

## !! Continuations from Page 1 !! LG urges intelligentsia...

provide opportunities to teachers and writers in rural India to upgrade their knowledge, skills and competencies in line with the increasingly integrated world economy and ever-evolving technological landscape," the Lieutenant Governor said.

### Consolidate rules to...

assembly sessions in January or February. The Chief Minister advocated for a one-time investment approach to develop assets that can be monetized in the future, while also reassessing commercial property rentals at current market rates and upgrading electrical infrastructure in both Jammu and Srinagar secretariats.

Abdullah reiterated the importance of holistic planning to address residential and office accommodation shortages while ensuring judicious use of public funds.

"This reform-focused approach marks a pivotal step toward creating a self-reliant Estates Department capable of meeting the government's evolving needs over the next decade and beyond," he remarked.

ACS Estates Department gave a detailed presentation of the functioning and assets of Estates Department in Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting reviewed ongoing projects, including the construction of flats at Sarwal, Ahata Amar Singh and Lower Muthi in Jammu division, as well as 400 flats at Pampore and new flats at Jawahar Nagar in Kashmir division. Officials informed that these projects are nearing completion and are expected to alleviate the growing demand for residential accommodations. The Estates Department's CAPEX Budget for 2024-25 was also discussed and the meeting was informed that 68.7% expenditure has been made in respect of current year's budget.

The meeting concluded with discussions on proposed projects, including a Gate Plaza at the Civil Secretariat in Srinagar and other developmental initiatives in Jammu.

### Kashmir to Delhi...

then the date for its inauguration be decided," he said. Singh, who visited various sections of the project, including the Chenab Rail Bridge on Tuesday, said "We expect to start the train service to Kashmir in January next year. There is a huge load of trucks and vehicles on the highway, which gets closed during winters. This project will provide relief to the people of the valley, increase tourism and boost business. It is a gift to the people of Kashmir from the NDA government and the Prime Minister."

He said that while the project was previously halted, work had been expedited over the past eight years and is now on track to be completed by December.

The minister also acknowledged the sacrifices and efforts of workers and officers involved in the project. "I will also discuss the project during the parliamentary session beginning December 25."

"We will take people from Delhi to Kashmir for just Rs 1,500 to Rs 2100. En route, we will stop in Jammu and Mata Vaishno Devi. This project has enormous tourism potential and will bring a tourism boom to the region," Singh added.

He further mentioned that fresh fruits, flowers, and vegetables from this region will reach Delhi faster, giving a significant boost to local businesses. This achievement will gain recognition worldwide.

In a post on X, Singh said "Had the incredible opportunity to visit the iconic Anji Khad Bridge in Reasi, J-K, a testament to Bharat's engineering brilliance and determination. This architectural masterpiece, suspended over the breathtaking Anji River, is the first cable-stayed bridge on the Indian Railways network, connecting not just two mountains but also dreams with reality". He praised the role of engineers and said the project has been spearheaded under the guidance of Chief Administrative Officer Sandeep Gupta, whose leadership has been pivotal in overcoming the challenges of this ambitious endeavour.

Singh further said the combined efforts of IRCON International Limited, responsible for the construction, and Konkan Railway Corporation Limited (KRCL) for its technical expertise, have turned this engineering dream into reality.

The Delhi to Kashmir Vande Bharat Express will have 11 AC 3-tier coaches, four AC 2-tier coaches, and one First AC coach. The USBRL project, almost complete, will link Kashmir with the rest of the country. Of the total 272 kilometers, 161 kilometers were earlier commissioned in phases -- the 118-km Qazigund-Baramulla section in October 2009, the 18-km Banihal-Qazigund section in June 2013, and the 25-km Udhampur-Katra section in July 2014.

The 48.1-km Banihal-Sangaldan stretch, part of the USBRL project, was dedicated to the public by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in February 2020.

In June and July this year, several inspections were conducted on the track and railway stations. Commissioner of Railway Safety (CRS) D C Deshwal inspected the 46-km Sangaldan-Reasi section, which includes the world's highest steel arch rail bridge over the Chenab and several major tunnels.

The USBRL project, declared a "National Project" in 2002, spans 272 kilometers. The world's highest railway bridge, located 359 meters above the Chenab riverbed, stands 35 meters taller than the Eiffel Tower. Spanning over 1.3 kilometers, it forms a critical part of the 111-km stretch from Katra to Banihal, a segment of the Kashmir Railway project.

