

## !! Continuations from Page 1 !!

### Centre asks States...

the spread of the pandemic is kept and also immediate citizen-centric action is initiated, it is incumbent upon all states/UTs to enhance testing," she said. India has so far recorded 3,76,18,271 coronavirus cases and 4,86,761 deaths due to it. On Tuesday, the country registered 2,38,018 new infections with a positivity rate of 14.43 per cent.

### Sanjeev Gupta appointed...

of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and Jeema Bashir, District Judge (Selection Time Scale) is appointed as Registrar Inspection in Srinagar wing of High Court.

### J&K logs 4,651...

Cadrex Clerk, Cashier, Jr. Assistant /Computer-cum-Jr. Assistant/ Clerk/Store Attendant and Welfare Organizer, scheduled to be held on 22.01.2022 (Saturday), is hereby rescheduled and shall now be held on 24.01.2022 (Monday).

According to a report from Srinagar, over 80 doctors and paramedics have tested positive for COVID-19 in Government Medical College Srinagar in a single day, taking the total number of infected persons in the tertiary care institution to 546 in January so far, officials said.

"Omicron is spreading very very fast: 46 doctors, 22 MBBS students, 15 paramedics tested COVID Positive in 1 day in GMC Srinagar & Ass(i)st(ed) Hospitals. Total count goes up to 546 since 1st Jan this year," head of department community medicine at GMC Srinagar Dr Muhammad Salim Khan said in a tweet.

He urged the people to follow Covid appropriate behaviour and other SOPs religiously.

"Avoid gatherings. Please wear facemasks necessarily. Maintain social distancing," he said.

"Today Kashmir reported highest COVID Positive cases this wave. Omicron seems predominantly circulating but Delta variant could also be affecting people leading to moderate to severe illness. Please mask up necessarily," Khan added.

Meanwhile, Ladakh reported 152 fresh COVID-19 cases, taking the overall caseload in the Union Territory to 23,536 and active cases to 844, officials said.

The highest 132 positive samples were received from Leh district while 20 cases surfaced in Kargil district, the officials said.

According to the officials, the COVID-19 death toll remained unchanged at 222 with 164 fatalities in Leh and 58 in Kargil.

They said 120 patients were discharged from hospitals in Leh and eight in Kargil after undergoing successful treatment for COVID-19, taking the number of recovered cases in Ladakh to 22,470.

Of the active cases, 714 are under treatment in Leh and 130 in Kargil, the officials said. They said the total positivity rate of Ladakh stands at 3.8 per cent.

### Over 4,000 online...

The industries and commerce department was asked to develop handicraft and handloom haats in all district headquarters to provide readymade markets to the local products.

The department was further asked to expedite identifying one product per district that can be taken up for large-scale export to national and international markets, the spokesperson said.

To boost the handicrafts and handlooms of Jammu and Kashmir, Mehta stressed the linkage of the local market with the e-commerce platforms after suitable certification of product quality.

Besides, he also stressed the importance of geographical identification (GI) tag of local products and quality testing thereafter to gain consumers' confidence in the quality of products from Jammu and Kashmir, the spokesman said.

During the recently held Dubai Expo 2022, the Government of Jammu and Kashmir has signed MoUs with various entities to bring in an investment of about Rs 3,000 crore, which includes industry giants like Emaar, Lulu, Matu Investments, Al Maya Group, and Noon e-commerce, among others.

During 2021-22, the industries and commerce department has sanctioned 1,392 cases under the Prime Minister Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) with a subsidy amount of Rs 19.34 crore. It also sponsored 2,810 cases under Credit Card for Artisans with sanctioned amount of Rs 1.89 crore, established 26 Karkhandars (units) and organised 20 exhibitions for the promotion of J&K's industry and commerce, the spokesman said.

Principal Secretary, Industries & Commerce Department, Directors, Industries & Commerce, Kashmir/Jammu, Managing Director, SIDCO/SICOP, Managing Director, J&K Trade Promotion Organization along with the concerned officers participated in the meeting.

