

!! Continuations from Page 1 !! Five soldiers martyred...

families and prayers for the speedy recovery of the injured".
The Northern Command said Lieutenant General M V Suchindra Kumar and all ranks of Dhruva Command extend their deepest condolences on the tragic loss of five brave soldiers.
"Dhruva Command stands firm with the bereaved families in this hour of grief", the command said on X.
All ranks of White Knight Corps extend their deepest condolences "Rescue operations are ongoing, and the injured personnel are receiving medical care," the White Knight Corps said on X.
Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Tuesday expressed his deep sorrow and heartfelt condolences over the tragic loss of five soldiers in a road accident involving an army vehicle near a forward post along the Line of Control (LoC) in Poonch district.
The unfortunate incident claimed the lives of five soldiers and left several others injured. The vehicle, en route from Nilam Headquarters to Balnoi Ghora Post, veered off course near Ghora Post and fell into a gorge.
A Quick Reaction Team immediately launched a rescue operation at the site.
The Chief Minister extended his deepest sympathies to the bereaved families of the soldiers.
He also prayed for the swift recovery of the soldiers injured in the accident.
"The news of several soldiers being casualties in the tragic incident where an Indian Army vehicle fell into a gorge in Poonch, Jammu and Kashmir, is deeply saddening and heart-wrenching," said Tarun Chugh, National General Secretary of Bharatiya Janata Party.
"May God grant eternal peace to the departed soldiers and bless the injured ones with a speedy recovery. Our heartfelt condolences go out to the grieving families," he added.

Education is process...

and knowledge, but also develops the latent intellectual, artistic and humanitarian abilities," the Lieutenant Governor said.
The Lieutenant Governor called upon the teaching fraternity to provide mentorship and guidance to the students and nurture their inherent potential so that they can contribute to nation building and development of the society.
The Lieutenant Governor also spoke on the revolutionary changes taking place, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in various sectors including education, industry and technology.
Today's classroom will give a new shape to tomorrow's factory. It is the responsibility of our educational institutions to collaborate with Industries and prepare smart technical professionals for the smart factories, he said. On the occasion, the Lieutenant Governor commended the contribution of JS Group of Institutions in education sector. He also inaugurated the Administrative Block of JS Public School, Sadhoganj, Varanasi.

Fake appointment order...

against unknown accused persons and was entrusted to Inspector Rajesh Kumar for in-depth investigation," Parihar said.
"After, a thorough and professional investigation by the I/O, the case was finally proved against the accused person namely Jameel Anjum Mir, son of Nazir Ahmed, resident of H.No. 45 Naraina Mohalla Pacea Danga, Jammu and the offences under Sections 419, 420, 465, 468/IPC got established against him," SSP Special Crime said adding that a team of Special Crime Wing of Crime Branch Jammu today produced the accused before Court of Municipal Mobile Magistrate Jammu and presented charge-sheet against him for judicial determination.
Pertinently, Parihar said, the accused is a habitual offender against whom seven more cases are already registered in Crime Branch and other Police Stations of Jammu, in addition to this case, which has been challaned today.

CM directs all...