The Railway ministry sanctioned the construction of the railway line from Udhampur to Baramulla via Srinagar in phases - 25-km Udhampur to Katra in 1994, 118 km Qazigund to Baramulla and 129 km Katra to Qazigund in 1999.

The world highest railway bridge, located 359 meters above the Chenab riverbed, stands 35 meters higher than the Eiffel Tower in Paris. Spanning over 1.3 kilometers, it forms a crucial link in the 111-km stretch from Katra to Banihal, which is part of the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla section of the Kashmir Railway project, officials said.

### KPDCL hits 1...

were credited directly into beneficiaries' accounts within a week of commissioning their solar plants by KPDCL's technical teams. The Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MN&RE) has also redeemed subsidies for 93 additional beneficiaries, with their disbursements expected shortly through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT). These timely efforts highlight KPDCL's dedication to accelerate renewable energy adoption and ensuring maximum benefits reach the consumers efficiently.

Exuding confidence, the KPDCL spokesperson stated that the scheme has generated wide consumer interest, with 249 rooftops already equipped with solar installations, achieving a total capacity of 1 MW. On an average, households have opted for larger systems, typically around 4 kWp, maximizing the financial and environmental benefits of solar energy. "1407 consumers have finalized agreements with empanelled vendors and are progressing through procurement and installation phases, highlighting the growing acceptance and adoption of the scheme," he added.

KPDCL is preparing for the release of the next round of Central subsidies worth Rs. 79.00 lakh for 93 beneficiaries, whose claims are already processed. "With over 1200 installations currently underway, KPDCL is poised to achieve its target of 3.5 MW installed capacity within the next two months," he added.

### CS pushes for...

during this period. He also enjoined upon the General Administration Department (GAD) to consolidate the vacancies under common pool and framing of respective merit lists for the same to be filled at an earliest.

The Chief Secretary took this occasion to urge the Departments to extend the necessary assistance to the applicants in securing the requisite certificates and testimonials so that each case is settled on merit in a time-bound manner.

He advised the Deputy Commissioners to monitor cases of their respective districts themselves so that the certificates to be issued by Tehsildars are provided in a least possible time. He even directed the DDOs to expedite the cases of their deceased employees promptly so that the applicants are benefitted without facing any hindrances.

In his presentation the Commissioner Secretary, GAD, Sanjeev Verma highlighted different aspects of this scheme. It's application here in the UT along with eligibility criteria and assessment for ascertaining merit on different parameters.

It was given out by him that a total of 1116 cases had been received on the portal till date. It was also revealed that out of these 1060 applications had been forwarded to the respective Departments initiation of further action.

It was added that during the year 2022 and 2023 the cases received by GAD were 523 and for 2024 the cases registered are 593. The meeting was also apprised that for the year 2022 and 2023 the posts available at the rate of 10% of vacancies are 552 while that for 2023 these accrue to 641 posts.

Moreover the meeting was given insights into the Department wise cases and vacancies for each year. It was informed that the process for framing of merit lists has been taken in hand and the deserving applicants would soon be appointed as per the set rules of this scheme.

### Northern Army commander...

accompanied by GOC White Knight Corps and GOC C1F(D) visited Kishtwar to review prevailing security situation", Northern Command said in a post on X. The Army Commander commended the troops for their unwavering commitment and urged all ranks to uphold exemplary professionalism in their operational conduct, the post added.

### Make capability building...

vital platform for the IAF's senior leadership to deliberate on challenges and strategise future actions to maintain operational excellence. It is learnt that the IAF commanders also deliberated on ways to boost the force's overall combat capabilities.

The conference took place amid concerns over delays in the supply of Tejas jets to the IAF by the Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL). The IAF has placed an order with HAL for 83 Tejas Mark-1A aircraft. The deliveries were to begin in March. However, not a single aircraft has been delivered yet.

"The HAL has to keep the promise of building 24 aircraft per year. If that promise is kept, I think the delays can be caught up with," Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal AP Singh said last month.

### Govt brought down...

smoothly and handled the COVID-19 pandemic well to the surprise of the world.

"When the world recognises our strengths, our challenges grow. And we will have to prepare ourselves by keeping these challenges in mind," he said.

He said his government has made drastic changes in terms of internal security and criminal justice system, and the changes demand hard work, better coordination and inclusivity.

