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Four Inspectors among...

House Officer (SHO) Batote; Insp. Padam Dev Singh has been transferred from DPL Ramban and posted as SHO Chanderkote; Insp. Mohd Afzal has been transferred from PS Chanderkote and posted at DPL Ramban; SI Harnam Singh has been transferred from Police Post (PP) HT and posted to DPL Ramban; SI Ghulam Hussain has been transferred from PP Patnitop and posted to DPL Ramban; PSI Vinod Kumar has been transferred from PP Neel and posted as Incharge PP Patnitop; PSI Shiv Dutt has been transferred from PS Chanderkote and posted as Incharge PP Neel; PSI Harish Kumar has been transferred from PS Batote and posted as Incharge PP JT.

Govt bans import...

not require any approvals," the civil aviation ministry said in a release on Wednesday. The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) under the commerce and industry ministry has issued a notification banning the import of foreign drones. The civil aviation ministry came out with liberalised drone rules in August 2021.

CBSE to conduct...

in offline mode in November-December last year. The result of the first-term exams is yet to be announced.

The board also warned the students that messages and information spreading on social media may be considered only after verifying the facts available on its website.

J&K Govt to...

committees will regulate the sale of the acid in the city. Yesterday, 13 premises were sealed and this drive will continue," he said on Wednesday.

Meanwhile, Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Rakesh Balwal said the charge-sheet in the case will be filed in the next few days.

"The investigation in the case is going on. In the next four to five days, our charge-sheet will be filed. We will ensure strongest sections in this case are applied," the SSP said. He said the police would ensure there is no open sale of the acid in the city so that such incidents do not recur.

J&K people not...

the first day of her three-day party programme and interacted with the people there. They are feeling neglected and consider snatching of the assembly constituency as grave injustice.

On a question about the heckling of a hijab-clad girl in a college in Karnataka, she said such incidents will affect the education of the girls but the people need to stand up together against this hooliganism.

When the government has no developmental agenda to show to the public, they use such diversionary tactics to hoodwink the people. What happened to the 'beti bachao, beti padhao' slogan? Education of the girls is bound to get affected by such incidents and therefore we should not pay heed to diversionary tactics and stand up together against this hooliganism, she said.

She said it was Congress governments in the past which had always tried to empower the women, while the Narendra Modi led government is only making promises.

Congress gave 50 per cent reservation to women in Panchayats and a bill to provide 33 per cent reservation for women in Lok Sabha is pending in the Parliament as the BJP despite enjoying majority is not willing to pass it. They do not favour empowerment of women, Nagina said, adding the women are half of country's population and should get maximum representation in the legislature.

Criticising the policies of the BJP-led government, she said we regret snatching the statehood of Jammu and Kashmir and transforming it into a Union Territory. They talked about Naya (new) Kashmir, normalcy and development. We do not see the development on the ground, while frequent militant attacks expose their claims of normalcy.

Nagina, who also attended the Women Congress executive body meeting during her tour, condemned the recent acid attack on a woman in Srinagar and said the women are not feeling safe and are facing a lot of issues due to inflation and alleged callous attitude of the government.

The inflation is all time high and it is very difficult to run a household. Asha workers and Anganwari workers are on the streets for enhancement of their monthly numerations and timely payments, she said and demanded sanctioning of window pension to women below 40 years who have lost their husbands.

Claiming the growing unemployment in the country, the Congress leader said J&K is one of the regions which tops the list with 22 percent unemployment as a result of which you can see the protesting youth on the roads every now and then.

BJP is only making hollow promises as every section of the society has been affected by the policies of the Modi-led government over the past seven years. They failed to transfer promised money and create two crore jobs annually. The statistics show that

23 crore people lost their jobs and 700 farmers died during anti-agri law agitation, while only Rs 50 lakh compensation was given to people hit by COVID-19, she said.

She said they only know how to blame Congress for its failures.

