

## Theft case solved; thief arrested, stolen property recovered

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NAGROTA: In a significant breakthrough, the police team of PP Sidhra successfully solved a theft case and recovered stolen property worth Rs 2 lakh.

On January 30, 2025, one person namely Arun Sharma, son of Punnu Ram Sharma, resident of Galvaday Chak presently working as Supervisor with Peer Panjal Pvt Ltd lodged a written complaint at Police Post Sidhra that some unknown thieves entered in our company store at Tuta Di khui Bajalta and stolen dog conductor wire and items.

Based on the complaint, a case (FIR No. 19/2025) was registered under sections 331(4) and 305(a) of the BNS Act at Police Station Nagrota, and an investigation was initiated.

During the investigation, a suspect, identified as Shah Nawaz, son of Mohd Hussain, resident of Maraye Khana Chargal Tehsil and District Jammu rounded up and on disclosure of suspect person dog conductor wire value Rs 2 lakhs recovered and seized as evidence. The accused has been arrested and remains in police custody as further investigation continues.



tion continues.

The efforts of the police team at PP Sidhra have been widely appreciated by the general public for their swift action and dedication in solving the case.

## 4 vehicles seized for illegal transportation of minerals

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

AWANTIPORA: Continuing its drive against persons involved in illegal extraction and transportation of minerals, Police have seized 04 vehicles in Pampore area of Awantipora.

A Police party of Police Station Pampore headed by SHO PS Pampore have seized four vehicles (tippers) JK13-7651, JK01AV-6488, JK13B-2087 and JK03B-9066 involved in illegal transportation of mineral in Pampore.

Accordingly, a case vide FIR No. 11/2025 under relevant sections of law has been registered and investigations has been initiated. Persons found indulging in illegal mining activities shall be dealt with as per law.

## 6 gamblers arrested, stake money seized

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

AWANTIPORA: Police in Awantipora have arrested six gamblers and seized stake money from their possession.

Acting on a specific information regarding gambling activities at Bahu Awantipora, a Police team of Police Station Awantipora headed by SHO PS Awantipora raided the specific spot and arrested the six gamblers. They have been identified as Zahoor Ahmad Bhat, Ab Hameed Khan, Mohd Afzal Sheikh, Wazarat Ahmad Dhobi, Ishfaq Ahmad Bhat, Manzoor Ahmad Bhat, all residents of Bahu Awantipora.

Officers have seized stake money of ₹500/- and playing cards from their possession.

Accordingly, a case vide FIR No. 21/2025 under relevant sections of law has been registered in Police Station Awantipora and investigation has been initiated.

## 3 drug peddlers arrested; contraband substances recovered

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BUDGAM/HANDWARA: Continuing its efforts to eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, Police have arrested three drug peddlers in Budgam & Handwara and recovered contraband substances from their possession.

Police Post Mochwa received information from reliable sources that a person Saqlain Mushtaq son of Mushtaq Ahmad Bhat resident of Batpora Chadoora has concealed contraband substance at his residential house. Following the information, search warrant was obtained from Hon'ble Court. Subsequently, a police team of Police Post Mochwa raided the house and conducted the search in presence of concerned Executive Magistrate. During search, 545 grams of charas like substance, 230 grams of grinded charas like substance and 33.10 Kg of semi grinded cannabis leaves were recovered from the said location. He was accordingly arrested and case under relevant sections of law has been registered and investigation has been initiated.

In Handwara, during naka checking at Baghatpora Crossing, a police team from Police Station Handwara intercepted a suspicious individual carrying a bag. During search, 8.93 grams of heroin-like substance recovered from his possession. He has been identified as Ashiq Ahmad Shah son of Mohd Subhan Shah resident of Kaelwari Handwara. In another operation at Badkote Handwara, a police team intercepted a person identified as Bilal Ahmad Najar son of Gh Nabi Najar resident of Badrehar Handwara. During search,

63 grams of charas-like substance was recovered from his possession.

Regarding the incidents, cases under relevant sections of law have been registered in Police Station Handwara. Investigations are underway to trace further links in the drug trade.

## Two cattle lifters arrested, vehicle seized

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BISHNAH: Jammu Police has worked out a cattle theft case registered at Police Station Bishnah, arrested two cattle lifters and seized one vehicle used in the commission of crime.

On Dec 5, 2024, a written complaint was received at Police Station Bishnah regarding theft of cattle by some unknown persons. Acting over the complaint, a case FIR No. 204/2024 U/S 305 BNS was registered at Police Station Bishnah and investigation started.

