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J&K has potential...

Government Ayurvedic Medical College & Hospital and asked the College Administration to start the PG Courses.

Dr. Ashutosh Gupta, Principal GMC Jammu; Dr Mohan Singh, Director, AYUSH highlighted the efforts for promoting Ayurveda and Indian Systems of Medicine in Jammu Kashmir. Bharat Bhushan, Chairman District Development Council Jammu; Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to Lt Governor; Ramesh Kumar, Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Anand Jain, IGP Jammu; Sachin Kumar Vaishya, Deputy Commissioner Jammu, senior officers, faculty members and students were present.

Vehicle falls into...

Mata Vaishnodevi, the officials said. A seven-year old child died in the accident and three others have been hospitalised, they added.

DDC member booked...

of his duty) and 504 (intentionally insults) of the IPC on a complaint of Mohammad Jahangir Khan, the FIR stated. Bashir is a BJP leader.

In the complaint, Khan said that DDC member abused and assaulted him during a meeting in Mendhar on Thursday, it said.

Narrow, vulnerable Amarnath...

existing track, and providing safety railings and retaining walls along the vulnerable stretches, keeping in view the environmental concerns, it added.

"In line with the above, the BRO has undertaken widening of the tracks meant for the movement of yatris on foot, by palkis/dandies and on ponies," it said.

After the handing over of the yatra tracks by the Union Territory government in September 2022, the BRO has undertaken the work on widening the tracks in many stretches, improving the gradients, providing stronger safety railings and retaining walls on vulnerable stretches, keeping in view the environmental concerns, it added.

"This contributed to substantial improvement in satisfaction level of the yatris, and making the movement of yatris on tracks safer," it said.

In order to continue with the work, which could not be completed before the last yatra, the organisation, by engaging men and machinery, has widened many remaining portions of the tracks that were narrow and vulnerable, the BRO said.

"This will make the movement of yatris visiting the holy shrine on foot/palkis/dandies and ponies more comfortable and convenient," it added.

SIA conducts raids...

(SIA) said. Special teams of the agency conducted searches at 10 locations in the three districts, it added.

"In continuation to searches conducted on November 8, the SIA, Kashmir, conducted searches at multiple locations, including in two locations in Srinagar, one in Anantnag and seven in Pulwama," it said.

According to the SIA, the searches were conducted in the early hours as part of an ongoing investigation in a case (FIR No 08/2023) registered at SIA Kashmir police station. The cash laundered was to be used to fund terrorism and secessionism in the Union Territory.

"This is a terror-funding case in which money amounting to Rs 85 crore has been raised and laundered through covert channels, which is suspected to be used in funding terrorism and secessionism in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir," the agency said.

Friday's operation marks the second round of searches in the case. On Wednesday, the SIA conducted extensive searches in New Delhi and various districts of the Kashmir Valley, it said. The SIA's special teams have recovered incriminating material in the form of electronic gadgets such as mobile devices, laptops and SIM cards, and documents such as passports, cheques, passbooks and credit/debit cards, etc.

Stamp Paper Scam...

activities appear to be deeply entrenched, leading to a severe impact on the revenue collection system of J&JK UT. The fraudulent activities include illegal issuance of agriculture certificates, which are essential documents in the purchase and sale of agricultural land. These certificates are being issued illegally, often to individuals with no genuine connection to agriculture.

Moreover, some certain unscrupulous individuals, possibly in association with employees of the Sub Registrar's Office, are fraudulently re-using stamp papers multiple times, the complaint stated.

After preliminary investigations, the CB stated that this not only compromises the legal integrity of land transactions but also inflicts substantial financial losses on the revenue department and the state exchequer.

The modus operandi of this organized gang involves a network of individuals, including certain Revenue Department officials, property dealers, stamp paper vendors, commission agents, and other intermediaries. It is evident that these individuals are operating with a high degree of coordination, facilitating the issuance of agriculture certificates in exchange for substantial sum of money, thereby siphoning off state funds.

