

## !! Continuations from Page 1 !!

### AC approves advance...

to accord Administrative Approval to works from Rs 1.00 to Rs 5.00 Lakh, the Block Samitis have been delegated powers to accord Administrative Approval to works ranging from Rs 5.00 to Rs 20.00 Lakh and the Zila Parishad now has the powers to accord Administrative Approval upto Rs. 1 Crore. The PRIs will be able to incur expenditure as per General Financial Rules and guidelines related to AA, TS, and e-tendering.

The decision comes as a significant step towards empowering PRIs as it shall enable them to set their own priorities and help them in timely execution of works out of own resources of the panchayats.

In the backdrop of its mission to enhance inclusive growth of rural areas in the Union territory, the Government through this decision aims to promote self reliance in financial matters.

### Five PWD XEns...

Engineer (Civil) include Vinod Gupta, Ram Pal Gupta, Davinder Singh, Satbir Singh and Fayaz Ahmad Baba while Engineers who have been placed as I/c Executive Engineer (Civil) include Ajaz Ahmad Shah, Deepak Kumar Digra, Geeta Devi, Anu Shivgotra, Sarwar Mehmood, Ashiq Hussain Matta, Zaheer Ahmad, Ghulam Gousu Saqlian, Manoj Kumar, Ajaz Masood Bhat, Yasir Bashir, Irfan Ahmad Bandy, Khurshid Jahan, Firdous Ahmad Ganai and Varinder Paul Singh.

Consequently Vinod Gupta, SE, has been transferred from JDA posted to ERA; Ram Pal Gupta, SE, from TO to CE PMGSY Jammu to R&B Circle Doda-Kishtwar-Ramban; Davinder Singh, SE, from REW Jammu to JKPC; Satbir Singh, SE, from PMGSY Mahore to PMGSY Udhampur-Reasi; and Fayaz Ahmad Baba, SE from PMGSY Pulwama to R&B Circle Anantnag-Kulgam.

The services of Ajaz Ahmad Shah, XEn, RROR Sgr; Deepak Kumar Digra, XEn, REW Reasi; Zaheer Ahmad, XEn, PMGSY Poonch; and Varinder Paul Singh, XEn, ACB are places at the disposal of Department of RD&PR for further posting; and the services of Anu Shivgotra, XEn, DIQC and Firdous Ahmad Ganai, XEn, R&B Bandipora are at the disposal of H&UDD for further postings.

Geeta Devi, XEn, has been transferred from DIQC and posted to TO to CE PMGSY Jammu; Sarwar Mehmood, XEn, from R&B SD Gandhi Nagar to J&K Sports Council/Jammu; Ashiq Hussain Matta, XEn, from SMC to R&B Spl SD Gurez; Ghulam Gousu Saqlian, XEn, from PMGSY Chief Office to PMGSY Pulwama; Manoj, XEn, Kumar from ACB to R&B Divn. Doda; Ajaz Masood Bhat, XEn, from DIQC to R&B Divn. Kulgam; Yasir Bashir, XEn, from R&B CD 2nd Jammu to R&B Div. Poonch; Irfan Ahmad Bandy, XEn, from JK Housing Board to R&B Divn Chatroo; and Khurshid Jahan, XEn, from PMGSY Anantnag to PMGSY Handwara.

Further, Masood Ur Rafiq Mintoo, I/c XEn R&B Divn. Chatroo has been transferred and kept at the disposal of General Administration Department for further posting in ACB; Rajesh Kumar Agastum, I/c XEn, J&K Sports Council, Jammu has been transferred and posted at the disposal of H&UDD for further posting.

### Incorporate in curriculum...

curriculum overload, more hours of learning to quality learning time.

Extending his best wishes to the participating youth on the occasion, the Lt Governor said that the annual festival is a great opportunity for young artists' to showcase their talents and 'Sonzal' provides them much-needed platform to achieve the dream of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat'.

Sonzal means rainbow, which is a symbol of hope, inspiration and good fortune. For students, the rainbow finally arrives when they have space for individual growth, independent thinking and the opportunity to discover their own hidden treasure that will contribute to nation building, the Lt Governor added.

Observing that young students are multi-faceted, multi-dimensional, the Lt Governor entrusted upon the educational institutions to discharge their responsibility to ensure freedom, creativity and engagement for them to become multi-achievers, and acquire knowledge and skills to thrive and shape their future.

Creative pursuits are a great medium for the young students to develop leadership skills, human values, willingness to take risks, understanding the power of new ideas, competency to face future challenges and to nurture personality traits, the Lt Governor said.

Our focus on ensuring choice, collaboration, curiosity, communication, critical thinking, creativity, research and enhanced engagement in the education system can create better education goals and equip students with the necessary skills, knowledge and values, he added.

