!! Continuations from Page 1 !!

Six IFS among...

Chief Conservator of Forests, Jammu shall hold the additional charge of the post of Regional Wildlife Warden Jammu in addition to his own, duties till further orders; Vanjulavalli Sridhar IFS (AGMUT 2012), awaiting orders of posting, has been posted as Conservator of Forests, Research Circle; Shaveta Jandial IFS (AGMUT 20I3), Regional Director, Pollution Control Committee Jammu has been transferred and posted as Regional Director, Social Forestry Department, Jammu; Dr V. S Senthil Kumar, IFS (AGMUT 2005), Chief Conservator of Forests, Jammu shall continue to hold additional charge of Regional Director, Social Forestry, Jammu during the maternity leave of the officer.

Jyotsana, IFS (AGMUT 2013). Regional Wildlife Warden, Jammu has been transferred and posted as Chief General Manager (Eco-tourism & Diversification) JKFDCL; Suresh Manda, IFS (AGMUT 2016), Chief General Manager (P&P), JKFDCL as Regional Director, Pollution Control Committee Jammu.

Zubair Ahmad Shah DCF, General Manager, South Extraction Circle, Kashmir, JKFDCL has been transferred and shall look after the charge of Joint Director Soil & Water Conservation Kashmir; Hitashi Sharma DCF Deputy Director, Forest Protection Force, Udhampur has been transferred and posted as DFO Social Forestry Division Kathua; Vijay Kumar Verma, DCF, DFO, Mahore Forest Division, has been transferred and posted as DCF M&E, Social Forestry vice Ms. Mehnaz Anjum, DCF, who shall await further orders of adjustment in the O/o PCCF/HoFF, J&K.

Safeer Hussain DCF DFO Social Forestry Jammu has been transferred and shall look after the charge of the post of Regional Director, Pollution Control Committee Kashmir; Abhijeet Joshi, DCF, l/c Regional Director, Pollution Control Committee Kashmir has been transferred and shall look after the charge of General Manager (Adm), JKFDCL; Imtiyaz Ahmad Lone, l/c DCF (Wildlife), DCF, C&E, Social Forestry shall also look after the charge of the Project Coordinator (Biodiversity & Livelihood), WUCMA in addition to his own duties.

Ashok Kumar Kalsi, ACF DFO, Social Forestry Division Kathua, has been transferred and shall look after the charge of the post of DFO Social Forestry Division Jammu; and Sudershan Singh, ACF, awaiting orders of posting in the O/o PCCF & HoFF, shall look after the charge of the post of DFO, Mahore Forest Division.

Three JSD workers...

or support of a terrorist organisation.

After completion of investigation, a chargesheet was filed against them and the case is currently under trial, it said. Similarly, a case (FIR No 53/2019) was registered against Showkat under Section 307 of Ranbir Penal Code, Section 7/27 of Arms Act and Sections 16 and 18 of the UAPA. The chargesheet has already been filed and the case is currently under trial, it added.

HC of J&K...

which culminated in this historic triumph. It was observed that the victory reflects the resilience and sporting excellence of the young players and serves as a source of inspiration for aspiring sportspersons across Jammu & Kashmir and the country.

During the event, commemorative T-shirts were presented to the members of the victorious team, including Captain Paras Dogra, as a token of appreciation for their extraordinary achievement. The Judges also presented a commemorative trophy to the team in recognition of their historic triumph. Speakers on the occasion noted that Jammu & Kashmir's maiden Ranji Trophy victory, since the team's Ranji debut in 1959, represents a moment of profound pride and historic significance for the region. The achievement was described as a testament to the players' unwavering determination and commitment to excellence. The High Court also expressed pride in associating with this momentous achievement and celebrating the success of the young champions who have brought immense joy and recognition to Jammu & Kashmir.

ACB arrests Patwari...

the complainant and had asked the complainant to pay the amount on Tuesday to obtain the required extracts. "Unwilling to pay the bribe, the complainant approached the Anti-Corruption Bureau and submitted a written complaint seeking legal action against the accused official," an ACB official said. Following the complaint, the bureau conducted a pre-trap verification, which confirmed the demand for the bribe. Subsequently, a case FIR No. 05/2026 under Section 7 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 was registered at Police Station ACB Srinagar and an investigation was initiated. "Based on the verification, a trap team was constituted which laid a successful trap and caught the accused Patwari red-handed while demanding and accepting Rs 10,000 from the complainant," the ACB official added. After his arrest, the accused was taken into custody and medico-legal formalities were completed. The ACB said further investigation into the case is currently underway.

