

## !! Continuations from Page 1 !! Some forces active...

common aim that is to reclaim India's position as Vishwa Guru and prove themselves to be the true successors of the ancestors who established great centers of education like Nalanda, Takshashila, Vikramshila.

Referring to the transformation taking place in the educational landscape in J&K, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Lieutenant Governor called upon the teaching community to reinvent the classroom-learning and provide mentorship to students.

Education means learning, not delivery of information. Only teacher-student engagement can generate curiosity, creativity and imagination among students. We must create a conducive environment to develop lifelong learning and problem-solving skills and encourage critical thinking, creativity, and collaboration among students, he said.

He emphasised on maintaining a fine balance between Science and Sanskar. Along with core subjects, our focus should be on value-based education and promoting new ideas, new innovations while nurturing the individuality of students, he added.

The Lieutenant Governor congratulated the management, teachers and students of the school and extended his best wishes. He encouraged the students to Dream Big! Believe in yourself and work hard with focus and persistence to fulfil your dream.

On the occasion, the Lieutenant Governor felicitated the meritorious students, and also congratulated the school for contributing immensely in developing knowledge capital and human capital.

Chaitanya Chowdhary, President, KC International School; prominent citizens; Principal, school staff, teachers, students, and parents were present.

## Police attach house in...

of Mushtaq Ahmad Bhat, a resident of Chenigam, Frisal. The property was attached as his owner allegedly provided shelter to the four terrorists who were neutralised in the house on July 6, 2024, he added.

The attachment was executed in the presence of a duly constituted police team and the executive magistrate, ensuring full compliance with legal protocols, the spokesperson said.

The action represents a significant milestone in the ongoing investigation into unlawful and subversive activities in the district. It highlights the firm commitment of police to neutralise threats to national security and maintain peace and order, police said.

## NC to discuss...

the constitutional amendment bill to roll out the concept of simultaneous Lok Sabha and state assembly polls.

"Still, it is a cabinet proposal and so far not tabled in the parliament. Let there be a detailed discussion on the issue. It should not meet the same fate as the bill related to Article 370 and (transforming J&K into) UT in 2019 which was passed within one or two hours after a token discussion," Abdullah told reporters here.

He said it should be put to open discussion in the Parliament which will decide on it. "As far as the National Conference is concerned, we will sit and form an opinion and accordingly brief our Members of parliament on how to vote."

On the delay in releasing business rules by the Union home ministry to define the roles, responsibilities and powers of the Chief Minister and his cabinet colleagues, he said it is likely to be completed by the end of December or early January.

"Work is underway to get some clarity in framing up business rules. We hope it will be completed by December end or January beginning," he said.

He defended his decision to revive the 'Darbar' Move, an age-old practice under which the government moved administration every six months between Jammu and Srinagar. The practice, introduced by Dogra rulers nearly 150 years ago, was stopped by Lt Governor Manoj Sinha in 2021.

Accusing the BJP of committing atrocities against the people of Jammu, the Chief Minister said his government would right every wrong done by the national party.

"It was the BJP which stopped the 'Darbar' Move and committed excesses with Jammu. They have done injustice to the region in every aspect. They destroyed its map and everything that was left by the Maharaja (last Dogra ruler Maharaja Hari Singh). For the sake of it, they claim to have respect for Maharaja but what they did with his map, Darbar Move, State Subject Law. They have done excess but we will set it right now," he said.

Asked about the possibility of expanding his cabinet to accommodate coalition partner Congress, Abdullah said, "What you have to do with it and that is my job."

He rejected opposition criticism of his government and said "We will publish our report card after completion of the five-year rule."

Abdullah added, "If opposition had to be delivered, the people would have given them the mandate. We have been given five years and not five days, five weeks or five months... We will publish our report card after completion of five years."

## CM stresses need...

called for a balanced approach to life, urging students to embrace learning, engage in physical activities, and prioritize reading beyond textbooks.

The event, organized to honor meritorious students from high school and intermediate classes, saw participation from Ministers Javed Ahmad Rana and Satish Sharma, Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, Principal Secretary of School Education, Executive Editor of Amar Ujala Indu Shekhar Pancholi, senior officials, students from various institutions, and their parents.

"For us, our time is passing. But life is a continuous journey of learning," said Omar Abdullah, the chief guest of the event.

He emphasized that education is not confined to academic institutions but is also drawn from life's experiences, urging the youth to learn from others' mistakes and guidance.

He personally handed certificates and medals to the awardees and underscored the importance of resilience.

