

!! Continuations from Page 1 !! Skiing in country...

he said, appreciating their determination and resilience in overcoming the tough conditions to deliver commendable performances.

Reiterating Gulmarg's status as the Winter Sports Capital of India, CM Omar Abdullah emphasized that the promotion and development of skiing in the country originated from Gulmarg.

He then traced the evolution of Gulmarg's sports infrastructure, mentioning the development of chairlifts and the Gondola Phase 2 project.

"The initial infrastructure at Gulmarg dates back to the British era, but what we have today is still not sufficient to meet the growing demands of winter sports and tourism," he stated.

The CM underscored the need to upgrade Gulmarg's sports facilities, citing examples of Central Asian countries like Uzbekistan, which have developed world-class skiing infrastructure that now attracts international skiers-including those who previously visited Gulmarg.

"If we wish to position ourselves as a global winter sports destination, we must invest in infrastructure enhancement," he stressed. Speaking about the recent inauguration of the Sonamarg Tunnel by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the CM described it as a game-changer for tourism and sports in the region. "Sonmarg is now another glorious tourism and sports destination. We also plan to develop skiing facilities there," he announced.

Looking ahead, the CM envisioned using eco-friendly artificial snow technology to ensure that the Khelo India Winter Games can be held as early as December and January, thereby expanding the winter sports season.

Referring to the assurance given by Union Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya to J&K Sports Minister Satish Sharma, CM Omar Abdullah expressed gratitude for any assistance the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports could provide.

He also emphasized that sports infrastructure should not be limited to mainstream games like cricket and football, which require spacious grounds.

"Emerging sports like Pickleball are attracting young players, and these require minimal space. We must diversify our sports infrastructure," he suggested.

The CM outlined his government's commitment to developing sports infrastructure in every village, ensuring that youth have opportunities to engage in sports.

"Our youth are being diverted toward the wrong paths. We want them to be actively engaged in sports and make Jammu and Kashmir a sports hub-whether it's for traditional sports, adventure sports, or winter sports," he declared. He further revealed that during the presentation of the J&K Budget in the Assembly, he had allocated significant funds for sports development.

"Over the next four and a half years, our government aims to bring a transformative change in the sports sector," he affirmed.

The Chief Minister extended an invitation to Union Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya, inviting him and his family to visit Gulmarg and other tourist destinations in J&K. He also thanked the athletes for their participation, acknowledging their dedication and commitment despite the short notice for the commencement of the 5th Khelo India Winter Games.

Minister for Youth Services and Sports, Satish Sharma, emphasized that hosting the Khelo India Winter Games in Gulmarg was in line with PM Modi's vision.

"There is a need for improving infrastructure to give a seamless experience to the sports persons and officials. Such events help locals earn livelihood."

MLA Gulmarg Farooq Ahmad Shah highlighted the economic potential of upgrading skiing infrastructure.

"Kashmir can be the Switzerland of Asia. Gulmarg has the potential to attract lakhs of tourists. However, this resort needs at least 10 chairlifts for the skiers. If we upgrade the skiing infrastructure in Gulmarg and Kongdoori, we can attract lakhs of skiers, and our country can earn huge foreign exchange."

The event witnessed presence of Nasir Aslam Wani, Advisor to the Chief Minister; Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Sarmad Hafiz, Commissioner of Youth Services & Sports; Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir; Minga Sherpa, Deputy Commissioner, Baramulla; and Nuzhat Gul, Secretary, J&K Sports Council.

Run for fun...

movement shall remain restricted on the marathon route during the movement of Marathon participants.

All kind of vehicles from City South bound for Bagh-e-Bahu/ Bawe Temple shall be diverted from Bikram Chowk towards Dogra Chowk and shall follow the route from Dogra Chowk - Fortune Rivera Cut - Maharaja Hari Singh Park - Gujjar Nagar Bridge - Bawe Temple during Jammu Marathon.

Vehicles coming from Gujjar Nagar bound for Bikram Chowk shall be diverted from Gujjar Nagar Bridge towards Dogra chowk via Vivekananda Chowk for their destination.

All PSVs bound for Bagh-e-Bahu shall be diverted from Dogra Chowk towards Fortune Rivera Cut and further towards Gujjar Nagar Bridge via Hari Singh Park and towards their destination. However, the traffic movement from Gujjar Nagar Bridge towards Bawe Temple shall remain restricted during the movement of marathon participants.

LMVs coming from Nagrota towards Sidhra shall be diverted from TCP Nagrota towards Manda and shall not be allowed towards Sidhra during the Jammu Marathon.