J&K Govt launches...

automatically scrutinized by the system against the provisions of the UBBL, Master Plans, Zonal Plans and applicable development controls. The software generates instant compliance reports identifying deviations, if any, thereby ensuring transparency and uniform interpretation of regulations. The portal integrates Change of Land Use (CLU) with Building Permission, reducing timelines from 60-90 days to 30 days. The portal allows self-certification and auto-approval for Low-Risk Buildings, empowering registered architects and engineers to certify compliance with building norms. The system ensures transparency, uniform interpretation of regulations and eliminates subjectivity. The Auto Scrutiny Portal also facilitates online fee calculation, digital payment, real-time application tracking, downloadable approvals and a digital record repository. Applicants can monitor the status of their cases at every stage, ensuring complete transparency. The amendments also introduce energy efficiency and environmental compliance provisions, including Eco Niwas Samhita norms, with incentive-based benefits such as additional FAR and fast-track approvals. These comprehensive amendments mark a transition towards transparent, technology-driven, and compliance-oriented urban governance, ensuring planned, sustainable, and citizen-centric development across Jammu & Kashmir. The URL of the revamped portal is https://obps.jk.gov.in.

Cabinet approves extension...

every village shall be assigned a unique Sujal Gaon or Service Area ID, digitally mapping the complete drinking water supply system from source to tap.

The Union Cabinet also approved amendments to the insolvency law and the Companies Act, according to sources. Specific details could not be immediately ascertained.

The sources said the Cabinet has cleared various amendments to the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) and the Companies Act, 2013.

Both laws are implemented by the corporate affairs ministry. In August last year, the ministry had introduced a Bill in the Lok Sabha to amend the IBC, proposing a raft of changes, including provisions to reduce the time taken for admission of insolvency resolution applications. The Bill, which was referred to a select committee of the Lok Sabha, has also submitted its report in December 2025. Last month, Finance and Corporate Affairs Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had said the government intends to introduce the IBC (Amendment) Bill, 2025 in the second half of the Budget session. The session commenced on Monday.

Forest fire triggers...

are dotted with landmines as part of an anti-infiltration obstacle system to prevent terrorists from intruding into Indian territory from across the border.

Kavinder Gupta sworn...

A statement issued here said the Governor was presented with an impressive guard of honour on the occasion.

Later, interacting with media, Gupta expressed gratitude to the president for his appointment to the constitutional office. He said he would work strictly in accordance with the Constitution and maintain close coordination with the state government.

"The office of the Governor is a constitutional responsibility. The governor does not belong to any political party and works for the overall development of the state and society," he said.

Gupta said he would strive to carry forward the initiatives started by previous governors and would seek the cooperation of the chief minister and the state government to complete them on priority.

He noted that Himachal Pradesh is a leading state in education and said he would focus on improving the quality of education here. He also stressed the importance of quality education, skill development and the effective implementation of the National Education Policy by integrating Indian values with modern education.

Referring to his earlier experience as the lieutenant governor (LG) of Ladakh, he said the geographical conditions of Himachal Pradesh are similar to those of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

"During my tenure in Ladakh, I travelled more than 10,000 kilometres within seven months. I am familiar with the challenges of hilly regions," he said, adding that the hospitality of the people of Himachal Pradesh had deeply impressed him.

Highlighting his priorities, the Governor said he would work towards promoting environmental protection, particularly enhancing the state's green cover, preserving cultural heritage and strengthening tourism with special emphasis on religious pilgrimages.

He said special attention would also be given to tribal development, promotion of natural farming, youth welfare and strengthening the ongoing campaign against drug abuse.

Gupta added that efforts would also be made to ensure that the central schemes effectively improve infrastructure and connectivity in remote areas of the state.

The Governor further said that initiatives such as value-based learning, counselling and education would be strengthened to make the campaign for a drug-free Himachal more effective. Sports initiatives like Khelo India could also be linked with such efforts to engage the youth positively, he added. Gupta also emphasised the importance of development in border areas adjoining China and said that schemes like the Vibrant Village Programme would be promoted. He further said special efforts would be made to achieve the goal of tuberculosis elimination in the state.