### Unvaccinated but certified...

with second dose as of 11th September 2021, while actually they were yet to receive their second dose physically. Upon identification of the cases, immediate arrangements to administer missed vaccine doses at the beneficiaries' home were made.

### Super Specialists, Specialists'...

Dr. Sanjeet Parihar (Sr: Consultant ENT) at Surgical Theater, Dr. Varinder Singh

(Consultant Pediatrics) at Room No. 40 near Ward 11, Dr. Samita Bhat (Consultant Gynae) at Gynae MO Room and Dr. Akhil Menia (Psychiatrist) at Room No. 6 on January 15, 21 and 27, 2022.

Dr. Anayat Lone (Sr: Consultant Pathology) at Central Lab Room No. 17, Dr. Gagan Bali, (Consultant Surgeon) at Surgical Theater, Dr. Susheel Sharma (Consultant Radiologist) at Room No. 6 and Dr. Sashank Sharma (DNB Gastro) at Room No.6 on January 16, 22 and 28, 2022.

Dr. Suhail Bashir (Sr: Consultant Ortho) Room No 22, Dr. Shekhar Sharma (Consultant Optho) Doctor's Room in Eye Theater, Dr. Anandeep Anand (Consultant Gynae) at Gynae MO Room and Dr. Uttara Sambyal (MD Trans. Med) at Blood Centre on January 17, 23 and 29, 2022.

The services of Dental Surgeon shall be available on Sundays also from 10 am to 1 pm.

### Army rescues civilians...

One of the civilians told the rescuers that they had a narrow escape as they managed to jump out of the vehicle before it was buried under snow, the officials said.

They said the Army team also recovered the vehicle from the mounds of snow.

Another group of 16 civilians, who were stuck at some distance away on the same road, were rescued by the Army personnel to NC pass, popularly known as Sadhna pass, a defence spokesman said.

He said the rescued persons were provided food, medical care and shelter for the night.

"Twelve vehicles were retrieved during the day on Tuesday after the avalanche and snow slides clearance from the road. BRO GREIF' played a difficult but stellar role in snow clearance amidst dangerous conditions," the spokesman said.

He said the entire operation took five to six hours.

### Centre proposes new...

the Central Deputation Reserve prescribed under existing regulations, adjusted proportionately by the number of officers available with the state government concerned vis-à-vis the total authorised strength of the state cadre at a given point of time.

The actual number of officers to be deputed to the central government shall be decided by the central government in consultation with the state government concerned, the new rule proposes.

In case of any disagreement, the matter shall be decided by the central government and the state government or state governments concerned shall give effect to the decision of the central government within a specified time , it has proposed.

Existing rules did not mention any time limit for deciding on such disagreement.

The proposal to change the rules was sent to the chief secretaries of all the state governments on December 20, 2021. They were asked to furnish their comments by January 5, 2022.

The Centre had in June last year asked all state governments to nominate more officers for central deputation at the level of deputy secretary, director and joint secretary, citing their shortage.

Officers of the level of deputy secretary/director and above are usually appointed in central government ministries/ departments (i.e. on central deputation) under the Central Staffing Scheme (CSS).

Every cadre a state/states or states and union territories -- is allowed a deputation reserve to ensure that officers have the opportunity to work on deputation including that under the Central Staffing Scheme, which adds to their experience.

It is requested that a larger number of officers may kindly be recommended for the appointment at DS/Director/JS level under the Central Staffing Scheme so that the central deputation reserve/ deputation reserves are duly utilised for this purpose, the Personnel Ministry had said in a communique.

### Won't let in...

the BJP-led central government, she alleged that the ruling party is using Jammu and Kashmir as a laboratory for experimenting and has destroyed the erstwhile state.

"My request to the people is to stand up to save Jammu and Kashmir. If you are able to save J&K, you will save the country. They started destruction of the country from J&K," the former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister said.

