

Inaugurates redeveloped Amira Kadal bridge in Srinagar

Preserving heritage; not just infrastructure but building tomorrow's cities: LG

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday inaugurated the redeveloped Amira Kadal bridge in Srinagar.

The project, costing Rs 7.70 crore under Srinagar Smart City limited was launched in December 2023, ensuring due diligence in heritage conservation, structural safety and quality control.

Dedicating the pedestrian wooden bridge to the people of Srinagar, the Lieutenant Governor said the historically significant project will preserve legacy while improving urban mobility and quality of life.

"Our prime objective is to lift the quality of life to a new level with modern technology and inclusive design.

We have made it a mission to protect the soul of every city while upgrading or renovating the infrastructure. By preserving historic lanes, bridges, traditional markets, lively squares and peaceful green spaces, we have made



LG Manoj Sinha inaugurating redeveloped Amira Kadal bridge in Srinagar.

efforts to weave amenities into the cultural heartbeat of each city," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor emphasised that the renovation and upgradation of a city's infrastructure should become a bridge, beautifully linking heritage with the needs of today. This approach is already visible in the several cities of J&K. Jhelum Riverfront, Lal Chowk, MA road redevelopment, Redevelopment of Polo view High Street, Traditional Souq Market and craft centre

Batmaloo, Development of lake front including walkways on Northern Foreshore road from Nishat to Naseem Bagh Habak, Improvement of Ghats along Jhelum, Improvement of Facade of Heritage Markets of Shehr-e-Khaas, Srinagar, Improvement of road from Dogra Chowk to KC chowk, Apsara road High Street, Street development Canal road Talab Tillo, Street development of heritage site Mubarak Mandi to Raghunath Bazaar, approach to Bahu Fort Temple, Ranbir

canal Blue-Green Walkway projects, Tawi River front now pulse with fresh appeal, drawing not just tourists enchanted by their timeless charm, but also giving boost to businesses and the local economy is gaining real strength and momentum.

The Lieutenant Governor stated that by breathing new life into our cities through preservation of cultural heritage, we are honoring the roots. He said that this commitment is about more than upgradation of infrastructure; it is about building a

brighter, more resilient tomorrow for young generation.

"A true smart city is never just about new infrastructure. It is about sparking an entirely new way of quality living, which is vibrant, efficient and inclusive," the Lieutenant Governor said.

Interacting with local shopkeepers and traders, the Lieutenant Governor said that the opening of the pedestrian bridge will improve accessibility, boost commercial activity, and provide a pleasant experience for tourists.

Ahsan Pardesi, Member of Legislative Assembly from Lal Chowk; Anshul Garg, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; VK Birdi, IGP Kashmir; Akshay Labroo, Deputy Commissioner Srinagar; Faz Lul Haseeb, CEO, Srinagar Smart City Limited (SSCL), senior officials, members of trade associations and prominent citizens attended the inaugural ceremony.



Chugh hails SC directive against Kejriwal-Mann syndicate to muffle media voice in Punjab

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

CHANDIGARH: BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh on Tuesday hailed the Supreme Court directive to the Bhagwant Mann government not to resort to coercive measures to disrupt the printing of the Punjab Kesari Group publications. Chugh said it was not only a tight slap on the authoritarian and vindictive actions of the Kejriwal-Bhagwant Mann government but was commentary on the disgraceful manner the AAP has been running the government in Punjab. The Kejriwal-led syndicate in Punjab has been browbeating the media to hide its failures and corrupt practices. He said the BJP stands for press freedom

and independence and will defend the media in all such situations so that extremely foul means resorted to by the Kejriwal syndicate in Punjab are exposed. Earlier, the Bhagwant Mann-Kejriwal government had tried playing a similar prank on a Punjabi vernacular, but later had to bite the dust. Chugh said the AAP government has been making repeated attempts to intimidate the media groups which have been exposing the corrupt practices of the Kejriwal-led government in Punjab.

He said attempts to stifle the press is the first sign of panic in the governance and is a glaring sign of insecure regimes, but people of Punjab are watching closely.

Jammu Police busts criminal nexus

Solves telecom theft, JPDCL robbery cases; makes recoveries worth over Rs 1 Cr



SP South Jammu, Dr Ajay Sharma briefing media.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: SP South Jammu, Dr Ajay Sharma, on Tuesday said that Jammu Police have achieved a major breakthrough by successfully cracking two high-profile criminal cases involving theft of telecom infrastructure and an armed robbery at a government establishment.