Javaid Ahmad Dar, Minister for FCS&CA and Transport Satish Sharma and Advisor to the Chief Minister, Nasir Aslam Wani participated through virtual mode. The Chief Minister conducted a department-wise review of the winter preparedness measures of all line departments.
He emphasized the need for a robust mechanism to minimize public inconvenience during severe weather conditions.
The Chief Minister also engaged with Deputy Commissioners to assess district-level preparedness and urged them to prioritize timely and effective responses to weather-related challenges.
The Chief Minister stressed the importance of keeping men and machinery in a state of readiness to ensure the routine functioning of essential installations.
He directed departments to prioritize uninterrupted trade, transport, and essential supplies while addressing disruptions caused by snow, waterlogging, or power outages.
On snow clearance, he was briefed that a sufficient number of hi-tech snow clearance machines have been deployed by the R&B Department, SMC, MED, BRO, and NHAI, with additional machines on standby to handle heavy snowfall.
The Chief Minister instructed the concerned authorities to focus on clearing key routes, including inter-district highways and roads leading to hospitals, power grids, water supply systems, and fire and emergency services.
The meeting was informed that adequate stocks of ration, petrol, diesel, and LPG are available to meet the needs of residents for several months. Additional provisions have been made to ensure timely distribution across districts.
The Chief Minister directed for establishment of joint control rooms in all districts to handle winter-related complaints promptly.
He stressed the importance of a swift response system to minimize public inconvenience and ensure seamless delivery of essential services. Reviewing the health sector's readiness, the Chief Minister directed the Health Department to ensure adequate stocks of medicines, oxygen cylinders, and emergency supplies across all hospitals.
He also emphasized maintaining functional central heating systems in healthcare facilities and ensuring the deployment of medical personnel in snowbound areas.
Instructions were given for providing transport service to expecting mothers in remote and far-flung areas.
Highlighting the criticality of uninterrupted power supply during winter, the Chief Minister instructed KPDCIL engineers to prioritize the restoration of electricity, particularly for essential installations.
He called for timely replacement of damaged transformers and urged for protection of field staff with proper safety gear to prevent accidents during repair work.
The Chief Minister underscored the importance of maintaining road connectivity and efficient traffic management.
He directed agencies to deploy sufficient manpower and equipment for snow clearance on national highways, main roads, and internal routes, ensuring minimal disruption to public movement.
Omar Abdullah concluded the meeting by urging all departments to work in coordination and take proactive measures to mitigate the impact of harsh winter conditions. He reiterated his commitment to minimizing public inconvenience and ensuring the effective delivery of essential services throughout the region.
The Chief Minister directed the PHE Department to deploy sufficient water tankers in affected areas to prevent water scarcity during the extreme weather conditions.
Additionally, he instructed the Forest Department to ensure an adequate supply of fire-wood in snowbound areas is available.
The Chief Minister also underscored the significance of coordination among line departments and directed for round the clock operationalisation of District Control Rooms to maintain and update records of vulnerable populations, particularly pregnant women in snow-blocked areas.
He emphasized that such cases should be promptly relocated to maternity centers well ahead of their delivery dates.
For regions with possibility of road block, the Chief Minister instructed authorities to ensure helicopter services are put in place for such areas which remain cut off.
During the meeting, the Chief Minister reiterated that all preparedness plans should be practical and actionable, ensuring their effectiveness when put to the test.
He called for seamless interdepartmental coordination and directed Deputy Commissioners to maintain regular communication with field officers to address emerging challenges swiftly.
Chief Minister reaffirmed the Government's commitment to the welfare and safety of the people.

He assured people that the administration is fully prepared to tackle the challenges of the harsh winter and deliver essential services effectively. Among others, the meeting was attended by Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, Additional Chief Secretary Jal Shakti Shaleen Kabra via video conferencing. Additional Chief Secretary to Chief Minister, Dheeraj Gupta and Divisional Commissioner Kashmir attended the meeting in person.
Administrative Secretaries, Divisional Commissioner Jammu, senior Police and Security Officers, Deputy Commissioners, Commissioners of SMC & JMC, Officers of BRO, NHAI and other Departments also attended the meeting. Officers from Jammu and other District Headquarters participated through video conference.
During the meeting, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir and Jammu gave presentation on the winter preparedness measures already in place across both the divisions.

J&K HC rules...

her identity as a person and as a professional."
Senior Advocate Sajjad Mir, who was present during the hearing, explained that when the lady lawyer refused to uncover her face, the court adjourned the matter and directed the

Registrar General to review the Bar Council rules regarding the dress code for female lawyers.
Upon review, the Registrar General submitted a report on December 5, confirming that the rules under Section 49(1)(gg) of Chapter IV (Part VI) of the BCI Rules do not allow for a lawyer to appear in court with her face covered.
The rules specify that the prescribed attire includes a black full-sleeve jacket or blouse with a white collar and bands, with specific options for sarees, skirts, or traditional dresses, but there is no provision for covering the face.
On December 13, the judge, after considering the Registrar General's report, reiterated that there is no provision in the rules permitting women lawyers to appear with their faces covered. The female lawyer did not appear on this date, and the case was argued by a male lawyer instead.
Senior Advocate Sajjad Mir added that the court did not issue any further opinion on the matter, as the Bar Council's dress code was already clear. The judge emphasized that a woman lawyer must be identifiable to the court, meaning she cannot argue a case while wearing a veil or Hijab that covers her face.

