

## !! Continuations from Page 1 !! Delimitation Commission begins...

its members, was set up on March 6, 2020, with one year term. However, in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, its term was extended on March 6, 2021, by one year. It also has five associate members: three National Conference Lok Sabha members (Parooq Abdullah, Hasnain Masoodi and Mohammad Akbar Lone), BJP MP Jugal Kishore and Union Minister Jitendra Singh.

According to the draft proposal, there has been no increase in the number of Lok Sabha seats in J&K.

Similarly, there is no reservation for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) in the parliamentary seats of the union territory, it said.

The Jammu division will have Jammu-Reasi and Udhampur-Doda constituencies while the Kashmir division will have Srinagar-Budgam and Baramulla-Kupwara. The Anantnag-Poonch seat will be part of both the divisions, the draft said.

The report said the total number of seats in the assembly has been increased to 90 with reservation of seven seats for SCs and nine for STs.

The three-member commission has proposed six more seats in the Jammu region and only one additional seat in Kashmir in the proposed 90-member house.

Kashmir will have 47 assembly seats and the Jammu region 43 seats, the report said.

### CRPF Jawan martyred...

Jako Chowdhary, both residents of Bihar, at Lajooria this afternoon," the officials said.

They said the duo were rushed to a nearby hospital for treatment.

This was second attack on non-local labourers in Pulwama district in as many days. Two workers hailing from Punjab were shot at and injured in Nowpora area of the district on Sunday.

Meanwhile, the martyrdom of a CRPF personnel has evoked strong condemnation from mainstream political parties in Jammu and Kashmir.

"Unreservedly condemn the cowardly attack in Maisuma, Srinagar earlier in the day, in which one CRPF personnel lost his life. Our condolences go out to his family and friends. Prayers for the swift recovery of the one injured," the National Conference tweeted.

Party vice president Omar Abdullah also condemned the jawan's killing.

I add my words of condemnation to those of my colleagues & send my condolences to the family of the CRPF jawan killed in the line of duty. Prayers for the injured jawan in the hope that he makes a full recovery," he said.

PDP president Mehbooba Mufti tweeted, "Condemn attack on CRPF personnel in Maisuma this afternoon. This senseless violence doesn't yield anything apart from inflicting miseries on the innocent families of those killed. My condolences to the family and prayers for the injured."

JK Pradesh Congress Committee and the Apni Party also condemned the killing of the CRPF personnel.

### J&K Admn clears...

the bank," Atal Duloo, Additional Chief Secretary, finance department, told PTI.

The department has cleared the payment of Rs 810 crore for power purchase.

"Rs 600 crore of equity contribution for Kiru and Rattle hydel Projects has also been paid," he said, adding that Rs 1,206 crore has been provisioned in the Union Territory's annual budget for the two power projects.

Duloo said that all verified bills of contractors as well as payments of the UT's share in central government-sponsored schemes have been cleared.

According to officials, many bills that were pending since past two years have also been cleared this time.

No bill for advance withdrawal at the treasury is pending now. Bills presented for the payments of salaries, pensions and gratuity have been cleared, Duloo said, adding that the finance department also cleared pending claims of several projects.

### Terrorist hideout busted...

the timely recovery of the arms consignment by the alert security forces foiled the "enemy's nefarious designs" of disturbing the peace process in the Union Territory.

The hideout was unearthed during a joint search operation by the army and police in Noorkote village of Haveli Tehsil, the spokesman said.

He said the arms and ammunition seized from the hideout included two AK-47 assault rifles with two magazines and 63 rounds, one 223 bore AK shape gun with handgrip, its two magazines and 20 rounds and one Chinese pistol with a magazine and four rounds.

Without naming Pakistan, the spokesman said "once again the enemy's nefarious designs of disturbing the peace process in Jammu and Kashmir has been foiled by the alert security forces."

Officials said no one was arrested during the operation which was carried out late Sunday evening based on a specific information.

### Bail denied to...

investigation, offences under sections 465/467/468/469/471 & 120-B of IPC were also added in the case.