Referring to the government's plan to facilitate large scale investment in Jammu and Kashmir, she said "outside investors bring their own labour force along with them while they have their contribution in the apartments planned to be build by the big real estate investors."

### COVID effect: Only...

streaming, they said. The next of kin of approximately 5,000 fallen heroes will be presented with a 'Plaque of Gratitude' by NCC cadets all over the country at about the same time as Prime Minister Narendra Modi pays homage to the country's bravehearts at the National War Memorial in New Delhi on January 26.

This will mark the beginning of the programme which will continue till August 15, 2022, the officials said.

Leaders of five central Asian countries -- Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan -- were reportedly invited as chief guests in December 2021 for RDP-2022.

"The decision regarding chief guests is being handled by the Ministry of External Affairs and we will wait for their decision in this regard," an official said.

There are a number of interesting additions this year including the display of painting scrolls along the Rajpath and invitation cards for parade having seeds of medicinal plants.

Officials said that henceforth, all Republic Day celebrations will begin from January

23 every year as it is the birth anniversary of freedom fighter Subhas Chandra Bose.

The states and union territories have been advised that they should invite participation from one or more other states for their RDP-2022, they mentioned.

These guest states may send their contingent for the parade as well as for food or cultural events to promote engagement among people of different states and union territories so as to enhance mutual understanding and bonding in the spirit of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat, they said.

For a better viewing experience of spectators at the parade, 10 large LED screens - five on each side of Rajpath will be installed for live streaming, they mentioned.

The invitation cards for the parade will have seeds of medicinal plants of Ashwagandha, Aloe Vera and Amla embedded in it and people are being encouraged to plant them in their gardens or flower pots after use, they noted.

On January 26, a nationwide flagship programme of National Cadet Corps (NCC) 'Shaheedon Ko Shat Shat Naman' will be launched, as part of 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav' to honour the supreme sacrifices of the fallen heroes in defending the nation, they mentioned.

"Until August 15, 2022, the NCC cadets, accompanied by NCC officers or permanent instructor staff and cadets of the state directorates will continue to felicitate the NOKs of all 26,466 fallen heroes whose names were mentioned at the National War Memorial," one of the officials mentioned.

To commemorate India's 75th Independence year, the Defence Ministry along with the Culture Ministry, organised an event called 'Kala Kumbh', where the painting of 10 huge scrolls was organised in Delhi, officials said.

These scrolls - each of 75 metres in length and 15 feet in height - were painted during December 11-17 and December 25-January 2 periods, they mentioned.

Hundreds of renowned artists and young aspirants too, from across the country, took part, they said.

These scrolls will be displayed along Rajpath during RDP-2022, they mentioned.

For the first time, dancers who perform during the cultural programme have been selected through a nationwide competition 'Vande Bharatam', jointly organised by the Defence Ministry and the Culture Ministry, they stated.

Out of 3,870 dancers, 800 artists have been selected for the dance performance at the parade, they said.

### Man arrested for...

special team headed by a sub inspector to rescue the abducted minor, the official added.

With the help of Poonch Police, the team raided several places and rescued the girl from the house of Shakeel who, however, managed to escape, he said.

He said the medical examination of the victim was conducted by a board of doctors and the statement of the minor recorded before the Judicial Magistrate.

On the basis of statement of the victim, offences under section 376 of the IPC (rape) and section 4 of the Protection of the Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act were established and added in the instant case, the spokesperson said.

He said the girl was reunited with her family after completion of legal procedures.

The police team finally arrested the accused from Belicharana area of Jammu district, the spokesperson said, adding Shakeel is already married to a woman of Pooni (Reasi) and had left her sometime back. Police are being regularly briefed to remain sensitive towards crime against women especially minors, the SSP said.

### Cloudy weather likely in Kashmir

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The minimum temperature in most parts of Kashmir stayed close to freezing point under the influence of a mild Western Disturbance that has resulted in snowfall in upper reaches of the valley, officials said on Tuesday.