Sinha appreciated the efforts of the Kashmir University for making necessary changes to incorporate recommendations of National Education Policy. 'University of Kashmir has been transformed into a centre of excellence and promoting scien-

tific research, new ideas and knowledge, and adapting to rapid change across the world in fundamental aspects of the educational landscape', he said.

Prof Nilofer Khan, Vice Chancellor, University of Kashmir spoke about the broad contours of the Mega Youth festival. In line with the directions of the Lt Governor, the academic progression as well as empowerment of youth is the core aim of the university and this youth festival is a step in that direction, she added.

Prof Shakil Ahmad Romshoo, Vice Chancellor IUST, congratulated the University of Kashmir for providing a platform for youth to showcase their talent.

During the inaugural ceremony, the students of University presented a mesmerizing performance on University Tarana and a colorful Rouf dance performance.

The best-performing youth will also get the opportunity to participate in the North Zone Youth Festival and later in the National Youth Festival.

Pandurang K Pole, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; Vijay Kumar, ADGP Kashmir; Mohammad Aijaz, Deputy Commissioner Srinagar; Dean Students Welfare, Prof Aneesa Shafi; former Vice Chancellors; Registrar, Kashmir University; Directors of Satellite campuses; Deans, HoDs, research scholars and a large number of students were present on the occasion.

### Security situation in...

society to condemn such attacks in the strongest possible terms.

"Society needs to stand up against such crimes and we cannot remain silent on it...It is our responsibility also to keep labourers from outside safe and secure.

"People have to a large extent expressed their resentment against such attacks but it is not enough and people have to identify terrorists or their supporters and humiliate them in society. As far as police action is concerned, people indulging in such crimes will not be forgiven," he added.

About the number of terrorists present in the Kashmir valley, Singh said, "It is for the first time after a very long time that the number of terrorists -- both FTs (foreign terrorists) and locals -- has fallen to two digits."

"The number of terrorists is south Kashmir has fallen to the lowest ever. It is because of people's support and the synergy between the forces and a result of good operations (by the forces)," he said.

Appealing to parents and society to make sure children do not fall prey to the narrative aimed at the destruction of Kashmir, he said they need to show the right path to the children. "Our social and religious leaders need to get involved in this."

The DGP said no person was getting harmed in the security forces' action and people in the Valley were living their lives like those in other parts of the country.

"Schools are functioning without any disruption. There is no hartal. People who used to call for hartals have been wiped out. If the fake chapter of Hurriyat in Pakistan calls for strikes, it finds no support from people here.

"Journalists have the courage to say the right things, but useless blogs like 'Kashmir Fights' threaten them. It is up to all of us to either adopt or condemn and make unsuccessful this narrative which is against Kashmir, against peace and development of Kashmir.

"We have to use every platform available to us to make these ploys, which originate from Pakistan, unsuccessful," he said.

Singh said narcotics were a bigger crime than terrorism as far as the collective health of society was concerned.

"Terrorists carry out sporadic attacks, while narcotics destroys families together and society as well. The J-K police has vowed to fight narcotics-related crime. More than 500 cases have already been registered so far this year," he said.

Meanwhile, chairing a joint officers meeting of various security forces, the DGP said police and other security forces are in good command of the security situation. He said the police and security forces need to work hard to finish the remaining terror network.

Singh directed the officers to review their action plans and take immediate steps to neutralise terrorists, saying hybrid terrorists need to be taken to task.

The J-K top cop said this year so far, over 100 modules of hybrid terrorists were smashed.

Laying emphasis on minimising and neutralising security threats, the DGP said indoctrinations by Pakistani terror handlers are going on and they are using various media, especially social media, to brainwash vulnerable youths.

There are overground workers (OGWs) who help the Pakistani handlers in executing terror acts, he said, adding various stakeholders have to work together to save the vulnerable youths.

He said the security forces need to hit harder on terrorists and their promoters in order to maintain lasting peace.

He also directed jurisdictional officers to take necessary measures to demolish the network of drug trade.

The DGP directed the commandants of CAPF, JKAP, IRP and district police officers to sit together and review all measures taken for providing security to vulnerable sections of the population and religious places while keeping in view their sensitivity. Singh stressed on increasing day-and-night patrolling in different areas.

### Transnational, cross-border...

dialogue partner countries -- India, the US, Russia, China, Australia, Japan, New Zealand and South Korea -- the defence ministry said in a statement here.

The year 2022 also marks the 30th anniversary of India-ASEAN relations.

During his address to the ADMM Plus forum, Singh called for "urgent and resolute global efforts to counter transnational and cross-border terrorism", while terming it "the gravest threat to regional and global security".