Narco-terror module...

the SIA in an operation in Delhi. This further led to the arrest of another accused, Liyaqat, on August 25 from Poonch, they said.

During investigation, it was found that people of other countries were involved in the operations of the narco-terror module, the officials said.

So far, six arrests have been made in the case and forward and backward linkages of the module are being established, they said.

Further SIA investigation into aspects of cross-border operations of the module, which smuggled arms, explosives and narcotics, is underway, the officials said.

In May, Mohd Farooq (26), Mohd Riaz (23) and Mohd Zubair (22) were arrested and an AK assault rifle, two pistols, six grenades, a 10-kg IED and 20 packets of suspected heroin, which they were trying to smuggle into the country, were seized.

The accused persons were intercepted by army personnel and there was an exchange of fire between them, in which a soldier and a terrorist had suffered injuries. The SIA had also conducted raids at several places in Poonch for three consecutive days from July 26 to 28, following the recovery of seven kg of heroin, more than Rs 2 crore cash and a pistol along with some ammunition from the house of a drug smuggler Rafiq Lala in Danna Doyiyian area of Sathra on March 3.

Lala was arrested under the Public Safety Act (PSA). However, the SIA tool his remand on July 1 for questioning over his alleged links across the border.

DPAP emerging as...

fold, Azad said that it was his commitment to bring merit to fore.

"We have a policy to encourage those who stand in the line on the basis of merit not for having any good connections with the party higher ups. In this party any worker can be one of the senior leaders if he proves his worth," he said. adding that hard work, competence are actually the benchmarks in our party for anyone to grow.

Azad said that he can welcome anyone in the party fold but tainted and corrupt are not tolerated. "While I have throughout my career cared for my image and served people without any personal interests, I want all of you to take the same route and serve people selflessly. You will see people will respect you and won't need to go door to door for campaigning. Because people will have respect for you," he told his party workers and leaders on the occasion. Prominent among those present on the occasion included Mohd Amin Bhatt Provincial President, Gen Secretary Ch Haroon Khatana, Salman Nizami Chief Spokesperson, Adv Saleem Parray official Spokesperson, Sujada Bashir Spokesperson, Shaffiq Shabnam Provincial Gen Secretary, Gh Nabi Palpuri and others.

Mini bus driver...

sitting in the driver's cabin and a few were hanging in the exit door, the police

said.

The overloading of passengers could have endangered their lives, they said.

Mohd Yaseen, the vehicle's driver and owner, was booked for his negligent act, which endangered the safety of passengers and arrested from the spot, they added.

NC's flag is...

the Andullah and Mufti families in the forthcoming elections in the UT, Chugh said, adding that the people have woken up to the fact how the entry of Pakistan subversive forces has been facilitated by the anti-BJP forces.

India, US in...

and China in eastern Ladakh as well as concerns over the increasing forays by Chinese military ships into the Indian Ocean region.

"The India-US defence relationship has evolved into a strategic partnership characterised by mutual trust, shared values and a growing recognition of common interests in maintaining regional and global security," Singh said in his opening comments at the bilateral talks. "We increasingly find ourselves in agreement on strategic issues, including countering China's aggression, promoting a free and open Indo-Pacific and addressing regional security challenges," he added.

"We share a focus on maritime security in the Indo-Pacific region. Recognising the criticality of safeguarding vital sea lanes and promoting stability, our teams are working on substantive outcomes," the defence minister said.

He said India and the United States are charting new pathways of cooperation by pursuing stronger defence, industrial engagement, easing of technology restrictions, boosting ties in the maritime domain and aiming to ensure resilient supply chains in all domains. Singh and Austin drew up an agenda for future joint work for their teams, the defence ministry said.