During the course of investigation, a police team of Police Station Bishnah headed by SHO Bishnah Sushil Choudhary after hectic efforts and with the help of technical analysis detained one suspect namely Reham Din alias Rehmu, son of Gammil, resident of Kheri Tehsil Bishnah District Jammu, who upon sustained questioning, confessed his involvement in the instant case. Further on his disclosure he disclosed that he along with one other person namely Mohd Sharif, son of Alf Din, resident of RS Pura who owns vehicle Tata Mobile bearing Registration number JK21H 3068 which were used for lifting cattle from different areas of district Jammu have been seized. It is pertinent to mention here that the both the said duo accused are bovine lifters and used to supply the stolen cattle to the bovine smugglers. The whole operation is conducted under the supervision of SDPO RS Pura and SP Headquarters Jammu.

# Vaishno Devi Shrine Board announces helicopter quota for senior citizens, specially-abled pilgrims

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATRA: According to most priority to pilgrim-centric services and keeping with the tradition of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board for pilgrim welfare, Anshul Garg, Chief Executive Officer announced a series of new initiatives aimed at enhancing pilgrim services. One of the key announcements made during the conference was the release of the online helicopter quota for senior citizens and specially-abled pilgrims, which will be available from February 1, 2025 on the board's official website www.maavaishnodevi.org.

Under the dynamic leadership of Board's Chairman Manoj Sinha (Lt. Governor JK-UT), Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board has always remained committed to improve the pilgrimage experience by introducing new facilities and upgrading existing infrastructure from time to time.

Talking to the media persons CEO said this initiative



CEO SMVD Shrine Board Anshul Garg briefing media.

comes in response to the long-standing demand from the Senior Citizen Forum, which had recently met with a high-level committee to request a separate helicopter booking quota. Recently a similar quota was introduced for battery car bookings which received an overwhelming response over the last few months.

Additionally, a permanent free tea Langar Seva has been introduced in the Yatra Facilitation centre at Katra Railway Station, ensuring that pilgrims arriving at the town receive warm welcome

and refreshments. In an effort to provide a taste of local cuisine, Kadhi-Chawal has been added to the menu of the free langars already established at Adhkuwari and Bhairon Ji. Further, he informed that Hawan Poojan facility is now available at Adhkuwari Yagyashala as well, enhancing the spiritual offerings of the pilgrimage. Infrastructure improvements remain a major focus, with extensive upgradation of the traditional Banganga track including a queue complex at Darshani Deodi capable of accommodating 1,500 pilgrims

at a time, track widening, installation of ornamental street lights and a drainage system upgrade covering a 2.5km track from Darshani Deodi to Charanpaduka. Additional facilities are also being provided in this sector at the recently inaugurated Shubra Bhawan to accommodate devotees. In response to increasing footfall, a covered holding area at Adhkuwari is being set up for those desirous of Darshan at the holy Garbhganga cave.

Earlier, on the eve of Republic day, the Shrine Board had announced Priority Darshan for local residents on the basis of Aadhar card in recognition of their deep connection with the shrine. The CEO further emphasized that the Shrine Board remains dedicated to continuously enhancing pilgrim services, making the spiritual journey smoother, more inclusive, and aligned with the modern infrastructural facilities.

# Col Mahan reaffirms commitment to development of far-flung areas

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: In a significant outreach to the remote areas of Dhar Jankher, Col Mahan Singh (Retd.), Chairman DDC Kathua, conducted an extensive tour of the region, engaging with residents and assessing key infrastructure projects. He held public meetings at Kholi Talai, Frolu, and Jagna villages, where he interacted with locals and took stock of their grievances.

Accompanied by senior leaders Ashok Singh, Parkash Chander, Prem Chand Dogra, Karam Chand Tohi, and others, Col Mahan Singh conducted an on-ground inspection of depleted Kholi Talai-Jagna and Kholi Talai-Samond roads, which are in dire need of repair. He also reviewed the under-construction building of GHSS Sananghat and the viewpoint at Jagna, emphasizing the need for swift completion of pending works.

Expressing his deep commitment to addressing public issues, Col Mahan Singh patiently listened to the concerns of residents and assured them that their demands would be taken up with the relevant authorities for early resolution.

