years old female from The award was presented by were widely applauded apart from



Album of devotional song released

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 23: During a programme organized by Rajveer Director, Perna Sharma. Manni, Producer Maa Bawe Wali Records, Kuldeep Raj, Farm Manager at Seed Multiplication Farm (SMF) Chinore; Pankaj Bhawani, and Sahil Mahaian, Maa Bawe Wali Records MD released devotional song album 'Tali Wali Maa' in the Album presence of Meenakshi Sharma and Ravinder Gupta.

The song has been sung by Sonu Raipuria and music composed positive way.

The video has been prepared by K.K Malhotra Films under Assistant

The album has been released on YouTube Channel 'Maa Bawe Wali

Records' simultaneously. Speaking on the occasion Sahil Agriculture Assistant, SMF Chinore Mahajan said that 'Tali Wali Maa' is revered by one and all in the whole

He said that India has a vast and rich cultural heritage and the devotees of fine arts ensure that the mind of our creative youth is directed Rajveer Manni; lyrics written by towards nurturing their skills in a

in our war fighting system indeed Indian Army's equipment are vinremains an enduring one," Gen tage, 41 per cent are current, while 12 per cent are state-of-the-art

"By 2030, we will have 20 per not necessarily grant or guarantee cent vintage equipment, 35 per safety, and air is no longer domi- cent current and 40-45 percent nated just by manned aircraft, he state-of-the-art systems wherein the contribution from the Indian "Drones, loiter ammunition, industry is going to be critical," he

> The Army Chief also stressed on the need to synergise with other services for better interoperability

> "It is critical that we harmonise our requirements. As we go for jointness this is going to be key," he

Talking about "grey-zone aggression", he said it is increasingly becoming a preferred strategy of conflict resolution, with its scope enhanced by technological even as we speak," he said.

He said India's legacy challenge of unsettled borders continment can lead to a wider conflict.

"These entail all aspects under exclusive to the military domain. We need capabilities not just to negate such attacks, but need to Indian Army has identified 47 keep our adversaries in a reacniche technologies for military tionary mode perpetually," Gen

He also stressed that the pronged commitment to counter terror and counter insurgency operations should not affect our conventional response prepared-



in a hawan at Keshav Bhawan, Ambphalla on Thursday.

2nd, 3rd floors of Keshav Bhawan inaugurated

Varsha Pratipadha festival organized by Dr Hedgewar Memorial Trust

Rahul Pandita, Ramesh Pandita, Pratipada festival was organized by Dr. Hedgewar Smriti Nyas at Excelsior Correspondent Ceremony held today at JW also inaugurated by the top offithe occasion. cials of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Smriti Nyas.

Sharma, Prant Pracharak Rupesh Kumar, Prant Vabystha Pramukh, Nagarmal Gupta and others were specially present on this occasion.

The programme was inaugu-

Sangh (RSS) Jammu and office bearers of the Sangh gave Kashmir in the presence of the good wishes to the entire society office bearers of Dr. Hedgewar on the occasion of Hindu New On this occasion, Prant wished for the bright future of including Samba district's top Bhushan and SHO Vijaypur, Sangchalak, Dr. Gautam Mangi, the society, the State and the

Divided opposition in J&K can't regain its lost ground: Jasrotia

Excelsior Correspondent

das that are poles apart, the divided opposition in Jammu and ground as tie-ups between small parties like NC, PDP and Congress.

the Delimitation Commission vant," he added. starting its work in recent weeks,

"PDP as party and Mehbooba

disorders as on one day she behaves a complete secular

The BJP spokesperson said Mufti as leader are struggling

both the National Conference understand that hypocrisy in poli-(NC) and the Peoples Democratic tics leads one nowhere and do Party (PDP) have lost almost all reform to stay relevant. Voters on Mufti are hit hard, the discourse Mehbooba Mufti can't take them from Mehbooba Mufti has to be to further ride. One day visiting oriented towards peace and temple and other day criticizing progress if she wants to achieve majority community of this counway ahead," Jasrotia said. He stat- try type politics won't take ed that the PDP president seems Mehbooba Mufti much long,"

3 injured in assault case, 5 booked

JAMMU, Mar 23: At least three people suffered injuries after they were assaulted by another group in Miran Sahib Area here on

A police spokesperson said that two families clashed with each other at Maralian area of Miran Sahib this afternoon, resulting in injuries to three people, who were taken to Government Medical College and Hospital Jammu for treatment.

They have been identified as Khalda (35) wife of Mohammad Sadiq, Asmat (37) wife of Nazir Ahmed, and Mohammad Sahil (12) son of Mohammad Sadiq, all residents of Dak Banglow, Maralian, Miran Sahib, Jammu.