Addressing a press conference on Tuesday, Dr Ajay Sharma, said, "The operations led to the dismantling of a well-organised criminal nexus operating across the Jammu Division, with multiple arrests and recovery of stolen property worth over Rs 1 crore."

Dr Ajay Sharma stated that the first case pertained to the theft of valuable telecom equipment from a BTS mobile tower installed at 6 B/C Gandhi Nagar, Jammu.

"A written complaint was received at Police Station Gandhi Nagar from Bihari Lal Sharma, DySP (Retd.), Supervisor Law & Order, J&K Circle, on behalf of GTL Infrastructure Limited (GIL). The theft occurred during the intervening night of October 6, 2025, resulting in disruption of essential telecom services. Accordingly, FIR No. 268/2025 under Section 305 BNS was registered and investigation was initiated," Dr Ajay said.

The SP further disclosed that the second case related to an armed robbery at the

JPDCL Divisional Store, Nanak Nagar. An application was received from the Assistant Executive Engineer, Sub Division Store (STD-I), JPDCL, Jammu, stating that during the intervening night of December 19/20, 2025, a group of 6-7 unknown persons armed with sharp-edged weapons forcibly entered the store and looted large quantities of electrical material. In this regard, FIR No. 276/2025 under Sections 309(4)/305/191(2) BNS and 4/25 Arms Act was registered.

Taking both cases with utmost seriousness, Dr Ajay Sharma said that a special police team was constituted under his supervision. The team, led by PSI Maan Singh, PSI Nadeem Akram and ASI Pintoo Kumar, worked under the close supervision of SHO PS Gandhi Nagar Jai Paul Sharma and SDPO City South Kuljeet Singh. Through sustained efforts, technical surveillance, and ground-level intelligence, the police succeeded in identifying and arresting the members of a well-coordinated criminal gang involved in both cases.

The arrested accused were identified as Saddam Hussain Zargar, Jahangir Ahmed Butt, Sofian alias Thapa Pehalwan, Shahab Hussain, Freed Ali, Abdul Lateef alias Laefy, along with one juvenile whose identity has been withheld as per law. During the

investigation, it was revealed that the accused were part of an organised nexus involved in theft and robbery of high-value government and private infrastructure.

On the disclosure of the accused, police recovered a huge quantity of stolen property, including telecom equipment comprising 11 Base Band units, 03 RUS units, one Air Harmony unit, along with connectors, wires and switches valued at approximately Rs 70 lakh. Additionally, large quantities of electrical material including conductors, control cables, pin insulators, electric fittings, electric cables and 20 shattering plates were recovered. Police also seized two sharp-edged weapons (tokas) and three vehicles including an Alto car, a Swift car and a Mahindra pickup used in the commission of crimes.

Dr Ajay Sharma emphasised that the total value of the recovered property exceeds Rs 1 crore, dealing a severe blow to organised crime in the region.

He reiterated Jammu Police's firm commitment to protecting public and government property, ensuring the safety of essential infrastructure, and taking stringent action against criminal elements. He also warned that anyone found involved in such organised criminal activities would be dealt with strictly as per law.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Former Governor, J&K and Chairman of Tribune Trust N. N. Vohra was among a large number of noted media persons who paid tributes to Thakur Singh, former senior officer of Information Deptt and Head of Public Relations wing of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board at a Shradhanjali Samaroh, organised by the Jammu Information Veterans (Association of Retired Information Officers, Jammu) at Jammu Press Club, here on Tuesday. Thakur Singh passed away on 16th January due to head injury at GMC, Jammu.

In a message, the former Governor, J&K, N N Vohra conveyed his condolences and said, "I am very sad to know about the untimely passing away of Thakur Singh with whom I had a very long association and learnt many things from him about the effective use of words and language. After his superannuation, I used his experience in the



Tributes being paid to Thakur Singh, former senior officer of Information Deptt and Head of Public Relations wing of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board.

SMVDVSB."

Former PTI Bureau Chief M K Bangroo recalled his long association with Thakur Singh and said that he was an ever-smiling officer with a strong pen and nose for news who could work with deadlines. He was a rare asset to the Information Deptt.

Noted AIR news editors Ashok Handoo and Ajeet Singh conveyed their grief over the sad demise of Thakur Singh. Handoo said that He was a name in the information department in those days and people would look up to him for any concerns they had. Ajeet

Singh that he will be known for his commitment to the work, integrity, PR qualities.

Former Director Information K B Jandial recalled his long association with him and that he was embodiment of professionalism, dedication, hard work, humility, integrity, loyalty and took up all assignments with a smiling face. He said that while he had unwavering support from all colleagues during peak of militancy unmindful of risk involved, Thakur Singh was among a team of officers who would work with him throughout the night in make-

shift office. It is difficult to find such a committed colleague, he added.

