

## POCSO offender sentenced to 20 years RI; Rs. 50,000 fine imposed

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: Udhampur Police has secured conviction in a sensitive POCSO case registered at Police Station Ramnagar. The case pertains to FIR No. 85/2020 U/S 5(m)/6 of the POCSO Act at PS Ramnagar wherein the accused Mohd. Arshad @ Nikka was charged with the sexual assault of a minor girl.

Following a thorough and professional investigation led by Inspector Jaswinder Singh who was also the SHO Ramnagar, the charge-sheet was submitted before the Court of Law.

After the due course of trial, the Principal Sessions Judge Udhampur, convicted the accused under Sections 5(m)/6 of the POCSO Act. The accused has been sentenced to 20 years of rigorous imprisonment along with a fine of Rs 50,000.

## Five gamblers arrested, stake money seized

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SHOPIAN: Continuing its drive against social crimes, Police in Shopian arrested five gamblers and seized stake money along with playing cards from their possession.

Acting on a reliable input, a police party from Police Station Shopian swiftly raided the gambling site at Deegam Nagball and apprehended the five gamblers on spot. They have been identified as Adil Rehman Wachkoo son of Ab Rehman resident of Hergam Shopian, Suhail Ahmad Bhat son of Mohd Ahsan resident of Keegam, Tariq Ahmad Bhat son of Ab Gani resident of Babmohalla Shopian, Sajad Ahmad Ganie son of Ab Gani resident of Berthipora and Sajad Ahmad Wani son of Ali Mohd resident of Mughalpora Keegam.

Officers have seized stake money of ₹45,000/- and playing cards from their possession. They have been arrested and shifted to police station where they remain in custody. Accordingly, a case vide FIR No. 224/2025 under relevant

sections of law has been registered at Police Station Shopian and investigation has been initiated.

## 5 drug peddlers arrested, contraband substances recovered

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Continuing its efforts to eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, police have arrested five drug peddlers in Avantipora, Shopian & Sopore and recovered contraband substances from their possession. In Avantipora, during naka checking at Tulbagh Pampore, a Police party led by SHO Police Station Pampore intercepted a vehicle bearing registration number JK02C-0370 with tow persons on board. During search, 30 grams of Charas Powder like substance was recovered from their possession. Both the accused identified as Younis Nisar Joo son of Nisar Ahmad Joo resident of Wuyan and Syed Majid Altaf son of Mohd Altaf resident of Lethpora have been arrested and vehicle used in the commission of crime has also been seized. In Shopian, a police party during naka checking at Melhura Zainapora arrested two women drug peddlers and recovered 15Kgs of crushed Cannabis and 1Kg of Charas like substance from their possession. Similarly in Sopore, a police party arrested a drug peddler during naka checking at Sidiq Colony Sopore and recovered significant quantity of psychotropic substances including Codeine Phosphate bottles and Alprazolam tablets from his possession. He has been identified as Junaid Mushtaq Tabardar son of Mushtaq Ahmad Tabardar resident of Batpora Sopore. Accordingly, cases under relevant provisions of law have been registered at respective police stations and investigation have been initiated to trace the forward and backward linkages and to unearth the broader network involved in the trade.

## Two absconders evading arrest for 5 years nabbed

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

GANDERBAL: In a significant action against fugitives evading the law, police in Ganderbal has traced and arrested

02 absconders who were evading arrest for last 05 years.

The arrested individuals have been identified as Mohd Saleem Sheikh son of Mohmad Ramzan Sheikh and Rehana Begum w/o Mohd Saleem Sheikh, both residents of Panzipora Sopore, involved in Case FIR No. 47/2021 U/S 420, 34, 201/IPC.

The accused persons were apprehended by Police during a special operation and were produced today before the Hon'ble Court Addl. Special Mobile Magistrate Ganderbal for further legal proceedings.

Police reiterates its commitment to bring all absconders and offenders of law to justice and maintain peace, order, and accountability in the district.