At a media briefing after the talks, Austin said the two sides discussed the rising security challenges posed by China. "We are working together on a number of things going forward. We have a common goal, a common view of the Indo-Pacific, and that is that the Indo-Pacific should remain free and open and that we should be able to sail in the international seas and fly in the international airspace," he said. At the same time, Austin said the US-India relationship is not just based on China or the challenge that China presents. "It is based upon, again, shared values.... We have talked about a number of things to include not only military cooperation, but scientific cooperation, space cooperation, and those kinds of things," he said. In a statement, the defence ministry said Singh and Austin comprehensively discussed a wide range of defence and strategic issues. "There was particular focus on enhancing defence industrial cooperation and getting the defence industries from both sides together to cooperatively co-develop and co-produce defence systems," it said. The ministry said the two ministers explored ways and means to advance defence technology cooperation with joint research in critical areas. "They reviewed the progress of the India-US Defence Industrial Ecosystem, INDUS-X, which was launched in June this year and aims to expand the strategic technology partnership and defence industrial cooperation between the governments, businesses and academic institutions of India and the US," it said. Besides Austin, the US delegation at the "2+2" dialogue comprised Secretary of State Antony Blinken. The Indian side was headed by External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Singh. The defence ministry said Austin welcomed India's decision to elevate to full membership of the Combined Maritime Forces, a multilateral construct headquartered in Bahrain. It said Singh symbolically handed over to Austin some items recovered in Assam as part of the US Defence POW MIA (Prisoner of War or Missing in Action) accounting agency mission. The items include parts of parachute, uniform and airplane of the US forces from the World War II era.

DM slaps PSA...

in the District. The District Magistrate Reasi has reiterated that anyone found involved in disturbing the public order and tranquility shall be strictly dealt with under the law. There shall be zero tolerance and no leniency towards the anti-social elements involved in Bovine Smuggling, Illegal Mining and Drug Trafficking etc.

HC quashes session court's order; directs retired official to vacate Govt quarter

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The High Court of J&K and Ladakh has quashed and set aside the impugned order/judgment dated October 10,2013 passed by the court of Principal District Judge, Jammu in file No. 28/Misc. The respondent a retired employee has been directed to vacate the government quarter No. 13-F Company Bagh and to pay rent for the premises under his unauthorized occupation with effect from April 1 2011 till the date of vacation of premises at the rate of Rs. 2,500 per month as per government order No. 210 EST of 2000 dated August 22, 2000 strictly in conformity with the order passed by this Court in OWP No. 345/2012.

versus Avtar Krishan, son of Niranjana Nath Bhat, resident of Q. No. 13-F Company Bagh, Jammu and Rayees Mairaj, Computer Assistant, Personal Section, Chief Minister, observed that the right of the respondent no. 1 to enjoy the Govt. accommodation ceased with his retirement from service and, therefore, he does not possess any right to keep govt. accommodation with him for all times to come and even after his retirement, when under rules he can retain govt. accommodation only for a period of one month after his retirement and thereafter, the accommodation is deemed to have been cancelled. Having lost his right to enjoy Govt. accommodation with his retirement from service, the respondent No. 1 cannot question the Deputy Director's communication to deposit the rent which is

strictly in conformity with the directions passed by this court in OWP no. 345/2012 and the order passed by the appellate court quashing the same cannot sustain the test of law and is liable to be quashed. The directions passed by the appellate court restraining the petitioners herein from evicting the respondent no. 1 from Govt. accommodation is also in flagrant violation of the Act of 1988 and cannot sustain the test of law and is liable to be set aside.

The High Court further observed that since the respondent No. 1 has remained in an unauthorized occupation of the premises for more than a decade, he is, therefore, disentitled to perpetuate his illegal occupation of the Govt. quarter any further on the strength of order passed by appellate authority. The respondent No. 1 does not possess any enforce-

able right in respect of the quarter nor would it be in the interest of justice to permit the perpetuation of his unauthorized occupation.