Former Director Information & Secretary Cultural Academy, Khalid Bashir, in his message from Srinagar described thakur Singh a loving colleague, a dedicated officer, a thoroughly competent professional, and an ever-smiling human being with a golden heart.

Ashwani Kumar, former Bureau Chief of India Today, recalled the qualities of head and heart and said that while he was a perfect PR man, he would not share anything that

violated the guidelines of the organisation he was serving.

Another TV journalist and Head of Doordarshan Kendra, Jammu, Sanjeet Khajuria also paid tributes to Thakur Singh and he understood the varying requirements of electronic media and newspapers and would meet their deadlines.

UNI Bureau Chief Vishal Bharti called him as his mentor who would guide him in his early years of journalism and said that it was due to his confidence and PR qualities that always earned him respect from people at highest position like the Governor and Chief Minister with whom he enjoyed his tenure as their PR man.

Among others who paid tributes included A G Rather, Mushtaq Ahmad, O P Sharma, Mohd Shaif, Kiran Sharma, Mahesh Sharma, Virender Puri, Amrit Vaid, Shishupal, Pritam Saini and Rajinder Tikoo. Mohd Shaif conducted the proceedings. A 2-minute silence was observed in his memory.

ASI, Patwari, 2 PWD employees arrested in separate bribery cases

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Tuesday conducted successful trap operations and arrested four government officials, including two PWD employees, a Patwari, and an Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) of Police, in three separate bribery cases registered at ACB Police Stations in Udhampur and Rajouri. These arrests were made following verified complaints from aggrieved citizens who refused to pay illegal gratification and approached the Bureau for legal action.

An ACB official said, "The Bureau is committed to rooting out corruption at all levels of administration. Public servants who misuse their official position to demand bribes will be dealt with strictly under the law. We encourage citizens to report any such illegal demands without fear."

In the first case, ACB Udhampur received a com-

plaint alleging that Anil Jamwal, Junior Assistant posted in the office of the Superintending Engineer, PWD R&B Udhampur, and Jeet Kumar, Computer Operator in the office of the Executive Engineer, PWD R&B Udhampur, demanded Rs 12,000 as bribe for issuance of a contractor card.

The complainant, unwilling to pay, approached the ACB. After discreet verification confirmed the demand, FIR No. 02/2026 was registered under Section 07 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 and Section 61(2) of BNS, 2023 at PS ACB Udhampur.

A trap team led by a Dy. SP-rank officer was constituted. The accused officials were caught red-handed while demanding and accepting Rs 12,000 from the complainant in the presence of independent witnesses. The bribe money was recovered from their possession. Searches were also conducted at Ram Nagar and

Laddan Power House, Udhampur, in the presence of a Magistrate.

In the second case, ACB Rajouri received a complaint against ASI Zamurat Manhas of Police Station Mendhar. It was alleged that he demanded Rs 5,000 as bribe from the complainant to settle a financial dispute with one Abdul Qayoom.

The complainant further alleged that the ASI threatened to book him under the Public Safety Act (PSA) if he failed to pay the bribe. On this basis, FIR No. 01/2026 was registered at PS ACB Rajouri. During a planned trap operation, ASI Zamurat Manhas was caught red-handed while accepting Rs 5,000 as bribe. He was arrested on the spot, and subsequent searches were conducted at his residential premises in Mendhar, Surankote, and Jammu.

In the third case, ACB Rajouri received a written complaint against Patwari

Mohd. Razaq, posted at Patwar Halqa Sokar/Prori, Koteranka. The complainant alleged that the Patwari demanded Rs 10,000 for recording the names of his three daughters in the revenue record (Khasra Girdavari). Since the complainant did not want to pay illegal gratification, he approached ACB Rajouri, leading to registration of FIR No. 02/2026.

A trap team from PS ACB Rajouri caught Mohd. Razaq red-handed while demanding and accepting Rs 10,000 as

bribe. He was arrested on the spot, and searches were conducted at his residential premises as part of the investigation.

The ACB official added, "These operations reflect our firm resolve to combat corruption. No one, irrespective of position or department, is above the law. The Bureau will continue to take strict action against corrupt officials."

Further investigations in all three cases are underway, and additional action will be taken based on evidence gathered.

MP resident arrested for brutally murdering friend in Samba

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Police has arrested a man, a resident of Madhya Pradesh, for allegedly murdering his friend in Samba district with the intent of grabbing his compensation money, an official said on Tuesday.

