

LMD books Petrol Pump at Anantnag Highway for short delivery

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: A team of the Enforcement unit of Legal Metrology Anantnag today booked a Petrol Pump located on National Highway Anantnag for delivering deficit fuel to the consumers.

During the surprise inspection using the standard verified measure, it was found that a Nozzle of the Petrol Pump was delivering fuel by 30 ml short against every 5 Litres.

The display boards showing the quantity delivered to consumers was not matching with the actual delivery as a result the nozzle was seized on spot and the prosecution as warranted under relevant sections of Legal Metrology Act has been initiated against the offender.

It is pertinent to mention that accuracy in the quantity of goods or the fuel is the basic right of consumers and any under-delivery of goods and services is a serious offence in terms of Legal Metrology Act 2009.

The consumers have been given the power to check the delivery on their own by using the verified 5 Litre conical measure which must be kept visible by the owners of every petrol pump and it is the duty of every Petrol pump owner to facilitate the checking of fuel delivery to the best satisfaction of consumer.

The inspection and the subsequent action was lauded by the Consumers in the area who were also apprised about their consumer rights. In case of any such complaints, consumers are asked to lodge complaints with the department on the Toll Free Number 18001807114.

Crackdown on drug menace in 2024: 200 FIR's registered, 300 peddlers arrested, 83 vehicles seized, major recoveries made

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: To facilitate treatment of Drug addicts, largest "Police Drug DE-addiction, Rehabilitation, Mental Health Care Centre" Channi, Jammu made functional since March-2024"

In a determined effort to combat the growing menace of drugs, the Jammu Police undertook extensive operations throughout 2024, achieving significant success in their mission to curb narco-crimes in the district.

As part of its anti-drug drive, the police registered 200 cases under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act and arrested 300 individuals involved in drug peddling. 83 vehicles involved in these cases were also seized. It is pertinent to mention here that 153 FIR's were registered in heroin (Chitta) cases alone and 246 individuals arrested in these cases.

Among those arrested, 19 hardcore drug peddlers were booked under the stringent PIT NDPS Act, reflecting the department's zero-tolerance approach toward habitual offenders.

In a remarkable move to dismantle the economic foundations of drug trafficking, the Jammu Police attached 11 Immovable properties (residential/commercial), worth

Rs.4,69,91,369/- and 03 Movable Properties (Vehicles), worth Rs 12,50,000/- in the district under the NDPS Act were seized during the year-2024. The confiscation of these illegally acquired assets represents a critical step in disrupting the financial networks of drug syndicates.

4 Drug hotspots were demolished during 2024 and Jammu Police is working seriously on all fronts to demolish the remaining drug hotspots with the active support of civil administration and General Public.

The police also recovered contraband and psychotropic substances including 43.854 Kgs heroin valued several hundred crores in the black market. This recovery underscores the magnitude of the narcotics trade in the region and the police's relentless efforts to intercept and eradicate the supply chain.

Recognizing the importance of public awareness in the fight against drug abuse, the Jammu Police conducted 19 Drug awareness programs, 52 PCPG meetings, 47 Thana Divas and 62 Debates across the district in 2024. These initiatives aimed to educate the public, especially the youth, about the dangers of drug abuse and to promote a drug-free society. The campaigns were well-received and have played a crucial role in fostering community support for anti-drug initiatives.

Bovine smuggling bids foiled, 23 bovines rescued, 2 vehicles seized

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU/SAMBA: Jammu police tightening its noose against bovine smugglers under operation Kamdhenu Police team of Police post Pounichak and BPP Sandwan has foiled one bovine smuggling attempt in which 05 bovines were rescued from a vehicle Ashoka Leyland pickup bearing registration number No. JK02DJ 9605 which was coming from Tawi area towards SOS Gujjar basti and when reached at Seora Nandini active police party apprehend the said vehicle. The driver of the vehicle fled away from the spot after taking advantage of the darkness.

05 bovines were rescued and vehicle seized.

In this regard, an FIR has been registered in Police Station Domana under relevant sections of law.

Samba Police also foiled bovine smuggling attempt in the jurisdiction of Police Station Samba, rescued seventeen bovines from the clutches of bovine smugglers and seized vehicle used for illegal transportation of bovines.

A Police team of Police Station Samba headed by SHO PS Samba while performing vehicle checking duty during special Naka near Maheshwar Samba, intercepted a Truck bearing registration No. HP38G-8978 for checking.

During checking of the vehicle, seventeen bovines were found laden inside which were tied in a cruel manner and were being transported illegally without any valid permission. All the rescued bovines have been shifted to a safer place.

