

## !! Continuations from Page 1 !! Nation changed with...

and their tireless efforts to eliminate social discrimination. He called upon the citizens to honour the sacrifice of the revered Sikh Gurus by fostering a society rooted in unity and progress.

"There has been a new dynamism in our country and let us resolve today to stand together and stand firm in our determination to build Viksit Bharat of our dreams," the Lieutenant Governor said. The Lieutenant Governor also remembered the martyrdom of Baba Moti Ram Mehra and his family, calling their sacrifice a testament to human spirit and loyalty.

The members of All Jammu Kashmir Sikh Coordination Committee expressed gratitude to the Lieutenant Governor for fulfilling the long-pending demands of the Sikh Community.

Ajit Singh, Chairman, All Jammu Kashmir Sikh Coordination Committee projected a demand to rename "Veer Baal Diwas" to "Sahibzade Shahadat Diwas". The Lieutenant Governor assured the committee that the memorandum of demand would be forwarded to the Government of India. On the occasion, the Lieutenant Governor also felicitated a newly married Sikh couple who had their marriage registered under the Anand Marriage Act in the Union Territory.

Mahant Manjeet Singh; S. Ajit Singh, Chairman All Jammu Kashmir Sikh Coordination committee; members of Sikh Coordination Committee and eminent persons of the Sikh community were present. Dr. Narinder Singh Raina, Member of Legislative Assembly from RS Pura Jammu South; Ramesh Kumar, Divisional Commissioner, Jammu; Bhim Sen Tuti, IGP Jammu; Shiv Kumar Sharma, DIG Jammu-Samba-Kathua Range; Dr Rakesh Minhas, Deputy Commissioner Jammu; senior officials of Police and Civil administration were also present on the occasion.

## Red Fort blast...

terrorist attack, the agency stated earlier on December 9.

On December 18, NIA arrested Dar, the ninth accused in the case. He is a Jammu and Kashmir resident and allegedly a close associate of Umar-un-Nabi.

The NIA has arrested nine people, including Dr Muzammil Ganaie, Dr Adeel Rather, Dr Shaheen Sayeed, in the case.

## Probe in Pahalgam...

in terrorist incidents alongside technological advancements, and we too must prepare to prevent this. He said that it is the national responsibility of this conference to anticipate invisible future challenges and to prevent them.

Shah said that all agencies of the government of India, together with the state police, should form a 'Team India' that works effectively for national security.

## Search ops launched...

In Kishtwar district, the army has intensified search operations in the Chatroo area and adjoining villages of Chas, Dhar and Horna, following specific intelligence inputs, officials said. The region has been placed under a strict cordon with additional deployments to detect any suspicious movement, they said.

In Kathua district, Border Security Force (BSF) troops, in coordination with the police, conducted searches deep in Hande Chak village of Marheen tehsil, officials said.

BSF troops in coordination with Punjab Police made searches in Paharipur village in Pathankot district to reinforce security along the inter-state border, they said.

In Samba district along the Indo-Pakistan International Border, police launched a mass verification drive amid terror threat alerts, they said.

Migrant workers were subjected to verification of identity documents and mobile phones to prevent their misuse, officials said. Security has been tightened along the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway, particularly in Ramban district, where the army, CRPF and J&K Police undertook vehicle checks, they added. The security measures will continue in the coming days, officials said.

## Jammu Railway Div...

increasing number of tourists visiting Jammu and Kashmir and to meet the travel needs of residents during the holiday season. "These services will help passengers connect with their families and manage the New Year rush effectively," he said, adding that the trains will operate with 16 coaches. Passengers can book tickets through the official Indian Railways website, mobile application or authorised agents, he said, advising travellers to check train timings before commencing their journey.

## ACB arrests RDD...

Following verification, FIR No. 06/2025 under Section 7 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, was registered at Police Station ACB Anantnag, and investigation was initiated. A trap team was subsequently constituted, which successfully caught the accused red-handed while demanding and accepting the bribe amount.

"The accused was arrested on the spot, and the bribe money was recovered from his possession in the presence of independent witnesses associated with the trap proceedings," the ACB spokesperson stated. Later, a search of the residential house of the accused was carried out in the presence of Executive Magistrates and independent witnesses, as part of the ongoing investigation.

The ACB reiterated its commitment to act firmly against corruption and urged citizens to report any demand for bribes without fear. Further investigation in the case is in progress.

