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## Martyrdom of CRPF personnel in Shopian; 2 held

### 4 terrorist associates arrested in Pulwama

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Within hours of the martyrdom of a CRPF personnel in Shopian district, police arrested the assailant and recovered the weapon of offence on Sunday. Inspector General of Police (IGP), Kashmir, Vijay Kumar, said an over ground worker (OGW) or a terrorist associate has also been arrested in connection with the case.

Terrorists martyred off-duty CRPF personnel Mukhtar Ahmad at his home in the Check Chotipora area of Shopian in south Kashmir on Saturday evening.

"We have arrested #killer of CRPF personnel. #Weapon of #offence (pistol) recovered on his disclosure. 01 OGW who accompanied him during #terror crime also arrested," the IGP said in a tweet.

He said the crime was committed on the directions of



*In a solemn wreath laying ceremony, led by DIG CRPF P.K Mehra, rich tributes were paid to braveheart Mukhtar Ahmad Doie who was martyred in Shopian.*

Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) commander Abid Ramzan Sheikh.

In a statement later, a police spokesperson identified the alleged assailant as Rukhsar Sadiq Thoker, a resident of Rangmarg-Sedow and an active terrorist.

The weapon of offence -- a pistol -- was also seized from his possession.

"During the course of investigation, he (Thoker) dis-

closed the identity of another terrorist associate, who facilitated him in the commission of the crime. He (the terrorist associate) has been identified as Amir Ahmad Dewan, a resident of Bohrihallan in Shopian, who too was arrested and on his disclosure, a motorcycle used in the commission of the crime was recovered," the spokesperson said.

During further question-

ing, Thoker confessed that he is a close associate of Sheikh, the self-styled commander of the LeT and a hybrid terrorist of the said organisation.

"Furthermore, he revealed that he, along with his associate, had committed the crime on Sheikh's directions in order to create an atmosphere of terror in the area," the spokesperson said.

Investigation in the case is going on and further leads are expected, he added.

Moreover, Police in Pulwama have arrested four terrorist associates affiliated with proscribed terror outfit JeM. During the investigation of case FIR No. 50 and 51 of 2022 of Police Station Pulwama, it was established that four youth were actively associated with proscribed terror outfit JeM and providing logistic support, transportation and other facilities for commission of

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## Modi chairs CCS meeting, reviews India's security preparedness



#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday chaired a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Security to review India's security preparedness and the prevailing global scenario in the context of the ongoing conflict in Ukraine.

An official statement said that Modi was briefed on latest developments and different aspects of India's security preparedness in the border areas as well as in the maritime and air domain.

"The prime minister was also briefed on the latest developments in Ukraine, including the details of Operation Ganga to evacuate Indian nationals, along with some citizens of neighbouring countries, from Ukraine," it said.

Modi directed that all possible efforts should be made to bring back the mortal remains of Naveen Shekharappa, who died in Kharkiv.

Shekharappa, an Indian student studying in Ukraine,

died in shelling following the Russian invasion of the country.

India has been able to evacuate most of its citizens, a large chunk of them students, from the war-hit country.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar were among those who attended the meeting. NSA Ajit Doval and other senior officials also attended the meeting.

## India to resume regular international flights from March 27: Scindia

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

INDORE: Union Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia on Sunday said that regular international flights will resume from March 27 as the coronavirus situation in India has improved now.

Due to the outbreak of COVID -19, scheduled international flight services were suspended on March 23, 2020. However, special international flights have been operating between India and about 35 other countries since July 2020 under air bubble.

"I have already given a direction that restrictions on

international flights, which were imposed due to COVID-19, be lifted," Scindia said on the sidelines of an event here.

"The international flight services would be fully restored from March 27 as they were before the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic," he added.

The minister also said that the Modi government held talks with the heads of Ukraine's neighbouring countries, like Romania, Moldova, Slovakia and Poland, and set up a corridor for the evacuation of 18,000 Indian students from the war-hit country under

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### Three SHOs among six officials transferred

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Jammu, Chandan Kohli transferred four Inspectors and two Assistant Sub Inspectors (ASIs).

According to the order, Inspector Rajesh Khajuria has been transferred from Police Station (P/S) Nowabad and posted as Station House Officer (SHO) Police Station Gharota; Inspector Vijay Kumar Sharma has been transferred from Police Station City and posted as SHO Nowabad; Inspector Rakesh Sharma has been transferred from DPL Jammu and posted as SHO Police Station City while Inspector Khyatiman Khajuria has been transferred from Police Station Gharota and posted to DPL Jammu.