3 drug peddlers nabbed from Baramulla, Shopian

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Three alleged drug peddlers have been arrested from Baramulla and Shopian districts of Kashmir, officials said on Tuesday.

"As a part of sustained efforts to eradicate the menace of drugs from society, police arrested three drug peddlers in Baramulla and Shopian districts, recovering contraband substances from their possession," a police spokesperson said.

He said 8 gram of brown sugar drug like substance was recovered from two people travelling in a cab in Tangmarg area of Baramulla district.

"The suspects, identified as Zahid Ahmad Mir and Mohammad Yaseen Magray, were arrested and a case under relevant sections of law registered against them," the spokesperson said.

In Shopian, police received a specific information that a suspected drug peddler -- Abdul Hamid Thoker -- had allegedly concealed a large quantity of contraband substances in his cowshed.

A police accompanied by the executive magistrate raided the cowshed of Abdul Hamid Thoker.

"During the search, 1.01 kg of cannabis and 470 grams of charas-like substance was seized and accused arrested on spot," the spokesperson said.

Body of missing soldier fished out from stream; army pays tributes

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The body of a soldier who had gone missing during a river-crossing exercise in Rajouri district a day earlier was recovered on Tuesday, officials said.

The body of Sepoy Akshit Sharma was recovered from the Manawar Tawi stream by a joint search party of the Army, the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and local rescuers in the Khour area this morning, officials said.

According to the Army, the soldier was reported missing on Monday noon during a river-crossing training exercise in the general area of Sundarbani, leading to extensive search operations with all available resources of the Army and civil agencies.

The Army's White Knight Corps paid rich tributes to the soldier for the supreme sacrifice and said it stands in solidarity with his family.

"GOC (General Officer Commanding) White Knight Corps and all ranks pay solemn homage to Sepoy Akshit Sharma of 9 Punjab who made the Supreme Sacrifice on Mar 10 during a training exercise.

"In this hour of profound grief, the White Knight Corps stands in solidarity with the bereaved family and prays for strength and courage to the loved ones of the braveheard," the army said in a post on X.

6 vehicles involved in illegal mining seized

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NOWSHERA/POONCH: During routine patrolling and checking within the jurisdiction of Police Station Nowshera police detected illegal mining activities (extraction and transportation of bajri) being carried out from the Munawar River in the Dhaliyan area near Army Hospital on NH-144A.

During the operation the vehicles were found involved in the illegal mining activities were One tractor bearing Chassis No. G10027376J; One red tractor bearing Chassis No. 006511260B1; One tractor bearing Registration No. JK11G-4426 and One JCB bearing Registration No. JK11D-3095.

All the above vehicles were seized by Nowshera Police. The District Mineral Officer Rajouri was informed accordingly. The concerned department has challaned the vehicles and imposed a penalty amounting to Rs 77,037.

District Police Poonch also seized one dumper and two tractor-trolleys involved in unauthorized extraction and transportation of mining material.

Acting on reliable inputs and during routine patrolling and naka checking in vulnerable areas, police teams intercepted the vehicles which were found carrying mining material without valid permission. Upon verification, the vehicles were seized on the spot for their involvement in illegal mining activities.

27 bottles of illicit liquor seized, bootlegger arrested

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: Continuing its drive against the sale of illicit liquor in the district, Samba Police has arrested a bootlegger and recovered 27 bottles of illicit liquor from his possession in the jurisdiction of Police Station Bari Brahmana.

Acting on information received through reliable sources regarding sale of illicit liquor to the general public by a person near Railway Colony Bari Brahmana, a police party of Police Station Bari Brahmana rushed to the spot and apprehended the accused alongwith 27 bottles of illicit liquor.

The accused has been identified as Rajeev Kumar S/o Lala Ram R/o Shajanpur (Uttar Pradesh) presently residing at Barjani tehsil Bari Brahmana district Samba.

During the search, police recovered 27 bottles of illicit liquor from his possession, including 19 bottles of JK Special Whisky (180 ml each), five bottles of IB (750 ml each) and three bottles of Royal Stag (750 ml each). The recovered liquor was seized on the spot.

A case FIR No. 76/2026 under section 48(f) of the Excise Act has been registered at PS Bari Brahmana and investigation started.

