

**!! Continuations from Page 1 !!**  
**India crushes New...**

and laser-precise bowling. Suryakumar's men became the first men's international team to win successive World T20 titles and also the first to claim the trophy on home turf. Sanju Samson (89 off 46 balls) and Abhishek Sharma (52 off 21 balls) added 92 in Powerplay and 98 for the opening stand after a tactical blunder by Black Caps skipper Mitchell Santner led to a record score of 255 for 5. Having misread the pitch, Santner brought medium pacer Jacob Duffy dropping the useful off-spinner Cole McConehie, which proved to be decisive in the final outcome.

In-front of 86,000 fans, the chase was out of question as New Zealand huffed and puffed its way to 159 all out as Suryakumar, the man from Mumbai's Chembur, etched his name alongside Mahendra Singh Dhoni and Rohit Sharma in the record books.

"Champions! This remarkable triumph reflects exceptional skills, determination and teamwork. They have shown outstanding grit through the tournament. This victory has filled every Indian heart with pride and joy. Well done, Team India!" posted Prime Minister Narendra Modi on X within minutes of the triumph.

No credit will be enough for mostly under-fire Gautam Gambhir, who became the first coach to guide the team to two T20 World titles.

Following the demolition act with the bat, Jasprit Bumrah's artistry was good enough to dash any little hopes that New Zealand players might just have harboured at the back of their minds.

Bumrah was unreal as ever with figures of 4-0-15-4, adding to the mythical story of his career which will become folklore in years to come.

As far-fetched as it might sound, the current Indian T20 team under Gambhir's coaching has had the aura of USA's 'Dream Team' filled with the biggest of NBA stars like Michael Jordan, Magic Johnson and Larry Bird that won the 1992 Barcelona Olympics gold medal.

Just like that team, this Indian T20 outfit, filled with IPL's richest stars, has an air of invincibility around it. The side never seemed like losing the tournament in which it was the runaway favourite even before a ball had been bowled.

If the 2007 T20 World Cup victory was a watershed moment for Indian cricket, which gave birth to a behemoth like the IPL, the 2024 T20 World Cup win was a soothing balm to the heartbreak of the 2023 ODI World Cup final loss.

The 2026 title triumph is an assertion that in talent, India are light years ahead of other teams. This edition was never about a perfect campaign but always about finding an individual who would win it for the team.

Abhishek had a very poor tournament but redeemed himself in the final. Samson's career was on the line before he played the most defining innings of his career.

The 'crazy diamond' called Bumrah bowled those block-hole deliveries whenever the team asked and Axar Patel took those crazy catches which became a game-changer.

Ishan Kishan was the sheet anchor in every game and the skipper was the binding glue with Gambhir being the back-room brain that the team needed.

The team bond was evident and the players had each other's backs when one of the mates was sinking.

Both Suryakumar and Gambhir can claim credit for taking Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli's champion team to the next level.

When India batted, Samson scarred an awestruck New Zealand in the company of an equally destructive Abhishek, who saved his best for the last in India's record-breaking total.

And if that wasn't enough Ishan Kishan (54 off 25 balls) proved that even three can tango together as India's top three, in a superlative display, stunned New Zealand.

Abhishek took full advantage of Mitchell Santner's tactical harakiri with a 21-ball-52 but Samson's muscular effort -- a dazzling 89 off 46 balls, which was a union of beastly power and silken grace --, will be remembered for the times to come.

There were eight sixes -- a few over long-on, a couple over square leg, down the ground, and over long-off.

Samson made Rachin Ravindra's left-arm spin, Lockie Ferguson (0/48 in 2 overs) and Matt Henry's (0/49 in 4 overs) medium pace bowling look pedestrian. It was a massacre of a good bowling attack.

After match-winning efforts against the West Indies and England, Kerala's favourite son finally silenced the Doubting Thomases, who questioned his credentials over the past decade.

After a series of flop shows and his place in the side being debated from Kashmir to Kanyakumari, Abhishek finally came good with liberal help from New Zealand pacers, who handed the advantage to the southpaw on a platter.

An 18-ball-50 with his signature straight sixes, and familiar bat swing, the Punjab man enjoyed the rub of the green under the floodlit Ahmedabad skyline.

