

## !! Continuations from Page 1 !!

### Udhampur-Banihal railway...

thing for J-K, he said. The Union railway minister said the Anji bridge will be also completed by August this year and after fine-tuning works, it will be available for commissioning by September this year.

He said 41 segments out of the 47 have already been launched, adding the whole project is very complex.

Crediting Modi for transforming the railways across the country, Vaishnav said this year, the Railways is laying a track of 13 kilometres per day, which is a record.

"This speed of work has been witnessed for the first time after independence under the able leadership of Modi," he said.

He said electric train will be inaugurated in J-K very soon as the electrification work has been completed.

The minister said demands have been received for connecting three areas -- Sopore-Kupwara, Awantipora-Shopian, and Bijbehara-Pahalgam -- with the railway line, and the Railways will discuss it.

"We will discuss this with J-K LG, and then with the Union Home Minister (Amit Shah) and Prime Minister (Narendra Modi)," he added.

He said Modi wants to give the country's and the world's best facilities and infrastructure to J-K. "We are working in that direction."

"He (Modi) is strongly determined to increase and improve the railway network in J-K," Vaishnav said.

The minister also said the railways has started a parcel booking facility in Srinagar, along with the Department of Posts, to send products by booking parcels from here to different parts of the country.

"We will take it up on a large scale in the days to come, especially when the railway line is completed," he said.

Vaishnav said about 750 one station-one product' stalls have been put up at railway stations across the country.

"These stalls have unique products of the area which can be sent to every corner of the country," he added.

There are 146 Gati-Shakti cargo terminals across the country for handling rail cargo and I have directed the officials to develop three to four on the Banihal-Baramulla line, the minister said.

Vaishnav, who is also the minister of Communications and Electronics and Information Technology, said every village and city in J and K will have a telecom facility.

J and K, and Ladakh will have seamless connectivity. About 500 new mobile towers have been sanctioned for Ladakh and soon they will have good 4G/5G connectivity, he added.

### Couple having links...

minimum role or were just following Amritpal Singh on religious sentiments only," said Additional Director General of Police (Law and Order) Arpit Shukla.

Shukla said in a statement that 44 people, who were under preventive custody, were released and handed over to their family members on Friday following a promise of good conduct in future.

### Land-for-jobs...

Maninder Singh, had informed the high court that he would require some time to appear before the CBI investigators due to the ongoing Bihar Assembly session, scheduled to conclude on April 5.

The CBI's counsel, D P Singh, had argued that the Assembly was not convened on Saturdays and Yadav could appear before the agency on any Saturday in March according to his convenience.

Maninder Singh had told the court that Yadav would appear before the investigating officer at the CBI headquarters in Delhi at 10-30 am on March 25.

The RJD leader had sought quashing of the summonses issued against him on February 28, March 4 and March 11.

A special CBI court had already granted bail to Yadav's father Lalu Prasad, mother Rabri Devi, sister Misha Bharti and others in the same case on March 15.

The CBI's probe is part of an ongoing investigation into documents and evidence that came to light after the initial charge sheet was submitted, as well as the alleged involvement of accused persons that could not be completed by the time the initial report was filed.

Officials said that fresh questioning was taking place as part of further investigation based on new inputs gathered during the agency's ongoing probe.

The CBI has alleged that during Lalu Prasad's tenure as railway minister from 2004 to 2009, favourite candidates were appointed in violation of norms and procedures without any advertisement or public notice.

The agency further claimed that substitutes from Patna were appointed in various zonal railways in Mumbai, Jabalpur, Kolkata, Jaipur, and Hazipur. In return, the candidates, directly or through their family members, allegedly sold land to Prasad's family members at highly-discounted rates.

### JKTPO participates in...

Stuffs Import & Suppliers Association (BAFISA) and Abul Kalam Azad -Secretary General, Bangladesh Chemical Importers & Merchant Association.

This event provided the gateway to the Food Processing Companies, Basic Chemical,

Dyes and Pigments, Edible Chemicals sector of India to enter the Bangladesh market. The event was a perfect B2B platform for our manufacturers to showcase their products under one roof in the Bangladesh Market. This event has provided an interactive platform for our delegates to generate business through product displays, direct interaction with the Buyers.

JKTPO in collaboration with TPCL, facilitated the participation of 09 entrepreneurs of J&K from Agro and Food Processing industry for the event from J&K. The J&K exhibitors received very good response from the buyers and around 500+ business lead were generated by them in the event. Products like Saffron, Canned Cherries, Honey, Fresh Fruits, Walnuts, Dry fruits, Aromatic oils, etc received very good response from the buyers.