## Bootlegger arrested

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SHOPIAN: In a significant action against illegal liquor trade, Police in Shopian arrested bootlegger and seized 11 bottles of liquor from his possession.

During naka checking at Reshinagar, a police party intercepted a suspicious person carrying a bag, who tried to flee from the spot but was apprehended. During search of the bag, 11 bottles of whisky (750 ml each) were recovered. The arrested person has been identified as Alyas Ahmad Bhat son of Bashir Ahmad Bhat resident of Reshnagri.

Accordingly, Case FIR No. 50/2025 under relevant provisions of the Excise Act stands registered at Police Station Heerpora and investigation has been set into motion.

## Kidnapped minor girl recovered within hours, accused arrested

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SHOPIAN: Demonstrating exemplary promptness and professionalism, police in Shopian successfully recovered a kidnapped minor girl within hours of her abduction from the Chitragam area of Zainapora and arrested the accused.

The matter came to light when SHO Police Station Zainapora received a WhatsApp application from a resident

of Chitragam Zainapora, reporting that his 11-year-old sister had gone missing from her home around 1400 hours. Acting swiftly, Police Station Zainapora registered e-FIR No. 91/2025 under Section 137(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and launched an immediate investigation.

Following coordinated efforts and technical leads, the police team successfully recovered the kidnapped girl in District Kulgam. She was brought back safely along with the accused Showkat Ahmad Sheikh, resident of Gund Chal Kulgam, who was found to be involved in her kidnapping. Necessary legal proceedings have been initiated in accordance with the law.

SSP Shopian Mushtaq Ahmad Choudhary-JKPS has urged parents and guardians to remain vigilant about the whereabouts and online activities of their children. He appealed to the public to immediately inform the nearest police station or contact PCR Shopian at 9596768831 in case of any suspicious activity or disappearance, assuring that all such reports will be acted upon promptly and with utmost seriousness.

## Residential property acquired through proceeds of drug trade attached

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SHOPIAN: As part of ongoing measures to curb narcotics-related activities, police in Shopian have attached a single-story residential house valued at Rs 15,44,523, with a plinth area of 1258 sq. ft. under Survey No. 498 min, belonging to Mukhtar Ahmad Naikoo, resident of Meemander Shopian.

The property has been found to be acquired using money obtained through the sale of illegal drugs and narcotics. The accused has been previously involved in multiple NDPS cases, including FIR No. 41/2016 and FIR No. 27/2020 of Police Station Shopian.

The attachment process was executed in the presence of a duly constituted police team, Executive Magistrate, Lambardar, and Chowkidar, ensuring full compliance with all legal protocols.

# J&K Bank assures support under rehabilitation package

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATRA: A meeting was held between the Chamber of Tourism Trade & Industry Katra (CTTIK) and officials of J&K Bank at the Bank's Main Bazaar, Katra branch to discuss The Rehabilitation Package 2025 for borrowers hit by disturbances announced by the bank in the wake of recent disruptions. The meeting was attended by Raj Kumar Padha, President CTTIK, along with members Raj Kumar Dubey and Munish Kapoor. The J&K Bank was represented by Lalit Parkash, zonal manager, Amit Balgotra, cluster manager; and Ms. Sakshi Sharma, manager advances.

At the outset Raj Kumar Padha welcomed the J&K Bank officials and appreciated the Bank's initiative in introducing the Rehabilitation Package 2025 aimed at supporting borrowers adversely affected by the recent disturbances. During the deliber-



Officials of J&K Bank and CTTIK during the programme.

ations, the CTTIK delegation highlighted that businesses in J&K particularly hoteliers, guest house owners, travel agencies, traders, and transporters are passing through a difficult phase following the Pahalgaon attack and Operation Sindoor, which led to the total wash out of the April May season. The situation has been further aggravated by continuous rains, landslides, and tragic incidents at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Ji and Machail Temple during