India has laid a strong foundation through economic and social reforms. The Home Ministry made extensive preparations before implementing the three new criminal laws and ensuring they reach their logical end and help India's criminal justice system, Shah said. He said 70,000 police stations were connected to CCTNS (Crime and Criminal Tracking Network & Systems), 22,000 courts through eCourts, data of 2 crore prisoners is stored in e-Prisons system and that of over 1.5 crore prosecution in e-Prosecution system, more than 23 lakh forensic data in e-Forensic, among other things.

"When we implemented three new criminal laws, we made arrangements to connect court, prosecution, police, jail and FSL. In a way, from crime to justice, and to the jail -- we worked to connect all the links, and thereafter the Narendra Modi government worked to bring three new criminal laws," Shah said. He said his government ensured that the safety of our citizens remains at the centre of the new criminal laws and that they are able to avail the rights guaranteed to them under the Constitution.

"All the systems of technology have been included in the new laws, and it has also been ensured that however much the technology changes, one will not need to make changes to the law," he said.

"We have made arrangements for speedy justice by making court, prosecution and police obliged to complete the work within the time limit in 60 different provisions...It is our effort to ensure that not a single prisoner remains without getting justice even after completing one third of his sentence," he said.

He said the AIPSC should work towards analysing the available data to bring about changes in the system to reduce crime, its investigation and speedy justice.

### No rift between ...

The Congress leader said some parties were trying to make it an election issue.

"May be the two parties will meet after the (assembly) elections are over in Jharkhand," he added.

## Two absconders arrested

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu Police apprehended an absconder, Uttam Kumar, son of Kisho Ram, resident of Sagalta, Kambal Danga, District Udhampur. The accused had been evading arrest in connection with a case registered under FIR No. 51/17, under sections 363 and 376 of the RPC, at Police Station Jhajjar Kotli.



A warrant under Section 512 of the CrPC had been issued against the accused by the Hon'ble Court. In an attempt to avoid detection, Uttam Kumar had altered his appearance and concealed his identity. Despite his efforts, the arrest was carried out successfully under the supervision of SHO Jhajjar Kotli.

Police also apprehended an absconder who was wanted in a case FIR No 176/20 U/S 379 IPC registered at Police Station Bishnah. A Police team of PS Bishnah led by SHO PS Bishnah under the supervision of SDPO R S Pura and SP headquarters succeeded in apprehending the absconder namely Deepak Kumar, son of Yash Pal, resident of Tanda Tehsil R.S.Pura District Jammu, who was absconding and evading his arrest since 2020 after the commission of the crime.

Accordingly, the said absconder will be produced in the court of law and the arrest warrant u/s 299 BNSS issued against him will be executed.

Police also apprehended an absconder who was wanted in a case FIR No 176/20 U/S 379 IPC registered at Police Station Bishnah.

A Police team of PS Bishnah led by SHO PS Bishnah under the supervision of SDPO R S Pura and SP headquarters succeeded in apprehending the absconder namely Deepak Kumar, son of Yash Pal, resident of Tanda Tehsil R.S.Pura District Jammu, who was absconding and evading his arrest since 2020 after the commission of the crime.

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## Narco smuggler arrested; heroin recovered

### STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: Police team from Police Station Rehambal led by its SHO while performing vehicle checking at Phalata naka point stopped one bike bearing registration number JK14H-0978 for checking purpose which was coming from Tikri side towards Udhampur.

On frisking of bike rider, 3.9 grams of heroin (chitta) like Contraband substance was recovered from the possession of said bike rider namely Ajay Kumar, son of Madan Lal, resident of Garnai, Udhampur who has been arrested on spot.

On this, a case vide FIR No. 237/2024 U/S 8/21/22/NDPS Act stands registered in P/S Rehambal and further investigation was set into probe.

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registered under FIR No. 246/2024, U/S 8/20/60 of the NDPS Act at Police Station R.S. Pura.

## Missing woman traced, re-united with family

### STATE TIMES NEWS

DODA: Police on Tuesday traced a missing woman and reunited her with family.

In a statement issued by Doda Police that one woman resident of upper Dandi Bhandervah was running missing since Sept 22, 2024 and her missing report was entered in Police Station Bhandervah.

Soon after getting information regarding her missing, Police team was constituted from Police Station Bhandervah in the search of missing lady besides input /information was also generated by utilizing available sources to track her and ultimately after strenuous efforts of Police party, the missing lady was traced out and re-united with her family and the missing file was closed accordingly.