The Congress leader also blamed the ruling party for dividing the people of the country and said Hindus never felt their lives are in danger over the past 70 years but now they are made to think on these lines.

"The communal forces are spreading disturbance by pitching Hindus against Muslims for winning elections. The people need to think before voting and show the door to such communal forces for a better future, she said.

Without naming Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi, she referred to the recent firing on the vehicle of the parliamentarian in Uttar Pradesh's Meerut and said the attackers are affiliated with BJP who are spreading disturbance and pitching Hindus against Muslims.

The Congress leader lauded Party leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra for her slogan 'Ladki hu Lad Sakti Hu' and urged people of Uttar Pradesh to exercise their franchise for a better future in the upcoming assembly polls.

India rejects references...

India, he added. On CPEC, Bagchi said "we have consistently conveyed our concerns to China and Pakistan on the projects in the so-called CPEC, which are in India's territory that has been illegally occupied by Pakistan."

"We resolutely oppose any attempts to change the status quo by other countries, as also by Pakistan, in the areas under the illegal occupation of Pakistan. We call upon the parties concerned to cease such activities," he said.

The CPEC is part of China's ambitious Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

India has been severely critical of the BRI as the USD 50 billion corridor passes through Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK).

Physical hearings to...

It said the guidelines and protocols for prevention of COVID-19 contagion including wearing of masks, frequent use of hand sanitiser and maintaining safe distancing norms are mandatory for all the entrants into the court premises.

"Only those advocates whose cases are listed in the courts and who are fully vaccinated shall be allowed entry in the courtrooms.

"Entry of witnesses, accused only shall be permitted in district and subordinate courts and tribunals provided they are fully vaccinated and subject to strict compliance of SOPs pertaining to the containment of COVID-19 infection," the order said.

The chief justice said the entry in the district and subordinate courts and tribunals would be permitted to only fully vaccinated people from the outer gate of the court complex.

Unemployment, price rise...

should be referred to a select committee first for better scrutiny.

"We are not your enemies but can give you some better suggestions," he said.

Demanding industry status for the tourism sector, he said that scores of people in Jammu and Kashmir are involved in tourism and such a move will benefit them a lot.

He also asked the government to protect the interests of the local apple growers as they are being hit by the import of the fruit from abroad.

Abdullah also appealed to the government to complete the process of the recruitment for border battalions in Jammu and Kashmir, saying there has been apprehension that youths from outside the Union Territory will get preference over locals.

He said education and health are the two key sectors for the overall growth of the country, hence, there should be more allocation of funds for construction of roads and tunnels and medical care.

Participating in the debate, BJP member from West Bengal Dilip Ghosh said the 2022-23 budget is a roadmap for the next 25 years and devoid of any sparkling announcement.

He said emphasises has been given on construction of 25,000 km of highways and 2,000 km modern accident-free railway lines.

Complimenting the PM GatiShakti project, he said this will give a big boost to the country's economic activities and help develop infrastructure and communication networks.

Referring to West Bengal, he said the ruling dispensation there has given an impression that it just has one problem, that is the current governor and his removal is the only task they have.

"As if all problems of West Bengal will be solved once the state Governor is removed, he said, referring to the ongoing verbal duals between Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar and state leadership, including Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee.

"It has become a fashion for them to abuse the Governor and the Prime Minister, he claimed.

Ghosh slammed the West Bengal government for not making available land for projects related to highway, railways, airports and industries.

"If there is no land, how will the projects come up, how will jobs be created," he asked.

session. He was arrested and shifted to police station where he remained in custody. FIR No. 17/2022 under relevant sections of law was registered at Police Station Magam and investigation started.

Nowshera Forest Division seizes 85 billets of Khair from Marchola, Bagla

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: A patrolling team of Forest officials from Sunderbani Range, constituted by Divisional Forest Officer Nowshera Neelima Shah, has seized 85 billets of Khair illegally extracted from Marchola and Bagla villages.