## Govt's reform trajectory...

they earn, giving them flexibility to spend, save and invest with greater confidence, it stated.

It said the Income Tax Act, 2025 streamlined compliance and brought clarity, transparency, and fairness to the direct tax system, making it more taxpayer friendly and aligned with today's needs.

Small businesses can now grow without fear of losing benefits. Higher investment and turnover limits allow MSMEs to expand while retaining access to loans and tax incentives. This encourages scaling up, hiring more workers, and building stronger local enterprises.

Rural employment now creates assets, not just wages. With extended guaranteed employment and a focus on village infrastructure, rural labour is now building permanent assets that strengthen communities and livelihoods, it said.

It observed that workers no longer need to navigate dozens of laws as 29 labour laws were simplified into four clear codes covering wages, safety, social security, and relations.

Rights are clearer, compliance is easier, and women benefit from assured maternity and workplace protections, it stated.

## President Murmu confers...

powerhouse on the world stage. Ajay Raj and Mohammed Sidan P, who saved the lives of others with their bravery and intelligence, deserve all the praise they receive," she said.

"Nine-year-old daughter Vyoma Priya and 11-year-old brave son Kamlesh Kumar lost their lives while saving the lives of others with their courage. Ten-year-old Shравan Singh, amidst the risks associated with war during Operation Sindoor, regularly delivered water, milk, and lassi to the Indian soldiers stationed at the border near his home. Whereas, the differently-abled daughter Shivani Hosuru Uppara has achieved extraordinary accomplishments in the world of sports, overcoming economic and physical limitations," she said.

"Vaibhav Suryavanshi has made a name for himself in the highly competitive and talent-filled world of cricket and has set many records," she said, mentioning some of the children who won awards.

The President expressed confidence that brave and talented children like them will continue to do good work and make India's future bright.

Women and Child Development Minister Annapurna Devi, in her address, said the children who have been awarded, have proved that with self-confidence and dedication, lack of resources can be overcome.

"I am happy to announce that this year, 20 talented children from 18 states and central states are being honoured. These young heroes have come from different parts of the country," she said.

"Our effort also encourages countless children to dream, struggle and bring about meaningful change. We firmly believe that only on this strong foundation will India regain its glory and national pride," she said.

The Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar is a prestigious national honour conferred annually by the Government of India on children for exceptional excellence in Bravery, Art & Culture, Environment, Social Service, Science & Technology, and Sports. In 2025, 20 children from 18 States and Union Territories have been selected for this honour.

## Unclaimed suitcase on...

on Dhar Road and called in a bomb disposal squad for inspection, they said.

During the brief traffic halt, the team examined the suitcase, which revealed nothing untoward. Normal traffic was resumed once the area was declared safe, they added.

## Fisherman found Goddess...

immediately brought to the notice of authorities and was kept in safe custody at Sheri police station, the spokesman said. Following due procedures and directions from the Directorate of Archives, Archaeology and Museums, Jammu and Kashmir, the sculpture was formally handed over to the Archaeology Wing, Srinagar, the official said.

Jammu and Kashmir Police reiterates its commitment to the protection of cultural heritage and urges citizens to promptly inform authorities about any such discoveries of historical or archaeological importance, the spokesman added.

## JK Bank Employees Association Jammu Unit to hold elections in Jan 2026

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: A meeting of the Jammu and Kashmir Bank Employees Association (JKBEA), Jammu Unit, was convened under the leadership of President Vijay Kumar along with other office bearers to initiate discussions regarding the long-due elections of the workmen fraternity.

Addressing the meeting, Vijay Kumar informed that the election process for JKBEA Jammu Unit will be conducted in January 2026.

He stated that the election schedule and dates will be finalized and communicated shortly to the entire workmen cadre of J&K Bank Jammu Zone.

Nominations will be invited and considered as per established norms to ensure a smooth and transparent electoral process.

## CBI lawyer dies in road collision on Jammu-Srinagar highway; scorio driver nabbed

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

BANIHAL/JAMMU: A 35-year-old CBI lawyer died in a vehicle collision on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway in Ramban district, officials said on Friday.

A video purportedly showing the advocate's car being hit from behind by a speeding vehicle near Banihal went viral on social media.

The victim, Sheikh Adil Nabi, was recently appointed as a prosecuting officer with the Central Bureau of Investigation.

Adil sustained critical injuries in the collision and was rushed to the Sub-District Hospital (SDH), Banihal, where he was given first aid. He later succumbed.