August, which have compounded the already fragile state of the business sector. It is pertinent to mention that under this package the repayment period of all existing term loans of eligible borrowers shall be extended by one year giving them additional time to stabilize operations and manage cash flow. The accrued interest on both existing term loans and working capital accounts up to the eligible date shall be converted into a separate Funded Interest Term Loan

(FITL), repayable over an extended period as per bank guidelines. In addition, the bank shall provide an additional credit facility of 15% on the existing working capital limits to enable business units to meet short-term operational and liquidity requirements in the wake of the current disruptions. CTTIK appeals to all eligible borrowers particularly those from the tourism, trade, industry and transport sectors to approach their respective J&K Bank branches to avail the benefits under the rehabilitation package 2025. This timely initiative offers much-needed financial relief and support to businesses affected by recent disturbances and disruptions. Padha urged the bank to consider accounts having more than two overdue installments after the stipulated date of 21st April 2025 as eligible under the rehabilitation package so that maximum number of businesses can avail this facility. Raj

Kumar Dubey emphasized the need for the bank to extend an additional 15% credit facility on term loans similar to that provided to working capital and SOD accounts while Munish Kapoor made request to offer short term loans at reduced interest rates to new accounts to help the business community to tide over the current challenges.

In response Sh. Lalit Parkash, Zonal Manager took note of all the issues raised by the CTTIK delegation and assured them that the bank would work towards finding suitable solutions. He reaffirmed J&K Bank's commitment to supporting businesses by offering diverse and flexible credit products. The meeting concluded with mutual appreciation and an understanding to maintain close coordination for the effective implementation of the package for the overall benefit of the business community.

# Anmol Cultural Club provides ration support for needy girl's marriage

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SUNDERBANI: In a heart-warming gesture of community service, the Anmol Cultural Club (ACC), a local NGO, extended a helping hand to a financially distressed family in village Devak, tehsil Sunderbani, district Rajouri, by providing dry ration and other essentials for their daughter's wedding.

According to sources, the girl's family was struggling to bear the financial burden of the upcoming marriage. However, timely intervention by ACC brought much-needed relief. The girl's father, Mulkh Raj Sharma, expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the NGO, especially its President, Zorawar Singh Khalsa, and his dedicated team.

"I was deeply worried about how we would manage the wedding expenses. Thanks to Anmol Cultural Club, a



major part of our burden has been eased," said Sharma.

Speaking on the occasion, Zorawar Singh Khalsa shared that the NGO has been actively supporting the marriages of underprivileged and orphaned girls. "So far, we have supported more than twenty such weddings by supplying dry ration and essential items. Our aim is to

continue this noble work across our village, our district, and throughout Jammu and Kashmir," he said.

The contribution by ACC has been widely appreciated by the local community, highlighting the impact that grassroots organizations can make in uplifting the lives of the needy.

## Army organises training classes for girls for selection in Government Services

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: Army has launched a training program for girls in Surankote to prepare them for written examinations for recruitment into various government services.

This initiative aims to empower young women from Surankote and the surrounding areas by enhancing their knowledge, competitiveness and confidence to secure government employment.

The 90-day training program, which commenced on 21 Oct 2025, is being conducted under the auspices of Indian Army. Experienced instructors are providing structured coaching in key subjects relevant to government recruitment examinations. A total of 36 girls have enrolled in the training classes.

The initiative has been widely appreciated by the participants and the local community as it promotes women's empowerment, education and self-reliance, while further strengthening the nation-building efforts of the Indian Army.

# ASP Poonch pins ranks to promoted officials



### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: In a brief and dignified ceremony held at the District Police Office Poonch, Addl. SP Poonch Sh. Mohan Lal Sharma, JKPS, pinned ranks on the newly promoted officials of District Police Poonch. On this occasion, the newly promoted Head Constables and Sg. Constables were formally adorned with their new ranks amidst an atmosphere of pride and achievement. The event was attended by DySP

Hqrs Poonch Sh. Neeraj Sharma, along with other officers and officials of DPO Poonch, making the ceremony both inspiring and memorable. While congratulating the officials, Addl. SP Poonch lauded their dedication and professional commitment. He emphasized that promotion is not just a reward for hard work but also a reminder of higher responsibilities. He urged the officials to continue serving the public with the same zeal, honesty, and dedication.