A case FIR No. 04/2025 U/S 223 BNS, 11 PCA Act has been registered at PS Samba and investigation started.

2 drug peddlers nabbed, 3.50 grams heroin recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: Tightening noose against drug smugglers/peddlers,

Samba Police has arrested two drug peddlers in the jurisdiction of Police Station Vijaypur and recovered 3.50 grams approximately heroin (chitta) like substance from their possession.

A Police party headed by SHO PS Vijaypur during vehicle checking naka at NHW AIIMS Vijaypur, intercepted a bike bearing registration No. JK21G-7239 for its checking.

During checking, 3.50 grams approximately heroin like substance was recovered from the possession of rider and pillion rider.

Both the drug peddlers identified as Raj Kumar, son of Meor Ram and Bittu Ram, son of Babu Ram both resident of Sarai Nud tehsil and district Samba have been arrested and contraband item has also been seized.

A case FIR No 04/2025 U/S 8/21/22/29 NDPS Act has been registered at PS Vijaypur and investigation started.

Conman arrested for fraudulent promise of police favour

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Police Station Nowhatta received a written

complaint from an individual namely Showkat Ahmad Sheikh, son of B a k h t a w a r Sheikh, resident of Zahid Pora, Hawal, alleging therein that a con-man, identified as Fayaz Ahmad Sheikh, son of Mohd Sultan Sheikh, resident of Sheikh Colony, Makhdoom Sahib, had fraudulently taken Rs 30,000 from him to secure the release of Showkat's brother namely Sajad Sheikh, from the custody of Police in connection with Case FIR No. 55/2024 under Sections 8/20 of the NDPS Act.

It is pertinent to mention here that Sajad Sheikh, son of Bakhtawar Sheikh, resident of Sheikh Colony, Hawal, was lawfully arrested by Police Station Nowhatta in the aforementioned case. However, the accused person namely Fayaz Ahmad Sheikh, exploited the situation by falsely claiming influence to arrange the release of complainant's brother from custody, thereby, fraudulently taking Rs 30,000 from the complainant.

Taking cognizance of the complaint, Police Station Nowhatta registered case FIR No. 01/2025 under Section 318 of BNS. During investigation, Police successfully recovered the entire amount from the accused person.

Further investigation into the case is going on.



Illegal hoarding, black marketing of kerosene oil foiled, accused arrested

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KULGAM: In a major crackdown on illegal hoarding and black marketing, Police in Kulgam have successfully recovered huge quantity of kerosene oil and arrested an individual involved in the illegal trade.

A police party of Police station Qaimoh at a checkpoint established at Khudwani Bypass intercepted a vehicle (load carrier) bearing registration No JK18-7728 driven by Hilal Ahmad Guru son of Abdul Rahman Guru resident of Kawaki Bazar Qaimoh. During checking, officers were able to recover 1400 litres of illegally acquired Kerosene oil which he was transporting for hoarding and black marketing. Kerosene oil along with vehicle used in commission of crime were seized and the accused was arrested.

Accordingly, a case vide FIR No. 01/2025 under relevant sections of law has been registered in Police Station Qaimoh and investigation has been initiated.

4 drug peddlers arrested; contraband substances recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Continuing its efforts to eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, Police have arrested 04 drug peddlers in separate incidents in Pulwama, Sopore & Srinagar and recovered contraband substances from their possession.

In Pulwama, acting on credible intelligence, a police team of Police station Pulwama at a checkpoint established at Muchpona Pulwama apprehended a drug peddler identified as Ishfaq Majeed Wani son of Ab Majeed Wani resident of Pulwama. During the search, 18.70 grams of heroin were recovered from his possession. Subsequently, he has been arrested and a case under relevant provisions of law was registered in Police Station Pulwama. Further investigation is underway to uncover potential links and networks involved in the illegal trade.

In Sopore, a police team led by SHO Police Station Dangiwach at a checkpoint established at Laiser Crossing intercepted a vehicle (Ecco) bearing registration number JK05M-4854 driven by Muneeb Jabar Dar son of Abdul Jabar Dar resident of Muqam Shaheednair Bomai Sopore. Upon searching the vehicle, police team was able to recover 1.028 kilograms of a substance resembling charas. Vehicle used in the commission of crime has also been seized. In Srinagar, a Police team of Police Post Tengpora at checkpoint established at Tengpora near Flood Channel apprehended two suspicious persons namely Love Kumar and Vipin Kumar, both residents of Delhi. During search, substantial quantity of contraband substance was recovered from their possession. During the course of investigation, upon the disclosure of both accused persons, more quantity of contraband substance was recovered in the instant case. All the accused have been arrested. Cases under relevant sections of law have been registered at respective police stations and further investigations have been initiated.

