

## 03 J&K Bank bags 'Development Leadership Award-2023'

## 04 Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra receives massive public participation

## 10 JK Public School Panjtirthi celebrates Farmer's Day

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# Five soldiers martyred, 2 injured as terrorists ambush Army vehicles in Poonch

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: Five soldiers were martyred and two injured when heavily-armed terrorists ambushed two Army vehicles in Poonch district on Thursday, officials said.

The vehicles carrying the personnel to the site of a cordon-and-search operation came under attack at a blind curve at Dhatyar Morh between Dhera Ki Gali and Baffiaz under the jurisdiction of the Surankote police station around 3.45 pm, according to the officials.

The People's Anti-Fascist Front (PAFF), an offshoot of Pakistan-based terror outfit Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), claimed responsibility for the ambush.

Jammu-based defence PRO Lieutenant Colonel Suneel Bartwal said a joint search operation was launched in the general area of Dhera Ki Gali in the Thanamandi-Surankote region of Poonch on Wednesday night on the



basis of "hard intelligence" about the presence of terrorists.

As additional forces were moving to the site, the ultras fired upon the Army vehicles -- a truck and a Maruti Gypsy. The troops swiftly responded to the attack, the defence spokesperson said.

In the ongoing operation, five soldiers were martyred and two injured, the officials said. The injured have been admitted to a hospital. The operation is in progress and further details are being

ascertained, the officials said. The officials have not ruled out the possibility of the soldiers engaging in hand-to-hand combat with the terrorists during the intense confrontation.

They said there was a possibility that the terrorists had walked away with the arms of the targeted soldiers.

As the operation continues, authorities are diligently working to gather more information and do away with the threat posed by terrorists in the region.

Taking to X to condemn the dastardly ambush of Thursday, Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) chairman Azad termed the incident "devastating" and said the casualties are deeply saddening.

"... terrorism hitting Jammu is alarming and we stand united against this menace. Urging the government to take swift and decisive action for the safety of all citizens. Praying for the swift recovery of the injured," he said.

Mufti, who heads the People's Democratic Party (PDP), described the incident as "terrible". She condemned the "dastardly attack" and expressed her deepest condolences to the families and loved ones of the slain soldiers.

Apni Party president and former Jammu and Kashmir minister Altaf Bukhari said he was distressed to hear about the loss of the brave soldiers.

### PD&MD finalizes placement of 50 officers

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Planning Development and Monitoring Department (PD&MD) on Thursday placed 50 officers of Jammu and Kashmir Economics and Statistics (Gazetted) Service as Joint Directors and Deputy Directors in the department.

As per government order issued in this regard, 10 officers presently posted

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### Surrendered terrorist arrested

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KISHTWAR: Police on Thursday arrested a surrendered militant, who was absconding for 18 years, in Kishtwar district, officials said. A surrendered militant named Parvaiz Ahmed alais Haris was arrested during a raid in Kishtwar, they said. He was absconding in a case of murder and attempt to murder besides the Arms Act registered against him in 2005, they said. He was produced before the court.

# Red tape replaced with red carpet for industries in J&K: LG



LG Manoj Sinha speaking at the Jammu Kashmir Food Processing & Wellness Conclave in Jammu on Thursday.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Thursday said that red tape has been replaced with red carpet for industries in Jammu and Kashmir.

"We are offering opportunities in various fields of food processing, vegetables, bakery production and nutraceuticals. GI certification will help investors to create global brands and create international standards of food safe-

ty and quality," the Lt Governor said while inaugurating Jammu Kashmir Food Processing and Wellness Conclave in Jammu.

On the occasion, J&K SICOP and Apollo Hospital exchanged land deed for setting up of Apollo Hospital in the region.

The Lt Governor welcomed the industry leaders, policymakers and stakeholders from hospitality, wellness

and food processing sectors to explore investment opportunities and foster collaboration during the two-day conclave, organized by J&K Trade Promotion Ogranization.

He said the exchange of land deed with Apollo Hospital today will pave the way for one of the biggest players in health sector to formally start the ground work in the Union

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## HC quashes termination order of DGM JKPCCL

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Justice Rahul Bharti, Judge High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, Jammu has quashed the termination order of Suresh Kumar Rekhi, Deputy General Manager (DGM), Jammu and Kashmir Projects Construction Corporation (JKPCCL) issued under order No 84 of 2021 dated July 29, 2021.

The petitioner was appointed as Assistant Manager (Civil) in 1993 on the basis of Permanent Resident Certificate (PRC). Later, the petitioner was booked under FIR 19/2014 by State

Vigilance Organization Jammu on account of fake PRC which resulted in a legal course of action through which the authorities ordered cancellation of his PRC.

Upon this, the GAD in its order to JKPCCL Jammu authorized the competent authority to terminate the services of Suresh Kumar Rekhi on the basis of fake PR certificate.

The petitioner in his writ petition pleaded against termination for violating the rules of natural justice without even putting him to any explanation and

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## Justice Tashi chairs meeting to review functioning of Juvenile Justice Boards in J&K

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A meeting of High Level Committee as required under Section 16 (2) of Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Act, 2015 was convened on Thursday at High Court of J&K and Ladakh, Jammu, under the chairmanship of Justice Tashi Rabstan, Judge, High of J&K and Ladakh and Executive Chairman J&K LSA.