India advocates a free, open and inclusive Indo-Pacific region and calls for peaceful resolution of disputes through dialogue and adherence to international rules and laws while respecting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all nations, he said.

In this context, the ongoing ASEAN-China negotiations on the Code of Conduct in the South China Sea should be fully consistent with international law, in particular the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and should not prejudice the legitimate rights and interests of nations that are not party to these discussions, he was quoted as saying in the statement.

Singh pointed out that the global security environment has transformed fundamentally over the last few decades, with terrorist groups "creating interlinkages across continents backed by new-age technologies to propagate ideologies, transfer money and recruit supporters".

"The United Nations Security Council Committee on Counter-terrorism met on 28 and 29 October 2022 in New Delhi and took serious note of these developments. The committee adopted the 'Delhi Declaration' to counter the use of new and emerging technologies for terrorist purposes," he said.

Singh called upon all the member states to work together with a positive intent, towards a stable, safer and more secure world for our future generations.

He reiterated India's commitment to nurturing practical, forward-looking and result-oriented cooperation between India and ADMM Plus countries for enhancing the maritime security in the region and safety of the global commons, the statement said.

In his address, he also said that as a responsible member of the international community, India has worked with its partners, in extending humanitarian aid, medicines, vaccines and foodgrains on large scale.

The defence minister's office also posted a series of tweets and pictures from the ADMM Plus forum.

"We believe that regional security initiatives must be consultative and development oriented, to reflect the larger consensus," it tweeted, quoting Singh.

He also said, "We are concerned about complicating actions and incidents that have eroded trust and confidence, and undermined peace and stability in the region."

India stands for the freedom of navigation and overflight, unimpeded lawful commerce, peaceful settlement of maritime disputes and adherence to international law, particularly, the UNCLOS 1982, Singh was quoted as saying in another tweet by the defence minister's office.

Defence Secretary Giridhar Aramane, Chief of Integrated Defence Staff to the Chairman, Chiefs of Staff Committee Air Marshal B R Krishna and other senior officials of the Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of External Affairs accompanied the minister, the statement said.

"We are meeting at a time when the world is seeing increasing strife amplified by disruptive politics. A peaceful Indo-Pacific, with ASEAN at its centre, becomes vital more than ever for the security and prosperity of the world," he was quoted as saying in another tweet. "With participation from 10 countries of the ASEAN and 8 major PLUS countries, ADMM Plus can position itself not just as a forum for regional security but a driver for world peace. Together, we constitute half of the world's population," he added.

Singh arrived in Siem Reap on Monday to co-chair the India-ASEAN Defence Ministers meeting and attend the 9th ADMM Plus.

### Special court issues...

outskirts of Srinagar, charges against Malik and nine others in the 1989 abduction case of Rubaiya were framed on January 11 this year.

Malik is currently lodged in Delhi's Tihar jail after he was arrested by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) in April 2019 in connection with a terror funding case, a month after his group was banned by the central government.

### JMC passes resolution...

cognisance of the resolution passed by the JMC general body and enact a law to make it mandatory for elected representatives that they can contest elections if they are graduates", Sharma told reporters in Jammu.

"It is probably first such initiative across the country that a municipal body has passed resolution fixing graduation as minimum educational qualifications for the councilors contesting elections."

Sharma said that it becomes a base for the executive that the elected representatives have passed this resolution and they must work on it.

## CRIME REPORT

## Vehicles san SLDs challaned in Samba, Rs 42,000 fine recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: Motor Vehicle Department Samba on Wednesday conducted checking on NH-44 and



challaned/compounded 22 vehicles under various provisions of MV Act. ARTO Samba, Rehana Tabassum informed that 15 vehicles out of 22 were found without Speed Limiting Devices (SLDs) and overloading of passengers. "A fine of Rs 42,000 was realized from violators on the spot," added ARTO. The ARTO informed that Department would continue to conduct such drives in future to minimize traffic violations.

### Youth goes missing under mysterious circumstances

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: For last six days, no clue has been found regarding a person who went missing under mysterious circumstances from Saranu village of Rajouri. Now army and police personnel are also searching in rivulets and forests, but so far no clue has been found. The missing youth was identified as Ranjit Kumar, resident of Saranu village.

According to family members, Ranjit left house six days back in evening and went missing. While his mobile phone and clothes were found in village, but youth is still missing. On the other hand, police said that a massive operation is being conducted to trace missing person.

## Tenant forcefully thrown out of shop; owner booked under SC, ST Act

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Bakshi Nagar police has registered a case against a person, in which, apart from threatening victim caste-indicative words were also used. The investigation of this matter has been given to DySP.