"Adil Sheikh, who was serving as a public prosecutor and had been appointed with the CBI, Chandigarh, about two months ago, was injured in the accident," Ramban Senior Superintendent of Police Arun Gupta said.

The officer said police had arrested Mohammad Shafi, the driver of the Mahindra Scorpio involved in the collision.

Adil had recently cleared his UPSC examination and was appointed as a public prosecutor with the top probe agency in Chandigarh.

## Three narco smugglers nabbed with heroin

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

KATHUA: Continuing its crackdown against drug peddlers, J&K Police Kathua under the overall supervision of SSP Kathua Mohita Sharma IPS recovered approx. 3.40 grams Heroine like narcotics in the jurisdictional area of PS Billawar and one drug peddler was arrested.

On dated 25/12/2025 a Police team of P/S Billawar led by SHO Billawar Insp Zaheer Mushtaq under the supervision of SP Upper Kathua Sh Amir Iqbal and SDPO Billawar Sh Neeraj Padyar established a special naka for checking of vehicles. During checking police team apprehended 01 person who later on disclosed his name as Bhushan Kumar S/o Des Raj R/o Dhanjasdhar Tehsil Ramkot District Kathua.

During his personal search 3.40 grams of Heroine (chitta) like substance has been recovered from his possession. Thereafter all the recovered consignment of drugs (Approx. 3.40 Grams Heroin like Narcotics ) got seized and one person arrested on spot.

In this regard a case FIR No. 183/2025 U/S 8/21/22/NDPS Act stands registered at Police Station Billawar, further investigation is underway.

Intensifying its drive against drug smugglers/peddlers, Samba Police has arrested a drug peddler in the jurisdiction of Police Station Vijaypur and recovered approximately 10.30 grams of heroin-like substance (chitta) from his possession.

A police team from Police Station Vijaypur, while conducting a vehicle checking naka at Tarapur near Rakh Barotian, intercepted a motorcycle without a registration number for checking. During frisking, approximately 10.30 grams of a heroin-like substance was recovered from the possession of the motorcycle.

The drug peddler identified as Naresh Kumar S/o Satnam Kumar R/o Samrala tehsil & district Pathankot (Punjab) has been arrested and contraband item has been seized. The motorcycle involved in the instant case has also been seized.

A case FIR No. 147/2025 u/s 8/21/22 NDPS Act has been registered at PS Vijaypur and investigation started.

Continuing its sustained drive against drug trafficking, Udhampur Police arrested one hardcore drug peddler during routine patrolling.

A patrolling party of Police Station Udhampur while performing patrolling duty near Circular Road, Udhampur, apprehended one suspicious person. Upon questioning, he disclosed his identity as Rafiq S/o Bansri R/o Kud, Tehsil Chenani, District Udhampur, A/P Jojrian Talab, Udhampur.

During his personal search, one transparent polypack containing heroin weighing 6.45 grams was recovered from his possession.

Accordingly, a case FIR No. 429/2025 U/S 8/21/22 of the NDPS Act has been registered at Police Station Udhampur and further investigation of the case is underway.

## Missing girl traced, reunited with family

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

DODA: Doda Police have successfully traced a missing girl and reunited her with her family.

A missing report regarding a girl resident of Bari, Tehsil Marmat, District Doda, was registered vide DDR No. 11 dated 24-10-2024 at Police Station Assar. Following sustained efforts, the missing girl was traced with the help of technical assistance and human intelligence. The recovery was recorded vide DDR No. 21 dated 26-12-2025. After completing all required legal formalities as per law, the recovered girl was safely handed over to her legal heirs. Accordingly, the missing report stands closed.

## Two absconding accused evading NBWs arrested

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Jammu Police, South Zone achieved a noteworthy success as Police Station Gangyal arrested two accused persons who were absconding and wilfully evading multiple Non-Bailable Warrants (NBWs) issued by the Hon'ble Courts.

The arrested accused have been identified as Ashwani Kumar @ Sunny, S/o Girdhari Lal, R/o Dhandha Khurd, Tehsil Bishnah, District Jammu and Talvinder Singh, S/o Gurjit Singh, R/o Camp Gole Gural, Mohalla Sach Khand, A/P Digiana Camp, Gangyal, Jammu.

Despite repeated efforts by the police, both the accused had been evading arrest for a considerable period. Acting on specific inputs and after sustained surveillance, a dedicated police team of Police Station Gangyal successfully apprehended the accused.

