

## !! Continuations from Page 1 !! Captain among 2...

were rushed to a hospital where two of them, including the captain, succumbed to their injuries, they said, adding that the condition of the other injured soldier is "out of danger".

The White Knight Corps, also known as the XVI Corps, saluted the supreme sacrifice of the two soldiers. "Suspected Improvised Explosive Device blast reported in #Laleali in Akhmoor Sector during a fence patrol, resulting in two fatalities. Own troops are dominating the area and search operations are underway. "White Knight Corps salutes and pays tribute to the supreme sacrifice of two gallant soldiers," it said in a post on X.

On Monday, a soldier was hit by a bullet from across the border while manning a forward post in the Kalal area of the Nowshera sector in Rajouri district, while on February 8, an Army patrol came under terrorist fire from a forest across the LoC in Rajouri's Keri sector. The terrorists were apparently waiting for an opportunity to sneak into the Indian side.

The Indian troops had also fired a few rounds in retaliation and subsequently, the anti-infiltration grid was strengthened to keep a tight vigil in the area.

"GOC White Knight Corps, along with GOC Ace of Spades and GOC Crossed Swords divisions, visited forward areas of the Rajouri sector for an operational update on the prevailing security situation and the hostile activities," the Army had said in a post on X.

The post, shared by the White Knight Corps on its official social media handles, said the corps commander complimented all ranks for their vigil and relentless operational focus. He also urged them to remain prepared for all contingencies, the Army had said. In the intervening night of February 4 and February 5, a land mine explosion reportedly resulted in some casualties to terrorists attempting to infiltrate into the Indian side from across the LoC in the Krishna Ghati sector of Poonch district. However, there was no official word about the possible terrorist casualties in the blast.

## Police launches SIM...

the police officers visit SIM card vendors in their respective areas of jurisdiction for verification. Anantnag, Budgam and Pulwama are among the districts where the drive is being carried out, the officials said, adding that it will be extended to other districts of the valley as well.

"This initiative is a part of a broader strategy to prevent the misuse of mobile phone SIM cards in anti-national and unlawful activities. With an increase in cyber frauds and growing security concerns, the drive seeks to address these challenges by verifying the authenticity of documents submitted by subscribers and ensuring that vendors strictly adhere to the guidelines mandated by the Department of Telecommunications," they added.

The officials said the verification process aims to establish that SIM cards are issued only to legitimate individuals and that all necessary documentation is in place.

"By conducting random checks and ensuring thorough compliance, the Police hope to deter fraudulent practices and enhance the overall security framework within the district," they said. The SIM card verification drive comes in the backdrop of authorities recovering several SIM cards from inmates of some jails in the union territory during recent raids.

## Centre committed for...

said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Central government is committed for 'Terror free Jammu and Kashmir'. He emphasized the role of paramilitary to achieve the target of terror free J&K. He directed the BSF to ensure zero infiltration from the international borders by adopting strong vigil, strengthening the border grid and use of advanced technologies for surveillance and border guarding.

Amit Shah directed CRPF to continue with the synergy with Indian Army and J&K Police. He reviewed the winter action plan of CRPF and directed to ensure there are no gaps in area domination. He instructed to focus on Jammu region and dominate the heights.

The Home Minister also reviewed the intelligence apparatus working in Jammu and Kashmir and directed them to increase coverage and penetration to generate quality intelligence. He reiterated the importance of technology in intelligence generation and added that monitoring of terror-financing, tightening grip over Narco-terror cases and dismantling entire terror ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir are priority of Modi government. He said that strong steps are being taken for 'Zero Terror Plan' in Jammu and Kashmir.

The Home Minister also directed to focus on countering the negative propaganda by the anti-national elements so as to place the correct picture in public domain. He instructed to continue with the synergy amongst the agencies and guided for adopting technology and increase intelligence. Amit Shah directed all security agencies to remain alert and continue work in a synergies mode to eliminate terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir. He assured that all the resources will be made available in this endeavor.

## Consultations key to...

travel & tour operators, tourism players, educationists, sportspersons, agriculturists, horticulturists, entrepreneurs and representatives of industry & trade bodies like FCIC, KCCL, CII, PHD Chamber shared their inputs and suggestions for the upcoming Jammu and Kashmir Budget 2025-26.