Missing lady traced, reunited with family

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

DODA: Doda Police has traced out a missing lady and reunited her with her family after completing all legal formalities.

A missing report regarding a lady R/o Manthori Jatheli, Tehsil Mohallah, District Doda was entered at Police Post Mohallah under the jurisdiction of Police Station Doda vide DD No. 12 dated 15.02.2026.

During the course of investigation and sustained efforts by the police team, the said missing lady was successfully traced out. Subsequently, the missing report has been closed vide DDR No. 07 dated 10.03.2026. After completion of all legal formalities, the lady was safely handed over to her legal heirs.

Absconder nabbed

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: District Police Poonch achieved a significant success by apprehending an absconding accused who had been evading arrest in connection with a criminal case registered at Police Station Poonch.

Acting on sustained efforts and coordinated action by the police team of Police Post Jhullas, the absconding accused namely Layaqit Ali S/O Talib Hussain R/O Ward No. 03, Jhullas was successfully apprehended. The accused was wanted in FIR No. 167/2024 U/S 115(2), 126(2), 64, 109 BNS of Police Station Poonch, in which the charge sheet had already been filed.

The accused had been evading arrest since the commission of the offence. However, through persistent efforts, continuous surveillance and effective field work by the police team, he was finally traced and apprehended.

Two drug peddlers arrested with heroin

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Continuing its drive against drug trafficking and substances abuse,Jammu Police achieved one more success by recovering 14.49 gms of Heroin (Chita) like substance from two drug peddler near Ratian Road, Miran Sahib under the jurisdiction of Police Station Miran Sahib.

A Police team of Police Station Miran Sahib led by SHO Miran Sahib,Inspector Jatinder Singh under the supervision of SP Headquarters Jammu & SDPO R S Pura,on 09.03.2026,while performing naka duty at about on 09.03.2026 at Ratian Road, Miran Sahib, two persons coming from Ratian side towards Chak/Kullian side, on noticing the police party, attempted to escape from the spot, which raised suspicion.

Upon this, the alert police party successfully intercepted the person and apprehended them.

On questioning, the two persons disclosed their name as Rohit Verma S/O Romesh Lal R/O Krishna Nagar Basti, Marallia District Jammu and Monu Verma S/O Bachan Lal R/O Krishna Nagar Basti, Marallia Miran Sahib District Jammu. During their personal search, 14.71 grams of heroin-like substance, wrapped in polythene was recovered from their possession.

In this regard, a case FIR No.41/2026 U/S 8/21/22/29 NDPS Act stands registered at Police Station Miran Sahib, accused person has been arrested, contraband Seized and further investigation is going on to unearth the nexus and work out forward/backward linkages in the case.

Events marking International Women's Day by Ace of Spades Division conclude

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: The Ace of Spades Division celebrated International Women's Day 2026 in Rajouri through a series of empowerment-driven events conducted at Naushera, Rajouri, Meandhar & Poonch districts from 5 to 8 March 2026. The celebrations witnessed exhilarating participation of approximately 700 women from south of Pir Panjal region as a testimony of Indian Army resolve for women empowerment & nation building. The series of events commenced with 'Rajouri's Got Talent' on 05 March 2026 which provided a vibrant and dignified platform for local women to showcase their artistic abilities and stage presence viz. Singing, Dance, Creative Expression and Art & Craft.

On 6 March 2026, a social outreach initiative was undertaken with a visit to the Girl's Orphanage at Rajouri, where essential assistance was extended to all girls. A motivational lecture on "Women in Armed Forces" was delivered by Women Officers, inspiring young girls to explore leadership opportunities and contribute meaningfully to nation building. A Light & Sound Show was organised at Dhanidhar Fort, which paid a stirring tribute to the unmatched saga, courage and resilience of women in safeguarding national security. The celebrations culminated on 8 Mar 2026 at Raina Auditorium with an interactive session featuring distinguished women achievers. The concluding event witnessed podcasts of renowned women personalities by Radio Jockey of Sada-E-Pir Panjal Radio Station, Rajouri which highlighted their success stories & journey filled with resilience. A Nukkad Natak on "Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao," was organised by "Rangmanch" theatre group of Rajouri. Top three performance of " Rajouri's Got Talent" displayed their skills in front of mesmerizing audience of Raina Auditorium. All the participants were felicitated with prizes & souvenirs for their active contributions in the said event. 20 sewing machines were also distributed to marginalized women to promote sustainable livelihoods and financial independence.