All vehicles coming from Samba/ Kathua bound for Nagrota shall be diverted towards Satwari Chowk from Kunjwani Chowk towards Nagrota via Bikram Chowk - Vigilance Rotary - Manda.

All vehicles coming from Kunjwani, Greater Kailash, Chowadhi, Channi Himmat shall be diverted at Narwal towards RTO Cut/ Railway Crossing/ B.R Anbedkar Chowk.

The General Public has been requested to plan accordingly as per diversions during the Jammu Marathon.

For any traffic related assistance the General Public can contact TCU Jammu 0191-2459048, 94191-47732.

Meanwhile, the department has also issued advisory for Holi- the festival of colours being celebrated on March 14, 2025

"As Holi will be celebrated with great enthusiasm in Jammu City also and keeping in view the traffic scenario, the general public especially the motorists are informed that no wrong parking/ road side parking would be allowed anywhere for the celebration of the festival which causes unnecessary jamming and congestion," Traffic Police Jammu handout stated.

Further, all the motorists have been informed that strict action shall be taken against Drunken driving, overspeeding, Stunt biking, reckless driving, Dangerous Driving, without Crash Helmet. "Special focus will be on Stunt biking, motorists are informed not to perform stunt biking which endangers their life as well as of other people. In addition, the event organizers of Holi festival in City Jammu have been advised to follow traffic rules and regulations during the event to maintain safe and hassle-free movement of traffic during the celebration of festival.

In case of any exigency and for any traffic related assistance people can contact Traffic Control Unit (TCU) Jammu on 0191-2459048, 94191-47732 numbers.

Army, IAF conduct...

and rapid troop extraction, ensuring that personnel were prepared for complex missions requiring agility and strategic decision-making.

The training provided an opportunity for both forces to rehearse real-time battlefield contingencies, improving reaction time and enhancing the overall preparedness, he said.

He said the Army and the IAF continue to invest in joint training initiatives, enhancing their ability to conduct multi-domain operations in varied terrains.

This synergised interoperability exercise reaffirmed their commitment to maintaining a high state of operational readiness, ensuring that both forces remain well prepared to safeguard national security and respond to emerging threats effectively, the spokesman said.

Modi receives Mauritius'...

for being conferred the Highest National Award of Mauritius. This is not just my honour. It is the honour of 1.4 billion Indians. It is a tribute to the centuries-old cultural and historical bonds of kinship between India and Mauritius," Modi said.

Through their hard work, these people wrote a golden chapter in the development of Mauritius and contributed to its vibrant diversity, he said.

"I accept this award with full humility and gratitude. I dedicate it to your ancestors who came from India to Mauritius centuries ago, and to all their generations," he said.

"The award is an acknowledgement of our shared commitment to regional peace, progress, security and sustainable development. It is a symbol of the shared hope and aspiration of the Global South," he said.

"I also embrace this honour as a responsibility. I reaffirm our commitment that we will continue to make every effort to enhance India-Mauritius strategic partnership to greater heights," he said.

During the National Day celebrations, an Indian Navy marching contingent participated in the parade. An Indian Naval Ship also made a port call to coincide with the National Day celebrations.

"Honoured to attend the National Day celebrations of Mauritius! Wishing the people of Mauritius continued prosperity and success as we also strengthen the deep-rooted ties between our countries," Modi posted on X.

Mauritian Prime Minister Navinchandra Ramgoolam on Tuesday announced that Modi will be conferred with the nation's highest honour.

Modi is the fifth foreign national to receive this distinguished recognition.

This marks the 21st international award conferred upon Prime Minister Modi by a foreign nation.

Prime Minister Modi along with Ramgoolam on Wednesday jointly inaugurated the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Public Service and Innovation in Mauritius.

It will serve as a hub for learning, research and public service.

"Committed partners in education & capacity building. PM @narendramodi & PM @Ramgoolam_Dr jointly inaugurated the India-assisted Civil Service College in Reduit, Mauritius. As a tribute to his legacy & efforts to strengthen India-Mauritius relations, the institute has been named after former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee," Ministry of External Affairs Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal posted on X.

"The institute is a Centre of Excellence for enhancing training opportunities for Mauritian civil servants. The PM also engaged with ITEC (Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Programme) & GoI scholarship alumni, whose contributions continue to strengthen the India-Mauritius partnership," he said.

Funded through a grant of USD 4.74 million under a 2017 MoU, the state-of-the-art institute will cater to the training needs of Mauritian civil servants across ministries, public offices, parastatal bodies, and government enterprises. Beyond training, the institute would serve as a centre of excellence in public administration, fostering research, governance studies, and institutional linkages with India, Press Information Bureau said in a statement.