"Nothing in life is permanent-neither bad times nor good times. What truly matters is how we use the present moment. Learn from the past, prepare for the future, and live in the now," he advised.

Touching on societal pressures, Abdullah expressed concern over the extreme academic cut-offs, often exceeding 98%, which, he said, were creating unhealthy expectations.

"This unrealistic pressure steals your childhood, something you can never get back. We, the older generation, must ensure we don't prematurely take away your innocence and joy," he remarked. The Chief Minister also urged students to find time for playing and outdoor activities, emphasizing its impact on health and academic focus.

Encouraging children to inculcate the habit of reading books, he highlighted its role in broadening perspectives and relieving stress. Omar Abdullah did not shy away from pinpointing challenges such as drug addiction among the youth of Jammu and Kashmir.

While celebrating the achievements of the awardees, he pointed to the alarming rise in addiction cases.

"Addiction is not a habit or a weakness; it is a medically recognized disease. It is only by God's grace that you have stayed on the right path. But we need your help to save others. If you see someone struggling, encourage them to seek treatment," he urged.

On climate change, the Chief Minister reflected on his childhood memories, contrasting them with the present-day reality of erratic weather patterns.

"The world we inherited from our ancestors was far better than the one we're passing on to you. We have a responsibility to act now, to begin reversing the damage we've caused. I hope that when you stand in my place decades from now, you won't feel the same regret I do," he said. Concluding his address, Omar Abdullah shared a simple yet powerful lesson: Never give in.

"No matter how difficult or dark things may seem, you must persevere," he advised, sharing examples from his political career to inspire resilience among the students.

The event ended on a high note, with the chief minister Omar Abdullah expressing his heartfelt congratulations to the students and their parents for their hard work and achievements, while encouraging them to strive for a balanced, fulfilling life.

## Our motive is...

question about an encounter in Kathua district in September resulting in the killing of two Pakistani terrorists believed to have infiltrated from across the border, he said, "First, nobody had told us about it (the route taken by terrorists to enter J&K). And secondly, if there is no information then it is correct that there has been no infiltration from across the border."

He said whoever tried to come into this side was either killed or captured by

the Border Security Force (BSF).

On the challenges in guarding the border during winters, he said this is not something new and "we know how to respond to foggy conditions".

"Adequate measures have already been put in place," he said, dismissing a reporter's suggestion that there is additional pressure on the forces guarding the border.

"It is assumed that there is snowfall but I have not seen snow (on the borders) anywhere in the entire Jammu sector," he said.

Snowfall would pose a challenge whenever it happens, he said. "But as far as border security is concerned, there is no new thing happening this year. We know how to work in foggy conditions, and what gadgets and tactics to be utilised. The borders will be kept safe."

Asked about possible attempts by terrorists present at the launching pads across the border to enter India, he said infiltration attempts are nothing new.

"How many terrorists are sitting across the border is nothing to do with us. We don't make a count of them because our motive and resolve is to ensure that not a single terrorist or intruder is able to enter into our side," he said.

The officer said the only challenge the BSF faces is to maintain the sanctity of the border and not allow any infiltration.

"We work on the principle that there should not be even a single infiltration in the entire year. I think we are capable of doing that," he said.

As far as training camps for terrorists across the border are concerned, he said it hardly matters for the force which has adequate resources and is fully capable of dealing with them when they try to enter into this side.

Ruling out a possibility of any unidentified person roaming near the border without the knowledge of security agencies, the IG BSF said there was no presence of illegally settled Rohingya immigrants near the International Border in Jammu sector.

He said Jammu border has always been sensitive and "we keep a close watch on the situation, irrespective of what happens in Bangladesh or elsewhere".

"We do not have any information about Rohingyas living near the IB (in Jammu). The entire border is under strict surveillance of BSF and other agencies, while border police also play an important role in the hinterland," the officer told reporters at a press conference here.

He was responding to a question about any presence of Rohingyas near the IB or any attempt by any member of the community or illegally settled Bangladeshi immigrants attempting to cross over to Pakistan.

"No, there is no such incident on this border (when any Rohingya or Bangladeshi attempted to cross over to the other side of the IB)," he said.

Asked about the threat posed by the presence of a large number of unidentified labourers, the BSF officer said "you may feel that their verification has not been done but the reality is otherwise".

"The secret services or the police continue to do that work and the people hiring them for work have to report to the police and get their verification done. So, there is no such situation that unidentified people are roaming on the border and no one knows about it," he said.