ASI Lek Raj has been transferred from Police Post Mandir Bahu Fort and posted as Incharge Border

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**WEATHER**

Temperature (Jammu)

Max: 29.2°C Min: 14.6°C

Humidity

Max : 79 Min : 49

Temperature (Srinagar)

Max: 22.8°C Min: 5.0°C

Humidity

Max : 76 Min: 35

Sunset : 18:39 Hours

Sunrise : 06:44 Hours

## Udhampur Blast: Installation of CCTV cameras hampered due to lack of ‘will’ not ‘funds’

### In 2018, funds meant for installation of cameras lapsed

#### ■ PARDEEP BAKSHI

UDHAMPUR: 'Where there is a will, there is way' is a true saying. But when there is lack of coordination, development can never take place and remain as a distant dream. In present era of 21st century, it is really shocking that we are still talking about installation of CCTV cameras in Udhampur.

Slathia Chowk blast has acted as an eye-opener for administration, as now, need has been felt to equip all vital Chowks of town with CCTV cameras. It is pertinent to mention here that former Rajya Sabha Member



Shamsher Singh Manhas, on request of local people, had sanctioned funds amounting to Rs 10 Lakh to install much-needed CCTV cameras in Udhampur city in 2018 but it is really shocking that even available funds, after swinging on from one department to another including

PWD, Police and Municipality failed to meet the desired purpose as none of the departments prepared even a DPR to proper utilization of funds to install CCTV cameras in city and at last, the funds lapsed without utilization.

It shows that it was not deficiency of funds because was lack of will in administration that cameras were not installed. Moreover, local leadership, who invariably expressed inadequate understanding and poor

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## CRACKDOWN ON ILLEGAL MINING IN REASI

# 27 vehicles including 9 excavators seized; 9 FIRs registered, 18 arrested

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Acting against mining mafia in Reasi, police on Sunday arrested 18 persons involved in extraction of minor minerals and seized 27 vehicles including 9 excavators from various areas in the district. According to SSP Reasi Amit Gupta, nine FIRs have been registered and investigations have started for detailed probe.

Of nine FIRs, three FIRs 62/22, 63/22 and 64/22 under sections 379 of IPC and 3/4 of Damage to Public Property Act have been registered at Reasi police station.

During the course of investigations, an excavator (JK20B 6727), and two

excavators without numbers, four dumpers (JK19A 0175), (JK02CH 0450), (JK20A 4797) and (JK02BJ 1410) have been seized from Anji Khadd.

The arrested accused were identified as Vijay Kumar, son of Shanker Singh, resident of Sewna Chenani Udhaipur, Suram Chand, son of Girdhari Lal, resident of Bhagga Seela , Arif Khan son of Mohd Iqbal, resident of Kalakot, Rajouri and Mir Hussain, son of Qasam Din, resident of Talwara, Jugal Kumar, son of Diwan Chand, resident of Khinyari and Govind, son of Krishan Lal, resident of Khanyari Tehsil Pouni.

In another act of illegal



*Mining machinery seized from various areas in Reasi District on Sunday.*

mining at Hemma, FIR No 65 has been registered at Police Station Reasi and investigation initiated.

Two Excavators (JK02BJ 3881) and one without number, four Dumpers (JK11A 0533), (JK14C 7526), (JK11C 3224) and (JK02CS 9810) were

seized. The arrested accused included Purab Singh, son of Kartar Singh, resident of Sanghad Tehsil Pouni, Raj Kumar, son of Chaman Lal, resident of Bhamla, Ajit Singh, son of Dharam Singh, resident of Ransoo and Mohd Arif, son of Mohd Amir Khan, resi-

dent of Azmabad Tehsil Mandi, district Poonch.

At Kanthan block, FIR (66/22) was registered at Police Station Reasi. Two Excavators (Earth Movers) and two dumpers (JK20B 5464), (JK20 5169) have been seized while owner and drivers of vehicles

## G&M Deptt intensifies crackdown on illegal mining in Rajouri

RA-JOURI: Intensifying its efforts to crack the whip on illegal mining in the district, the Geology and Mining Department seized two JCBs, one load carrier and one trolley loaded with minor minerals in the last 24 hours.

In line with zero tolerance against illegal mining, the special teams of the Geology and Mining department constituted on the directions of the District Development Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal conducted raids at different locations to curb illegal mining practices in the district.

The teams, under the supervision of DMO, Mohammad Naseeb Bajran, conducted seized two JCBs, a load carrier and a trolley involved in illegal mining.

The District Administration Rajouri is taking effective measures to ensure that only legal mining is done in the minor mineral blocks and check illegal

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namely Kashmir Singh, son of Mohan Singh, resident of Bandrai Sunderbani, Kayam Din, son of Mohd Sharief resident of Latti

Udhampur and Karpal Singh, son of Janak Singh, resident of Bantlab have also

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