The meeting was attended by R. K. Goyal, Additional Chief Secretary Home, Sheetal Nanda, Commissioner Secretary, Social Welfare Department



Justice Tashi Rabstan chairing High Level Committee meeting of Juvenile Justice Boards in Jammu.

and Amit Kumar Gupta, Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority also Ex-officio Member Secretary, Juvenile Justice Committee, High Court of J&K and Ladakh.

A detailed review of case pendencies and disposal of cases by the Juvenile Justice Boards across the UT of J&K was held during the meeting. Also, the progress on resolutions passed during

the previous year's meeting was reviewed besides deliberating upon the issues confronting proper implementation of the said Act in the UT.

The Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority presented data regarding the disposal and pendency of cases in various Juvenile Justice Boards. He informed that 2525 cases were pending at the beginning of the current year and 771 fresh cases were instituted uptill 31.10.2023, whereas, 628 cases were disposed of between January to October 2023.

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### Kashmir's harshest winter period Chilla-i-Kalan' begins

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Kashmir's harshest winter period, 'Chilla-i-Kalan', began on Thursday with the mercury dropping several notches below the freezing point at many places, officials said.

Srinagar city -- the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir -- recorded a low of minus 4.3 degrees Celsius on Tuesday night, down from the previous night's minus 3.7 degrees Celsius, they said.

Pahalgam in south Kashmir's Anantnag district, which serves as one of the base camps for the annual Amarnath Yatra, recorded a minimum temperature of minus 5.8 degrees Celsius, they said.

The famous ski resort of Gulmarg in Baramulla district recorded a low of minus 3.0 degrees Celsius, the officials said.

Qazigund recorded a low of minus 4.0 degrees Celsius, Kokernag town saw the mercury settle at minus 3.0 degrees Celsius

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**WEATHER**

Temperature (Jammu)  
Max: 24.8°C Min: 13.2°C

Humidity  
Max: 71 Min: 69

Temperature (Srinagar)  
Max: 6.8°C Min: 2.8°C

Humidity  
Max: 94 Min: 83

Sunset : 17:21 Hours  
Sunrise : 07:25 Hours

## CS inaugurates Mega Kisan Mela under HADP at Agriculture Complex Lal Mandi

Hands over sanction letters among beneficiaries, tractor keys to farmers



CS Atal Dulloo taking a round of stalls set-up in Kisan Mela at Agriculture Complex Lal Mandi.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo on Thursday inaugurated a Divisional Level Mega Kisan

Mela organized by the Agriculture & Farm Welfare Department under Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) here at

Agriculture Complex Lal Mandi.

Vice Chancellor SKUAST, Prof Nazir Ahmad Ganai, Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad, Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhary Mohammad Iqbal, other senior Officers and large number of progressive farmers and Agri Entrepreneurs were present in the mega event.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Secretary highlighted the significance of HADP

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### Jammu administration issues notices to 44 accused under NDPS Act

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The district administration Jammu has taken a strong stance against drug trafficking and related offences as it has issued notices to 44 accused under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act 1985.

The measures are part of the ongoing decisive fight against drug menace in the district, spearheaded by District Magistrate Sachin Kumar Vaisiyya and Senior Superintendent of Police Dr Vinod Kumar. The accused have been given a

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## New criminal laws get Parliament nod, RS passes bills by voice vote

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Three new bills that seek to overhaul the colonial-era criminal laws, making punishments more stringent for crimes such as terrorism, lynching, and offences endangering national security, were approved by Parliament on Thursday.

The bills were passed in the Rajya Sabha by voice vote. The Lok Sabha had approved these on Wednesday.

The bills that repeal and replace the Indian Penal Code, Code of Criminal Procedure and the Indian Evidence Act will usher in a

### New criminal justice bills mark end of colonial-era laws: Modi

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday hailed the passage of three criminal justice bills that will replace as many colonial-era acts as a watershed moment in India's history, and said it marked the beginning of a new era with laws centered on public service and welfare.

"Through them, we have also bid goodbye to the outdated sections on sedition," he said on X after Parliament gave its nod to the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita and the Bharatiya



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new era in the criminal justice system, Home Minister Amit Shah said while reply-

ing to a debate in the Upper House of Parliament.

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## ACB arrests AE RDD for demanding, accepting Rs 2,000 as bribe

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Anti Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Thursday trapped and arrested Tanveer Ahmad Dar, Assistant Engineer, Rural Development Department, Surasyar, Chadoora, District Budgam for demanding and accepting Rs 2000 for releasing the payment

The ACB received a written complaint against Tanveer Ahmad Dar, Assistant Engineer for allegedly demanding bribe of Rs 2000 for release of due payment in favour of the complainant.

The complainant alleged that he is contractor of Rural Development Department and had completed allotted Works and the above named Assistant Engineer is demanding 2 percent of the total cost of the bills. The

complainant alleged that the two bills amounting to the tune of Rs 90000 each were to be passed by alleged AE. However, the said public servant remained adamant on his demand of bribe and finally agreed on Rs 2000 as bribe release the payment. The complainant arranged ₹2000 and approached ACB for legal action.

On receipt of the complaint, case FIR No. 25/2023 U/S 7 PC Act 1988 was registered in PS ACB Srinagar and investigation taken up.

During the course of investigation a trap team was constituted. The team laid a successful trap and caught red-handed Tanveer Ahmad Dar, son of Ghulam Mohammad, resident of Badipora,

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