SHO Miran Sahib, Insepctor Zaheer Mushtaq told the Excelsior that the accused have been booked in case FIR 65/2023 under sections 451, 147, 323, 354 IPC and 4/25 Arms Act and further investigation taken up.



Former MLA and senior BJP leader Devender Singh Rana listening public grievances at Jammu on Thursday.

Cong, NC, PDP uphold 'nepotism', BJP upholds 'nation first': Rana

stressing for early resolution so that

while listening to the grievances,

Devender Singh Rana attacked the

opportunist parties like Congress,

NC and PDP. He said that these

parties always promoted their own

family interests above all and still

they uphold 'nepotism' as their first

priority, but Bharatiya Janata Party

has always upheld its 'nation first'

proving to be a boon for the common

masses. People in large numbers visit

Drug peddler held

with Ganja

Excelsior Correspondent

Government Railway Police

(GRP) Jammu claimed today that they have arrested a drug

peddler from Railway Station

Jammu and recovered from his

possession one kilograms of

Chatterpur, Madhya Pradesh at

present Bagad Mandi, Trikuta

Nagar, Jammu, was arrested by

a team of GRP Jammu led by

ascertain the source of the con-

involved in the illegal trade.

Singh

A GRP spokesperson said

Pawan Kumar of

Ganja.

Mar

according to it.

Speaking to the media persons,

the people are not made to suffer.

JAMMU, Mar 23: Opportunist parties like Congress, NC, PDP have always promoted their own family interests and still they uphold 'nepotism' as their first priority, but Bharatiya Janata Party has always upheld its 'nation first' policy, said Devender Singh Rana.

Former MLA and senior BJP leader Devender Singh Rana, accompanied by BJP media secretary, Dr. Pardeep Mahotra listened to policy. He said that with the misthe grievances of a large number of sion to serve the 'nation and sociepeople belonging to different areas of ty', BJP has always listened to the Jammu & Kashmir at party voice of the people and acted Headquarter, Trikuta Nagar, here,

Individuals and deputations of the proceedings of the grievance people from various areas of Jammu camp. He said that the Public & Kashmir had reached Trikuta Grievances Cell initiated by BJP is Nagar office to meet BJP leaders with their grievances. They narrated their woes and sought kind interven- the BJP office to present their issues tion of the party leaders to get their with a strong belief in the party, he problems solved. Issues related to the PHE, PDD,

road macadamization, Revenue, other issues related to the development and personal issues were presented in front of senior party leaders.

Devender Singh Rana after hearing to the problems presented by the

Dr Hedgewar Memorial Trust and RSS leaders participating

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 23: Varsha

Keshav Bhavan, Ambphala here, rated with Havan and Puja today. On this occasion, a havan Archana by Dr. Gautam Mangi, was performed with Vedic chant- Prant Karyawah, Dr. Vikrant ing to mark the beginning of the Sharma, Prant Pracharak Rupesh Hindu New Year Vikrami Samvat Kumar, Prant Vabystha Pramukh 2080. Along with this, the newly Nagarmal Gupta etc. A large constructed second and third number of eminent citizens and floors of Keshav Bhavan were volunteers were also present on

In their brief address, the Year Vikrami Samvat 2080 and

Prant Karyavah, Dr. Vikrant country.

JAMMU, Mar 23: With agen-

their key faces in J&K. to be suffering from personality Jasrotia asserted.

human and next day a communal

Kashmir cannot regain its lost Mehbooba seems to have lost the plot of politics and her stategroups will boomerang rather ments as well as vision too Katra has been awarded by the aged 119 years along with suc- than giving any political edge to seems to have lost the track. "PDP as party and Mehbooba This was said by J&K BJP hard for their political survival as spokesperson Abhijeet Jasrotia in they have confined themselves to represented Surgeries on Kidney failure with a new political contour only, which proved beyond Government of Punjab in The patients and complex Total Knee emerging in J&K since the abrodoubt that they have now turned gation of Article 370 in 2019 and out to be now steadily non rele-

"Mehbooba Mufti should ground want to listen talk of

Excelsior Correspondent

Thursday, police said.

Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari today said more than 2.78 lakh electric vehicles have been registered in the country in

> 2023 calendar year so far. Andhra Pradesh Madhya Pradesh are in the process of migrating to Vahan portal and hence their data on EV registration is partially included while Telangana and Lakshadweep data is not available on the portal, Gadkari said in a written reply to the Lok

According to the data on the portal, the registration of electric vehicles (EVs) in India rose to 10,20,679 in 2022 from 3,29,808 in 2021.

Replying to a separate question, Gadkari said National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has planted 344.27 lakh tress under Green Highways Policy during the period 2016-17 to 2022-23 (up to February Dr. Pardeep Mahotra conducted 2023). Responding to another question, he said NHAI envisions development of wayside amenities (WSAs) at every 30-40 kilometre across brownfield national highways and greenfield expressways.