Proposed dispensary at...

Jammu had started, was on the land which belonged to Waqf Board.
"Waqf Board has earmarked this space for constructing parking," the officials said after a dispute emerged.
A former JMC corporator joined by a few locals said that the land was demarcated and approved by the concerned authorities, including the DC and ACR, for the proposed dispensary. However, the Waqf Board officials said, "This land belongs to the board which had earmarked it for the construction of parking for people. We have the proper documents. We will go by the rules and we will construct whatever the board approves, they stated.

Manipur, Kerala, Bihar...

Arif Mohammed Khan has been appointed as Bihar Governor, the Rashtrapati Bhavan said in a statement. President Murmu has accepted the resignation of Odisha Governor Raghubar Das, it said. Mizoram Governor Hari Babu Kambhampati has been appointed as the new Odisha Governor in place of Das, the statement said.
These appointments will take effect from the dates they will assume charge of their respective offices, it added.

New criminal laws...

He said the Uttarakhand government should make efforts to fill the gaps in technology and other areas for 100 per cent implementation of the new laws.
The home minister said the Uttarakhand government should give priority to 100 per cent implementation of the new laws in all police stations and jails in areas where more FIRs are registered.
The meeting reviewed the implementation and current status of various new provisions related to police, jails, courts, prosecution and forensics in Uttarakhand, the statement said.
Emphasising on the use of technology, Shah said more than one forensic mobile van should be available in every district of the state.
He said for forensic visits, teams should be divided into three categories - serious, normal and very normal, so that resources can be utilised better.
Along with this, the home minister also emphasised that a protocol should be made to decide the designated place for video conferencing and the cameras installed at all places should be of excellent quality.
He said there should be regular and continuous monitoring of how many of the accused named under the Zero FIRs registered have been brought to justice and how many FIRs have been transferred to the states.
Shah asked Dhami to review the progress of implementation of the three new laws every 15 days and the chief secretary and DGP once a week with the officials of all the departments concerned.
He suggested to the DGP of Uttarakhand to ensure that all the Superintendents of Police investigate the cases within the prescribed timelines.
Besides Shah and Dhami, top officials of the Ministry of Home Affairs and Uttarakhand government attended the meeting.

LG, CM greet...