## Six drug peddlers arrested; contraband substances recovered

### STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Continuing its war against drug dealings, Police have arrested six drug peddlers in Srinagar, Kulgam & Kupwara and recovered contraband substances from their possession.

A police party of Police Station Shaheed Gunj at a checkpoint established at Habakadal Chowk, intercepted a suspicious person. He has been identified as Sameer Majeed Khan son of Late Ab Majeed Khan resident of Dadi Kadal Tankipora Srinagar. During search, 15 grams of Heroin was recovered from his possession. In a similar action, a police party of Police Station Chanapora at a checkpoint established at Doodh Ganga Bund Chanapora, arrested a drug peddler identified as Jan Manzoor Bhat son of Manzoor Ahmad Bhat resident of Azad Basti Natipora. During search, 5 grams of contraband brown sugar was recovered from his possession.

In another action, during patrolling at Kursoo Aramwari Bund Road, a Police party of PS Rajbagh, apprehended a person identified as Mohsin Abass Lone son of Mohd Abass Lone resident of Wazir Bagh alongwith 8 grams of Brown Sugar.

In Kulgam, a police team of Police Station Qazigund, at a checkpoint established at Railway Bridge near Old BDO Office Qazigund arrested a drug peddler identified as Bashir Ahmad Malik son of Mohd Yousuf Malik resident of Chowgam. During search, officers were able to recover 4.6 Kgs of Grinded Cannabis and 45 grams of Charas were recovered from his possession.

Meanwhile, in Kupwara a police party from Police Station Trehgam at a checkpoint established near Nerampora Bridge noticed a suspicious vehicle attempting to flee from the spot. The alert police party intercepted the said vehicle (Swift Dzire) bearing registration number JK09B-3874 with two persons on board. They have been identified as Javid Ahmad Sheikh (driver) and Sajad Ahmad, both residents of Gulgam. Upon search of the vehicle approximately 99 grams of a brown sugar-like substance was recovered. Preliminary investigation revealed that the apprehended individuals were actively engaged in the illegal sale of narcotics within the local area, specifically targeting the youth.

Accordingly, cases under relevant sections of law have been registered at respective police stations. Investigation is underway and further arrests are anticipated as part of a broader effort to dismantle the narcotics network in the valley.

## House worth Rs 1 crore of notorious drug peddler attached

### STATE TIMES NEWS

KULGAM: In a relentless effort to curb the menace of drug dealings, Police in Kulgam have attached a property (double storied residential house) with 15 marlas of land underneath. The residential house valued worth Rs 1 crore approximately belongs to a notorious drug peddler namely Mohd Ashraf Bhat son of Ghulam Rasool Bhat resident of Rehpora Khudwani, Kulgam under section 68-F(2) of NDPS Act 1985. The property was prima facie acquired from illicit trafficking in narcotic drug and psychotropic substances by the owner. The said drug peddler is presently lodged at Central Jail Kupwara. Pertinently, he is involved in case FIR number 43/2023 of Police Station Qazigund.

This action underscores the commitment of J&K Police to dismantle the drug network and ensuring that those involved in such crimes face the full force of the law.

Local people of the area have hailed the initiative of Police with regard to the attachment of immovable property, which has been raised/used from illicit trafficking of narcotics by the drug peddlers.

## 15 bovines rescued, smuggler arrested

### STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: Police have rescued 15 Bovines in the jurisdiction of PP Dudu.

Team of Police Post Dudu led by its ICPP have foiled one bovine smuggling bid in which 15 bovines were rescued from the vehicle bearing regd. No. JK03D2710 which was on its way towards Chenani without any valid permission.

Accused person (Driver) of the vehicle namely Mehraj Din, son of Roshan Din, resident of Goha Mothi, Doda has been arrested on spot. All the bovines were rescued and have been shifted to a safer place.

In this regards, case FIR No. 20/2024 under relevant sections of law stand registered at Police Station Latti.

## Bootlegger held, liquor recovered

### STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: A Police team from Police Post Ghordi led by its ICPP, while performing vehicle checking at Barmeen area stopped one vehicle (Van) bearing regd. No. JK14F-1487 for checking purpose.

During checking of said vehicle, 38 quarters of illicit liquor (250 ml) were recovered from the possession of one person who was arrested on spot. The arrested person has been identified as Rakesh Singh, son of Jagdev Singh, resident of Satyalta, Ramnagar.

In this connection, A case FIR No.112/2024 under section 48