During the investigation carried out, it was surfaced that petitioners along with

unknown fraudsters in league with each other impersonated as employees of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board and Global Vectra Helicorp Limited and Himalayan Heli Services Pvt. Ltd., the two helicopter service providing entities and issued fake tickets for helicopter service from Katra to Sanjichat against receipt of money, thereby duping various pilgrims. Furthermore, the respondent police station received five more complaints of similar nature wherein different complainants alleged that an amount of Rs 2,79,160 (rupees two lakh seventy nine thousand one hundred sixty) was looted by unknown fraudsters from them by providing fake helicopter tickets to them. During investigation, it also came to fore that petitioners and other fraudsters who are yet to be traced, have prepared around 40 fake websites in name of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board; that petitioners have allegedly used original GST numbers of Global Vectra and Himalayan Helicopter services in fake tickets; that petitioners have not only prepared fake websites but have also prepared fake tickets and received payments etc.

"Grant of bail to petitioners at this stage therefore shall only result in thwarting course of justice on facts. As per prosecution, the range of scam on hand is too big and many characters are yet to be traced and rounded up. In that sense, investigation is at initial stage and petitioners if let off at this stage, would not only adversely hamper the ongoing investigation having wide ramifications but such course would indeed tantamount to foiling further investigation in the case. Also, offence involving forgery of valuable security charged against petitioners during investigation - carries punishment upto life imprisonment, which itself speaks volumes about the enormity of the gravity of the allegations," the Court observed.

### Home Secretary directed...

led to their influx into India through porous border with Bangladesh. Almost 1,700 Rohangia families comprising approximately 8,500 souls (official figures are 1,286 and 5,000) live in various settlement colonies of Jammu and Kashmir. The land mafia of state of J&K in order to encroach state land natural resources especially forest areas as well as water bodies, uses these illegal immigrants. It is submitted that many of illegal immigrants from Bangladesh and Myanmar have even acquired ration card, voter card, Adhaar cards as well as permanent resident certificates illegally and are suspected to be involved in various anti-national activities such as drug trafficking, Hawala transactions etc.

During the course of hearing, DB observed that this public interest litigation seeks some enquiry to be conducted to identify all illegal immigrants from Myanmar and Bangladesh. DB further observed that one of the orders dated 24.05.2017 passed in PIL indicates that at that time the Government had constituted a Group of Ministers to examine various issues relating to illegal migrants from Myanmar and Bangladesh. The Group of Ministers was supposed to take up the matter; examine it and to furnish a report thereof, but till date, nothing has come on record and in the meantime, the State of Jammu and Kashmir was bifurcated and UT of J&K was created.

### ICCC delegation visits...

work in partnership for enhancing bilateral trade between India and Canada.

Describing J&K as a hub of exponential opportunities and a virgin territory from the aspect of attracting global attention and investment, Thakur said J&K has huge potential in the sectors of hospitality and tourism.

Kar presented views, policies, incentives and potential export products of the Union Territory with specific focus on GI products.

President ICCC said the focus would be accorded on sectors like agriculture, hospitality, immigration, realty, information technology and infrastructure.

"All these sectors have incredible potential to become instrumental in the growth story for enhancing trade relations between the two countries, Dhilloo said.

He said growing interest of Indo-Canadian Diaspora into Make in India products will also encourage Canada to further strengthen their trade ties with India especially J&K's unique products having a huge market and liking world over.

He invited JKTPO to start a help desk in Canada.

The event focused on promotion of investment and exports along with facilitating business linkages and direct dialogue between the Indo-Canadian delegation and their extended network with industrial representatives from J&K, the spokesman said.

He said the discussions revolved around promoting exports of traditional exportable products from J&K like Saffron, Basmati Rice, Pashmina and Kani Shawls, Carpets, Honey, Kashmiri Chilli, Walnuts besides innovative ideas like Medical Tourism.

On the occasion, women entrepreneurs, start-ups and exporters presented their products and services from sectors like education, handloom and handicrafts, agro-based and horticulture products before the delegation which received overwhelming response, the spokesman said.

### J&K records 2...

The number of active cases stands at seven, the officials said.

They said the Union Territory has so far recorded 228 coronavirus-related deaths -- 168 in Leh and 60 in Kargil. No new fatality linked to the virus was reported from the Union Territory, according to the officials.