He refused to comment on the situation along the Bangladesh border and said, "We have no direct role in its security... as far as the Jammu border is concerned, it has always been sensitive irrespective of what happens in Bangladesh or elsewhere. And keeping that in mind, we keep a close watch and increase over deployment as per the requirement."

The BSF officer said there was no instance reported anywhere in Jammu when any person posing as insane crossed into this side from Pakistan and returned back.

"As far as drug smuggling is concerned, the police and all other security agencies are working hard to counter the menace and have managed to control it," he said.

## Pak activities dip...

Force (BSF), Jammu frontier, D K Boora, said India is not the same when the country had old-fashioned weapons. It evolved to adopt new technology and advanced weapons, he added.

Besides the heavy deployment of manpower, the technical surveillance is present on the entire border across Jammu region and it is being further expanded to other places in the country, he said.

Talking to reporters in connection with the 60th Raising Day celebrations of the force and to highlight the achievements registered by his troops in Jammu this year, Boora said the sector has a sensitive border which is being monitored round-the-clock by boots-on-ground (manpower) and technological advancement with focus to ensure no infiltration from across the border.

"The (drone) activities from across the border have come down and the exact reason for it is known to them (Pakistan) only. However, since we have upgraded our (anti-drone) systems on the borders, this problem (drone incursions) has dropped to almost zero in Jammu which proves that our technology is successful," the BSF officer said.

He said technology is evolving in every field all across the world.

"It is obvious that the terror groups will use it and so our agencies like police, Army and BSF will try it as well. So this is a general process that the type of technology that is available, it is available for everyone and everyone uses it. And the technology that is available, its counter is also available at the same time," the BSF officer said, referring to drone and counter-drone gadgets.

He said if there is any upgradation of technology in Pakistan, the Indian forces are also getting a new version. In fact, India is ahead of its opponents, he added.

"It happens everywhere... there is no need to worry about it because this upgrade is a normal process. If any new thing is available, then it is available for us too. So we use it. "And I assure you that our government and the forces do not leave any such shortage in upgradation that we are left behind of those who work against us," Boora said, responding to a question on the steps taken to counter terrorists using advanced weapons.

He said the Jammu border comes under the most sensitive border in the country and "our soldiers and officers do a very difficult duty here".

"And in doing this work, the BSF has also achieved great success. For this, I would like to congratulate all the people working under my command," Boora said. Asked about the threat posed by the use of US-made M4 carbines by terrorists, the senior police officer said there is no specific threat as all weapons are the same. "There is hype about the foreign-made carbine even though it does not do anything different. It has the same system as other weapons... magazines, bullets and a trigger. "Today, India is not the same as it was when we had old-fashioned weapons. Now we have new technology, new India-made weapons which are very good," he said. About the new technology and weapons inducted by BSF in the recent past, Boora said it is not right to divulge the details in the public domain. "I can assure you that the BSF has the latest technology and latest weapons. And whatever technology is upgraded, we immediately invest in it. And we get full support and money from the government. So we are much ahead in that," he said.

## Crime Branch arrests...

that the ten accused have been arrested in FIR number 07/2013 U/S 419,420 / 423,465,466,467 468,471,120-B IPC, FIR 59/2016 U/S 419,420,465,467,468,471,120-B RPC, FIR 35/2018 U/S 420 468,471,120-B,201 RPC, FIR 69/2022 U/S 419,420,467,468,471 RPC, FIR40/ 2019 U/S 419,420,467,468,471,120-B RPC, FIR 27/2024, U/S 420,465,467,468,471,120-B ,201 IPC and FIR 25/2023 U/S 420,465,466 468 ,471,120-B IPC.

## LG re-appoints...

powers vested in me, under Section 12 (5) of The Kashmir and Jammu Universities Act, 1969, I, Manoj Sinha, Chancellor, University of Jammu, hereby re-appoint Prof. Umesh Rai, as the Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu, for a term of three years from April 5, 2025, the date of completion of his existing term as the Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu," reads a communiqué issued by Manoj Sinha, Chancellor, University of Jammu.

## Two drug peddlers detained under NDPS Act in Kathua

■ STATE TIMES NEWS  
JAMMU: Two suspected drug peddlers, including a woman, were detained under stringent the NDPS Act in Kathua district, police said on Friday.

Gurnam Singh alias Katta of Chak Drab Khan and Asha Bibi of Khanpur-Marheeh were habitual drug peddlers and their detention warrants under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act were issued by the Jammu divisional commissioner to prevent their illegal activities, a police spokesperson said.