During the deliberations, key demands were projected by stakeholders pertaining to framing of one consolidated industrial policy, upgradation of Industrial estates, connecting IGC Lassipora with National Highway, power amnesty to industrial units, crop insurance for horticulture produce, conservation of wetlands, incentivizing cherry, walnut & apricot plantation, PPP model in health sector, preservation of houseboats, free hold rights to industrial units, setting up of multi-disciplinary institutions, higher education clusters, autonomous degree colleges, establishing skill development university, creating parking lots in downtown Srinagar and other towns, decongestion of tourist places, solid waste management in tourist resorts, maintenance of stadiums & playgrounds, setting up of sports academies and increase in promotion & publicity budget for tourism.

Addressing the participants, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah emphasized that these consultations have become a key part of this government's pre-budget exercise, aimed at gathering insights from multiple sectors to shape effective policies and allocate resources efficiently.

The Chief Minister patiently listened to all stakeholders, underscoring the importance of these discussions in addressing economic challenges and promoting growth. He reiterated the government's commitment to presenting a budget that aligns with public needs and aspirations. To ensure a people-centric budget, the Chief Minister noted that extensive pre-budget consultations have been conducted. So far, he has engaged with public representatives, including Chairpersons of District Development Councils (DDCs) and Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) from ten districts-Anantnag, Baramulla, Budgam, Pulwama and Kulgam in Kashmir division and Udhampur, Ramban, Kathua, Reasi and Samba in Jammu division.

Additionally, consultation meetings have already been held with various stakeholders from Jammu, including representatives from industry & trade, tourism, hotel & hospitality, education, social welfare, tribal affairs, youth affairs, and agriculture sectors.

## Over 45 Cr...

statement, the state government said that nearly 55 crore people are expected to visit Prayagraj by the end of the Maha Kumbh.

Even after the three significant 'amrit snans' on Makar Sankranti, Mauni Amavasya and Basant Panchami, the enthusiasm of pilgrims arriving in the holy city remains unwavering, it said. On Tuesday, 74.96 lakh people took a dip at the Sangam by 10 am.

According to the statement, Mauni Amavasya saw the highest footfall of devotees as 8 crore people took a dip that day. Meanwhile, 3.5 crore people participated in the amrit snan on Makar Sankranti and 2.57 crore devotees on Basant Panchami.

President Droupadi Murmu, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh were among the prominent political leaders who took a holy dip at Sangam. Meanwhile, Bollywood actors Anupam Kher, Olympic medalist Saina Nehwal, cricketer Suresh Raina and Wrestler Khali were among the prominent personalities who took part in the Maha Kumbh, the statement added.

## CM visits Sonamarg, assesses fire damage

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SONAMARG: In the wake of the devastating fire incident that struck the old market Sonamarg recently, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah visited on Tuesday the affected site to take stock of the damage and express solidarity with the affected shopkeepers.

The Chief Minister was accompanied by Advisor to CM Nasir Aslam Wani, Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) Kangan Mian Mehar Ali and Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal Jatin Kishore. During his visit, the Chief Minister interacted with members of the Sonamarg Market Association, extending his sympathies and assuring them of the government's full support. He reiterated his government's commitment to assisting the affected traders and ensuring swift measures to prevent such incidents in the future. The CM later chaired a high-level meeting with the Sonamarg Market Association, attended by senior officials, including the DC, SSP, SDM Kangan, CEO Sonamarg Development Authority (SDA) and other district officers.

The meeting focused on addressing the concerns of the traders, who put forth key demands such as immediate financial assistance, permission for building reconstruction and the establishment of a fire service station in Sonamarg. Responding to these concerns, the Chief Minister emphasized that the reconstruction of shops must follow a well-planned design, developed in consultation with all stakeholders, including the Tourism Department, District Administration, and SDA. He assured that this approach would enhance safety and prevent such incidents in future. Highlighting the growing tourism influx in Sonamarg, especially after the opening of the tunnel, the CM underscored the urgent need for a permanent fire service station in the area.

He assured the traders that a permanent fire station would be established, with its location to be finalized in consultation with relevant stakeholders to ensure quick emergency response.

Furthermore, the Chief Minister announced that financial assistance under Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF) for the affected shops has been approved that would provide some succor to the affected persons during this difficult time.

## PSPS GCW Gandhi Nagar hosts awareness lecture on Drug Abuse, its De-Addiction



### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: As part of its ongoing efforts to combat the growing menace of drug abuse, the Hostel Nasha Mukta Abhiyaan Committee of PSPS GCW Gandhinagar Jammu organized a pivotal awareness lecture on drug abuse and its de-addiction.

The event, held at the hostel premises, aimed to sensitize students to the devastating consequences of drug abuse and promote a healthier environment within the institution.

Dr. Nazia Rasool, Convener of the Hostel Nasha Mukta Abhiyaan Committee, delivered a welcome address that underscored the importance of collective action in addressing this critical issue.