The participants from J&K received very good response in this B2B event. M.A Khan from Being Well India quoted - "I would like to express my sincerest gratitude for the fantastic event "Source India Bangladesh" that JKTPO organized at Dhaka. It was truly an incredible experience, and I can't thank you enough for all the hard work and effort that went into making it a success". From VKC Nuts Gagan Jain said "The event was well organized and great networking opportunity amongst the companies attending.

Irfan Shiekh from Al Dua Foods said "I made several promising business connections and met several potential business partners. The event provided us the platform to interact with Top food industries of Bangladesh. We networked and shared product samples with most of the participants. We sincerely believe that most of the business meeting will into potential partnership/buyers."

Around 75 Companies from multiple sectors and over the India including Jammu & Kashmir, Maharashtra, Delhi, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu etc. participated in "Source India Bangladesh 2023". Around 500+ Buyers attended the event for their sourcing requirements and networking with Indian exhibitors. Representatives from Bangladeshi companies like Shwapno supermarket, Amana Group, Square Food & Beverages, Pran Group etc. to explore the possibilities of business collaboration in Bangladesh.

### No truck halts...

continuing the momentum of work besides meeting timelines set for completing different sub-projects. He asked them that this Road project is of national importance as it leads to the holy shrine of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi visited by millions of pilgrims every year. He said that the work on such a prestigious project should be given due priority for completing it at the earliest.

Dr Mehta also sensitized the executing agencies about the significance of Uri-Poonch Highway. He told them that the work on this project should be taken in hand at the earliest so that it is also completed on time bringing respite to people besides providing alternate routes between the two divisions of the UT.

As far as the movement of traffic on National Highway is concerned the Chief Secretary directed for ensuring its smooth movement all across the road by properly maintaining the 6 kms difficult stretch between Ramban and Banihal. He advised them to use necessary manpower and machinery efficiently besides exploring a few dry days for traffic to make the travel on this road pleasant and hassle free for all times to come.

The Chief Secretary also took note of the work done on the Srinagar-Pulwama-Shopian-Kulgam Highway (NH-444). He stressed on completing the stretches near all the towns of Shopian, Kulgam and Pulwama so that the road is complete before the onset of Tourism season this year. The highway is going to drastically reduce the time taken for traveling to and fro and to reach Srinagar. He also took stock of the progress made in execution of Srinagar-Baramulla-Uri Highway, Chenani-Sudhmahadev-Goha- Khellani and Akhnoor-Poonch Highways and stressed on their early completion.

He directed the Deputy Commissioners to facilitate the executing agencies in performing their work smoothly. He observed that these highways are directly linked with the economic upliftment of people as the trade and commerce would also see growth by enhanced movement of people. He pointed out that the tourism sector is going to be the biggest gainer by their completion.

Dr Mehta enquired from the executing agencies about the bottlenecks affecting the pace of their work. He instantly passed on directions to the concerned government departments for taking the measures to address them. He made out that both the executing agencies and different government departments should work in coordination with each other and held regular deliberations for resolving issues without wasting time. He asked them to own these significant national projects and show eagerness in seeing them completed well on time. He fixed timelines for each of the road projects for its completion.

### 2 terrorist associates...

Fisheries Farm Bandipora, intercepted two suspected persons, the spokesperson said. During their checking, two Chinese grenades and other incriminating material were recovered.

They were arrested and shifted to a police station where they remain in custody. Accordingly, a case FIR No. 40/2023 under relevant sections of law has been registered at Police Station Bandipora and further investigation has been initiated.

### 1 killed, 6...

are brought here after neutralising them exploded," the SSP said while denying any terror angle in the incidents.

Tosh, however, said that an FIR has been registered in the incident and action will be taken against those found guilty.

The police said the injured are from Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Bishnag,

Ramgarh, Ramnagar and Bari Brahmana.

### ASI awarded one...

complainant persuaded accused, who agreed to accept Rs 500 to settle the issue. The bribe was agreed to be paid on September 19, 2008. However, the complainant lodged a complaint with VOK (now ACB) and accordingly a team of officers arrested the accused public servant ASI Mushtaq Ahmad Shah red-handed while demanding and accepting bribe. The tainted money was also recovered from his possession.