While Singh was named in four FIRs registered under the NDPS Act at Kathua police station since 2021, Bibi was wanted in connection with two FIRs lodged at Rajbagh police station since 2023.

Both have been lodged in the central jail at Kot Bhalwal in Jammu, the spokesperson said.

## Arrest, remand, bail: Allu Arjun's action packed day of unscripted drama

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

HYDERABAD: Telugu superstar Allu Arjun was arrested on Friday, sent to 14-day judicial custody by a local court here in connection with the death of a woman in a stampede during the premiere of his blockbuster "Pushpa 2: The Rule" and granted interim bail by the Telangana High Court ---all in less than five hours in a dramatic turn of events.

The actor, it seemed, may have to spend the night in jail despite the HC relief, as the prison authorities had not received a copy of the bail till late on Friday, the jail sources said.

Even if it is received, the bail copy has to be scrutinized and the release may not be feasible on Friday, the sources said, indicating that he is likely to be walk out on Saturday morning.

The high-profile arrest also triggered a political slugfest with the BJP and BRS lashing out at the ruling Congress in Telangana, questioning the treatment meted out to the star and TPCC President Mahesh Kumar Goud hitting back, saying the law is equal for everyone and it will take its course. Some drama ensued when police descended at the residence of the national award-winning actor as visuals showed him purportedly arguing with a cop and objecting to them for coming up to his bedroom.

"It is definitely not a good thing," he was heard saying.

The national award-winning actor was taken to the Chikkadpally police station in a police vehicle, in a sudden development that shocked his fans and surprised others.

He was produced before the Nampally court, which remanded him to a 14-day judicial custody. He was shifted to jail under heavy security. A 35-year-old woman died and her eight-year-old son was hospitalised on December 4 during a stampede-like situation at the Sandhya Theatre in Hyderabad when thousands of fans jostled to have a glimpse of the actor at the premiere of the blockbuster movie. Following the incident, the city police registered a case against Allu Arjun, his security team, and the theatre management under different sections of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) at the Chikkadpally police station based on the complaint lodged by the deceased woman's family. Allu Arjun on December 11 approached the Telangana High Court seeking to quash the FIR registered against him. Shortly after Arjun was remanded to judicial custody by the local court on Friday, the high court granted him a four-week interim bail and posted the case to January 21, 2025, for further hearing.

## Kishtwar Police, DIET conducts cyber security awareness programme

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KISHTWAR: Police District Kishtwar, in collaboration with DIET Kishtwar, conducted a one-day workshop on National Cyber Security Awareness at the DIET Complex, Kishtwar. The event was held under the overall supervision of Principal DIET, Shri Prahlad Bhagat, and witnessed enthusiastic participation from Principals of Higher Secondary Schools, Headmasters of High Schools, and students from HSS Boys and HSS Girls, Kishtwar.

The initiative, organized as part of the Information Security Education and Awareness (ISEA) programme by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), aimed to educate participants about cyber safety, responsible technology usage, and strategies for ensuring a secure online presence.

A highlight of the workshop was the session on "How to Stay Safe Online," held in the ICT lab of DIET Kishtwar. Deputy Superintendent of Police (Headquarters) Kishtwar, Dr. Ishan Gupta, along with PSI Moin Khan, In-charge Cybersecurity, DPO Kishtwar, delivered impactful lectures. Dr. Gupta's presentation on "Stay Safe Online Cyber Awareness Campaign" covered the risks of excessive internet usage, the dangers of social media misinformation, and practical strategies for maintaining a balanced digital lifestyle. Participants were also introduced to the government's cyber safety portal <https://staysafeonline.in>, which offers extensive multimedia resources to promote public awareness.

Dy.SP Hqrs and PSI shared detailed information about the ongoing online threats, such as phishing scams, identity theft, and the risks posed by harmful content. They explained effective methods to protect oneself and one's family members from these dangers.

## Drug peddler arrested, heroin recovered

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: District Police Udhampur arrested one drug peddler and recovered 3.7 grams of heroin (chitta) like contraband substance from his possession in the jurisdiction of Police Station Rehambal. Police team from Police Station Rehambal while performing vehicle checking duty apprehended one person from Phalata Naka Point who turned to be suspicious as he tried to move fast after seeing police party for checking purpose.