Reaffirming his dedication to the



Chairman DDC Kathua, Col Mahan Singh (Retd.), along with locals at Dhar Jankher.

development of Kathua's far-flung areas, Col Mahan Singh vowed to ensure better road connectivity, improved infrastructure, and timely execution of public welfare projects in the region.

Reaffirming his dedication to the development of Kathua's far-flung areas, Col Mahan Singh emphasized the need for better road connectivity, stressing that well-maintained roads are crucial for economic growth, accessibility to essential services, and overall quality of life.

The DDC Chairman assured the public that he would take up the matter with concerned authorities to expedite road repairs and new con-

struction projects. He also highlighted the importance of improving infrastructure, including schools, healthcare facilities, and public amenities, to uplift rural communities. Committed to timely execution of welfare projects, he pledged to monitor progress and ensure efficient implementation for the benefit of residents.

During his visit, Col Mahan Singh also met the family of Late Shri Swarna Singh, an ASI in J&K Police, who recently passed away. Extending his heartfelt condolences, he expressed solidarity with the bereaved family and acknowledged the late officer's service to society.

## Poonch girl brings laurel to border district



Lt. Col. Shrutika Datta resident of Moh Jernally, Poonch represents Army in Republic Day

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: Lt. Col. Shrutika Datta, daughter of Sham Saroop Datta and Karuna Pandha Datta, resident of Moh jernally at present Delhi has brought immense pride to the border district of Poonch by representing the Indian Army in the Republic Day Parade in Delhi. She played a crucial role in displaying the indigenous Pralay weapons system and the Battlefield Surveillance Radar "Sanjay."

Lt. Col. Shrutika Datta completed her schooling at Army School

Dagshai and pursued engineering at Bhai Gurdas Engineering College, Sangrur. Inspired by the teachings of Bhai Gurdas Ji-"Service to mankind brings us nearer to God"-she joined the Indian Army in 2009 to serve the nation.

Her dedication, honesty, efficiency, and resourcefulness have earned her the admiration of senior officials, leading to this prestigious assignment. She executed her duty with utmost commitment, leaving no stone unturned in fulfilling her responsibilities.

# GDC Nowshera celebrates Legacy of an iconic author, Virginia Woolf

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NOWSHERA: The Department of English at Government Degree College Nowshera, organized a departmental activity, under the guidance and supervision of the reverend principal of the college, Dr. Shamim Ahmed Azad. The activity was dedicated to celebrating the life and literary contributions of the iconic author, Virginia Woolf. The event was thoughtfully coordinated by Prof. Romani Gupta, a faculty member in the English Department, and featured an engaging series of presentations and performances by students.

The program began with a captivating skit titled "Introduction to Virginia Woolf", performed by Srishti Mehta, a student of Semester 4. The script for the skit was crafted by Prof. Romani Gupta, with valuable assistance from



Faculty members along with students during the event.

Jugmeet Kour, also a Semester 4 student. This skit creatively highlighted key aspects of Woolf's life, offering the audience a glimpse into her world, both personal and literary.

Following the skit, Bahar, a student of Semester 1, delivered an insightful speech on the biography of Virginia Woolf. She expertly outlined Woolf's early life, struggles, and her remarkable contributions to literature, emphasizing how her

works continue to resonate with readers and scholars even today. The highlight of the event was the lecture by Prof. Shivani Parihar, the Head of the English Department. Prof. Shivani provided a comprehensive overview of Woolf's life and her influential works, delving into her unique narrative style, themes, and the challenges she faced as a woman in the literary world.

The Vote of Thanks was presented by Prof. Monisha

Bandhu, a faculty of English Department. She concluded with one of Virginia Woolf's most famous quotes: "I am not afraid of storms, for I am learning how to sail my ship." This profound statement encapsulates Woolf's resilience and determination, qualities that were evident both in her personal life and in her literary legacy. The event was a wonderful success, leaving the audience with a deeper appreciation for Virginia Woolf's contributions to literature and her enduring influence on contemporary writers and readers alike.

The Department of English at GDC Nowshera remains committed to fostering a love for literature and continuing to provide platforms for students to explore and engage with the works of celebrated authors.

## Prof. M J Warsi takes over as Dean Academic Affairs at BGSBU

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: Prof. M J Warsi has taken over as the new Dean Academic Affairs at Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University (BGSBU). A distinguished linguist of international repute, Prof. Warsi has previously served as the Chairperson, Department of Linguistics at Aligarh Muslim University (AMU), Aligarh.