The facts of the instant writ petition are that the respondent No. 1 was a Government employee and was allotted Government Quarter No. 13-F Company Bagh vide Order No. 33-DE of 2004 dated January 19, 2004 for a period upto end of April 2004. The respondent No. 1 continued to be permitted to retain the aforesaid accommodation till he retired in Feb. 2011. The respondent after his retirement did not vacate the Quarter as such a notice under Section 4(1) of the Jammu and Kashmir Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorized Occupants) Act, 1988 (for short "Act of 1988") was issued to him vide No. DDE/J/73 dated March 06, 2012.

Husband gets life-imprisonment in dowry death case

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: 1st Additional Sessions Judge Jammu Virender Singh Bhoun on Friday awarded life-imprisonment to husband Aman Kumar alias Kaka who killed his wife Isha Sharma for dowry.

Shorn of unnecessary details, the factual matrix for presentation of this challan is that on 24.09.2015 at 2200 hours an information was received in Police Station Bishnah that around 9:30 pm one Isha Sharma W/o Aman Sharma R/o Bhatyari had fallen into canal near village Deoli and was not found thereafter. Report was entered in the DD and SHO alongwith ASI Bishan Dass and others went on spot and started search. Relatives of deceased, villagers and police kept searching for the deceased but the dead body was found next day on 25.09.2015 at 11:30 am

from canal at Harsa Dabber. SHO Surinder Pal Singh, Inspector wrote a docket about recovery of dead body and death caused under suspicious circumstances to police station Bishnah consequently proceeding under section 174 Cr.P.C. vide report no.10 was initiated by ASI Durga Dass on 25.09.2015 who recorded the statements of Sonu Sharma brother of the deceased, Arun Sharma, Varinder Sharma. Durga Dass ASI after recording the statements of these three witnesses recommended the case on 06.10.2015 for registration of an FIR under section 302 RPC against the accused and the case file with recommendations was handed over to SHO PS Bishnah on the same day and FIR came to be registered at 7:00 pm on 06.10.2015 for offence under section 302 RPC.

Sessions Judge Jammu Virender Singh Bhoun after hearing APP Manzar Khayam for the UT, observed that Murder here-in is outcome of dowry demand and wife being less educated and sick, the convict wanted to get rid of her. A distinction should be made between a dreaded and hardened criminal and ordinary criminal while sentencing the convict. It is not only the duty of the Court but social and legal obligations are clearly enjoined upon it to impose adequate punishment according to law while taking into consideration not only the crime, but also the criminal. Furthermore, deterrence and reformation are primarily social goals, which make deprivation of life and liberty reasonable as penal panacea. Retributive theory as on day is no longer valid. Sentence of death is only deterrent and preventive, but sentence of imprison-

ment for life is in addition to deterrence and preventive, also gives a chance to the criminal for reformation and of repentance while undergoing life imprisonment in the jail.

With these observations, the Court held that the convict, namely, Aman Kumar, therefore, is sentenced to undergo rigorous imprisonment for life for the commission of offence under section 302 RPC and pay a fine of Rs. 10,000/-. In case of default of payment of fine the convict shall undergo further simple imprisonment of two months. He is further convicted for the commission of offence under section 498-A RPC to undergo rigorous imprisonment of 2 years and pay a fine of Rs. 1000/- and in default of payment of fine he shall undergo simple imprisonment for one month. All the sentences shall run concurrently.

NGO Jiyo Aur Jeene Do organises awareness programme on 'Eco Friendly Diwali'



NGO President Tariq Shah along with children planting sapling.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: NGO Jiyo Aur Jeene Do organised an awareness programme on 'Eco Friendly Diwali', in the Government Primary School Shakti Nagar. On this occasion, Eco-Friendly earthen lamps were made by the school students which were displayed in a very beautiful form.

President of NGO Tariq Shah, while giving message to school students said that Diwali is a festival of happiness, it symbolises victory of good over evil and the earthen lamp is a symbol of our tradition, but fireworks pollute environment.