Record more than 7.18 lakh visit Bhaderwah in 2024, famous Guldanda becomes darling of visitors

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BHADERWAH: With the restoration of Bhaderwah-Basholi-Pathankot National Highway upto famous tourist destination Guldanda meadow, Huge number of tourists thronging to different areas of Jammu and Kashmir's Bhaderwah especially Guldanda area after it received heavy snowfall recently.

Guldanda meadow of JK's Bhaderwah is emerging as darling of tourists thronging from different parts of country including Delhi, Mumbai, Gujarat, Bangalore, Merut, UP, Andhra Pradesh and others as more than 7.18 lakh tourists have visited JK's Bhaderwah in last year, Publicity Officer Bhaderwah Development Authority (BDA) informed.

The snow filled Guldanda meadow of Bhaderwah located at the height of more than 10000 ft above sea level is experiencing heavy influx of tourists to enjoy the snow in Jammu region of J&K.



Huge number of tourists enjoying in the lapse of snow meadow of Guldanda and they were excited while playing with heavy snow there.

While sharing details, Publicity Officer BDA Amir Rafique said that it's a great achievement for tourism sector in Bhaderwah as we received about record 7.18 lakh tourists in different places of Bhaderwah in last year till 31st December and Guldanda meadow becomes most visited place, which is a good omen for future of Bhaderwah as round the year tourist destination.

Tourists are also enjoying the beauty of snow at Guldanda meadow and

describing it one of the best place to visit.

A group of tourists while sharing their experience said that it's none other than a heaven, "amazing, beautiful and breathtaking views, we love Bhaderwah."

They appeal others to visit Bhaderwah and explore it in a big way as there is everything ok to visit and enjoy.

It is notable that after heavy snowfall, the roads leading to Guldanda and other tourists destinations were closed but with the efforts of Administration and BRO, the Bhaderwah-Basholi-Pathankot highway has been restored upto Guldanda for the visitors.

Govt hospitals in rural areas lack sanitation, medical facilities: Rajesh Kesri

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

ARNIA: Shiv Sena Hindustan J&K President Pt Rajesh Kesri on Sunday claimed that lack of basic medical facilities and poor sanitation conditions in the government hospitals across J&K have added to the adversities of ailing patients during party leaders meeting in Arnia today.

He particular highlighted lack of facilities in Arnia hospital, adding in Arnia Block, there are nearly 100 villages and only hospital in Arnia Block lacks facilities to cater these villages patients when hospital has only four patient rooms.

Highlighting challenges, Kesri said that this hospital lacks specialized departments and equipment, making it difficult for patients to receive timely and appropriate care. He said outdated or insufficient infrastructure, such as old buildings, inadequate lighting, and insufficient sanitation facilities, compromise patient care and safety.

The hospital struggles to



Shiv Sena Hindustan J&K President Pt Rajesh Kesri briefing media.

attract and retain medical professionals, leading to staffing shortages and increased workload for remaining staff and also lacks advanced diagnostic equipment, such as MRI or CT scanners, making it difficult to accurately diagnose and treat patients besides no emergency services, including ambulance services, emergency rooms and trauma care, added Kesri.

Kesri said on the other hand, patients and attendants have to bear the brunt of lack of basic medical facilities and sanitation.

J&K faces a severe shortage of hospitals, particular-

ly in rural areas, with only 0.9 hospital beds per 1,000 people and just 30% of these beds are in rural regions. The quality of care varies widely, with inadequate regulation leading to substandard care in some private facilities, added Kesri.

To revitalize healthcare in JK, Kesri demanded immediate upgradation of existing healthcare facilities is critical.

NTPHCs should be upgraded to Sub-District Hospitals (SDHs) and equipped with modern medical technology, including MRI scanners, mammography units, CT scanners, cardiac monitors, laparo-

scopic surgery setups, neonatal incubators, dialysis machines, physiotherapy centers, and blood bank refrigerators, said Kesri.

Kesri further said that existing Sub-District Hospitals should be strengthened to manage more complex medical cases, ensuring timely and effective treatment for the local population. SDHs should be equipped with round the clock consultant facilities in medicine and surgery to effectively manage emergencies. Ensuring 24/7 availability of specialized care at these hospitals is essentials for timely and efficient treatment, especially in critical situations.