Special Judge Anti-Corruption Srinagar C L Bavoria, after hearing Sajad Ahmad Mir for accused whereas Special Public Prosecutor Ghulam Jeelani for ACB, observed that the accused has misused his official position to gain pecuniary benefit and thus committed an offence of criminal misconduct under section 5(2) d of J&K PC Act. "Prosecution has succeeded in proving charges section 5(2) d of J&K PC Act and under section 161 of RPC against accused and accordingly, this Court convicts accused of the charge and keeping in view the facts and circumstances of case, accused Mushtaq Ahmad Shah is sentenced to undergo simple imprisonment of one year and a fine of Rs. 10,000 (Rupees ten thousands) under each offence. In case of default in payment of fine, the accused shall undergo further imprisonment for one month under each offence," the Court directed.

### Double Delight: Nitu...

performance to see off Mongolia's Lutsaikhan Altansetseg 5-0 and claim the title in the minimum weight category in front of a packed crowd, with Beijing Olympics bronze medalist and Nitu's idol Vjender Singh also present.

Saweety made it two out of two for the hosts as she warded off a challenge from two-time medalist China's Wang Lina.

In the first bout of the day, Nitu started off aggressively and used her combination of punches to land jabs and hooks effectively.

The 22-year-old Bhiwani boxer was able to take the first round 5-0. She began the second round with a series of straight jabs.

When Altansetseg attacked, the Indian southpaw countered with right hooks. The two boxers played from a close range and indulged in a lot of holding in a fast-paced bout with Nitu being given a penalty deduction for clinching towards the end of the second round.

Despite Altansetseg's strong comeback in the round, Nitu still managed to take it 3-2.

In the final three minutes, Nitu started from afar but soon ditched the strategy and reverted to playing from a close range, as Altansetseg was also given a point deduction for clinching.

Nitu has been in indomitable form in the tournament, winning her first three bouts by RSC (referee stops contest).

Against Alua Balkibekova, who knocked her out in the last edition in the quarterfinal stage, she skilfully adapted to negate the Kazakh's strong suit.

"I had decided to play aggressively today before the bout and I feel very happy (after the victory). I am proud of myself and my family and would like to thank my coaches, especially my head coach Bhaskar sir," Nitu said.

"This medal means a lot to me. I have worked for this for 12 years. My family's financial problems will be solved after this victory. We will use the prize money to pay off our loans," added Nitu, whose father took three years leave from work to support his daughter.

Fighting the last bout of the day, Saweety, the 2014 silver medalist, was able to change the colour of her medal.

The Haryana boxer looked to attack as soon as the match started but couldn't connect any of her punches as Wang used her sharp reflexes to dodge. But then Saweety connected a strong straight jab to the delight of the crowd. She continued to attack to edge out her opponent 3-2 in the first two rounds.

It was an ugly bout as both boxers were clinching and trying to throw each other on the canvas.

In the third, Saweety mixed attack with defence. She ducked, dodged and sidestepped, avoiding Wang's punches to take the round 4-1.

The bout was sent for a review with Saweety emerging on top.

"I am thrilled after fulfilling my dream of becoming the world champion. The bout went well and I was able to execute my planning perfectly. My performance in the tournament got better as the bouts progressed, with my body also responding well," the triumphant Saweety said.

This title can be considered Saweety's revival because, after winning the Worlds and Asian silver in 2014 and 2015, she fell off the radar. She missed out on a chance to compete at the Tokyo Olympics as well. She then went on to win the Asian Championships bronze in 2021 followed by the gold in 2022.

The two join an elite list that includes six-time champion Mary Kom (2002, 2005, 2006, 2008, 2010 and 2018), Sarita Devi (2006), Jenny RL (2006), Lekha KC (2006) and Nikhat Zareen (2022).

Hosts India are on course to match their best-ever performance in terms of gold medals won with reigning champion Nikhat Zareen and Olympic medalist Lovlina Borgohain set to take the ring on Sunday.

India had won four golds in the 2006 edition which they had hosted in Delhi. It was also their best performance in terms of total medals (8).

### Tehsildar Darhal suspended...

Additional Deputy Commissioner (Nowshera) Kartar Singh has been appointed as inquiry officer and directed to submit a detailed report within 15 days.

## CRIME REPORT

### 2 burglary cases solved; 2 arrested, stolen properties recovered

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BARAMULLA: Police on Saturday solved 2 burglary cases in Baramulla by arresting two accused and recovered stolen properties from their possession.