These capacity building exchanges have added depth to the strong people-to-people ties between the two nations, it said.

Aligned with India's commitment to the Global South, the institute reflects India's role as a trusted partner in the Indian Ocean Region and its unwavering commitment to strengthening the comprehensive India-Mauritius partnership, it added.

Chugh hails crackdown...

the way for economic and infrastructural growth.

Praising the relentless efforts of security forces, Chugh said that Pakistan-backed extremist networks must be uprooted entirely to ensure lasting peace. He reaffirmed that Jammu & Kashmir's prosperity will not be held hostage by the nefarious designs of Pakistan's ISI and its proxies.

Chugh stressed that national unity and security remain the topmost priorities under PM Modi's leadership. The Home Ministry's firm decision reinforces the government's unwavering commitment to crushing anti-national elements and ensuring that those conspiring against India's sovereignty face stringent action, he added.

He said that under the strong leadership of PM Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah, India will continue to dismantle terror networks and uphold the nation's unity and integrity against all threats.

Criticizing the DMK and other parties in the INDIA bloc, Tarun Chugh accused them of making misleading statements about the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

Chugh emphasized that NEP 2020 is the first education policy in India that prioritizes education in the mother tongue, ensuring that students receive quality education in their native language.

"Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, this is the first education policy that promotes learning in the mother tongue, empowering students with a deeper understanding of concepts," Chugh stated.

He accused the DMK and the INDIA bloc of spreading false narratives about the policy for political gains.

"This education policy encourages learning in one's mother tongue to provide students with the best possible education. However, DMK and other parties in the INDIA alliance are deliberately distorting facts to mislead the public in an attempt to save their declining political relevance. The people are now demanding answers from them for their actions," he added.

Chugh reaffirmed the BJP's commitment to strengthening the education system by making it more inclusive and accessible through the implementation of NEP 2020.

Terming the court's decision against Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal as a clear indication that the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) is now facing the consequences of its misdeeds, Tarun Chugh stated that the verdict is a strong message that corruption and deceit have no place in Indian politics.

Reacting to the court's ruling, Chugh accused Kejriwal and his party of misleading the people of Delhi while indulging in rampant corruption and unethical governance.

"AAP and its leadership are now paying the price for their sins. For years, they claimed to be the champions of honesty and transparency, but their reality has been exposed. The law is finally catching up with them," he said.

Chugh alleged that AAP leaders had built their political careers on false promises, deception, and misuse of public funds. He said that Kejriwal's government has been involved in multiple scams, including the liquor policy case, which has brought the party under serious legal scrutiny.

"Instead of delivering good governance, Kejriwal's party was busy filling its own pockets. The people of Delhi have been betrayed, and now the judiciary is holding them accountable," he added.

He reiterated that the BJP remains committed to fighting corruption and ensuring that those who misuse public trust are brought to justice.

"India is moving towards a corruption-free governance model under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and this verdict is a step in that direction," he said.

Speaker constitutes Business...

Yousuf Tarigami, MLA; Gulam Ahmad Mir, MLA; Sajad Gani Lone, MLA; Mir Mohammad Fayaz, MLA and Choudhary Mohammad Akram, MLA.

Army personnel injured...

soldier was given first aid before being evacuated to military hospital Udhampur for specialised treatment.

The cause of the firing was under investigation, the officials said.

They said an explosion was also reported along the zero line in the area around 6 am followed by three rounds of gunfire.

However, there was no immediate report of any casualty in the blast, the cause of which is not known immediately, the officials said.

Old enmity turns into murder, accused arrested in six hours

JAMMU: Old enmity turned into murder in Shakti Nagar area however police has arrested accused in six hours.

A First Information Report (FIR) has been registered at Police Station Bakshi Nagar against four accused of assaulting a family in Shakti Nagar, Jammu.

According to the complaint filed by Sanjay Kumar, son of Madan Lal, the accused persons - Ashok Kumar, Sahil Badiyal, Aman Badiyal, and Rishi - entered his residence on February 2, 2025, around 7:30 pm, with the intention to kill him and his family members. The accused allegedly attacked Sanjay and his father, Madan Lal, with baseball bats and lathis, resulting in serious injuries to Madan Lal.

They also throw Madan Lal, father of the complainant from the roof top of their house resulting serious injuries to Madan Lal who was later shifted to GMC Hospital in injured condition. Later Madan Lal succumbed to his injuries.

