



Dilapidated condition of a road in Doda.

Bhargran-Behota road dilapidated, locals suffer

Excelsior Correspondent

DODA, May 1: The bad condition of Bhargran to Behota link road at Ukundru Morh here has increased the problems for the locals who are urging the authorities concerned to get the road repaired. The affected people have claimed that officials of the concerned department are not interested to expedite the repair work on the road which is in dilapidated condition for long. A local social activist, Farid Ahmed claimed that entire road from Bhargran to Behota is

LPG, ATF price cut

NEW DELHI, May 1: Domestic cooking gas LPG prices remained unchanged at Rs 1,103 per 14.2-kg cylinder in the national capital. Domestic LPG rates were last changed on March 1, when they were hiked by Rs 50 per cylinder. State-owned Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) revised cooking gas prices on the 1st of every month based on average international prices in the previous month. Separately, ATF price was cut by 2.45 per cent in line with international trends. Accordingly, jet fuel rates were reduced by Rs 2,414.25 per kilolitre to Rs 95,935.34 per kl in Delhi.

4,282 new Corona cases, 14 deaths

NEW DELHI, May 1: India today reported 4,282 coronavirus infections, while the number of active cases dropped by over 1,750 to stand at 47,246, according to the latest Health Ministry data. The death toll has increased to 5,31,547 with 14 more fatalities, which includes six reconciled by Kerala, the data updated at 8 am showed. On Sunday, India had reported 5,874 coronavirus cases, while the number of active cases was 49,015. The daily positivity rate recorded today was 4.92 per cent while the weekly positivity was pegged at 4.00 per cent. The total tally of COVID cases was recorded at 4.49 crore (4,49,49,671). The active cases now constitute 0.11 per cent of the total infections, while the national COVID-19 recovery rate has been recorded at 98.71 per cent, according to the health ministry website. The number of people who have recuperated from the disease rose to 4,43,70,878 while the case fatality rate was recorded at 1.18 per cent. According to the ministry's website, 220.66 crore doses of Covid vaccine have been administered in the country so far under the nationwide COVID-19 vaccination drive. (PTI)

BSP's Afzal Ansari disqualified as Lok Sabha member

NEW DELHI, May 1: napping-murder of Varanasi-based trader Nand Kishore Rungta in 1997. "Consequent upon his conviction...Afzal Ansari, Member of Lok Sabha representing the Ghazipur Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh, stands disqualified from the membership of Lok Sabha from the date of his conviction i.e. 29 April, 2023 in terms of the provisions of Article 102(1)(e) of the Constitution of India read with Section 8 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951," according to a Lok Sabha secretariat notification. On March 24, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi lost his Lok Sabha membership after his conviction and two-year jail term in a 2019 defamation case. (PTI)

Notorious bovine smuggler booked under PSA

Excelsior Correspondent

RAJOURI, May 1: A notorious bovine smuggler hailing from Rajdhani village of Thanamandi in Rajouri district and booked in seven cases has been detained under Public Safety Act (PSA). Official sources identified the bovine smuggler as Imran Ahmed, son of Shabir Ahmed, resident of village Rajdhani in Tehsil Thanamandi. The Police said that the accused has been booked under Public Safety Act for smuggling bovines in an organised manner posing a threat to peace and order. He did not change his behaviour inspite of being booked in several FIRs and arrest by police in these cases but he continued his illegal and unlawful act of smuggling bovines and such activities are likely to disturb public order particularly in Rajouri district. The cases in which accused has been booked earlier include



BJP senior leader and former Minister, Sat Sharma during a meeting of party cells at Jammu on Monday.