Jacob Duffy's (0/42 in 3 overs) friendly medium pace became cannon fodder for Abhishek as he smashed five of his half a dozen boundaries off him.

In case of Matt Henry (1/49 in four overs), once Samson smacked him for a six slightly wide off long-on, there was no looking back. With as many as 92 runs in the powerplay, India had seized the decisive advantage.

After Rachin Ravindra (1/32 in 2 overs) removed Abhishek after a 98-run opening stand off 43 balls, Kishan kept the tempo with four sixes and as many boundaries.

**LG, CM congratulate...**

remarkable performance will further strengthen India's glorious legacy in the world of cricket and inspire millions of cricket lovers across the country," the Office of the Chief Minister said in a post on X.

Soon after India sealed the victory, celebrations broke out in several parts of Jammu, where enthusiastic fans burst heavy fireworks and waved the national flag. The night sky lit up with colourful displays as jubilant supporters gathered on streets and outside their homes, cheering and celebrating the team's historic triumph. People were seen chanting slogans in support of Team India while sharing sweets and congratulating each other, turning the city into a festive scene following the thrilling win.



**Security beefed up...**

order. The officials said that security has been strengthened within and outside the jail, and the situation at present is normal.

**J&K at turning...**

the Lieutenant Governor said. The Lieutenant Governor was speaking at the inaugural ceremony of Anti-Corruption Bureau Headquarters Building at Sidhra, Jammu and ACB APKS Branch, Avantipora.

The Lieutenant Governor emphasised that the two buildings inaugurated today are not merely structures of steel, glass, and concrete; they stand as a bold declaration of transparency in public life and a corruption-free Union Territory.

"Today, J&K stands at a pivotal juncture. Over the past 5-6 years, we have ushered in transformative changes, rendering the system transparent and dedicating it to public service. Entire machinery now operates not for the benefit of a select few, but for every individual across the Union Territory.

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, we have established a faceless mechanism to eradicate corruption from government processes, eliminate delays, and deliver all services directly to ordinary citizens," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor highlighted that the speed of project execution has accelerated significantly over the past few years. Revolutionary progress in industry, infrastructure, agriculture, self-employment, health, power, and rural development across nearly every sector stemmed from a transparent and accountable governance model, he said.

The Lieutenant Governor asked the Anti-Corruption Bureau officers to conduct a daily self-audit of their work to strengthen the hard-earned credibility.

"Your efforts should thrive on maximum collaboration. In today's interconnected world, corruption knows no borders, and data scatters across various networks. Information held by one agency might form the crucial final piece in another's probe, so genuine and timely cooperation is essential wherever needed," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor also called for speedy investigation, observing that

delayed justice does not merely deny society its due but it actively undermines outcomes in corruption cases. He stressed on cultivating a work culture that eliminates all delays in delivering justice.

The Lieutenant Governor said that corruption is not merely a loss of public money but it is the opportunity stolen from youth, it is the security snatched from a family, it is the injustice inflicted on an elderly member of society.

"We must recognize that corruption is no abstract offense committed solely against the public exchequer but a direct assault on the lives of living human beings.

The ill effects of corruption extend far beyond economic damage; it scars the lives of multiple generations. We must work together to build corruption-free J&K," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The newly established APKS Branch at Avantipora will cater to the ACB Police Station Anantnag, which has jurisdiction over all districts of South Kashmir. The facility is expected to enhance operational efficiency, improve accessibility, and facilitate timely handling of complaints and investigations in the region.

Shakti Kumar Pathak, Director, Anti Corruption Bureau, briefed about the functioning of the Bureau and the salient features of the newly constructed buildings. He highlighted that the enhanced infrastructure will provide a conducive working environment and strengthen field-level vigilance operations.

Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; M.K. Sinha, ADGP Headquarters; Dr Mandep K. Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor; M Raju, Commissioner Secretary, General Administrative Department; Ramesh Kumar, Divisional Commissioner Jammu; Bhim Sen Tuti, IGP Jammu; Dr. Rakesh Minhas, Deputy Commissioner Jammu and senior officials attended the inaugural ceremony.

