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Air surcharge 50 paisa for Leh Lalitaditya CC to lock horns with Sydney Thunders in summit clash

Regd. No. L-29/JK-346/22-24 **1** Vision 2023 to define India at 2047: Dr Jitendra

Vaishali is J&K's first Divyang to get Diploma in Indian Sign Language

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Target killing in Rajouri; 4 PoJK refugees killed; 6 injured >> Sanatan Dharam Sabha Rajouri calls for Bandh today >> Azad, Ravinder Raina, others condemn barbaric attack

RAJOURI/JAMMU Pakistan sponsored terrorists opened fire on three houses of Pakistan Occupied Jammu & Kashmir (PoJK) refugees in Dangri village in Rajouri District on Sunday evening, killing four civilians and injuring several others, officials said.

Additional Director General of Police, Jammu Zone, Mukesh Singh said police, along with the Army and the CRPF, have launched a massive search operation to nab the terrorists who attacked at Upper Dangri village, about eight kilometres from Rajouri

"Firing took place at three houses, separated at a distance of around 50 metres from each other. Three civilians succumbed to injuries on spot and seven others were injured," Singh said. However, one injured civilian succumbed to his injuries in



Heavy security deployed in Rajouri after terror attack while injured admitted in hospital on Sunday evening.

hospital, taking the death toll

Quoting eyewitnesses, the officials said two suspected terrorists appeared in the village around 7:00 pm and opened indiscriminate firing on three houses and fled away. Over hundred families of PoJK refugees during 1947 partition had settled in

village Dangri in Rajouri. The deceased have been identified as Deepak Kumar (23), son of Rajinder Kumar, Satish Kumar (45), son of Sat Paul and Pritam Lal (56), son of Lal Chand and Shiv Pal alias Ashish (32), son of Pritam Sharma, all

residents of Dangri. The injured include Pawan Kumar (38), son of Sat Pal, Rohit Pandit (35); Saroj Bala (35) wife of Satish Kumar, Sushil Kumar (40) of Kundan Lal, Shubham Sharma (20) son

of Pritam Lal and Urishi Sharma (17) daughter of Satish Kumar, all residents of Dangri. "This is targeted killing",

said Rajiv Chunni, Chairman SOS International- an organization of PoK 'refugees' settled in J&K, demanding security for these innocent civilians, who have always stayed at their place even during peak terrorism time. "Many times they were

threatened by terror groups to leave the place but these people stayed united and pledged to fight the antinational elements and Pak sponsored terrorism," Rajiv said, adding "Pakistan must be given a strong reply for this coward act".

Sanatan Dharam Sabha (SDS) Rajouri has given a call for Bandh in the border district on Monday in protest against the brutal attack by the terrorists resulting into death of four innocent civilians and critical injuries to several others including women and children. The Bandh call has been supported by VHP, BJP and Beopar Mandal.

"Showing solidarity with the victims we appeal all the shopkeepers to keep their shutters down and transport services will remain suspended", spokesperson of SDS

High alert in Rajouri; security forces launch massive search operation

Rajouri said.

Medical Superintendent of Government Medical College (GMC) Rajouri, Mehmood, said 10 people injured in the firing were brought to the hospital. Three of them were declared brought dead while one succumbed to his injuries in hospital, he added.

He said the injured have multiple bullet wounds. Shubham Sharma and Rohit Pandit have been airlifted to GMC Jammu.

Deeraj Kumar, Sarpanch of Dangri, said gunshots were heard around 7:00 PM and after some time their intensity increased. Later, I received calls that there was firing by terrorists, he added.

Kumar said it was after a long time that targeted killings were carried out in

dent as a major security

There was already a threat perception and searches too were conducted in some of areas of the district, he

added. DAP Chief Ghulam Nabi Azad condemned the barbaric attack in Rajouri.

"I strongly condemn brutal terror attack at Dangri, Rajouri in which four civilians have been killed. This is an act of cowardice. My deepest condolences to the families and relatives of the victims, and wish a speedy recovery to the injured" Azad wrote on twitter.

Ravinder Raina, BJP president of Jammu and Kashmir, condemned the incident and said none

CONTD ON PAGE 9

SC to pronounce verdict on pleas against demonetisation today

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court is scheduled to pronounce its judgment on Monday on a batch of pleas challenging the government's 2016 decision to demonetise currency notes of Rs 1,000 and Rs 500 denominations.