Extend public welfare schemes to masses: Sat to BJP Cells

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, May 1: Sat Sharma, former Minister exhorted BJP Cells to extend public welfare schemes to masses in a meeting conducted at party Headquarter, Trikuta Nagar, here, today. Sat Sharma was addressing a meeting of Cell convenors and co-convenors of Professional Cell, Senior Citizen Cell and Education, Employees and Teachers' Cell of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu & Kashmir. Ved Sharma, co-incharge BJP all cells, in welcome address discussed the forthcoming party programmes to be organized from May 15 to June 15. Sat Sharma, who is also Prabhari of these cells, discussed certain issues relating to extension of party activities and strengthening of these cells during the meeting. He focused on the plan to organize various programmes in all districts of Jammu in which achievements made by the Modi Government during the last nine years will be taken to the common masses. Sat Sharma said that the direct benefits of public welfare schemes initiated by the Modi Government would be shared with the public. He exhorted activists of BJP Cells to extend public welfare schemes to masses during their exercise. SK Sharma (Retd Income Tax Commissioner) presented a vote of thanks. Mukherjee Sharma, J D Singh, Pooja Gupta, Varinder Gupta & Tilak Raj Sharma were amongst the prominent present in the meeting.

drinking water since more than one year. More so, they have dumped all the excavated earth not on the dumping grounds but on the roadside lands of the local farmers, he said. Pathania was further apprehensive of lackadaisical execution of work by PGCIL in newly sanctioned stations at Plaiter, Sen, Nardi, Samaga, Rajan Talab, Batata in tehsil Majalta. He also underscored the need for early completion of JMM schemes throughout the length and breadth of district Udhampur. In this respect, he drew attention towards the tendered schemes such as ones at Dalsar, Sullan and Katwal which despite allotment of the contracts have not been started. He also pinpointed cases where the contractors have already overshoot the specified time limits. He called for qualitative completion of works in the district. Those who were present on the occasion, included Capt Gopal Singh Mankotia (Mandal Pardhan), Mohan Lal Sharma (Mandal Pardhan), Shiv Ram, Baldev Singh Mankotia, Anil Sharma, Ved Pal (Mandal General Secretaries), Kuldeep Singh, Onkar Singh, Surinder Singh Sarpanch, Shukar Din, Charan Das, Onkar Singh, Ashok Kumar Bhagat, Suneet Singh, Tirath Ram, Suresh Kumar and others.



R S Pathania addressing a meeting of BJP cadres at Dhema on Monday.

Divisive forces stand exposed: Pathania

Excelsior Correspondent

DHEMA (Majalta), May 1: Spokesperson J&K BJP and former MLA Rammagar, R S Pathania said that divisive forces stand exposed in the wake of a slew of mischievous takes issued by political parties and their leaders in the aftermath of Poonch attack. "It is biggest travesty of time and justice that at the time when nation should stand united, some political parties have tried to add political colors and tinges to the entire controversy. We stand firm behind the security forces and encourage their morale as well as the way they have volunteered in neutralising the militancy in J&K," he said, while addressing a well attended meeting of party cadres at Dhema. The BJP leader said that all-out campaign of Government against terrorism, corruption and secessionism has set a trend and rather a wave in J & K whereby people have come to heave a sigh of relief. Drawing attention towards developmental works, Pathania was critical of slipshod execution of work on PMGSY roads at Mottu to Panjian and Banjian to Nokain. Contractor agency in a criminal way has suspended drinking water pipes of the area thereby keeping the people bereft of

252 bovine animals rescued, 26 smugglers arrested

Excelsior Correspondent

UDHAMPUR, May 1: Foiling 29 attempts of bovine smuggling across Udhampur district, Police have rescued 252 bovines and arrested 26 smugglers in the last few days. Acting on the specific inputs of transportation of bovine animals, these smuggling bids were foiled under the jurisdiction of Police Station Udhampur, Police Station Majalta, Police Station Chenani, Police Station Ramnagar, Police Station Rehambal and Police Station Basantgarh. 14 vehicles transporting bovines were intercepted while

Theft case worked out, stolen items worth Rs 36 lakh recovered

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, May 1: Police today claimed that they have worked out a theft case by arresting five thieves besides recovering from their possession stolen items worth Rs 36 lakh. A police spokesperson said that on April 3, 2023, a written complaint was lodged by one Amit Kumar son of Dalip Kumar of Uttam Nagar, Kunjwani, Jammu, at Police Station Gangyal, stating therein that some thieves decamped with gold items from his home when he and his family members were not home on April 3 itself. On receipt of the complaint, a case FIR number 46/2023 under Section 454/380 IPC was registered at Police Station Gangyal and investigation taken up, he said. "During the course of investigation, a team of Police Station Gangyal led by SDPO South Sachit Sharma assisted by SHO Gangyal, Inspector Aijaz Haider and ASI Jamal Din, rounded up a group of suspects by connecting various leads," he said. "During sustained questioning, five of the suspects identified as Mehboob Akhter of Basohli at present Nai Basti, Bari Brahmana; Bhagawaan Gopinathji Ashram holds free orthopedic camp



Rotary Club members with the children who were selected for free treatment of heart diseases.