The mutilated body of Jeevan Ahirwar, a resident of Bijawar tehsil of Chhatarpur in Madhya Pradesh, was recovered in Bari Brahmana area of Samba on January 7, with the police registering a murder case in this connection, the official said. Following extensive efforts, police arrested main accused Anil Kumar, resident of Beniganj village in the same Madhya Pradesh district, from his rented accommodation in Channi Himmat area of Jammu, he added.

"The accused, upon sustained questioning, confessed his involvement in the case. It has surfaced during the investigation that the accused had strangled the deceased and subsequently attacked his face with a stone to deface his iden-

tity," the spokesman said.

The investigation revealed that the deceased had received an amount of nearly Rs 13 lakh from the Madhya Pradesh government as compensation for his house and land.

"The accused, being a close friend of the deceased, well aware about the money and wanted to grab it," police said, adding that three mobile phones, one ATM card, and one Remit card, which had been stolen from the deceased, have been recovered from Anil.

The investigation revealed that after committing the murder, the accused withdrew Rs 55,000 from the deceased's bank account using the stolen ATM card.

An amount of Rs 14,400 has been recovered in cash from the accused, while the remaining amount has been found deposited in his bank account, the spokesman said, adding that necessary action has been initiated with the bank to secure the remaining amount.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Jammu, Joginder Singh, accompanied by SP Rural Jammu Brijesh Sharma, SDP Akhnoor, DySP Traffic Rural, and SHO Gharota, today visited Baba Ballo Ji Temple, Mathwar, to review the security and traffic arrangements put in place for the forthcoming Basant Panchami festival.

During the visit, SSP Jammu issued necessary directions to the concerned officers to ensure adequate security deployment, effective traffic



SSP Jammu, Joginder Singh reviewing arrangement at temple.

management, and seamless coordination among all agencies for the safety,

security, and convenience of devotees during the celebrations.

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-TENDER CORRIGENDUM NOTICE			
Tender No: 433_TELE_JAT_24_25_26		Date: 19.01.2026	
Closing Date/Time: 03.02.2026 15:00			
Corrigendum & Tender Details			
Corrigendum No.	1	Corrigendum Publish Date as per IREPS	19.01.26 17:17
Tender No.	433 TELE_JAT_24_25_26 (Open Tender)		
Name of work	Railnet services by replacing outdated copper-based media with a high-speed optical fiber network (FTTH) at Jammu, Katra, Banihal and Budgam.		
Tender Closing Date Time	03.02.2026 15:00	Date Time of Uploading Tender	12.01.2026 20:35
Advertised Value (Rs.)	39507063.37	Bidding Start Date as per IREPS	20.01.2026
Earnest Money (Rs.)	347500.00	Period of Completion	4 Months
ITEMS MODIFIED NIT HEADER			
Field Name	Existing Value	Modified Value	
Change in Description for Item no: 24	Supply, installation, testing, wiring and commissioning of Layer-2 managed Ethernet switch with 24x 10/100/1000 Base-T ports and 4 x 1G SFP/SFP+ ports, suitable for GPON network, conforming to RDSO/SPN/TC/83/2020 Rev. 2.0 or latest. Product must be TTP-registered with RDSO. Inspection: RDSO (supply portion).	Supply, installation, testing, wiring and commissioning of Layer-2 managed Ethernet switch with 24 x 10/100/1000 Base-T ports and 4 x 1G SFP/SFP+ ports, suitable for GPON network, conforming to RDSO/SPN/TC/83/2020 Rev. 2.0 or latest. Product must be TTP-registered and certified with RDSO. Inspection: RDSO (supply portion).	
Change in Description and Technical Specification for Item no: 28	Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of Managed Media Converter (Ethernet to Optical), 10/100/1000 Mbps, single-mode, suitable for GPON applications complete with accessories and SFPs, conforming to all applicable technical specifications, standards, performance requirements inspection conditions pue acceptance criteria as laid down in the tender / technical schedule. Inspection: RITES	Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of Managed Media Converter (Ethernet to Optical) having 10/100/1000 Mbps Ethernet port, single-mode optical interface, suitable for GPON applications, complete with required single-mode SFP module(s) of appropriate wavelength and reach, power supply, mounting accessories, patch cords/pigtail, connectors /adaptors, earthing and labeling, and all other accessories necessary for proper installation and operation. The equipment shall conform to RDSO/SPN/TC/103/2013 Rev. 3.0 or latest. Inspection: RITES.	
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE			
			204/26