The minimum in Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, settled at a low of 1.1 degrees Celsius, almost same as the previous night's 1 degrees Celsius, the officials said.

Gulmarg, the famous skiing resort in Baramulla district of north Kashmir, recorded a low of minus 6 degrees Celsius, down 1.4 degrees from the previous night.

Pahalgam in south Kashmir's Anantnag district, which serves as the base camp for the annual Amarnath yatra, recorded a low of minus 0.7 degrees Celsius three degrees up from the previous night, they said.

The officials said Qazigund, the gateway town to the valley, recorded a minimum of 0.2 degrees Celsius, while the nearby south Kashmir town of Kokernag recorded a low of minus 0.6 degrees Celsius.

The minimum temperature in Kupwara in north Kashmir settled at a low of 0.2 degrees Celsius. The MET Office has said under the influence of a feeble Western Disturbance, the weather is most likely to remain generally cloudy with possibility of very light to light rain/snow in plains of J-K up to Wednesday and light to moderate snowfall over the higher reaches.

There is no forecast of any major rain or snow till the end of this month, it said.

Kashmir valley is currently under the grip of the 40-day harshest winter period known as 'Chilla-i-Kalan' which began on December 21 last year.

'Chilla-i-Kalan' is a period when a cold wave grips the region and the temperature drops considerably leading to the freezing of water bodies including the famous Dal Lake here as well as the water supply lines in several parts of the valley.

The chances of snowfall are the most frequent and maximum during this period and most areas, especially in the higher reaches, receive heavy to very heavy snow-fall. The 'Chilla-i-Kalan' will end on January 31, but the cold wave continues even after that in Kashmir with a 20-day-long 'Chillai-Khurd' (small cold) and a 10-day-long 'Chillai-Bachha' (baby cold).

tions 457/380 of IPC was registered at Police Station Rehambal.

During investigation, a team of Police Station Rehambal led by Insp Nishant Gupta under supervision of DySp Hqrs Udhampur Sahil Mahajan was constituted and raids were conducted at different locations while some suspects were also rounded-up. During sustained interrogation, one of the suspects namely Mohd Asgar, son of Manzoor Ahmed, resident of Chak Rakwalan broke down and confessed his crime. On his disclosure, stolen cash of Rs 85,000 was also recovered. Further investigation of the case is underway.

### Missing girl traced from Pune

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Police on Tuesday traced a missing girl from Pune in Maharashtra.

As per details, in 2018, a family lodged a missing complaint of their daughter with Bagh-e-Bahu. The police was in search of her since long and today after getting information about aforesaid girl, she was traced in Pune and brought back to Jammu.

### Absconder nabbed

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Police on Tuesday nabbed an absconder who was evading arrest since long. As per details, Bagh-e-Bahu police, acting on a tip off, raided a suspected location and arrested an accused who was on run for last couple of years. The accused was identified as Nazakat Ali, resident of Kokernag and was presently staying at Israrabad.

### Two Pak flag printed balloons found

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

AKHNOOR: Two Pak flag printed balloons were found in fields at Pargwal sector on Tuesday. As per details, at about 4:00 PM, 2 Pak Balloons tied together (1 Green and 1 White) with Pak flag printed on them, was found by a civilian, namely Lovely Khajuria, son of Ashok Khajuria, resident of Nai Basti, Hamirpurkona in his fields. The police was informed which took them into custody and started investigation.

### Two narco smugglers nabbed with heroin

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: Intensifying its action against drug dealings within district, Kathua Police under the overall supervision of SSP R C Kotwal on Tuesday recovered approximately 9 gm Heroin (Chitta) like narcotics and arrested 2 drug peddlers besides seizing a motorbike.