Rotary Club conducting free of cost treatment of heart diseases

Excelsior Correspondent

UDHAMPUR, May 1: The Udhampur Rotary Eye & General Welfare Foundation and Rotary Club Udhampur Governing Body members today flagged off 1st batch of two children for treatment of their heart diseases. The duo, namely Alia Poswal (6), daughter of Mohd Shabir, resident of Battal Ballian, Udhampur and Seerat Bhat (2 1/2), daughter of Mohd Sharook, resident of Sana Batote are suffering from serious heart diseases. Rotary International has taken the challenge to provide gift of life to the poor patients on 1st May 2023. The flagged off patients will be operated at Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi free of cost. Total patients registered for heart surgery by Rotary Foundation are 47 and rest of the patients will also be similarly operated in near future. Flagging off the 1st batch of two patients was attended by Rotarians of Udhampur. The heart surgeries of the patients are being carried out under the "Gift of Life" project of Rotary International to save the lives of children suffering from heart ailment. The Udhampur Rotary Eye & General Welfare Foundation and Rotary Club Udhampur extended special thanks to H M P Singh, Chairman Gift of Life Trust (Delhi) for giving special priority to the poor patients of J&K. stakeholders about PSGA and its effective implementation. It provided a platform for participants to learn and discuss the various aspects of the act and its significance in ensuring the timely delivery of services to the citizens. Seven gamblers held

Stolen bike seized, youth arrested

Excelsior Correspondent

RAJOURI, May 1: The police claimed to have solved bike theft case with the recovery of motorcycle and arrest of the bike lifter in Rajouri area today. Reports said on April 30, one Shuib Iqbal, son of Javid Iqbal, a resident of Mendhar in district Poonch lodged a written complaint at Police Station Rajouri, stating that his bike Yamaha R15 has been stolen from Badhoon area of Rajouri bearing registration number

Warm send off accorded to retirees

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, May 1: In a farewell function organized today, Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Traffic City Jammu Faisal Qureshi presented a note of recognition to Inspector (M) Mohinder Singh on his superannuation. The Officer rendered 39 years of unblemished service in J&K Police. Raj Pal Singh, Additional SP Traffic City Jammu, Deputy SP Traffic City South Birkam Kumar and Deputy SP Traffic City North Farah Nishad recalled the services of the retiring officer and wished him healthy and blissful post-retirement life. A grand function was organized by staff members of B M H S S Thannamandi to accord warm farewell to Mohd Rafiq Dar (Lecturer), who retired after rendering 34 years of active service to the Department. Principal Mohd Sadeeq Ghanae and other staff members highlighted the work done by Rafiq Dar during his service period and wished him good health and prosperous retired life. In a similar function, staff of Government High School Manyal accorded a warm farewell to the outgoing Head of Institution Razia Dar who achieved superannuation on Saturday. All the staff members wished the retiree a happy post retirement life. Vipin Dutta (Computer Assistant), posted in the Directorate of Health Services Jammu was accorded a warm send off on his superannuation by the staff of the Directorate. He rendered 37 years of service in the Department. To bid him farewell, a function was organized in the premises of the Directorate. The staff wished him good health and prosperous post retirement life.

One killed, 2 injured in road accidents

Excelsior Correspondent

KISHTWAR, May 1: One person was killed and two others were grievously injured in two different road accidents here today. As per police sources a load carrier bearing registration number JK17A-2018 overturned on Kishtwar-Padder road resulting in on spot death of one Mahavir Tanti, son of Jugal Tanti, resident of Paharpur, Ahmadabad. Driver of the vehicle managed to escape from the spot where as another person on board received minor injuries. Meanwhile, in another accident a van of Ecco make bearing registration number JK06B 5445 rolled down at Bandarkoot leaving one Vijay Kumar, 32, son of Jagdish Kumar, resident of Marmat Doda, injured. He was shifted to District Hospital Kishtwar for treatment.