A total of 27,990 patients have recovered from the infection so far, they said.

According to the officials, 190 samples in Ladakh tested negative for the virus, they said.

Leh accounts for six of the total active COVID-19 cases in Ladakh, while Kargil district, which was earlier declared coronavirus-free, has one such infection.

### RS proceedings washed...

the Appropriation Bill. The chairman also informed that Deepender S Hooda (Congress) too had given a notice to discuss the resolution passed by the Punjab Assembly regarding transfer of the Union Territory of Chandigarh. This notice too was not admitted by the chair.

"...Rule 267 is not the appropriate rule (for such discussions), so there is no question of accepting (the notices)," he said.

As he disallowed the notices, opposition members started protesting and were on their feet demanding a discussion, forcing the chairman to adjourn the House till 12 noon.

Members who had given notice for suspension of the business under Rule 267 were Tiruchi Siva (DMK), Binoy Viswam (CPI), Abir Ranjan Biswas (TMC), and K C Vengupal (Congress).

When the House met again at 12 noon, opposition members were on their feet and trooped into the well raising slogans.

Sasmit Patra, who was in the chair, pleaded with the protesting members to return to their seats and allow the Question Hour to function, but opposition members were unrelenting and the chair was forced to adjourn the House till 2 PM.

When the house met after lunch at 2 PM, opposition members again began protesting and trooped into the well.

While TMC leader Derek O'Brien wanted the House to take up the issue of reservation for women in the O'berie, the Chair tried to bring order in the House and called Labour Minister Bhupender Yadav to reply to a discussion of the working of the Ministry of Labour and Employment.

However, as the opposition members continued with their protests and raised their demand for a discussion on price rise, he adjourned the House for the day.

Opposition members, including those from the Congress, TMC and Shiv Sena, on Monday walked out of the Lok Sabha protesting against fuel price hike.

As soon as the Zero Hour began, DMK members trooped into the Well shouting slogans. Later, members from other opposition parties too stormed the Well raising the issue of fuel price rise.

As Rajendra Agrawal, who was in the chair, continued to run the Zero Hour, Congress, DMK, TMC, Left parties, Shiv Sena and NCP staged a walkout.

Opposition members have been demanding a discussion on rising prices of petrol, diesel and LPG for a few days and have been giving adjournment notices in both houses. Petrol prices were hiked for the 12th time in the last 14 days as global crude oil prices rose. In all, petrol prices have gone up by Rs 8.40 per litre in the past two weeks.

Congress chief whip in Rajya Sabha Jairam Ramesh later said, "Today the combined opposition forced an adjournment of the Rajya Sabha for the entire day on the issue of continuing hike in petrol, diesel, cooking gas, and also increase in prices of other essential commodities, especially edible oil and fertilisers."

Addressing the press outside Parliament, BJP leader and Union minister Bhupender Yadav said opposition members creating ruckus in Rajya Sabha reflected their insensitivity to issues of labourers and even towards senior leaders in their ranks as they did not let former prime minister H D Deve Gowda speak in the House.

Earlier, six newly elected Rajya Sabha MPs, including two from the BJP and one from the Congress, took oath in the House on Monday.

Pabitra Margherita (BJP, Assam); Rvngvra Narzary (UPPL, Assam); Jebi Mather Hisham (Congress, Kerala); Sandosh Kumar (CPI, Kerala); A A Rahim (CPI-M, Kerala); and S Phangnon Konyak (BJP, Nagaland) were the members who took oath in the Upper House of Parliament.

Signature campaign organised for 4 pc reservation in PSP certificate

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: POJK Displaced Pahari Speaking People Forum organized a signature campaign at Bidhipur, Suchetgarh regarding 4 per cent reservation in Pahari Speaking People (PSP) Certificate.

Forum member Jatin K Raina said this campaign will be running across all the districts where POJK 1947 Displaced People dwelling for 74 years because the J&K administration provided PSP certificates to DPs of Poonch Rajouri etc leaving other districts of Jammu province. "This is unacceptable and reckless conduct against our community who suffered a lot during the partition and still living in camps without land ownership and other privileges like second class citizens" he said adding that this certificate helps our young generation to get benefit in the educational and occupationally domain which help them to improve their social standards.