As per details, on March 24, 2023, Police Station Kreeri received a complaint from one Bashir Ahmad Wani, son of Gh Hassan Wani, resident of Kreeri Baramulla stating therein that during Friday prayers, some unknown burglars entered his shop and stole cash amounting to Rs 30,000. Accordingly, a case under relevant sections of law was registered at Police Station Kreeri and investigation started. During investigation, taking help of technical and human resources, names of some suspects surfaced, among which Syed Zaffar Shah, son of Syed Muzaffar Shah, resident of Yakhanpora Pattan was called for questioning. During questioning, he confessed crime and on his disclosure, stolen cash was recovered.

Meanwhile in another similar incident, a party of Police Post Palhallan received complaint on December 23, 2022 from one Bashir Ahmad Yatoo, son of Gh Mohd Yatoo, resident of Yadipora Pattan stating therein that during intervening night of December 22-23, 2022, some unknown burglars broke open locks of his shop and decamped with tea bags, cigarette boxes etc. FIR No. 340/2022 under relevant sections of law was registered and investigation was initiated, during which investigating officers zeroed in on a suspect identified as Faizan Ahmad Gogri alias Pita son of Mohd Ramzan Gogri resident of Gogri Mohalla Palhallan. During questioning, officers learnt about his involvement in crime. On his disclosure, stolen property was also recovered. Both accused were arrested and shifted to respective police stations where they remained in custody.

### 3 drug peddlers arrested; contraband recovered

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BARAMULLA/KULGAM: Continuing its efforts to eradicate menace of drugs from the society, Police on Saturday arrested 3 drug peddlers and recovered contraband substances from their possession.

In Baramulla, a party of Police Post Mirgund at a checkpoint established at Cheek Razak Khan Mirgund arrested a drug pedler identified as Shakoor Ahmad Parray son of Abdul Rehman Parray resident of Rambirgarh, Srinagar. During search, 90 gm Charas was recovered from his possession. He was shifted to police station where he remained in custody. Meanwhile, a party of Police Post Wussan at a checkpoint established at Goshbugh Pattan arrested a drug peddler identified as Mudasar Hussain Batoo, son of Ghulam Hassan Batoo. During search, 75 gm Charas was recovered from his possession. He was shifted to police station where he remained in custody.

In Kulgam, a party of Police Station Kulgam at a checkpoint established at Kaharwat crossing intercepted a suspect who after noticing police party tried to flee was apprehended tactfully. Identified as Javed Ahmad Rather son of Abdul Hamid Rather resident of Sungus, officers recovered 120 gm Charas from possession of accused, who was arrested and shifted to

Police Station Kulgam where he remained in custody.

Meanwhile in another action, a police party led by SHO Police Station Devsar during patrolling intercepted a suspect carrying a nylon bag who after noticing police party left the bag and flee from the spot. His was later identified as Mohammad Ashraf Malik son of Abdul Rahman Malik resident of Malwan. On search of bag, 5 Kg Ganja was recovered. Moreover, efforts are on to effect his arrest. Cases under relevant sections of law were registered and investigations started.

### SPO arrested for drug peddling in Doda

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BHADARWAI: Continuing drive to tighten noose over drug peddlers under operation 'Sanjeevani', Doda Police arrested a Special Police Officer (SPO) for his involvement in drug peddling in Doda town. While giving details, SSP Doda Abdul Qayoom said that it was learnt through reliable sources that one Javed Ahmed, son of Mohd Shafi, resident of Hamdanpur; Doda used to keep drugs/ cannabis in his possession and was selling the same to youth in Doda. "Acting on specific information, a party from Police Post DH Doda apprehended the accused. During search, cannabis like substance was recovered from his possession," said SSP Doda. "On enquiry, it was found that accused is serving as Special Police officer (SPO) and presently posted in DPL Doda," said SSP, adding that FIR No 53/2023 under relevant provisions of law was registered at Police Station Doda and investigation started. "Further interrogation of accused SPO is going on to ascertain his links/nexus with other drug peddlers in the area," officer informed.

### Husband-wife dies in mishap

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: A couple died in a road mishap in Chenani area on Saturday. According to information, a Maruti car (JK19-2966) going from Ramban towards Jammu, on reaching near Prem Mandir, met with an accident as the driver lost control over the vehicle. The driver of vehicle identified as Rohit Kumar Vaidya (45), son of Rajindra Kumar, resident of Maitran, Ramban and his wife identified as Manju Devi (45) died on the spot. As soon as local people came to know about the mishap, they immediately informed Chenani police which rushed to the spot and shifted bodies to Chenani Hospital for postmortem. Police has started investigating the cause by registering FIR No. 50/2023 under sections 279/304A of IPC.