Awareness program on PSG Act held in Uri

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, May 1: Action Aid Association, in collaboration with Uri Foundation, organized a one-day awareness cum sensitization program on the Public Service Guarantee Act (PSGA) 2011 with the elected representatives of village Garkote in the border town of Uri in north Kashmir's Baramulla district. The program was themed "Towards Consensus Building on PSGA" with relevant stakeholders. Advocate Toseal Ahmad and Naveed Bukhtiyar were the speakers for the program. Toseal talked in detail about the objective and purpose of the act, services covered by the act, and remedies available under the law. He also discussed the procedure and implementation part of the act and emphasized that strong implementation is only possible when this law is used effectively and officers are held accountable. At the end of the program, a question-answer session was held followed by an interaction session where participants shared their concerns and experiences. The program aimed to create awareness and sensitize the

Abducted minor girl recovered, kidnapper held

Excelsior Correspondent

KISHTWAR, May 1: Police here today recovered a minor kidnapped girl within days of her abduction and arrested the kidnapper. As per police sources on April 27, 2023 a complaint was lodged by a man that his daughter was kidnapped by one Sajad Hussain, son of Farooq Ahmed, resident of Dachhan in this regard under relevant sections of the law. After this search for the kidnapped girl was started when SSP Kishtwar, Khalil Poswal constituted a special team led by SHO Dachhan Inspector, Zaheer Iqbal under the supervision of SDPO Marwah, Devindar Singh. The police team recovered the girl within days and arrested the kidnapper Sajid Ahmed from the forest area of Dachhan. The kidnapped girl was produced before the CWC Kishtwar and after all medico-legal formalities she was handed over to her legal heirs.

Bhagawaan Gopinathji Ashram holds free orthopedic camp

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, May 1: To take forward his message that service to mankind is service to God, an orthopedic free medical camp was organised at Bhagawaan Gopinathji Ashram, Udaiwala, Bohri near here, today under the supervision of Tej Krishan Raina coordinator Bhagawaan Gopinathji Trust. The camp was held in connection with celebration of 125th birth anniversary of Jagadguru Bhagawaan Gopinathji. Dr M K Mam a well known Orthopedic Surgeon conducted the medical checkup of 64 ailing people. Dr Lipika Koul, Physiotherapist also attended the camp and suggested necessary exercises to the patients. Besides, free medicines the free BMO tests were also conducted in the camp.

Two drug peddlers held with heroin

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, May 1: Two drug peddlers were arrested with 4.75 grams heroin from Jhajjar Kotli area here today. As per a police spokesperson, a team of Police Station Jhajjar Kotli led by SDPO Nagrota, Akash Kohli assisted by SHO Jhajjar Kotli, Inspector Azad Ahmed while on naka duty at Suketar, rounded up two suspects. During search of their belongings, he said, 4.75 grams of heroin was recovered. The accused identified as Rajinder Singh of Permote, Reasi and Shubham Sharma of Serli, Reasi, have been booked in case FIR number 65/2023 under sections 8/21/22 of the NDPS Act registered at Police Station Jhajjar Kotli and further investigation taken up.

Ganaie inducted DPAP president for Ganderbal Distt unit

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, May 1: Qaiser Sultan Ganaie has been appointed as president of the Ghulam Nabi Azad's DPAP for district Ganderbal. A party spokesman said that appointment of Ganaie was made by the party general secretary, R S Chib on the recommendation of the DPAP chairman, Ghulam Nabi Azad. The injured were identified as Hasham Mair, son of Niaz Mair; Suraj Patil, son of Ram Patil both residents of Bihar; Javid, son of Mohd Ahmed, resident of UP (Under treatment in GMC Rajouri), Mohd Shahid, son of Mohd Sadiq, a resident of Lohailbella, Mandi. The police has taken cognizance.