Another member Vinod Kumar added they will demonstrate their power in the coming election if this issue will not be solved within time. Ex-Sarpanch Des Raj, Amit Kumar, Naveen Sharma, Vijay Sharma, Veneet Khajuria and locals contributed in huge numbers and extended full support for the forum.



People participating in signature campaign organised by POJK Displaced Pahari Speaking People Forum.

## CRIME REPORT

### Theft case solved; 2 arrested, stolen property recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BUDGAM: Police on Monday solved a theft case by arresting two accused involved in crime and recovered stolen property on their disclosure. As per details, on March 4, 2022, Police Station Budgam received a complaint from a truck driver namely Ramesh Kumar, resident of Jhajjar Kotli stating therein that some unknown thieves have stolen edible oil Cans from his truck (JK02AN-6593) near Railway Station Budgam. Accordingly, FIR No. 56/2022 under relevant sections of law was registered at Police station Budgam and investigation started, during which officers learnt about the involvement of two suspects identified as Parvaiz Ahmad, son of Ali Mohammad Reshi, resident of Hamdania Colony Benaina, at present Narkara Budgam and Gowhar Ahmad, son of Wali Mohammad, resident of Arigam Khan Sahab, Budgam. Subsequently, both accused were arrested and on their disclosure, the stolen property, 20 cans of edible oil were recovered from residence of an accused. Further investigation is going on.

### 3 drug peddlers arrested with contraband

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Acting tough against drug dealings, Police in a series of actions has arrested 3 drug peddlers in Avantipora and Anantnag and recovered contraband substances from their possession. In Avantipora, a party from Police Station Pampore headed by SHO Pampore at a checkpoint established at Kadlbal near Bridge intercepted a suspect identified as Nasir Ahmad Sheikh, son of Gh Mohd Sheikh, resident of Kadlbal Pulpar, Pampore. During checking, 3.5 Kg Poppy Straw was recovered from his possession. Similarly in Anantnag, Police Station Bijbehara received specific information through reliable sources that one Rafiq Ahmad Ganie, son of Ghulam Qadir Ganie, resident of Krandigam Bijbehara is indulged in drug peddling and has hoarded a large quantity of narcotic substances in his house. On receipt of information, a party from Police Station Bijbehara along with Executive Magistrate raided the location and recovered 930 gm Charas. Moreover in another action, a party from Police post General Busstand at a checkpoint established near Delhi Darbar intercepted a truck bearing registration number PB23J-5865 driven by one Gurjit Singh, son of Piara Singh, resident of Raja Kalan Dasna, Punjab. During checking, 4 Kg Poppy straw was recovered from the vehicle. All drug peddlers were arrested and shifted to respective police stations where they remained in custody. The vehicles used in the commission of crime have also been seized. Accordingly, cases under relevant sections of law were registered at respective police stations and investigation started.

### Poppy cultivation destroyed at Phagsoo Thathri

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

DODA: District Administration Doda, in its efforts to curb drug menace, has launched a major crackdown on drug peddlers and District police has arrested more than a dozen persons involved in illegal trade and recovered a huge quantity of banned drugs from their possession. In continuation to the drive, the District Administration, under the directions of Deputy Commissioner Vikas Sharma and Senior Superintendent of Police Abdul Qayoom, has also launched a major crackdown on illegal poppy cultivation in the district. In a major success, based on local tip, a team of officials headed by SDM Thathri Athar Amin Zargar and SHO Thathri Amrit Katoch along with Duty Magistrate SH Anjeel Singh and students of Government Degree College Thathri, and Higher Secondary School Jangalwar destroyed poppy plantation over a large tract of land. FIR number 41/2022 under sections 8/18 of NDPS Act was registered in this regard. While talking to media, SDM Thathri said that administration has started an intensive checking drive, which shall continue till it reaches a logical end.

### Three bootleggers nabbed with 96 bottles of illicit liquor

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In an act of alertness and prompt action, police on Monday nabbed three boot-

leggers and recovered 96 bottles of illicit liquor from their possession.