A plantation was also carried in the school premises. All children took the pledge to keep the environment clean and to celebrate eco friendly Diwali. Members Mohini Verma, Ali, Aqib, Raj Kumar and others were present.

Cattle lifters' gang busted, 2 arrested

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

AKHNOOR: Police on Friday busted a gang of cattle lifters and arrested two persons in this connection.

As per details, on November 8, 2023 one complainant namely Davinder Singh, son of Bharat Singh, resident of Mawa Karora Karangi arrived in police station Akhnoor and lodged an application regarding cattle theft. On this, FIR No.304/2023 under section 379 IPC was registered and investigation started. During investigation, a party of Police Station Akhnoor led by SHO Akhnoor Inspr Zaheer Mushtaq under the supervision of SDPO Akhnoor Mohan Lal Sharma with the help of CCTV Footage and other technical assistance and detained two suspects. During questioning they disclosed their names as Talib Hussain, son of Mohd Mussa, resident of Taroti and Mushtaq ahmed, son of Fareed Ahmed, resident of Rajpura, when interrogated they confessed their involvement in the commission of crime. On their disclosure Two vehicles bearing registration No.JK08J-2718 and JK02CX-5086 were also seized which were used for committing crime and thereafter 06 cattle were also recovered on their disclosure.

It is pertinent to mention that one accused namely Talib Hussain is a notorious bovine smuggler and involved in no of bovine cases which include FIR No 167/2021 under sections 188 IPC 11PC act Police Station Thannamandi; FIR No 175/21 under section 188 IPC 11PC act Police Station Akhmoor; FIR No 62/2022 under section 188 IPC 11PC act Police Station Pouni and FIR No 86/23 under sections 379 IPC Police Station Akhmoor.



CRPF trooper commits suicide in Kulgam

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: A CRPF jawan committed suicide by shooting himself with his service rifle in Kulgam district on Friday, officials said. The motive behind the trooper taking the extreme step was not immediately known, they said. The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) trooper was on duty near the Jawahar Tunnel in the Qazigund area of the south Kashmir district. He died on the spot, they said. The body was taken to a hospital for a post-mortem, officials said.

Prez Murmu to get new voter ID card; address update process started: Delhi CEO Office

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: President Droupadi Murmu is set to receive a new voter identification card as the process to change her address to Delhi has begun, officials said on Friday.

The address in her current voter ID card is of Mayurbhanj, Odisha, a senior official of the Delhi Chief Electoral Officer's (CEO) Office said.

CEO P Krishnamurthy on Friday visited the Rashtrapati Bhavan to facilitate her in "changing her voter ID address" to Delhi, the officials said.

"In an exemplary display of democratic participation, the Hon'ble president filled out Form-8 to initiate the address update process," the CEO Office said in a statement.

The president is "set to receive a new voter ID card, reflecting her updated residential address in Delhi," the statement said.

SDM Katra leads pre-Diwali inspections



SDM Deepak Dubey carrying out inspection of an establishment at Katra.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATRA: In view of the upcoming Diwali festival, SDM Katra, Deepak Dubey, under the directive of DC Reasi, Vishesh Mahajan, takes the lead in extensive inspections across the Katra Sub-Division, prioritizing public welfare. Rigorous examinations of restaurants, eateries, medical shops and dry fruit stores was conducted. During the drive, special focus was laid on ensuring zero encroachments on public roads, ensuring the items are not sold at overpriced rates, and the consumable products being sold in the markers are as per the standards and approved quality.

With an unwavering commitment to public well-being, the inspections span crucial areas such as Main Bazar, Panthal Road, and Jammu Road.

The administration's directives underscore a dedicated effort to facilitate a safe and enjoyable Diwali celebration. These proactive measures aim to establish an environment where both residents and visitors can partake in the festivities with confidence and security. The initiative reflects the administration's steadfast dedication to fostering a community-centric approach to festive preparations.