After their arrest, both the accused were produced before the Court, which, after due proceedings, remanded them to Judicial Custody.

## SSP Kathua reviews security preparedness in mountainous belts ahead of New Year

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

KATHUA: Senior Superintendent of Police Mohita Sharma on Friday visited the mountainous belts of Kathua district to review the operational preparedness of Special Operations Group units, officials said.

In view of the prevailing security scenario, the Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) visited the Billawar and Malhar areas.

Accompanied by other officers, she reviewed security arrangements as part of the winter strategy to maintain heightened alertness ahead of the new year, a police spokesperson said.

During the visit, Sharma inspected the Guddu Falal area of Billawar and the Katli area of Malhar to assess ground-level security measures. She interacted with Special Operations Group (SOG) personnel and reviewed their operational readiness, the spokesperson said.

Officers and jawans deployed in the area were instructed to remain vigilant and strictly adhere to standard operating procedures during cordon and search operations, officials said.



## Plantation drive conducted

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

DODA: The Department of Social Forestry organised a plantation drive in the premises of DC Office Complex under the J&K Green Drive initiative. The plantation drive was organised under the supervision of Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) Social Forestry Rahul Singh Majdial as part of the environmental conservation efforts in the district.

Saplings were planted around the Office premises to enhance its natural beauty and contribute to ecological balance and urban greening under the ongoing green initiatives of the government. Deputy Commissioner Harvinder Singh launched the drive by planting the first sapling.

The Superintendent of Police, Upper Kathua, briefed the SSP on the strategies of SOG units to counter the activities of anti-national elements. The briefing also highlighted the operational requirements of personnel deployed in the field.

Emphasising the importance of maintaining peace, SSP Sharma directed officers to remain proactive in their respective jurisdictions. She stressed the need for strong coordination among various security agencies to effectively address potential challenges, the officials said.

## Udhampur Police secures swift NDPS conviction

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

UDHAMPUR: The case pertains to FIR No. 121/2025 U/S 8/15 NDPS Act of PS Chennai wherein on 18.11.2025, during checking at motorshed Naka point, the naka police team apprehended Tarandeep Singh S/o Hardev Singh R/o Makhampur, Gojran, Jammu and Parvinder Singh S/O Surjit Singh R/O Chatha, Jammu and recovered Poppy straw from their possession, leading to registration of the case and initiation of investigation.

A prompt investigation led by PSI Azhar Shakeel No. EXJ-196290 ensured all legal procedures were completed on time and the charge-sheet was filed before the Hon'ble Court.

After the due course of trial, the Hon'ble Sessions Court Udhampur convicted the accused under relevant sections of the NDPS Act and imposed a fine of ₹30000/-.

This swift investigation and conviction reflects sustained police response towards dismantling the narco networks operating in the UT of J&K.

## Udhampur Police secures cancellation of interim bail in NDPS Case

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

UDHAMPUR: Udhampur Police secured cancellation of interim bail of accused Umar Shafi S/o Mohd Shafi Regoo R/o Housing Colony, Champora, Srinagar and Mohsin Aslam Khan S/o Mohd Aslam Khan R/o Sheikhpura, Budgam in FIR No. 204/2025 U/S 8/21/22 NDPS Act of Police Station Rehambal by the Court of Additional Sessions Judge, Udhampur.

The Court accepted the submissions of the Investigating Officer, DySP (P) Tahzeeb Zehra Jawaaid -JKPS 246487 that the accused failed to cooperate with the investigation, deliberately avoided appearance before the Investigating Officer and violated the conditions of interim bail.

The Court also took note that the accused are habitual offenders with multiple FIRs registered against them.

Considering the serious and non-bailable nature of NDPS offences, the Hon'ble Court ordered cancellation of interim bail and directed that the accused be taken into custody forthwith.

## Udhampur police secures life imprisonment in murder case; five convicted

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

UDHAMPUR: Udhampur Police has secured conviction in a murder and attempt to murder case registered at Police Station Chenani.

The case pertains to FIR No. 135/2020 U/S 302 & 307 IPC. The accused forcibly entered the complainant's house, resulting in the murder of Vijay Kumar S/O Sian Dass and injuries to the complainant Gurdip Singh S/O Sain Dass R/O Madda.