During night patrolling, the teams conducted raids at Marchola and Bagla villages and seized consignment of illegally felled 85 billets of Khair wood. Divisional Forest Officer has said that special teams were constituted to carry out combing operations, especially in view of illegal felling of Khair trees. These teams are carrying out combing operations as well as raids to check any illegal forest activity in and around forest areas. The team was led by Rakesh Verma, Range Officer Sunderbani and comprised Ved Parkash, BO Dharamsala and Rangeel Singh, BO Sunderbani. The whole operation was carried out under direct supervision of Vivek Verma, Conservator of Forests, West Circle.

Three gamblers arrested, stake money Rs 7,230 recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Police on Wednesday arrested three Gamblers and recovered stake money of Rs 7230. As per details, a team of Police Station Channi Himmat headed by SHO Channi Himmat Insp. Deepak Katoch, while on patrolling duty, received an information regarding gamblers near Deeli area. Acting swiftly, police teams raided the place and nabbed three gamblers along with Rs 7,230 stake money with a deck of playing cards. FIR under section 13 of Gambling Act was registered at Police Station Channi Himmat and accused were arrested, who were identified as Jatinder Kumar Chandra, son of Pati Ram Chandra; Jagdish Bhatia, son of Kunh Bihari, both residents of Chhattisgarh and Mouli Chand, son of Rattan Ahirwar, resident of MP. The overall arrests and recoveries were made under supervision of SDPO East Syed Zaheer Abbas Jafari.

Kidnapped minor girl traced, accused arrested

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Police on Wednesday rescued a missing minor girl and arrested kidnaper.

As per details, on February 02, 2022, a written application was received at Police Post Sainik Colony from father of minor girl stating that his daughter went missing from home at Chowdhari, Jammu. On this, FIR No. 18/2022 under section 363 of IPC was registered at Police Station Channi Himmat and investigation was initiated.

After this, a team of Police Post Sainik Colony under the supervision of SDPO East Syed Zaheer Abbas Jafari led by SHO Channi Himmat Insp. Deepak Katoch assisted by Incharge Police Post Sainik Colony PSI Mohd Younis Khanday connected various leads and after hectic efforts, with support of technical assistance, finally recovered the kidnapped minor girl from an accused, identified as Yog Raj, son of Baldev Raj, resident of Gurah Kalyal Tehsil Ramkot, District Kathua. He was arrested on the spot. The girl was produced before child welfare committee and was medically examined. After completion of all legal formalities, she was handed over to her family.

4 bovines rescued, 2 smugglers arrested

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a massive drive against bovine smuggling, Jammu Police rescued 4 bovines from a vehicle at Suketar Naka under jurisdiction of Police Station Jhajjar Kotli and seized a vehicle (JK02CQ 0410). As per police, two smugglers were also arrested and FIR No 19/2022 under sections 188 IPC, 11 PCA Act was registered at Police Station Jhajjar Kotli. The accused were identified as Mohd Ziarat, son of Mohd Akram, resident of Chanderkot, Ramban and Mushtaq Ahmed, son of Abdul Rashid, resident of Garigarh. The recoveries were made by SHO Jhajjar Kotli Insp. Devinder Singh under the supervision of SDPO Nagrota Pardeep Kumar.

Two shops, house burgled

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Thieves on Wednesday burgled two shops and a house.

As per details, thieves targeted a wholesale Karyana shop in Karnal Chak area of Satwari and decamped with goods worth thousands of rupees. Owner of shop

The BJP leader claimed that the TMC government is yet to present a budget for the next fiscal and alleged that Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee is currently touring Uttar Pradesh for election campaigns.

He alleged that the BJP workers are being regularly attacked in West Bengal.

"Bomb blasts are taking place regularly in many districts. The state has become a den for gangsters from across the country and terrorists from Bangladesh. The common people are living in fear," he claimed.