Establishing mobile health clinics can provide essential services, including vaccinations, health screenings, and basic medical care, to remote areas.

Implementing programs to train and retain healthcare professionals in rural areas can help address staffing shortages, said Kesri. These are just a few potential solutions to address the lack of facilities in the main hospital in Arnia Block.

A comprehensive approach that involves government support, community engagement, and innovative solutions can help improve access to quality healthcare in rural areas, remarked Kesri.

Prominent among those present on the occasion include Balveer Kumar, Balwant Saini, Rajkumar Baba, Sanjeev Sharma, Rajesh Kumar, Suresh Kumar, Bhushan Kumar, Rajendra Kumar, Dakshin Devi, Geeta Devi ,Pooja Devi ,Anita Devi besides others.

Nagar Kirtan taken out to mark Parkash Parv of Guru Gobind Singh

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RS PURA: A vibrant Nagar Kirtan was organized in Village Raipur Gujran RS Pura to commemorate the Parkash Parv of Shri Guru Gobind Singh Ji, the 10th Guru of Sikhism.

An impressive procession commenced from Singh Sabha Gurdwara Raipur Gujran RS Pura, drawing a large number of devotees who engaged in various activities, including martial arts performances by the youth.

Nagar Kirtan was marked by the presence of



Glimpses of Nagar Kirtan at R S Pura.

the Saroop of Sahib Shri Guru Granth Sahib Ji, beautifully adorned alongside five beloved ones (Pyaras). This spiritual celebration brought together the community in a display of faith and devotion

During the event, preacher delivered an enlightening discourse on the life history of Shri Guru Gobind Singh Ji and the rich history of Sikhism, inspiring atten-

dees and enriching the spiritual atmosphere of the occasion.

In his address, Members also emphasized the significance of Sikh history highlighting the teachings and legacy of Guru Gobind Singh Ji.

The Nagar Kirtan not only celebrated the legacy of Guru Gobind Singh Ji but also fostered a sense of unity and community spirit among the participants.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: The Jammu Kashmir Teachers' Joint Action Committee (JKTJAC) convened its monthly meeting in Udhampur on January 5, 2025, under the leadership of UT President Vinod Sharma and District President Lekh Raj Parihar. The meeting witnessed participation from executive and apex body members representing all zones of the district. The primary agenda focused on addressing the genuine and pressing issues faced by the teaching fraternity, particularly teachers appointed under the ReT scheme.

In his address, Vinod Sharma emphasized the urgent need to implement Government Order No. 469 Edu of 2014, dated June 25, 2014, which pertains to the inclusion of the 5-year ReT period for seniority benefits and the transfer of the ReT cadre. Highlighting recent directives from the Hon'ble



JKTJAC members during the monthly meeting at Udhampur.

CAT, Sharma stressed that regularized ReTs are equivalent to general line teachers and must not face discrimination based on their recruitment mode. He expressed optimism that the government would enforce the order, ensuring equity for ReTs.

The meeting also underscored the demand for restoring the Old Pension Scheme for employees appointed on or after January 1, 2010. Sharma urged the government to address this long-standing demand to safeguard the welfare of the teaching

community. Additionally, he called for the regularization of ReTs who have completed their five-year tenure and the conversion of RRETs into Teachers Grade II and III.

Several other issues were raised during the meeting, including granting cash in lieu benefits, converting headteacher posts into non-plan posts of masters, and conducting another Departmental Promotion Committee (DPC) to clear the backlog of teacher-to-master promotions. The attendees also appealed for the release of time-barred

arrears for teachers and masters, raising grade pay to match counterparts in other Union Territories, granting earned leave for teachers engaged in summer and winter camps, and filling vacant ZEO, Principal, and Headmaster positions in headless zones and schools.

District President Lekh Raj Parihar highlighted the local challenges, urging the Chief Education Officer of Udhampur to expedite the completion of service records for teachers in various zones and

release pending dues. He also raised concerns about the non-release of carriage charges under the Mid-Day Meal scheme, which has created logistical difficulties for teachers managing transportation of supplies.

The transparent and efficient adjustment of recently promoted teachers to masters by the Director of School Education Jammu was lauded by Vinod Sharma, who urged the director to hold another DPC to address the remaining backlog.

Prominent members who contributed to the discussions included Ashok Seth, Ravinder Singh Rathore, Bhushan Khajuria, Shamsheer Singh, Vijay Sadotra, Suresh Sharma, and several others. The meeting concluded with a collective appeal to the government to resolve the issues raised, ensuring the welfare and professional growth of the teaching fraternity in Jammu and Kashmir.

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