A five-judge Constitution bench headed by Justice S A Nazeer, who will retire on January 4, is likely to pronounce its verdict on the matter on January 2, when the top court will reopen after its winter break.

According to Monday's cause list of the top court, there will be two separate judgements in the matter, which will be pronounced by Justices B R Gavai and B

Old mortar shell found in Samba

SAMBA/JAMMU: An old

mortar shell was found near

railway tracks in Samba dis-

trict on Sunday, a police offi-

The shell was noticed lying

some 150 metres from the

railway line at Kali Badi

near Samba railway station,

He said a bomb disposal

squad was rushed to the

scene which inspected the

mortar and found it empty.

The shell was later handed

over to the accompanying

team from Rakh Amb-Tali

police post, the official said.

Crowds surge at key streets, city

centres and shrines as India ushers

in New Year sans COVID curbs

NEW DELHI: Large crowds thronged popular

boulevards, tourist hubs and

entertainment centres across

India and many joined spe-

cial prayers at places of wor-

ship on Sunday as people

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

stepped out to celebrate

STATE TIMES NEWS

cial said.

the official said.

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Nagarathna. It is not clear whether the two judgements

will be concurring or dissent-Besides Justices Nazeer, Gavai and Nagarathna, the other members of the fivejudge bench are Justices A S

and

Bopanna

Ramasubramanian. The top court had, on December 7, directed the Centre and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to put on record the relevant records relating to the government's 2016 decision and reserved its verdict.

It heard the arguments of Attorney General R Venkataramani, the RBI's counsel and the

CRPF jawan's rifle snatcher caught; civilian injured in Srinagar attack

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Police with the assistance of the family "brought back" the youth hours after he allegedly snatched a rifle from a CRPFpersonnel in Pulwama district, a senior police officer said on Sunday.

Additional General of Police, Kashmir, Vijay Kumar said the snatched weapon was also

"With assistance of family, police brought back Irfan Bashir Ganie @ Soba Ganie, aged about 25 years. of Pulwama along with AK-47 rifle which he snatched from CRPF personnel today



Twitter.

He said the investigation

in the case is going on. "We appreciate the role of the family," Kumar said.

Ganie had allegedly snatched an AK

rifle from a CRPF jawan who was on duty in the Below area of Rajpora in the south Kashmir district, according to police.

Immediately after the incisecurity forces dent, launck a man

recover the weapon and nab the snatcher, they said.

Meanwhile, a civilian was injured in Srinagar when terrorists hurled a grenade towards a CRPF bunker and it exploded on the roadside, officials said. The incident occurred in Halwal area, they said. At about 7:45 pm, terrorists hurled a grenade towards a bunker of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) near Mirza Kamil Chowk which exploded on the roadside. Sameer Ahmed Malla, a resident of Habak, sustained minor injuries in the blast, the officials said. He was shifted to a hospital for treatment,

Army Chief begins New Year by visiting troops at LoC in J&K



deployed at LoC in Kupwara Sector.

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Army Chief General Manoj Pande on Sunday began the new year by paying a visit to troops posted along the Line of

Control (LoC) in Jammu

and Kashmir. "On the occasion of #NewYear2023, General

Manoj Pande #COAS

SFs recover huge quantity of arms, ammunition, narcotics in Kupwara; 1 held

Over 91 lakh pilgrims visited Vaishno Devi shrine in 2022, highest in 9 years

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Over 91 lakh pilgrims visited the famous Mata Vaishno Devi temple in Reasi district of Jammu and Kashmir in 2022, the highest in the last nine years, a senior official of the shrine board said on Sunday.

Over 23,000 devotees offered prayers at the shrine located atop Trikuta hills on New Year's Eve.

In a tweet, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board CEO Anshul Garg said, "91.25 lakh devotees paid obeisance at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi shrine in 2022, the highest number since the start of Online Individual



Yatri registration in 2013. May Mata Rani continue to shower blessings of peace, happiness and prosperity upon all of us.'

According to shrine board data, 23,110 pilgrims offered prayers at the shrine on the last day of 2022.

STATE TIMES NEWS

leopard was rescued on Sunday by the wildlife department in a village in Doda district, an official said.