As per details, a police team led by Insp O P Chib SHO Kathua under the supervision of DySP Headquarters Kathua Shammi Kumar during Naka/ checking near Berrian Pattan area intercepted a bike (PB06AA-3005) which was enroute towards Berrian Pattan. On physical checking of rider and pillion-rider, identified as Ravi Dass, son of Sulinder Kumar and Lucky Paul, son of Sulinder Kumar; both residents of Chack Drab Khan, Kathua approximately 9 gm Heroin (Chitta) narcotics was recovered. The duo was arrested on the spot and FIR No. 22/2022 under sections 8/21/22/29 of NDPS Act was registered against them at Police Station Kathua.



### Missing minor traced within 4 hours

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Police on Tuesday traced a minor within four hours after he was reported missing by his parents in Srinagar.

As per details, on January 16, 2022, Mohammad Altaf Dar, resident of Babapora Zoonimar reported in Police Station Zadibal that his son namely Mohammad Ruban, aged 9 years went missing since morning. The parents as well as relatives of child searched for him but failed to trace him. Accordingly, FIR No. 06/2022 under relevant sections of law was registered in Police Station Zadibal and investigation started.

Keeping in view sensitivity, distressful and humane nature of issue, SP Hazratbal Mashkoor Ahmad along with SDPO Hazratbal and SHO Police Station Zadibal visited house of the missing child and assured parents and relatives of child every possible help in this hour of need. The investigation was already taken up by SHO Zadibal under the guidance/supervision of SP Hazratbal & SDPO Hazratbal. It was further intensified in every aspect to trace missing child within shortest possible time. During the course of investigation, all the police stations and police posts across Kashmir Zone were asked to have sharp look and share leads about missing child. The traces and leads were further developed and after strenuous efforts, the investigation team traced the missing child from Khimber area of Hazratbal. Accordingly, he was recovered within 4 hours and handed-over to parents.

### Drug peddler arrested, contraband recovered

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

AWANTIPORA: Acting tough against drug dealings, Police on Tuesday arrested a drug peddler and recovered contraband substance from his possession. Officers at a checkpoint established at Kawani, Awantipora intercepted a suspect. During checking, officers recovered 600 gm grinded cannabis concealed in polythene bag from his possession. He was identified as Shakeel Ahmad Dar, resident of Liddermud. Accordingly, he was arrested and shifted to police station where he remained in custody. FIR No. 06/2022 under relevant sections of law was registered at Police Station Awantipora.

### 60 COVID SoPs violators booked

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SURANKOTE: On directions of SSP Poonch Rohit Baskotra, a team led by SHO Surankote Naiz Ahmed accompanied by PSI Sushant Sambyal, SO Traffic Surankote Maqsood Khan with his team visited whole market area in Surankote and took strict action against COVID-19 SoPs violators. During the drive, police Challenged 60 violators & imposed a fine of Rs 100 per person each for not wearing face-masks at various public places.



### Bootlegger arrested with 100 bottles of illicit liquor

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: Police on Tuesday nabbed a bootlegger and seized 100 bottles of liquor from his possession. As per details, a Naka was established in Ghordi area for checking of vehicles by a team of Police Post Ghordi headed by PSI Rythm Sharma under supervision of SDPO Ramnagar Dr Bhishm Dubey.

During checking of vehicles, Police stopped a bike (JK14G 1460) for checking. On frisking of rider, 100 quarters of Desi Special Whisky were recovered from his possession. On enquiry, the rider disclosed his name as Sunil Sharma, son of Teerth Ram, resident of Nagrota, Panjgrain and was arrested on the spot while illicit liquor was also seized. FIR No. 06/2022 under section 48(a) of Excise Act was registered at Police Station Ramnagar.

### Theft case solved; accused arrested, stolen cash recovered

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: Police on Tuesday solved a theft case by recovering stolen amount of Rs 85,000 and arresting thief involved in the offence.

As per the details, based on a complaint of one Manoj Kumar, son of Rajinder Kumar, resident of Jib, regarding burglary in his shop, FIR No. 07/2022 under sec-