As per details, information was received at Police Post Parade through reliable sources regarding sale of illicit liquor in area. On this, a team of Police Post Parade under the supervision of SDPO North Sharad Kalu led by SHO Police Station Paeca Danga Inspr Raghbir Singh assisted by Incharge Police Post Parade PSI Lalit Kumar while on patrolling duty rounded up three different suspects namely Balbir Singh, son of Axtar Singh, resident of Main Stop Janipur; Tarseem Lal, son of Chuni Lal, resident of Lallyal Kanachak and Bhim Lal Yadav, son of Dewan Lal, resident of Patoli.

During search, 96 bottles of illicit liquor, including 53 bottles of 180 ml from Balbir Singh, 14 bottles (12 bottles of 750 ml and 2 bottles of 180 ml) from Tarseem Lal and 29 bottles (9 bottles of 750 ml and 20 bottles of 180 ml) from Bhim Lal Yadav, were recovered. In this regard cognizance of the cases has been taken by Police Post Parade and all three accused were arrested.

### Two notorious drug peddlers taken into preventive custody, lodged in Bhadarwah Jail

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BHADARWAH: Continuing its drive to tighten noose over drug peddlers, Doda Police has booked two notorious drug peddlers in Bhadarwah and lodged them in District Jail as preventive detention. While giving details, Police said that a number of complaints were being received at Police Station Bhadarwah regarding involvement of two persons namely Irfan Ahmed, son of Intaiz Ahmed, resident of Ameera Nagar Bhadarwah and Tazeem Hussain, son of Mohd Sakhi, resident of Chanote Bhadarwah in drug peddling. Acting upon the complaints, a detailed report of their involvement in drug peddling was prepared by Police and a team of Police Station led by Inspector Jatinder Singh Rakwal, SHO Bhadarwah arrested both notorious drug peddlers and produced them before the Executive Magistrate 1st Class Bhadarwah, from where they were sent to District Jail Bhadarwah under preventive detention.

### Father-son arrested with poppy straw

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAMBAN: Police foiled a narcotics smuggling bid in Ramsoo by arresting a father-son duo with 7 Kg poppy straw. As per details, during routine checking at Naka Ramsoo, a party intercepted a truck (JK02 AL 6095) for checking, driven by one Ravinder Singh, son of Ameer Singh along with his son Tanveer Singh, both residents of R S Pura, Jammu. During search, approximately 7 Kg poppy straw-like substance was recovered was recovered from vehicle. Duo was arrested and FIR No 36/2022 under sections 8/15/29 of NDPS Act was registered against them at Police Station Ramsoo. The overall recovery and arrests were made by police team under the supervision of Insp Nazir Ahmed, SHO Ramsoo and DySP Banihal Nisar Ahmed and under overall supervision of Mohita Sharma, SSP Ramban.

### Property worth lakhs destroyed in two fire incidents

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: In two fire incidents at Kathua, property worth lakhs was destroyed on Monday. As per details, a fire broke out in house of one Kuldeep Kumar, son of Rasal Chand, resident of Chak Draba Khan, Nagri Kathua in which a car, cattle, and some household items were reduced to ashes. As soon as fire tenders received the information, same rushed to the spot and doused fire after hectic efforts of nearly 1 hour.

Fire also broke out in an another house belonging to one Parshotam Verma, son of Bua Ditta, resident of Mela Panchyat, Hiranagar in which property worth Rs 2.5 lakh was gutted. Police has registered cases in respective police stations and started investigations.

### 109 bovines rescued, 8 smugglers nabbed

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAMBAN: Police on Monday rescued 109 bovines in separate incidents and arrested eight smugglers.

Acting on specific inputs regarding transportation of bovines, a party of Police Post Jawahar Tunnel intercepted three vehicles (one Truck, one Tata Mobile & one Auto Load Carrier) bearing registration numbers JK22-7299, JK20-A-2822 & JK03-D-6624 being driven by Amir Hussain, son of Mohd Hussain Khanday, resident of



Several vehicles damaged in fire which broke out due to short circuit near DC Office, Jammu on Monday.