The leopard was found on a roadside in Malwas some passing vehicle, the

He said the presence of the wild animal caused panic among the villagers who informed the wildlife department.

A team tranquilised the beast and took it to a veterinary hospital for treatment, the official said.

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: A man was arrested and a huge quantity of arms, ammunition and narcotics were recovered from his possession in Kupwara district, police said on Sunday.

They said the weapons and the contraband substance were meant for a militant outfit in the

Based on a specific information that a huge consignment of arms, ammunition and narcotics has been smuggled in by two persons in the Chatkadi area of Karnah, Kupwara, a search operation was

carried out by security forces there, a police official said. During the operation, a man, identified as Umar Aziz, a resident of Chatkadi, was apprehended, he said.

On his sustained questioning, he confessed that, he along with his associate. received a consignment of arms, ammunition and narcotics, the official

Subsequently, a detailed search was carried out and a huge consignment of narcotics and arms and ammunition was recovered Garangnard from Chatkadi,

terming a major success on anti-terror activities.

The official said the recoveries include five pistols, 10 pistol magazines, 77 pistol rounds, a pistol cleaning rod, a pistol user manual guide, four hand grenades and 10 packets of heroin-like substance weighing 9.450 kg.

A case has been registered and investigation taken up, he said.

As per inputs, the consignment was meant for the The Resistance Front -- an

offshoot of proscribed terorganisation roristLashkar-e-Toiba (LeT), the

Gulmarg, Pahalgam experience season's coldest night

general public.

The Electronic Supreme

A team comprising officials

tirelessly and within a short with the NIC, Pune.

The e-SCR project will

■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

STATE TIMES NEWS SRINAGAR: The New arrived in Kashmir on a freezing note as the famous tourist resorts of Gulmarg and Pahalgam experienced the coldest night of the season so far, officials said on Pahalgam in south Kashmir's

Anantnag district, which also serves as a base camp for the annual Amarnath Yatra, recorded a low of minus 9.4 degrees Celsius - the lowest there so far this sea-The resort was also the coldest

recorded place in Jammu and

The minimum in Gulmarg, the famous ski resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, was minus 8.2 degrees Celsius the season's lowest, officials said.

The mercury in Srinagar settled The MeT office has forecast a above the freezing point for the

dry weather over the next few

days for the region leading to registered a low of 0.5 degree colder nights and slightly warmer Celsius Qazigund, the gateway town to

the Valley, was another place where the mercury settled above

second consecutive night. The city

registered a low of 0.3 degrees Celsius.

In Kupwara, a frontier district, the minimum temperature settled at minus 4.5 degrees Celsius, while Kokernag in south Kashmir recorded a low of minus 0.5 degree Celsius, the officials said.

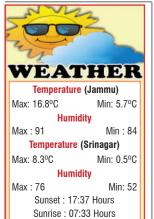
grip of Chilla-i-Kalan, the 40-day harshest weather period when the chances of snowfall are maximum and most frequent.

Kashmir is currently under the

'Chilla-i-Kalan' begins on December 21 and ends on January 30.

The cold wave continues even after that with a 20-day-long 'Chillai-Khurd' (small cold) and a 10-day-long 'Chillai-Bachha (baby cold) following it.

Most areas of the valley received snowfall on Thursday.



SC to launch project to provide free digital access to official law reports of its verdicts **STATE TIMES NEWS** Editorial Section worked

NEW DELHI: In another step towards digitalization of the judiciary, the Supreme Court will launch on Monday a project which will provide free access to official law reports of its verdicts to law students, lawyers and the

Court Reports (e-SCR) project will be unveiled on the direction of Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud as an initiative to provide the digital version of the apex court's judgments in the manner as they are reported in the official law report 'Supreme Court Reports'.

of Judges' Library and

span of 15 days, almost 34,013 judgments were split to create a database suitable for meeting the requirements of the search engine developed by the Supreme Court "Digitization and scanning

of Supreme Court Reports (SCR) from the year 1950 to 2017 and preserving the same in digitized soft copy in the format of PDF (Portable Document Format), assisted the Registry in creating a digital repository in the Supreme Court's reported judgments in soft form," the top court said in a statement.

Injured leopard rescued in Doda

JAMMU: A fully-grown

village in an injured condition, apparently hit by official said.