**SSP orders intensified...**

out the remnants of the terror ecosystem through active area domination and by keeping a close watch on the activities of suspected associates.

Mehta also directed officers to take strict action against offenders involved in NDPS cases and bovine smuggling, and initiate property attachment proceedings against habitual offenders.

**EOW files chargesheet...**

kitchen block, toilet and ramp were not constructed despite the release of funds, they added.

The investigation further revealed that the accused officials, in connivance with the contractor, entered into a well-planned criminal conspiracy and allotted the contract in violation of SSA guidelines, although the construction work was required to be executed through village education committee members, the officials said.

The site plan of the project was also allegedly altered for their benefit by deviating from the approved plan of a three-roomed school building with a separate kitchen, toilet and ramp, and instead a double-storey structure with four rooms was constructed, they said.

Further, even after completion of the structure, the contractor failed to hand over the building to the education department, while the concerned officials deliberately did not take possession, enabling another accused to occupy the building illegally, they said.

On the basis of evidence collected during the course of the investigation, offences under the relevant provisions of law have been established against the accused persons, and the case has been challaned before the competent court for judicial determination, the officials added.

**Man wanted for...**

a written complaint was lodged by Naresh Singh, son of Gunjan Singh, resident of Lane No. 2, Rani Talab, Jammu, stating that Ramesh Kumar, son of Shyam Lal, resident of Village Jhikmau, Chhatarpur (M.P.), A/P Digiana Puli, Jammu, had brutally assaulted his 12-year-old daughter, Nisha. The victim sustained serious injuries and later succumbed to her injuries in hospital.

Following the complaint, a FIR 176/2026 U/S 302/342 RPC was registered at PS Gandhi Nagar, and an investigation was initiated. However, the accused absconded shortly after the incident and evaded arrest for several years despite sustained efforts by the police.

Giving priority to the crime against women, the case was never put to back burner but more profound and serious efforts were encouraged from SSP Jammu, SP South and SDPO South. During the crime meeting, PSI Shubham Sharma, IC PP Digiana was given the target to arrest the accused and put sincere efforts in the said case. Working professionally, and in mission mode a reliable information was developed about the whereabouts of the accused. Later using all technical/human int, his identity was established and finally a police team led by IC PP Digiana with assistance from local Delhi police, conducted a search operation and arrested the accused from South Delhi near Bhati Mines where he was residing under a false identity, "Rajbeer Singh." The accused was subsequently brought to Jammu and produced before the Hon'ble Court at Jammu, where police remand was sought for further investigation.

In the press conference, SP South also highlighted Jammu Police, South Zone's proactive measures to combat crime, maintaining of law and order and a strong resolve against the drug menace/ Motor Vehicle Theft.

SP South briefed the media that Under OPERATION SANJEEVANI: In the first 67 days of 2026, the South Zone registered 23 FIRs including one Commercial Quantity FIR under the NDPS Act and arrested 33 persons, recovering a total of 691.8 grams of heroin valued at Rs. 2.5 crore in international market. Thus delivering a major blow to the narcotics supply chain in the area.

Similarly, under OPERATION AVTAAR, in FIR 13/2026 of PS Gangyal, an organized interstate vehicle theft network was dismantled. The accused used sophisticated methods to steal high-end vehicles. Under operation AVTAAR, the Jammu, South Zone police successfully recovered 23 stolen vehicles in last 67 days of year 2026 including four from this network. With the recovery of these vehicles and arrest of Kingpins of MV theft rackets has strongly disrupted the organized vehicle theft and enhancing public safety and confidence.

Jammu Police, South Zone reiterates its commitment to ensuring that no offender escapes the reach of law, that justice is delivered irrespective of the time elapsed, and that the safety and security of the public life and property remain a top priority and always.

**Man booked for...**

potential threat to public order, the spokesperson said. The circulation of such content has the potential to create unnecessary panic, disturb public order, and adversely affect communal harmony, he said.

Accordingly, an FIR under relevant sections of law has been registered at Police Station Chadoora, and investigation into the matter has been initiated, the police added.