Till date, 156 WSAs have been awarded, Gadkari added. According to Gadkari, in



Nitin Jairam Gadkari, Central Minister for Road Transport and Highways addressing huge gathering during an inaugural ceremony for the projected Double Decker elevated corridor on NH-33 of worth Rs 3884-crores, in the steel city Jamshedpur, Jharkhand on Thursday. (UNI)

applications for grant of registration certificate to set up automated testing stations and registered vehicle scrapping facilities National Single Window System (NSWS).

Currently, 18 states/UTs are live on NSWS for accepting applications for Voluntary Vehicle-Fleet Modernisation Programme (V-VMP), the min-

NSWS include Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chandigarh, Pradesh (6,247), followed by Delhi, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Gujarat (1,244) and Assam order to promote ease of doing Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya (357). (PTI)

business for private investors, Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, the ministry has facilitated the Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, among

> received applications from 79 investors for setting up registered vehicle scrapping facilities across 17 states out of which, 48 are approved by the respective

the minister, 8,220 old vehicles were scrapped in the country from January 2022 till March 20 The states/UTs live on 2023. The maximum old vehicles were scrapped in Uttar

Par panel recommends new law to define power, functions of CBI

Highlighting withdrawal of general consent for CBI probe by many states, a Parliamentary Committee has said that an existing law governing the federal probe agency has "many limitations" and there is a need to enact a new legislation to define its status, functions and powers.

conerned SHO Inspector Rohit The federal probe agency was during patrolling/checking, near Loco Shed, Railway Station, Jammu. He said that a case FIR number 8/2023 under sections 8/20 of the NDPS Act has been registered at GRP Jammu and further investigation started to

and as on date, nine states have withdrawn the general consent. The Committee feels that the Special

tations and therefore, recommends that there is a need to enact a new law and define the status, functions and powers of the CBI and also lay down safeguards to ensure objectivity and impartiality in its functioning," it said.

should be made to fill up vacancies at the earliest". A total of 1,709 posts are vacant in the CBI against its sanc-

tioned strength of 7,295. 'The Committee is of the opinion that vacancies in the cadres of executive ranks, law officers and technical officers will unquestionably increase pendency of cases, hamper the quality of investigation and ultimately impact the effectiveness and efficiency of the agency," the report said.

The panel further recommended that the Director of CBI should monitor the progress made in fill- the annual report of CBI is also ing up of vacancies on a quarterly not accessible to the general pubbasis and take necessary measures guidance of SSP Samba Benam officers comprising of PSIs, to ensure that the organisation is sufficiently staffed.

sons for delay in filling up of vacancies, CBI informed the committee that it is not receiving sufficient nominations of officers from Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) and state police which have traditionally been a major source of induction, particularly up to the rank of inspector in the organisation, it said.

"CBI further said that CAPFs and state police are under increasing pressure within their own jurisdictions and hence have expressed challenges in sparing officers and personnel to the same extent as in the past," the report

Several ioin NC **Excelsior Correspondent**

BANIHAL, Mar 23: About two dozen political activists, including a prominent academician and socio-religious activist Advocate Tariq Ibrahim Sohil besides two retired police officers from Neel joined the National Conference in presence of party leader and District President, Ramban, Sajjad Shaheen and other senior party functionaries at Neel today.

Welcoming the new entrants into the party fold, in a hurriedly organised joining function held at Bus stand Neel Top, Sajjad Shaheen said that National Conference is natural destination for all those public spirited political activists, who want to work for political stability and unity between various religions and regions, peace and progress of all the three regions of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir.

He said joining of prominent figures like Adv Tariq Ibrahim Sohil, Raja Fazal Haq Sohil (Retd SI), Mohd Rafique Sohil (Retd SI), Abdul Latif Sohil and others reflects the growing realization among the people that the NC is the only party that can uphold their dignity and steer the erstwhile state out of the present morace and lead it to a new era of peace, progress and development.

He said the Government has

As per the data provided by

for any investigation by the CBI

NEW DELHI, Mar 23:

established in 1963. It is governed by the Delhi Special Police Establishment (DSPE) Act, enacted to regulate the functioning of the special police establishment set up in 1941 to investigate cases of bribery and corruption involving purchases and supplies during

signment and other persons department-related Parliamentary Standing "The arrest and recovery Committee on Personnel, Public was made under the overall Grievances, Law and Justice said supervision of SSP GRP Jammu that according to the provisions of and SDPO GRP Jammu," said the DSPE Act, the consent of the

the GRP spokesperson. Samba police arrests 2 inter-state heroin suppliers

Excelsior Correspondent

Tosh, police has arrested two Vaneet Kumarand Maneesh interstate suppliers of heroin Sharma, SHO Ghagwal, Bharat wanted heroin

"Bachu". The arrested heroin suppliers Din alias Bachu, son of Masoom tigation is going on. Ali of Rakh Barotian, Vijaypur and Mushtaq Ahmed alias Nayat,

districts on huge margins.