After a professional investigation by Insp. Pushpinder Singh, then SHO PS Chenani, the charge-sheet was presented before the Court. After due trial, the Hon'ble Sessions Court, Udhampur convicted: Pahar Singh @ Parshotam S/O Jagan Nath, R/O Phagmullah, Tehsil Pogal Paristan, Ukhral, District Ramban; Radha Devi W/O Gurdeep Singh, R/O W.No. 3, Lower Madda, Tehsil Chenani, District Udhampur; Harish Singh S/O Chain Singh, R/O W.No. 06, Huchack, Pogal Paristan, Ukhral, District Ramban; Anil Singh S/O Ganesh Singh, R/O W.No. 06, Huchack, Pogal Paristan, Ukhral, District Ramban and Armodh Singh @ Rajesh S/O Kasir Singh, R/O W.No. 06, Huchack, Pogal Paristan, Ukhral, District Ramban.

The Court awarded rigorous imprisonment for life to all five convicts under Section 302 IPC, along with sentences under Sections 307, 458, 147, 148, 323 IPC. Anil Singh was also convicted under Section 4/25 Arms Act.

## 16 vagrants detained, sent to district jail Kathua

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

SAMBA: Continuing its drive against vagrants wandering near chitta hotspot, Samba Police has detained sixteen (16) vagrants under preventive sections of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) in the jurisdiction of Police Station Vijaypur and sent them to district Jail Kathua.

A team of Police Station Vijaypur during special operation around infamous chitta hotspot Rakh Barotian Vijaypur has detained sixteen vagrants who were wandering suspiciously in the area.

The detained vagrants have been identified as 1. Sanjay Sharma S/o Paras Ram R/o Jhullar tehsil Fatehpur district Kangra (H.P) 2. Shubam Sharma S/o Ramesh Chand R/o Jhullar tehsil Fatehpur district Kangra (H.P) 3. Chander Shekhar S/o Gian Chand R/o Jawali tehsil Bhermar Khas district Kangra (H.P) 4. Nitish Kumar S/o Rajendra Mahto R/o Shivnagar Hiri Diara district Munger (Bihar) A/P Trikuta Nagar Jammu; Mithu Kumar S/o Mangro Sah R/o Sec. No. 04 Extn. Marble Enclave Trikuta Nagar Jammu 6. Bittu Kumar S/o Talab Raj R/o Sec. No. 04 Extn. Marble Enclave Trikuta Nagar Jammu 7. Yogesh Kumar S/o Manoj Kumar R/o Darsopur Miran Sahib district Jammu 8. Lalit Kumar S/o Prem Nath R/o Khoon Amara district Udhampur 9. Akhil Chopra S/o Prem Kumar Chopra R/o Ward No. 10 near BDO Office R S Pura district Jammu 10. Sunny S/o Thoru Ram R/o Swankha Morh tehsil Vijaypur district Samba 11. Arjun kumar S/o Om Parkash R/o Gagain tehsil R.S Pura district Jammu 12. Gaurav Sharma S/o Gopal Dass R/o Shahbad Colony Bahu Fort Jammu 13. Vishal Choudhary S/o Sham Lal R/o Karalian tehsil Rangarh district Samba 14. Tanveer Singh S/o Surjeet Singh R/o Talli Morh Miran Sahib district Jammu 15. Talib Hussain S/o Bashir Ahmed R/o Rakh Barotian tehsil Vijaypur district Samba 16. Murad Ali S/o Sher Ali R/o Rakh Barotian tehsil Vijaypur district Samba. This move aims to curb drug-related offenses in the area.

## Journalist's request to speak Urdu at presser irritates Mehbooba Mufti

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

SRINAGAR: Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) chief Mehbooba Mufti on Friday snapped at a journalist here for asking her to speak in Urdu at a press conference.

As soon as Mehbooba began her presser at the party headquarters in Kashmiri language, a journalist asked her to speak in Urdu.

The former Chief Minister of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir snapped at the journalist, questioning why the media doesn't ask Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin to speak either in English or Urdu.

"Why? Translate it. Why don't you ask Stalin to speak in English or Urdu?" she said. The PDP president said Kashmiri journalists should show some respect for the Kashmiri language. "This is the only thing that is left now, so respect the Kashmiri language a little," she added and continued speaking in Kashmiri.

## Two get electric shock while taking selfies atop stationary train in Budgam

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

SRINAGAR: Two youth taking selfies atop a train at Budgam railway station received strong electric shock, officials said.

They said the youth were taking selfies and sustained injuries due to the electric shock. The duo were rushed to SMHS hospital here where the condition of one of the injured is stated to be critical.