Police urged citizens to refrain from sharing unverified or provocative content on social media and to cooperate with authorities in maintaining peace, order, and harmony in the district.

**Valley sees above...**

degrees above normal. Pahalgam tourist resort in south Kashmir's Anantnag, which serves as one of the base camps for the annual Amarnath Yatra, registered a high of 20.8 degrees Celsius, 9.4 degrees above average.

The famous ski resort of Gulmarg in north Kashmir recorded a maximum temperature of 14.2 degrees Celsius, 9.6 degrees above normal.

Jammu and Kashmir witnessed above normal day temperatures last month as well.

The Union Territory recorded its seventh straight winter rainfall deficit, with the core winter period from December 2025 to February 2026 ending at a massive 65 per cent departure from the normal.

The region received just 100.6 mm of precipitation against a normal of 284.9 mm from December 2025 to February 2026.

December saw an actual rainfall of 13 mm against the normal of 59.4 mm, marking a departure of 78 per cent.

January witnessed an actual rainfall of 73.4 mm against the normal of 95.1 mm, with a departure of 23 per cent.

January also experienced some western disturbance activity, preventing a total seasonal collapse. However, rainfall still remained below normal and could not compensate for December's shortfall.

In February, the actual rainfall was only 14.2 mm compared to the normal of 130.4 mm, a departure of 89 per cent.

Meanwhile, the meteorological department has forecast the weather to remain generally cloudy with light rain or snow -- especially in the higher reaches -- at isolated places on Monday.

There is a possibility of light rain or snow, especially in the higher reaches, at many places from March 10-12. A few higher reaches of Kupwara, Bandipora, Ganderbal and Anantnag may receive moderate snowfall, it said.

From March 13-17, there is a possibility of light rain or snow at isolated places in the higher reaches, the Met office added.

It has advised farmers to suspend farming activities from March 10-12.

The Met office also predicted a fall in day temperatures by 4-6 degrees Celsius from March 9-12 at many places.

**Drug peddler detained under PIT-NDPS Act in Rajouri**

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: A notorious drug peddler was detained under stringent Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (PIT-NDPS) Act in Rajouri district, police said on Sunday.

Javad Iqbal Tass of Bhangai village of Thanamandi, was involved in multiple cases of drug peddling and his detention under PIT-NDPS Act was part of efforts to curb the spread of narcotics and safeguard the youth, a police spokesperson said.

Taking cognizance of his continuous involvement in drug trafficking, he said the competent authority issued detention orders of the accused under the PIT-NDPS Act following which he was detained and subsequently lodged in district Jail.

Police also arrested two drug peddlers from Sidhra area of Jammu and Mendhar in Poonch district after seizing heroin like substance from them. A private car was stopped at Dengyali road near Sidhra, leading to the recovery of 6.37 grams of heroin from the possession of its driver, who was arrested and booked under NDPS Act, the spokesperson said. The second drug peddler was nabbed along with nearly eight grams of heroin from Mendhar town in Poonch district, the spokesman said, adding a case under NDPS Act was registered against him.

**Property of Pak-based terror handler attached**

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

RAJOURI: Jammu and Kashmir police on Sunday attached immovable property of a Pakistan-based terror handler in Manjakote area of Rajouri district, officials said.

The attached property comprises seven marlas of land owned by proclaimed offender Shafeeq Ahmed, a resident of Naika Panjgrain village, a police spokesperson said.

He said Ahmed had crossed the border into Pakistan and is presently operating from there.

The attachment proceedings were carried out after obtaining due permission in the form of an attachment order under Section 88 of the CrPC corresponding to Section 85 of BNSS issued by the competent Court, the spokesman said.

He said the action reflects the commitment of Police to take stringent legal measures against terror handlers and to ensure compliance with the law.

**AHD organizes awareness programme**

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

R S PURA: A program was organized by the Animal Husbandry Department, Jammu, in Village Tanda of R.S. Pura. On this occasion, Director Animal Husbandry Department Jammu Dr. Sanjay Gupta, Chief Animal Husbandry Officer Jammu Dr. Zahid Saleem, Livestock Development Officer Dr. Zaffar Iqbal, and LDO R.S. Pura Dr. Mudasar Nzar were present.