Ghosh alleged that 60 BJP workers were killed after the assembly polls held in 2021 and 42,000 cases were filed against BJP workers.

He claimed the BJP workers are being threatened so that they don't take part in the coming local body polls.

"There is no democracy in West Bengal. It is a big challenge," he said.

The BJP leader said the state government has deprived the people of healthcare benefits as it has not yet allowed the implementation of central government's Ayushman Bharat scheme of free treatment.

Earlier, during the Zero Hour, BJP member Ramesh Bidhuri claimed the Arvind Kejriwal-led Delhi government has been giving regular allowances to the Imams of mosques and demanded that the priests of Delhi's 6,000 temples should also be given government allowances.

He claimed that Kejriwal is now more interested in going to other states rather than concentrating on providing good governance to the people of the city.

Congress leader Gaurav Gogoi said the condition of the National Highway 37 between Nagaon and Dibrugarh in Assam is pathetic and there is no progress in the proposed widening of the road into four lanes.

The four lanes were supposed to be completed by 2019 but they are far from complete even now, he said and asked the government to do the needful.

Properties of 610...

rehabilitate Kashmiri migrants back to the valley that include construction of 6,000 transit accommodations in the Kashmir Valley at an estimated cost of Rs 920 crore in order to provide accommodation to employed Kashmiri migrants, he said.

Dry weather in...

degrees Celsius down from the previous night's 1.4 degrees Celsius, they said.

However, the city was the only recorded place in the valley where the mercury settled above the freezing point last night, they said.

The famous ski-resort of Gulmarg, in north Kashmir, recorded a low of minus 10.0 degrees Celsius a notch down from the previous night, they said.

Palhalgam tourist resort in south Kashmir, which also serves as the base camp for the annual Amarnath yatra, recorded a low of minus 5.1 degrees Celsius up from minus 6.2 degrees Celsius the previous night, they said.

Qazigund recorded a minimum of minus 0.3 degrees Celsius, while the nearby south Kashmir town of Kokernag recorded a low of minus 2.5 degrees Celsius, officials said.

The mercury in Kupwara in north Kashmir settled at a low of minus 1.3 degrees Celsius.

The Met office has predicted the possibility of light rain or snow at scattered places on Wednesday.

The weather is likely to stay dry over the next few days, it said.

Kashmir is currently under the influence of a 20-day-long 'Chillai-Khurd' (small cold) which began after the Chilla-i-Kalan -- the 40-day harshest winter period ended on January 31.

Chilla-i-Kalan, which had begun on December 21 last year -- is a period when a cold wave grips the region and the temperature drops considerably leading to the freezing of water bodies, including the famous Dal Lake, here as well as the water supply lines in several parts of the valley.

The chances of snowfall are the most frequent and maximum during this period and most areas, especially in the higher reaches, receive heavy to very heavy snowfall.

However, the 'Chilla-i-Kalan' this year was not harsh like the last year and there was less snowfall during the period.

After the end of 'Chillai-Khurd' (small cold), a 10-day-long 'Chillai-Bachha' (baby cold) follows. However, both these periods are considered less harsh.

Active COVID-19 cases...

active cases comprise 2.11 per cent of the total infections, while the national COVID-19 recovery rate has improved to 96.70 per cent, the ministry said.

A reduction of 1,02,063 cases has been recorded in the active COVID-19 caseload in a span of 24 hours.

India's COVID-19 tally had crossed the 20-lakh mark on August 7, 2020, 30 lakh on August 23, 40 lakh on September 5 and 50 lakh on September 16. It went past 60 lakh on September 28, 70 lakh on October 11, crossed 80 lakh on October 29, 90 lakh on November 20 and surpassed the one-crore mark on December 19.

India crossed the grim milestone of two crore on May 4 and three crore on June 23 last year.

namely Joginder Kumar Gupta, resident of Krishna Nagar has lodged a complaint with police in this regard. Thieves