Army organises Iftar Party

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: Poonch Brigade organised an Iftar Party in District Poonch this evening at Pritam Stadium. The event was attended by Commander, Poonch Brigade and Commanding Officer, Garhi Battalion along with senior offi-

cers of the district administration, prominent citizens of Poonch and respected religious leaders.

Those present included Deputy Commissioner Poonch Shri Ashok Kumar Sharma, ACR Mohd Sayeed, Molvi Farooq Hussain Misbahi, Molvi Mohd Fareed Malik, Taj Mir, Advocate Iftar Bajmi, Sarpanch Khari Mohd Saleem, Advocate Zeeshan Syed, Veteran Radio Presenter Pradeep Khanna and President District Journalist Association Randhir Singh among others.

After offering the evening Namaz, members of the Muslim community present at the gathering opened their fast. The attendees appreciated the gesture of Poonch Brigade and the opportunity to come together in a spirit of harmony during the holy month of Ramadan.

Airtel extends connectivity to remote Marwah Region

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Bharti Airtel ("Airtel"), one of India's leading telecommunications service providers, today announced the expansion of its network footprint to Marwah - a geographically remote area linking Kishtwar and Anantnag in Jammu & Kashmir. With this milestone deployment, Airtel has become the first and only service provider to deliver reliable mobile connectivity to this strategically significant and difficult-to-reach region.

Marwah, characterized by its rugged terrain and limited seasonal road access to Kishtwar and Anantnag, remains disconnected during winters due to heavy snow fall. This isolation forces residents to rely on mules or foot travel for essential supplies, work, or emergencies, while the absence of telecom coverage left approximately 150-km corridor disconnected. Airtel's high-speed network rollout in this area marks a

transformative step, empowering residents, security forces, and tourists with seamless connectivity in one of the India's most challenging terrains. This deployment also unlocks immense tourism potential of this globally renowned destination.

"We are proud to bridge the digital divide in Marwah, bringing high-speed mobile connectivity to a region long isolated by nature's toughest barriers," said Dibyendu Aich, COO - Jammu and Kashmir, Bharti Airtel."

DIPR Poonch organizes Nasha Mukt Abhiyan awareness camp

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: On the directions of the District Administration Poonch under the leadership of Deputy Commissioner Ashok Kumar Sharma, the Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR) Poonch organized an awareness camp under the Nasha Mukt Abhiyan at Government Higher Secondary School Lasana. The programme was organized under the supervision of District Information Officer Poonch, Asaf Ali, with the objective of sensitizing students and the general public about the harmful effects of drug abuse.

The programme was inaugurated by MLA Surankote Chaudhary Mohammad Akram, who attended the event as the Chief Guest. Among others present on the occasion were SDM Surankote Farooq Khan, District Information Officer Asaf Ali, Block Development Officer Lassana Qadeer

Charak, SHO Surankote Abid Bukhari, Principal of Government Higher Secondary School Lasana Barkat Hussain, staff members, local residents and other dignitaries. The proceedings of the programme were conducted by Pardeep Khanna. During the programme, artists of Saraswati Sangeet Kala Kendra Poonch presented a variety of cultural performances, including songs in Gojri, Pahari, Hindi and Punjabi languages. A special skit highlighting the ill effects of drug abuse was also presented, which was widely appreciated by the audience.

Addressing the gathering, the MLA highlighted the serious social and health consequences of drug abuse and urged students, youth and the general public to stay away from drugs. He also appealed to people to immediately inform the police if they come across any drug peddler or addict in their area. SDM Surankote Farooq Khan also addressed the gathering and urged students and the public to actively participate in such awareness programmes. Interacting with the media on the sidelines of the programme, District Information Officer Asaf Ali emphasized that drug abuse is not merely an individual or societal problem but a serious national issue which requires collective action from all sections of society.

Printer, publisher and owned by **Raj Daluja**, Printed and published at **STATE TIMES PUBLICATIONS**, Plot No. 110, 111, 112, Phase-II, Gangyal, Jammu. Ph-2579290, 2573691, Fax: 0191-2562657. e-mail.statetimes1@gmail.com **Editor**, Raj Daluja; RNI No: 66908/96.
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