On his frisking, 3.7 grams of heroin (chitta) like Contraband substance was recovered from the possession of the apprehended person namely Sachin Kumar S/O Sham Lal R/O Rehambal who has been arrested on spot. On this, a case vide FIR No. 251/2024 U/S 8/21/22/ NDPS Act stands registered in P/S Rehambal and further investigation was set into probe.

## Blind murder case solved, accused arrested

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: Blind murder case solved within 24 hrs by Udhampur Police by arresting the accused. On 12 December 2024, an information was received at Police Station Udhampur that a body of one Male namely Mohd. Yaqoob, son of Sain Ali, resident of Mourd, Thatta was lying in the bushes near NHW, Moud area under the jurisdiction of PS Udhampur.

Upon receiving this information, a case FIR 498/2024 was registered under Section 103 BNS at Police Station Udhampur; and investigation initiated. Through meticulous examination of evidence and the analysis of technical data, the investigation progressed rapidly, leading to a breakthrough. Several suspects were rounded up and interrogation carried on. During questioning one person namely Abdul Ghani, son of Hussain Ali, a resident of Mourd Bali, Tehsil and District Udhampur confessed that he had murdered the deceased due to monetary dispute. He was arrested immediately and vital evidence like weapon of offence was also seized.

## Woman drug smuggler apprehended with narcotics

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SURANKOTE: In a major breakthrough in the fight against drug trafficking, Surankote Police apprehended a woman drug smuggler, Zoya Khan, wife of Mohd. Intiaz, a resident of Moori Loran and presently residing in Sarai Mohalla, Poonch. She was found in possession of 7 grams of heroin during a search operation at Surankote. Acting on credible intelligence inputs, the police team of PS Surankote conducted a search operation at a specific location in Surankote. During the operation, Zoya Khan was intercepted, and upon thorough checking, heroin like substance recovered from her possession. The suspect was immediately taken into custody, and the contraband was seized in accordance with legal procedures. A case FIR No. 261/2024 under the relevant sections of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act has been registered at the Surankote Police Station, and further investigations are underway to unearth potential links to a larger drug network.

## Poonch Police intensifies crackdown on illegal mining activities

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: The District Police Poonch has launched a stringent crackdown on illegal mining activities in the region, emphasizing the importance of preserving the environment and upholding the law. This initiative is part of ongoing efforts to curb illegal practices and ensure compliance with mining regulations. During recent operations, multiple instances of unauthorized mining were detected in the JD of two Police Station Mandi and Police Station Mendhar where strict action was taken against violators. Speaking about the initiative, SSP Poonch stated: "Illegal mining not only damages our environment but also undermines the economy. We urge all individuals and entities to abide by the law. Anyone found engaging in illegal activities will face severe legal consequences." The District Police further appeals to the public to report any instances of illegal mining in their vicinity. Residents can contact their nearest police station/police post.

## Doda police files chargesheets against seven accused in two UAPA cases

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

DODA: Intensifying its efforts to curb militancy and to have a heavy hand on the Over Ground Workers and to check the support base of ANEs in Doda and adjoining areas, Doda Police have filed chargesheets against seven accused persons in two separate cases under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA). The chargesheets were presented today before the NIA Court in Doda for judicial determination.

Giving details SSP Doda Sh. Sandeep Mehta- JKPS said that all these accused persons have covertly or overtly supported the militant groups in Doda district by providing them food and other logistic things. The first case, registered under FIR No. 67/2024 at Gandoh Police Station, involves three accused namely Safdar Ali, Mubashar Hussain and Sajad Ahmad, all residents of Tanta, Tehsil Kahara, District Doda. They have been charged under multiple sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), including 307, 120-B, 121, 122, and 326, as well as Sections 7 and 27 of the Arms Act and several provisions of the UAPA. The case has been investigated by SP(PC), Doda. In the second case, registered under FIR No. 101/2024 at Police Station Bhaderwah, the chargesheet names four individuals. The accused include residents of Doda district with main accused namely Mohd Rafi of Trown and one individual namely Mohd Amin Bhat@Khubaib of Phagsoo and currently residing in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir (POK)/Pakistan. The charges were framed u/s 122, 382, 409,166 IPC, 13, 18, 18-B, 23, 38, 39 UAPA, and 7, 25 Indian Arms Act. Specific individuals are also charged under Sections 409 and 166 of the IPC and the case was investigated by SDPO Bhaderwah. The police reiterated their commitment in addressing both active militancy and the networks of support that sustain such activities. This action forms part of a broader strategy to dismantle the logistical and financial systems enabling terrorism in the region.