goodwill towards fellow beings".
Chief Minister Omar Abdullah extended his Christmas greetings to all those celebrating this occasion across Jammu and Kashmir and beyond.
In his message on Tuesday, the Chief Minister described Christmas as a blessing for humanity, reflecting peace, love, and compassion.
He emphasized the timeless relevance of Jesus Christ's teachings, which continue to inspire the values of kindness, forgiveness, and harmony in today's world.
"Christmas is not just a celebration; it is a testament to the strength of our collective harmony where every community comes together to celebrate this joyous occasion. The teachings of Jesus Christ remain as significant today as they were then, reminding us to strive for a more peaceful and inclusive world," the Chief Minister said.
Highlighting the secular fabric of Jammu and Kashmir, Omar Abdullah praised the spirit of unity and brotherhood that characterizes the region.
He urged the people to use this occasion to reinforce their commitment to these cherished values and to extend a helping hand to the less fortunate, ensuring that no one is left behind in the celebration of this joyous festival.
The Chief Minister also called upon the people of the state to reflect on the essence of Christmas and carry forward its message of compassion, hope, and goodwill throughout the year.
Omar Abdullah wished for peace and prosperity for the people of Jammu and Kashmir and prayed for a future filled with happiness and harmony for all.
Meanwhile, Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Chowdhary, on Tuesday extended heartfelt Christmas greetings to the people of Jammu and Kashmir, conveying wishes for peace, prosperity and happiness on this joyous occasion.
In his message, the Deputy Chief Minister highlighted the significance of Christmas as a festival symbolising love, compassion and the spirit of giving. He called upon everyone to uphold these values, which foster harmony and strengthen the social fabric of the region.
"Christmas is a time to celebrate togetherness and the triumph of hope and kindness. I wish all our citizens a Merry Christmas filled with joy and good health. Let us work collectively to build a society where these values thrive," maintained the Dy CM.
The Deputy Chief Minister also acknowledged the contribution of Christian community to the cultural and social development of Jammu and Kashmir. He reiterated government's commitment towards ensuring the well-being and prosperity of all communities in the region.
He urged the people to celebrate the festival responsibly and in adherence to safety guidelines while spreading the message of unity and brotherhood.
The Deputy Chief Minister expressed hope that the festival of Christmas would bring renewed energy and inspiration to work towards development and progress of Jammu and Kashmir. Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena, on Tuesday extended warm greetings to the people of Jammu and Kashmir on the auspicious occasion of Christmas. In her greetings, Sakeena Itoo said that Christmas is a special occasion to spread message of happiness, share joy as well as celebrate spirit of brotherhood. She called upon all citizens to come together and celebrate spirit of giving and compassion on this cheerful occasion. The Minister also prayed for peace, prosperity and progress of Jammu and Kashmir. Minister for Food Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Youth Services and Sports, Transport, Science and Technology, Information Technology, ARI & Trainings Satish Sharma also extended warm greetings to the people of Jammu and Kashmir on the blissful and joyous occasion of Christmas. The Minister said that Christmas is the festival of happiness being celebrated across the globe with great grandeur and enthusiasm. The day commemorates the birth anniversary of Jesus Christ and rekindles the spirit of peace and harmony. He also remembered Lord Jesus, who spread the valuable message of sacrifice, love, tolerance and preached the sublime qualities of simplicity and merey.



St Mary's Garrison Church, Gandhi Nagar illuminated on the eve of Christmas in Jammu.

Doda police arrests criminal wanted in POCSO Act

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
DODA: Continuing its drive to arrest wanted criminals and absconders ,Doda police has arrested a wanted criminal namely Satish Kumar; son of Khem Raj, resident of Chochloo Tehsil Gandoh who was evading his arrest in case FIR No.62/2024 u/s 354/506 IPC & 10 POCSO Act of P/S Gandoh since the registration of FIR against him. On the directions of SSP Doda, a special team from l PS Gandoh was constituted and the team so constituted used human resources besides technical assistance and ultimately arrested thee accused. Pertinent to mention here that Doda police has constituted special teams at PS level for the arrest of wanted criminals and absconders during the last one number of wanted criminals have been arrested in the special drive launched by Doda Poliec.

Three notorious bovine smugglers arrested

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In a significant development, a group of three notorious bovine smugglers has been apprehended in connection with FIR NOs. 312/2024 and 331/2024, registered under Section 299 BNS at Police Station Nagrota, Jammu. The accused have been identified as Mukhtyar Ahmed alias Bania son of Mohd. Sadiq, resident of Kandiwara Kukernag, District Anantnag; Tariq Hussain, son of Gull Mohd. Badana, resident of Dera Baba, District Reasi and Arif Hussain, son of Mohd. Rafiq Badana, resident of Dera Baba, District Reasi. The trio was arrested along with a truck (registration No. JK02AL-2195) allegedly used in carrying out their activities. The accused are charged with conspiring to disrupt communal harmony by intentionally disposing of dead cows and calves in Majority dominated areas, a deliberate act aimed at outraging religious sentiments. The arrests were carried out by SHO of Police Station Nagrota.