# Sanjita Dogra addresses women sammelan, administers oath of self-reliance

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

AKHNOOR: Sanjita Dogra, the State General Secretary of BJP Jammu and Kashmir and State Headquarter In-charge, today addressed a women's conference organized under the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan (Self-Reliant India Campaign) in Akhnoor. Senior BJP leader and district in-charge Vinay Gupta was also present with her at the event. It was organized by BJP Akhnoor District President Kuldeep Raj Sharma.

During the programme, Sanjita Dogra administered an oath to the women present, encouraging them to join the Self-Reliant India campaign and become self-sufficient. Through a special sankalp patra, she conveyed the message of prioritizing self-reliance in their lives.

In her address, Sanjita Dogra said that under the



BJP State General Secretary, Sanjita Dogra being welcomed during the programme.

leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the country is rapidly moving towards self-reliance, and in this mission, the role of women is most important. When a woman becomes self-reliant, not only her family but the entire society becomes empowered. She added that it is the BJP's endeavor to ensure that every woman recognizes her skills, inner strength, and

rights to become an empowered citizen.

Vinay Gupta stated that the core focus of BJP's policies has always been to reach the last person standing in society. Atmanirbhar Bharat is not just a campaign, but a people's movement. This sammelan is an inspiring initiative in the direction of making women self-reliant.

Kuldeep Raj Sharma said that the women in his dis-

trict are highly talented. He expressed pride in providing a platform through which they could express their views and be inspired to move towards self-reliance. He affirmed that BJP has always been committed to women empowerment and such programmes will continue in the future.

A large number of women participated in the event and pledged their contribution to the Self-Reliant India mission. The sammelan proved to be not just inspiring for women, but also a significant step toward social transformation.

DDC Bhushan Baral, Women's Wing District President Rajni Sharma, District General Secretary Shakti Bhagat, Pallanwala Mandal President Geetu Ji, DDC Sushma Devi, DDC Nisha Devi, and Gurpal Singh also shared their views.

## Baru Biradari congregation on October 26

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: The Annual Mail (Congregation) of the Baru Biradari is scheduled to take place on Sunday, 26th October 2025 at Khoo Talab, Raya Suchani with great religious fervor and devotion.

As per the organizers, the day will begin with Havan at 11:00 AM, followed by Preeti Bhoj (community feast) at 2:00 PM. The event aims to bring together members of the Baru Biradari to seek the divine blessings of Jai Sujavti Ji and strengthen bonds within the community.

All members of the Baru Biradari have been cordially invited to attend the gathering along with their families and take part in the spiritual and social celebrations.

The congregation promises to be a moment of unity, devotion, and shared heritage, reinforcing the cultural and traditional values of the community. For more information, attendees can contact: 9419181230, 9419190799, 7889767142.

## Group of Reasi farmers arrive in Jammu for 3-day exposure visit



### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A group of farmers from District Reasi on Wednesday visited the Directorate of Horticulture and Horticulture Museum, Jammu.

The Farmers are on a 3-day exposure-cum-training tour organised under MIDH.

The visit aims to impart awareness about the latest Horticulture practices and to raise demand for various components like financing, irrigation facilities, vermicompost units etc under HADP.

The visiting farmers are

from Mahore and Arnas zones. Farmers expressed their willingness to adopt high-density apple plantation and crop diversification. They also pitched for organizing exposure tours for women farmers, preferably outside J&K.

The topography and climate of Mahore are similar to those of Kashmir and the farmers expressed their readiness to develop orchards on the Kashmir pattern.

The Directorate of Horticulture assured the farmers of full support to meet their genuine demands.

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