The Interstate heroin suppliers SAMBA, Mar 23: Under the have been nabbed by a team of supplier Tribhawan Khajuria. A case under relevant sections of NDPS Act stands registered at Police have been identified as Shamasu Station (PS), Vijaypur and inves-

Senior Superintendent of Police Samba, Benam Tosh said son of Zahoor Hussain of Rakh that police is proactive to vanish Barotian Vijaypur. They used to narco-business in Samba district collect consignment of heroin once for all and would definitely from Punjab and supply it further achieve the intended target of to the small suppliers and individ- completely freeing Samba society ual addicts of Samba and Jammu from drug menace.

She assured that every possi-

ble initiative which could help in

Rajni Bala kick-starts blacktopping work at Mohallah Dhok

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 23: Corporator making their lives comfortable Rajni Bala today kick-started will be taken up on priority so black topping of lanes at that the basic demands of the Mohallah Dhok, Ward Number public could be met. The segment. The estimated cost of the work is Rs 35 lakh.

Addressing the gathering, Rajni Bala said it was a long the area which was fulfilled the area. today. She said that being the peo-

in Jammu North Assembly segment.

bounden duty to ensure that proj-

ects facilitating the life of the peo-

whenever needed. She assured

model ward.

ple's representative it is her authorities at the earliest.

60 near Lower Roop Nagar Councillor asked the executing falling in Jammu North Assembly agency to complete the blacktopping work on a fast track basis so that the people may not face any inconvenience. She also laid stress upon the officials progress not destruction and pending demand of the people of to maintain quality of work in Later, the Congress leader interacted with people of the area and listened to

their issues which included irregular water supply and upgradation of lanes and drains in their area. She gave a patient nearing to their grievances and assured to get all JMC Corporator Rajni Bala initiating blacktopping work of lanes at Mohallah Dhok these addressed by approaching

the

mounting them.

concerned Raini Bala asserted that Congress being more than 70 ple of the Ward are executed years old party and committed to address people's issues on priority the people that she would leave especially those pertaining to no stone unturned in transforming basic amenities, is the only solu-Ward Number 60, making it a tion to get rid of the miseries sur-

The Committee, in its previous reports, had recommended CBI to reduce its dependence on

deputationists and strive to recruit permanent staff in the ranks of Establishment Act has many limi-Inspector of Police and Deputy Superintendent of Police. (PTI) "However, CBI showed unwillingness and justified its stand citing that deputationists bring in fresh ideas, novel strate-

gies and varied skill sets with them and that direct recruitment at The panel said that vacant posts in the CBI are not being higher levels would affect career progression," it said. (PTI) filled up at the required pace and The Committee said it fully recommended that "every effort agrees with the view of CBI that deputationists benefit the organi-

sation with their expertise and skill sets, however, feels that an organisation should keep the mode of recruitment through deputation to minimum. It said that the details of cases registered with the CBI, the progress made in their investiga-

> asked the agency to put in public domain the details to the extent The committee observed that

tion and the final outcome are not

available in public domain and

"The committee is of the opinion that in this age of transparency, On being asked about the rea- every public authority should strive to proactively disclose the data available with it or held by it in public domain to the extent possible," said the report tabled in the

Parliament recently.

er the citizens but will also make the functioning of CBI more accountable, responsible, efficient and transparent. The committee, therefore, rec-

ommended CBI to publish case

information will not only empow-

It said that providing access to

statistics and annual reports on its The panel also reiterated its recommendation that CBI should maintain a case management system which would be a centralised database containing details of

cases registered with it and the progress made in their disposal. The case management system should also enable tracking of the progress of each individual case and should be, by and large, accessible to the general public,

the report said. (PTI) Woman killed, husband injured

in accident **Excelsior Correspondent**

KATHUA, Mar 23: A woman was killed and her husband was injured in road accident when a truck hit the motorcycle on which were travelling on Hatli road.

The accident took place when a truck bearing registration no JK08D5553 hit a motorcycle no JK08A9624 at Mehroli on Hatli road. Both husband and wife travelling fell down on bike and woman was killed on spot and husband injured. The deceased woman identified as Sushma devi(32) wife of Pawan Kumar resident Dralta. Mahanpur. The injured Pawan Kumar was shifted to GMC kathua for treatment and woman's body was kept in mortuary for postpartum. Kathua Police seized the truck and registred a case.