The police earlier registered the case under sections 333, 109, and 3(5) of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sahita (BNSS). But later Police station Bakshi Nagar informed section for murder and arrested all the accused persons immediately.

Carry forwarding investigation, SHO Bakshi Nagar preserved the scene of crime and called FSL and Crime team on the spot to collect all tangible evidences for ensuring water-tight prosecution.

The crime scene was video-graphed through e-Sakshya app and statement of witnesses was also recorded on the spot. Section 105 BNSS mandates recording of evidences through audio-visual means. The police assure that a thorough investigation will be conducted, and appropriate action will be taken against the accused persons ensuring their conviction for the crime committed by them.

Jammu police recovers 51 missing mobile phones

JAMMU: ESU team of SP Rural Office Jammu recovered 51 mobile phones, missing reports of these mobile phones were lodged by people in different Police Stations/Police Posts of Rural zone Jammu. As the report of missing mobile phones reached ESU unit through Concerned SHOs/ICPPs.

ESU unit of SP Rural office Jammu were assigned the task of tracing out the missing mobile phones and with the sincere efforts of ESU team under the close guidance and supervision of SP Rural Jammu, Brijesh Sharma-JKPS, 51 missing mobile phones were traced out from various Districts of UT of J&K. The estimated cost of these recovered mobile phones is approximately Rs 10-10.5 lakhs and with the recovery of these mobile phones many mobile missing reports has been closed.



Police recovers stolen Tata Mobile

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a prompt and effective operation, Jammu Police recovered a stolen Tata Mobile in the Domana area.

The incident came to light when Vikas Mehra, son of Chaman Lal Mehra, a resident of Santra Morh, Pouchchak, Jammu, lodged a written complaint at Police Post Pouni Chak on March 9, 2025.

Mehra reported that his Tata Mobile (Registration No. JK02AB-4710) had been stolen, prompting the police to register a case under FIR No. 67/25 under Section 303(2) BNS and launch an intensive investigation.

A police team from PP Pouni Chak, under the command of SHO Domana, worked relentlessly to track down the culprit.

Their efforts led to the arrest of notorious thief Mohd Akram alias Akkri, son of Mohd Qazi, a resident of Kherain Gole Gujral, Jammu. Following his disclosure during interrogation, the police recovered the stolen vehicle.

Bike lifter arrested with stolen bike

STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: Police has arrested an accused person involved in a theft case registered at Police Station Vijaypur and recovered stolen bike from his possession.

As per report, on February 17, 2025, a written report was lodged at Police Station Vijaypur by one Jarnail Singh, son of Partab Singh, resident of Vijaypur regarding theft of his motorcycle Hero Splender bearing registration No. JK21F-5938 from Hospital Vijaypur.

Acting over the complaint, a case FIR No. 22/2025 under Section 303(2) BNS was registered at PS Vijaypur and investigation started.

During the course of investigation, a police team headed by SHO PS Vijaypur after hectic efforts coupled with technical analysis has rounded up suspect namely Mohd Saleem, son of Mohd Munshi, resident of Beli Charana district Jammu who upon sustained questioning confessed his involvement in the instant case.

The said accused has been arrested and stolen bike has been recovered from his possession. Further investigation of case is going on.

Bovine smuggling bid foiled, vehicle seized

STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: Continuing its drive against the bovine smugglers and their propagators, Samba Police on Wednesday foiled bovine smuggling attempt, rescued three bovines from the clutches of bovine smugglers in the jurisdiction of Police Station Samba.

The vehicle used for illegal transportation of bovines was also seized.

As per report, an information was received at Police Station Samba from reliable sources regarding smuggling of bovines in a Bolero Maxx Pik-up bearing registration No. JK02DK-3980 coming from Kathua side, a Police team headed by SHO Police Station Samba successfully intercepted the aforesaid vehicle near Nanke Chak Samba for its checking.

During checking, three bovines found inside the vehicle which were tied in a cruel manner and were being transported illegally without any valid permission. All the rescued bovines have been shifted to a safer place.

A case FIR No. 64/2025 under Section 223 BNS, 11 PCA has been registered at Police Station Samba and investigation started.

Jammu Police launches special drive against public smoking

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a bid to curb public smoking and protect innocent citizens, especially women and children, from the harmful effects of second-hand smoke, the Sub Division City West Jammu launched a special drive today under the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003 (COTPA).

During the drive, a total of 33 people were challaned and fined for smoking in public places. Janipur led the charge, issuing challans to 23 individuals, while Bakshi Nagar fined 10 smokers.