## GDC Samba celebrates legacy of Charles Dickens

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: The Department of English of SPPND GDC Samba organized a quiz competition to commemorate the birth anniversary of the legendary English novelist, Charles Dickens. The event aimed to celebrate Dickens literary legacy and enhance students' knowledge of his life and works. Students' from Semester IV and V1 enthusiastically participated in the quiz, which featured questions on Dickens' novels, characters, themes, and contributions to literature shedding light on issues like social inequality, impact of Industrial Revolution child labor, class disparities etc. A very famous Dicken sentiment - 'There is nothing in the world so irresistibly contagious as laughter and good humour' underscores his belief in the transformative power of positivity and its ability to uplift and connect people.

The competition was designed to encourage literary appreciation and critical thinking among students. Speaking on the occasion, Prof. (Dr.) Twinkle Suri Principal of the college exhorted that Charles Dickens, a luminary of Victorian literature, is celebrated for his profound insights into human nature and society.

Four teams each comprising of four students participated in the quiz competition. The winners of the competition were Anuradha Sharma, Kasak Sharma and Tania Katal from Semester IV. The participants of the quiz competition were felicitated with certificates and prizes. The whole event was coordinated by the Quiz Master Dr. Surbhi Malhotra and Tania, a student of Semester V1 under the guidance of Associate. Prof. Samriti Manchanda, HOD English.

## LG greets people on Guru Ravidas Jayanti

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday greeted the people on the occasion of Guru Ravidas Ji Jayanti, which will be celebrated tomorrow.

In a message, the Lieutenant Governor said, "On the auspicious occasion of Sant Guru Ravidas Ji Jayanti, I extend my hearty greetings and best wishes to all.

The life and teachings of Guru Ravidas Ji is an abiding source of inspiration for all of us. Let us re-affirm our commitment to his noble values and ideals and serve the humanity with dedication and devotion".

## Missing woman with her two kids traced out, re-united with family

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Police traced out missing woman alongwith her two kids within weeks time and re-united with her family

A spokesperson of Doda police told that one woman resident of Changa Tehsil Gandoh District Doda had gone missing alongwith her 02 children and her missing report was entered at Police Station Gandoh on Feb 5, 2025. Soon after getting the information regarding her missing, Police swung into action and on the directions of SSP Doda a team was constituted from PS Gandoh under the supervision of SHO PS led by IC PP Changa in search of missing lady. The Police team by using all possible means as well as technical help and after getting some clues about her presence in Jammu, succeeded in tracing her out along with he 02 children from Gumat Area of Jammu city today on 11-02-2025 ie within weeks time. Accordingly, after completing all codal formalities, the lady has been handed over to her family and missing report has been closed.

Principal Dr. S.P. Saraswat commended the committee's initiatives, reaffirming the institution's commitment to fostering a supportive environment that promotes holistic well-being.

The keynote speaker, Dr. Shahnaz Bhatt, Director of the Drug Addiction and Rehabilitation Centre, delivered a comprehensive lecture that elucidated the causes and consequences of drug abuse. Her expert insights highlighted effective strategies for prevention, intervention, and treatment, emphasizing the vital role of professional help and community support.

The program concluded with a vote of thanks by Rehana Rafiq, a student of the institution. This landmark lecture marked a significant milestone in the institution's ongoing efforts to address the critical issue of drug abuse and promote a healthier environment among students.

## Theft accused dies, magistrate inquiry sought

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: An accused namely Suresh Anuragi, son of Vasu Anuragi, resident of Bhillwaha, Naka distt, Chattarpur, Madya Pradesh A/P sec 4 extension, Trikuta Nagar was arrested on Feb 4, 2025 along with two other associates in case FIR no 344/24 u/s 331 (4)/305/238 BNS of Police station Bahu fort.

During the investigation of above case of Burglary, recovery of stolen house hold items like LED, cylinder, Fridge etc was made on the disclosure of accused and he was on police remand in lockup of PS Bahu fort.

Throughout his police remand, his Medical checkup of the accused was conducted regularly (5 times) by the concerned IO/SHO as per SOP.

On Tuesday when he was present in lockup of the police station, he disclosed to Sentry on duty that he is feeling severe pain in his chest and abdomen. Upon this, acting swiftly by SHO concerned, he was immediately shifted to District Police hospital Jammu and his family informed.

Latter he was referred to GMC Jammu at around 1600 hrs for treatment, during the course of treatment in GMC Jammu, he collapsed at about 2130 hrs.

During treatment of the deceased his family was already present with the accused in hospital.