### Man dies of electrocution

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATRA: An man died due to electrocution near a bathroom of municipality located at Bus Stand Katra.

According to information, a person, identified as Girdhari Lal (40), son of Kashmir Chand, resident of Mand, Udhampur was passing near bathroom located at Katra Bus-stand and suddenly got electrocuted, due to which he fainted. As soon as local people came to know about it, they immediately informed police and victim was immediately taken to Katra CHC, where doctors declared him as brought dead.

### Body found in suspicious conditions

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A body of a person was in suspicious conditions in Bari Brahmana area on Saturday. According to information, people saw a person lying unconscious in Teli Basti area and

informed police, which rushed to the spot and shifted it to hospital, where doctors declared him as brought dead. Nothing was recovered from him possession regarding his identity. Police said that investigation is going on.

### Absconder arrested after 4 years

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

DODA: Police on Saturday arrested an absconder who was evading arrest for last four years. According to information, police got information that an absconder had come in the area. Acting on information, the police team raided the spot and arrested absconder, who was identified as Sartaj Ahmed, resident of Korigam. A case was registered against him in 2018.

### 20 bovines rescued, smugglers flee

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

AKHNOOR: Police on Saturday rescued 20 bovines by foiling a bovine smuggling bid. As per details, during intervening night of March 24-25, at around 3 AM during Naka checking, a party of Police Post Chowki Choura (Akhnoor) intercepted one LP Truck Tralla (JK02AR/ 8759) driven by an unknown driver loaded with 20 bovines. The vehicle was on its way towards Rajouri. In this regard, cognizance was taken, animals were rescued and vehicle was seized. The driver of the vehicle along with his helper fled away from the spot taking advantage of darkness. FIR under relevant sections was registered at Police Station Akhnoor.

## Disqualify me for life, put me in jail; but will keep fighting for democracy: Rahul Gandhi

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: A combative Rahul Gandhi on Saturday said he would continue to defend democracy in the country even if he is disqualified from Parliament for life or jailed and claimed that a "panic-stricken" government has handed the Opposition a "big weapon" by disqualifying him.

Addressing his first press conference after his disqualification from the Lok Sabha, Gandhi claimed that the action against him was taken because Prime Minister Narendra Modi was "scared" of his next speech in Parliament on the Adani issue and alleged that the "whole game" was to distract people from the issue and the panic the government was feeling over the matter.

He said he would continue to ask questions on the Adani issue, adding the moot questions remain that who invested Rs 20,000 crore in Adani shell



firms and what is the businessman's relationship with the prime minister. He vowed he will keep raising these questions. Gandhi was disqualified from the Lok Sabha on Friday, a day after a court in Gujarat's Surat convicted him in a 2019 defamation case. The disqualification will bar Gandhi (52), a four-time MP, from contesting polls for eight years unless a higher court stays his conviction. Asserting that "democracy has finished in this country", the former Congress chief claimed that he never sought

## 'Include, bifurcate registered Doda Migrants at par with Kashmiri Migrants'

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Doda Migrants urged Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner Relief Organisation (M) for Inclusion and bifurcation of registered Doda Migrant at par with Kashmiri Migrants. "Our students are facing difficulties in admission/professional courses due to the reason that they are not included in ration cards and with regard to other benefits which are available for other people, we have been ignored and left behind in the schemes like Ladli Beti, etc," Zila Doda Migrants Welfare Committee members said

during a protest here on Saturday.

"We are not entitled to the benefit of Ayushman Bharat scheme, a health insurance scheme and our children are not included on Ration Card, hence Domicile Certificates are not issued to them as of now," they said adding that their children are facing difficulties for any Govt job and even applying for them. They requested Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner Relief Organisation (M) to give sympathetic consideration to their request so that they don't feel further discrimination.

scared of my next speech. I have seen it in his eyes. So he is terrified of the next speech that is going to come and does not want that speech to be in Parliament," the former Congress chief alleged at the 30-minute press conference, flanked by Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, Chhattisgarh CM Bhupesh Baghel and party general secretaries Jairam Ramesh and K C Venugopal.

He claimed that his attack on Adani was the reason for distraction through allegations and now disqualification.

Hitting back, BJP leader Ravi Shankar Prasad rubbished the contention that Gandhi's conviction in a defamation case and his subsequent disqualification was linked to the latter raising the Adani Group issue and his conviction has come in a defamation case for his defamatory remarks made in 2019.