Fake court order case solved: Advocate arrested as main kingpin

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In a significant breakthrough, the Jammu Police have solved a fake court order case, arresting an advocate identified as the main kingpin behind the forgery. The case (FIR No. 142/2024) was registered under sections 318(4)/338/336(3)/340(2) of the BNS at Police Station Janipur, Jammu, following a complaint received on 19-12-2024 from the 3rd Additional Munsiff, JMJC Jammu through the Chief Judicial Magistrate, Jammu. The complainant also requested the constitution of a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to expedite the investigation.
The complaint alleged that a fake court releasing order, created using forged stamps and the Judge's signatures, along with a fraudulent G.R. receipt for Rs. 50,000/-, was used to illegally release a seized vehicle (Tipper bearing registration number JK02CT-6827) involved in a mining case. Acting on the request, the Senior Superintendent of Police,Jammu, promptly constituted an SIT to investigate the matter. The team meticulously collected critical evidence, including the forged releasing order and the fake G.R. receipt. After a detailed probe, the SIT identified and arrested the accused, Advocate Basharat Ahmed Khan, son of Mohd Bashir, resident of Asrarabad Sidhura, Jammu, who was revealed as the main conspirator in the case. The accused is currently in custody at Police Station Nagrota. A search of the advocate's residence, conducted in the presence of an Executive Magistrate, led to the recovery of the mobile phone used to prepare the fake documents. Additional electronic devices, including a computer and printer, were also seized, along with the fraudulent G.R. receipt used in the transaction. The Jammu Police are continuing their investigation, with further recoveries and arrests expected in the coming days. The arrest of the king-pin reflects the police's unwavering commitment to combating fraudulent activities and ensuring accountability.

2 narco-smugglers nabbed, heroin recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
RAMBAN: In continuation of drive against drug trafficking and substance abuse, Jammu and Kashmir Police in District Ramban held one person and recovered heroin like Substance from his Possession. A team of Police Station Chanderkote while on naka checking duty in Chanderkote area intercepted a person who was travelling in a Taxi .On questioning the person disclosed his identity as Habil Yaseen son of Mohd Yaseen Dar resident of Tarama,Kunzer District Baramulla. During the process of checking 20 grams of heroin like substance was recovered from the possession of above named person.
In this regard, case FIR No.149/2024 under relevant Sections of NDPS Act got registered in PS Chanderkote.
A team from Police Station Udhampur while performing patrolling duty near Subash Stadium road, Police patrolling team noticed an individual roaming suspiciously.
Upon conducting a thorough frisking, 6.01 grams of heroin like substance was recovered from the possession of the apprehended person namely Mohitesh Verma, son of Sham Lal Verma, resident of W.No. 12 Chabutra Bazar Udhampur who has been arrested on spot. On this, a case vide FIR No. 515/2024 U/S 8/21/22/ NDPS Act stands registered in P/S Udhampur and further investigation was set into probe.

Inter-state bovine smuggler arrested, 17 bovines rescued

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
UDHAMPUR: Police team of Police Station Rehambal while performing routine vehicle checking duty at naka point Rehambal intercepted one vehicle bearing registration No. JK02CJ-7679 for checking purpose. During checking of said vehicle, 17 bovines were found laden inside the vehicle which were tied in a cruel manner and were being transported illegally without any valid permission. Driver of the vehicle namely Amar Deep, son of Sanjib Dep, resident of Landing, District Hajai, Assam has been arrested on spot. All the bovines were rescued and have been shifted to a safer place. FIR No. 259/2024 under relevant sections of law stands registered at Police Station Rehambal.

72-hour Katra Bandh announced against ropeway project

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
REASI: A 72-hour shutdown by pony wallas, shopkeepers, and other proprietors will begin on Wednesday to protest against a proposed ropeway project in Katra, the base camp for pilgrims visiting the Mata Vaishno Devi shrine.
The Shri Mata Vaishnodevi Sangarsh Samiti announced the strike Tuesday, stating that all activities in Katra would remain suspended during the bandh. "We have announced a 72-hour bandh in Katra starting tomorrow against the ropeway project. We seek the support of all residents of Katra to make the strike successful," a Samiti spokesperson said. He said the administration had initially promised to hold a meeting on December 23 but postponed it to 3 pm today. "We met the Deputy Commissioner today. They sought more time to discuss the issue with higher authorities. Therefore, we have decided to proceed with the strike," he said.