It is pertinent to mention here that deceased was a drug addict and remained in drug de-addiction centre as per his mother.

A request for magistrate inquiry has been raised by DPO Jammu and also intimation sent to NHRC regarding the incident as per provision of law. Moreover request has been placed for post mortem by a board of doctors.

## ASMEA, AEJAK along with JKP, NCC Jammu division organise Road safety awareness rally



### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In an effort towards enhancing community engagement and public outreach, All Sikh Minority Employees Association (ASMEA) /All Employees Joint Association J&K (AEJAK) along with Jammu Police on Tuesday in organized an awareness program on the Road Safety along with New Criminal Laws in collaboration and 2nd JK Girls BN NCC, Jammu.

The event saw a large gathering of students, employees and civil society members at Fateh Singh Gurudwara premises. The aim of the event was the education of students, NCC cadets, employees and civil society members about road safety practices, traffic signals in light on new criminal laws in India.

In addition to this the key provisions and implications of newly enacted laws were

also discussed. A road safety rally was also organized which attracted the attention of bystanders and public about the need to follow good road safety practices. The program was organized by the directions of SSP Jammu, SP South Jammu and SDPO south. Key speakers at the event included DSP probationer Zarqa-DSP probationer Nadiya Farooq and chairperson ASMEA/AEJAK Jagmeet Kour Bali.

## NMOPS-J&K demands reinstatement of Old Pension Scheme



NMOPS State President Mohd Ashraf Sheikh briefing media.

fill its promise made during elections. He reiterated that the entire leadership is tirelessly working to pursue this demand across both Jammu and Kashmir divisions.

The President also voiced strong dissatisfaction with the Unified Pension Scheme(UPS) highlighting its glaring inadequacies and the widespread discontent it

has caused among employees across the Union Territory.

On the occasion, UT Chief Advisor NMOPS and General Secretary JKTF Mir Bashir Ahmad stated that the organization is actively engaging with all stakeholders to push for the resolution of genuine demands, particularly the

## Statue of Pt. Deen Dayal unveiled at BJP headquarters



### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Statue of Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay, a visionary leader, and BJP & Bharatiya Jana Sangha ideologue, was installed and unveiled at J&K BJP headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

Tarun Chugh, BJP National General Secretary & Prabhari of J&K, and Sat Sharma, President, J&K BJP, along with Sunil Sharma, Leader of Opposition, Anirban Ganguly, Director of Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee Research Foundation, Ashok Koul, General Secretary (organization), Kavinder

Gupta, former Dy CM, Ch. Vikram Randhawa, MLA, Priya Sethi, BJP NEM, S. Charanjit Singh Khalsa, and other senior leaders of party unveiled the statue.

Tarun Chugh, while unveiling the statue, said that Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyay was a great thinker who answered various socio-economic and political questions towering before the world, through deep rooted Indian philosophy. He dedicated his whole life to the welfare of mankind and advocated a more humanistic approach to see the world and its issues. He said that the statue of such a great philanthropist,

thinker and ideologist will inspire the future generations.

Sat Sharma, speaking on the occasion, said that Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay was a visionary leader, who played a distinguished role in shaping the Indian political thought. He said that today, the BJP, J&K, has installed and unveiled the statue of Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyay, alongside the previously installed statue of Dr. Shyama Prasad Mookherjee and said that duo guide the needy-centric and ethical approach of BJP.

Rakesh Mahajan, Ayodhya Gupta, Venu Khanna, Anju Dogra, Tilak Raj Gupta, Balbir Ram Rattan, Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, Ankit Gupta, Sanjita Dogra, S. Ranjodh Singh Nalwa, Sunil Prajapati, Rajnish Jain, Sanjay Baru, Naresh Singh Jasrotia, HS Pammi, Vinay Gupta, Neha Mahajan, and Rekha Mahajan and other leaders were also present on the occasion.

## JEE-Main results: 14 candidates bag perfect score in first edition of exam, maximum from Rajasthan

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Fourteen candidates from across the country have bagged perfect score in the first edition of engineering entrance exam JEE-Main 2025 with maximum of them being from Rajasthan, the National Testing Agency (NTA) announced on Tuesday.

Out of the 14 top scorers, 12 are from general category and one each is from OBC and SC categories. While 13 of the toppers are males, one female candidate has also got the top score.

The scores of 39 candidates have not been declared as they were found indulging in unfair means practices, the NTA said.

Among the candidates who secured an NTA score of 100, five are from Rajasthan, two each from Delhi and Uttar Pradesh and one each from Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Telangana and Maharashtra.