The special drive aimed to raise awareness about the hazards of public smoking and the importance of adhering to the COTPA regulations. The initiative also sought to protect non-smokers, particularly women and children, from the adverse effects of second-hand smoke.

2 notorious drug peddlers arrested, heroin seized

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Continuing crackdown on drug trafficking, Jammu Police apprehended a suspected drug peddler during routine patrolling in the Asrarabad area of Sidhra. The suspect, who was moving towards Sidhra, attempted to flee upon spotting the police but was swiftly caught by the alert team.

The accused has been identified as Mohd Ashraf Khatana, son of Haji Shokat Khatana, resident of Asrarabad, Sidhra. Upon conducting a search, police recovered 08.37 grams of heroin (Chitta) from his possession.

Following the seizure, a case under the NDPS Act has been registered at Police Station Nagrota, and further investigations are underway to uncover potential links to a larger drug network. Police party of Police Station Miran Sahib led by SHO Miran Sahib Inp Jai Paul Sharma, during naka checking apprehended one Ajit Singh S/o Kirpal Singh, resident of Ward No. 1, Simbal Camp, Miran Sahib, Tehsil RS Pura and 5.63 grams of heroin were recovered from his possession.

On this case FIR No.34/2025 U/S 8/21/22 NDPS stands registered at Police Station and the investigation is in Progress. This arrest is part of the police's ongoing efforts to combat drug abuse and peddling in the region.

The operation, led by SHO Police Station Miran Sahib Sh. Jai Paul Sharma was executed under the supervision of SDPO R.S. Pura and SP Headquarters Jammu.

Crackdown on traffic violators: 23 vehicles seized, 24 Challaned

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a major enforcement drive, Jammu Police, in collaboration with the Regional Transport Office (RTO) and Revenue Department, conducted a Joint Naka at Kotli Shah Doula near Mandir to crack down on traffic violators. The team, led by Tehsildar R.S. Pura Chander Shekhar, ARTO Sh. Mohd Saleem, and officials from Police Station R.S. Pura, took strict action against offenders under various provisions of the law.

As a result of the extensive checking, ARTO Sh. Mohd Saleem seized 13 vehicles and issued 19 challans, imposing fines totaling ₹1,30,000. Additionally, Police Station R.S. Pura seized 10 vehicles and challaned 5 others, bringing the total number of traffic violators booked to 47. The violations ranged from overloading and permit breaches to reckless driving and non-compliance with safety norms.

The seized vehicles included matadors, cars, motorcycles, scooters, and tractors, highlighting the widespread nature of traffic violations. The authorities emphasized that such enforcement drives are necessary to curb road safety risks and ensure strict adherence to traffic laws. The joint effort reflects a commitment to maintaining discipline on the roads and safeguarding commuters.

Crackdown on vagrants near Chitta hotspot continue; 20 vagrants detained, sent to District Jail Kathua

STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: Continuing crackdown on vagrants wandering near chitta hotspot on second day, Samba Police has detained twenty (20) more vagrants under preventive sections of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) in the jurisdiction of Police Station Bari Brahmana and sent them to district Jail Kathua. A Police team from Police Station Bari Brahmana headed by SHO PS Bari Brahmana during special operation around infamous chitta hotspot Balole Khad Bari Brahmana, detained twenty vagrants wandering suspiciously in the area. The detained vagrants have been identified as Ajit Kumar, Deepak Maharana, Ajay Kumar, Balwinder Singh, Davinder Singh, Lakahan Kalsi, Vicky Kumar, Binder Singh, Sanjeev Kumar, Jasbir Singh, Gurpreet Singh, Ravi Kumar, Tikka Singh, Vishal Matto, Ankush Sharma, Anil Kumar, Vikash Bhagat, Sunny Choudhary, Ashwani Kumar and Mohan Lal. This move aims to curb drug-related offenses and rehabilitate those involved in narcotics substance abuse.

CCIU Kishtwar recovers Rs 10 lakh in online fraud cases

STATE TIMES NEWS

KISHTWAR: Cybercrime Investigation Unit of J&K Police, under the supervision of SSP Kishtwar Sh. Javaid Iqbal Mir-JKPS, and led by PSI Moin Khan, has successfully recovered ₹10,26,100 (Ten Lakh Twenty-Six Thousand One Hundred) in various online fraud cases. Since its establishment, the Cybercrime Investigation Unit Kishtwar has recovered a cumulative amount of ₹82,77,195 (Eighty-Two Lakh Seventy-Seven Thousand One Hundred Ninety-Five), reflecting its unwavering commitment to protecting the citizens of Kishtwar against cyber threats.