During the program, an Automatic Milk collection unit(AMCU) and a Milk Value Addition Startup Unit were inaugurated in Village Tanda. This unit has been established by the Khalsa Self Help Group, Tanda, with the support of the UMMEED Department& Animal husbandry department jammu. The project has been initiated under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) as part of a scheme of the Animal Husbandry Department.

Under this scheme, the Self Help Group has been provided an incentive of approximately ₹6 lakh for the AMCU unit, which includes machinery worth around ₹4 lakh and about ₹2 lakh as working capital. In addition, an incentive of around ₹20 lakh has been provided for the Milk Value Addition Unit, which includes machinery and an auto vehicle worth about ₹3 lakh to help transport the prepared products to the market. Overall, around ₹27 lakh in financial support has been provided by the Animal Husbandry Department to this Self Help Group.

The Khalsa Self Help Group has successfully established this unit and has started operations by collecting about 4 to 5 quintals of milk daily. In this unit, dairy products such as ghee, butter, kaladi, and paneer are being prepared from milk.

The department has stated that branding of these products will also be done in the future. As the quantity of milk increases, there is also a plan to install a Bulk Milk Cooler (BMC) here, for which an incentive of up to Rs 15 lakh will be provided.

The objective of the Animal Husbandry Department is that the Khalsa Self Help Group of Village Tanda should become a successful dairy model in the future, supplying high-quality dairy productions.

**Guru Granth Sahib Ji was illuminated in new Gurdwara Sahib**

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

SUNDERBANI: A grand religious function organised illuminated of Guru Granth Sahib ji in Gurdwara Singh Sabha Chak Tevala Dheri tehsil Beripattan of district Rajouri. The construction of the building of Gurdwara Sahib was going on for a long time. During this a large number of people from Sikh Sangat Ravi Das Sabha also reached. Early in the morning Guru Granth Sahib ji was taken in a decorated vehicle hundreds of devotees welcomed with flowers in the village Dheri Chowk. During this by feet journey like Nagar Kirtan was undertaken for 01 kilometer from Dheri Chowk to Gurdwara Singh Sabha Chaktevala by keeping Guru Grantha Sahib on the head. In front of it was a water tank for spraying water, Five warriors (Panj Payare) and then Guru Grantha Sahib was kept on the head in an decorated manner and reached Gurdwara Sahib. During this, hundreds of people from Sikh Sangat and people of Guru Ravi Dass were also came there. After the illuminated programme of Guru Grantha Sahib in Gurdwara Singh Sabha Chak Tevala, recit the Path, Shabad Kirtan and Ardas by Granthi Anter Singh, Guru ka langar was opened in which hundreds of people took langar prasad. In this occasion chairman of district Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee DGPC Rajouri retired professor Hardial Singh along with own team also presented.



**DyCM, Sports Minister felicitate J&K Cricket Team for historic Ranji Trophy triumph**

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Celebrating the historic victory of the Jammu and Kashmir Cricket Team in the Ranji Trophy 2025-26, the Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary and Minister for Youth Services and Sports Satish Sharma today felicitated the players during a function held at M.A Stadium in Jammu.

Congratulating the team for bringing immense pride to J&K, the Deputy Chief Minister described the maiden triumph as a historic milestone in the sporting journey of Jammu and Kashmir. He said the achievement reflects the immense talent, dedication and fighting spirit of the youth of the region.

"This historic victory will serve as a major inspiration for aspiring sportspersons across Jammu and Kashmir. The success of our cricket team proves that with determination and hard work, the youth of the region can achieve excellence at the national level," the Deputy Chief Minister said. The felicitation ceremony was organised by the Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council to honour the team for scripting history by winning the prestigious Ranji Trophy.

The function witnessed an enthusiastic gathering of sports lovers, officials and prominent personalities who came together to celebrate the remarkable achievement and congratulate the players for writing a new chapter in the sporting history of Jammu and Kashmir.

Welcoming the victorious team, Minister for Youth Services and Sports Satish Sharma congratulated the players and coaching staff for their outstanding performance and determination throughout the tournament. He said the historic victory has filled the entire Union Territory with pride and inspiration.