Renowned for his scholarly contributions, exceptional teaching, and unwavering commitment to academic excellence, Prof. Warsi has made a profound impact on the field of linguistics through his innovative research and mentorship. His distinguished career spans premier universities in the United States, including the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor), the University of California (Berkeley), and Washington University (St. Louis, USA).

Prof. Warsi has been honored with several prestigious national and international

awards, including the James McLeod Faculty Award (2012), Colin P. Masica Award (2024), and M B Emenau Scholar of Excellence Award (2024). His dedication to advancing linguistic research and fostering academic discourse has earned him widespread recognition.

Prof. Jawaid Iqbal, Vice Chancellor Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University has congratulated Prof. Warsi for the new role at BGSBU. In his congratulatory message, Prof. Iqbal stated, "Prof. M J Warsi's appointment as Dean Academic Affairs is a moment of great pride for BGSBU. His vast experience, academic leadership, and commitment to excellence will greatly benefit the university. I am confident that under his guidance, BGSBU will witness significant academic advancements and new research initiatives. I wish him all the success in his new role."

# Three days training program on "Gender Sensitization and Forensic Training" concludes at SKPA

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: Three days training program on "Gender Sensitization and Forensic Training" sponsored by the National Commission for Women (NCW), New Delhi concluded on Friday at S.K. Police Academy. 22 police officers/officials from across the UT J&K attended the said training programme. The training program focused on enhancing the



Dignitary being honoured during the programme.

skills and knowledge of participants in understanding of women's rights, promoting gender equality and addressing gender-based violence. The program also provided training in forensic techniques for improved investigation and evidence collection.

Shalini Sharma, Member Juvenile Justice Board Jammu, Priyank Singh, Central Administrator one stop center for Women Poonch, Kiaz Ahmed, Sr.Po SKPA, Dr. Kavith Suri, Prof. Department of Lifelong learning, University of

Jammu, Dr. Sunny Sharma, Scientific Officer Forensic Science laboratory Jammu, Meena Kumari Central Administrator one stop center for Women Udhampur, Inspr. Sandeep Mahajan and Inspr. Rakesh Kumar Cyber Police Station Jammu delivered lectures to the participants.

On the occasion a valediction function was organized at SKPA, Rakesh Sambyal, Chief Prosecuting Officer, was the chief guest on the occasion who in his valedictory address emphasized the importance of addressing gender inequality on a global scale and encouraged participants to advocate for gender equality and share their knowledge within their peer groups. The course was coordinated by Chander Mohan, Inspr. and assisted by HC Ram Lal.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: Deputy Commissioner Poonch Vikas Kundal chaired a District Level Standing Committee (DLSC) meeting at the DC Office Complex, focusing on border security and improving community welfare near the Line of Control (LoC).

The meeting addressed critical security concerns and reviewed the progress of essential measures, including bunker construction. Updates from Army officials highlighted ongoing efforts to maintain peace and stability in the region.

The Deputy Commissioner urged law enforcement agencies, including the Police and BSF to intensify action against drug trafficking and other social issues,



DC Poonch Vikas Kundal chairing DLSC meeting.

stressing the importance of inter-agency collaboration. He also called for reliable water and electricity supplies and encouraged departments to organize veterinary, medical camps and Civics action programmes in border areas.

Furthermore, the Deputy Commissioner asked the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) to explore the feasibility of a

new alternate bridge for Poonch city.

The meeting was attended by ADCs, Additional SP, ACR, CPO, ACD, CMO, Tehsildars, and representatives from the Indian Army, BSF, Police, and intelligence agencies.

Meanwhile, the Deputy Commissioner chaired a meeting of District Level Committee on the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada

Yojana (PMMSY) - a flagship scheme providing necessary support and resources to local fishers and fostering economic growth.

At the outset, the Fisheries Development Officer presented a detailed overview of the cases registered under the PMMSY for consideration.

Following an in-depth discussion, the Deputy Commissioner approved the four applications of eligible beneficiaries, marking a positive advancement towards local fisheries development and sustainability efforts.

The meeting was attended by PO ICDS, ACD, CAO, HOD Zoology GDC Poonch, Fisheries Development Officer, AD Fisheries besides other concerned officers.

**DISCLAIMER**  
"STATE TIMES" does not take responsibility for the contents of the advertisements (Display/Classified) carried in this newspaper. The paper does not endorse the same. Readers are requested to verify the contents on their own before acting there upon."