According to information, Sohani Ram, who runs a shop in Sarwal, New Plot area lodged a complaint with police, stating that about 22 years ago, he took a shop on rent from father of one Himanshu Gupta and since then he was running the shop.

But two days back, Himanshu Gupta came to his shop along with his family members and some other people. He threatened him to vacate the shop and also hurled abuses, including his caste. After assaulting him, the shop was locked. Acting on complaint, police has registered a case. The accused Himanshu Gupta was arrested and taken on remand.

## Phallian Mandal IED seizure case: Investigation intensified by Police; dump data, internet data being scrutinized

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Police has intensified investigation in a case of recovery of IED near police post in Phallian Mandal area and is continuously calling suspects for questioning on basis of numbers appearing in dump data. Apart from this, police is now extracting internet data of two days.

About, 25 thousand numbers are in police radar which were active during these two days in the area and were either making calls or using Internet. In such a situation, in view of this, an attempt is being made to find a clue as the matter is completely blind. Apart from this, the samples have been sent to Chandigarh for examining by police.

## JAC members submit memorandum to Devender Rana

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The office bearers of Jammu University Teachers' Association (JUTA), Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology-Teaching Association Jammu (SKUAST-TAJ), Non-Teaching Associations of Jammu University and SKUAST-Jammu met Devender Singh Rana, ex MLA at his residence on Wednesday in the form of Joint Action Committee (JAC) and submitted a memorandum demanding withdrawal of JK Public Universities Bill- 2022.

Prof Pankaj Srivastava President JUTA briefed Rana that erstwhile State Universities have been established through Bills duly passed by the erstwhile State Assembly and this anti-university new



JAC members submitting a memorandum to Senior BJP leader Devender Singh Rana.

Bill will finish the autonomy and individual identity of the existing State Universities of J&K.

President SKUAST-TAJ Dr. Vikas Sharma informed the leader that Provision 71 of the bill proposes to make all employees and teachers of the universities transferable from one university to another and expressed that universities are research institutions

and it takes years for a teacher to set up a laboratory, library or fetch projects and if such a rule is ever made, it will be used to harass anyone who refuses to obey the dictates of the government and bureaucracy.

President JUNTEU Dr. Rakesh Chib showed concern that such bill will be a blow to University governing bodies and a great

interference into the academic / research domains of the varsities.

Sr. KD Singh President NTEA-J, expressed that the bill will affect the overall growth, progress / functioning of apex academic institutions and against the academic freedom of the university.

The JACPUB extended strong resentment for the proposed bill and demand

## Why Congress did not support tribal woman in presidential election, asks Modi

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

DAHOD (GUJ): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday asked why the Congress did not support Droupadi Murmu in the presidential election if the opposition party was so concerned about tribals.

He was speaking at an election rally in the tribal-dominated Dahod town of central Gujarat for BJP candidates in the region.

Constituencies in central Gujarat will go to the polls on December 5, in the second phase of the Assembly elections.

Speaking at a rally in tribal-dominated Mahuva village in Surat district on Monday, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi had accused the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party of snatching away the rights of tribals.

Modi referred to Gandhi and his ongoing Bharat Jodo Yatra in the speech.

"A person is conducting a



foot-march to get back power. In his speech, he talks about tribals. I want to ask him, why Congress did not support the

BJP's woman tribal candidate in the presidential election? Instead, they fielded their own candidate to defeat her," the prime minister said.

'Despite Congress' efforts' Droupadi Murmu became President "with the blessings of tribal people," he added.

"Why did Congress never think of making an Adivasi (tribal) our President? It was the BJP which made a tribal person, that too a woman, our country's President for the first time and sent a message to the world," Modi said.

immediate withdrawal of the bill.

After giving a patient hearing to the delegation Devender Singh Rana said that Universities are the sanctuaries of innovative ideas and new knowledge which need special space to grow and nurture and the leader ensured the JAC members that he will take up the matter with LG Manoj Sinha regarding the withdrawal of this anti-varsity bill.

The deputation comprised of Dr. Ravinder Singh General Secretary JUTA whereas other office bearers of non teaching associations namely Varun Dubey, Dheeraj Rajwal, Rajesh Sharma, Zameer ul Haq, Arjun Jasrotia, Pankaj Gupta, Ram Singh and Vikram Thakyal were also present.

## Why Congress did not support tribal woman in presidential election, asks Modi

He also accused the Congress of not paying attention to the development of the British-era Parel area of Dahod.

"But, as PM, I remembered it, and now investment worth Rs 20,000 crore has come here for building railway locomotives. These locomotives will be exported to other countries too. This huge investment will ultimately benefit the locals," he said. Dahod district received a host of facilities and benefits under the BJP government including engineering and nursing colleges, a medical college, tap water connections and development of amenities under the Smart City Project, Modi said.