!! Continuations from Page 1!! LG asks investors...

promote growth and development of MSMEs in the country. Today, Micro, Small, Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) account for more than 30 per cent of India's GDP and 49.5 per cent of exports, thus contributing significantly to economic growth," said the Lt Governor.

"The future economic growth will be driven by the MSMEs. We have taken several steps in the UT such as investment in innovation skills, MSME-centric industrial estates, access to financing, incentives and adequate infrastructure to boost the growth of MSMEs," the Lt Governor added.

Industrial development in J&K aims to create more inclusive, creative and sustainable society. The UT will play an important role as new engine of India's growth in the future. New Industrial Scheme focuses on enabling environment to create jobs and increase productivity, he added.

Speaking on the effective measures taken in order to promote MSMEs, the Lt Governor said, 25 per cent procurements from MSMEs have been made mandatory for Government departments and public sector undertakings and local filter has also been made operational on GeM platform.

Since the launch of Udyam Registration portal in 2020, two lakh MSME units have been registered in J&K. As many as 38,000 micro and small enterprises are run by women.

In the last financial year, 18,000 women-owned enterprises were provided assistance of more than Rs 500 Crore under credit guarantee scheme, said the Lt

On the progress registered to boost the MSME sector, the Lt Governor said, under PMEGP, an unprecedented 21,640 manufacturing and service units were established

As many as 42 industrial estates will be set up in Jammu Kashmir in the next few years and out of these 34 industrial estates will be focused on MSMEs, noted the Lt

All 20 districts are being developed as export hubs and emphasis has been laid on the promotion of products which will boost MSMEs' growth, he added.

There is immense potential for MSMEs in the field of Integrated Processing Facility, Mega Food Park and Cold Chain Logistics. The Holistic Agriculture and Allied Sector Development Plan worth Rs 5013 crores will boost the growth of MSMEs in J&K UT, observed the Lt Governor.

He highlighted the efforts for reforms and strengthening of industrial ecosystem. Massive reforms in terms of basic amenities, infrastructure and banking facilities have ensured stability and made the UT's growth more inclusive, said the Lt

After 5th August 2019, fear-free, corruption-free administration has become an integral part of our work culture. A record 1.88 crore tourists visited Jammu Kashmir last year. The first Foreign Direct Investment in J&K has also taken shape with the groundbreaking ceremony of Emaar Mall at Srinagar. IT towers are also coming up in Jammu and Srinagar, he further said.

Today, Jammu Kashmir offers vast resources with better incentives, better return on Investment, land for setting up industries and business ventures, skilled labour, technical support, improved connectivity, national and international air cargo facility, raw material, cheapest electricity, lowest crime rate, single window clearance and ease of Doing business, observed the Lt Governor.

The work done for industrial development of J&K is clearly visible. In the last two years, Jammu and Kashmir has received 5,372 investment proposals worth Rs 70,000 crore. Proposals worth Rs 24,000 crore from more than 1,800 companies have been approved, he added.

The Lt Governor said the UT Government is making dedicated efforts for GI tagging of niche and premium local products while the export in carpet and pashmina is witnessing an upward trend. We are promoting village industrial units and self-help groups and also developing human resources for Industries 4.0, he added.

The Lt Governor also spoke on the ongoing road infrastructural and other projects to strengthen the connectivity. He further highlighted the land reforms introduced in the last three years and the measures taken to ensure land availability for industries. Dr Krishna Gopal, All India Margdarshak Laghu Udyog Bharati highlighted the favourable conditions for investment and development of industries in Jammu

Kashmir. Prashant Goyal, Principal Secretary Industries & Commerce, J&K outlined the economic indicators and opportunities for Industrial growth in Jammu Kashmir.

Baldevbhai Prajapati, President, Laghu Udyog Bharati; investors, industrialists and entrepreneurs from across the country were present.

Eastern Ladakh row...

at the talks in the resolution of pending issues.

It is learnt that the Indian side insisted on resolving the issues at the remaining friction points of Demchok and Depsang in eastern Ladakh as soon as possible.

The Indian delegation at the dialogue was led by Lt Gen Rashim Bali, Commander of the Leh-based 14 Corps that takes care of security along the LAC in the Ladakh

The talks took place ahead of Chinese Defence Minister Li's visit to New Delhi to attend a defence ministerial meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation on April 27 and 28. India is hosting the meeting under its presidency of the grouping. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh is likely to hold a bilateral meeting with his

Chinese counterpart on the sidelines of the SCO conclave. Sunday's military talks came around four months after the last round of the dia-

ogue between the senior Army commanders of the two sides. The 17th round of military talks was held on December 20. Following the dialogue, ne two sides, in a joint statement, said they exchanged views in ar

structive" manner to resolve the "relevant issues" and that it was agreed to maintain

"security and stability" on the ground in the region.

The statement said the two sides agreed to stay in "close contact", maintain dialogue through military and diplomatic channels and work out a mutually acceptable resolution of the remaining issues at the earliest.

In line with a decision taken at the 16th round of military talks, the two sides carried out disengagement from Patrolling Point 15 in the Gogra-Hotsprings area in September last year.

The Corps Commander-level talks were instituted to resolve the eastern Ladakh row. India has been maintaining that its ties with China cannot be normal unless there is peace in the border areas.

The eastern Ladakh border standoff erupted on May 5, 2020, following a violent clash in the Pangong lake area.

The ties between the two countries nosedived significantly following the fierce clash in the Galwan Valley in June 2020 that marked the most serious military conflict between the two sides in decades.

As a result of a series of military and diplomatic talks, the two sides completed the disengagement process on the north and south banks of the Pangong lake and in the

Third G20 Tourism...

Gulmarg where they will take gondola ride," Singh said.

In Gulmarg, there will be a technical session on promotion of film tourism, he

Representatives of various states, film industry, producers and others will be there and those from states will share their film tourism policies, the secretary said.

Earlier in his address, Singh said that during India's G20 presidency, the Ministry of Tourism has planned to organise a number of events engaging not only government-level stakeholders but also the travel, tourism and hospitality sector.

The whole world is experiencing a recovery in the tourism sector after the COVID-19 pandemic. According to a recent study by the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC), the prediction is that the global tourism economy will grow at 5.2 per cent while the overall economy will grow at 2.5 per cent till 2030, he said. Despite the challenges posed by the pandemic, India has received 6.2 million for-

eign tourists in 2022, with a growth rate of 307.9 per cent, as compared to 1.52 million in 2021, he said. During its G20 presidency, India has focussed on several key priority areas, including sustainable development, digitalisation, and the promotion of inclusive growth,

'We are hopeful that a G20 tourism ministers' conference, due later this year, would focus on sustainable tourism to support environment and create opportunities for

India plans to promote green tourism, open up to 50 new tourism destinations, and launch a publicity campaign in overseas markets during its presidency of the G20 this

year, the top official said. Tourism can be used as a vehicle for promoting awareness about archaeological sites, which can lead to better understanding of cultural heritage of a destination and

promotion of economic and social development of local communities, he said The government is keen to attract global investment into the Indian tourism and hospitality sector along with investments in tourism infrastructure, technology, skill development, startups and more and actively working towards this, the secretary

Rajasthan Tourism Secretary Gayatri Rathore, in her address at the expo, spoke of the recovery made by the sector and how G20 has given the much-needed impetus.

On the heritage tourism front, she said, about 75 per cent of the heritage hotels in India are located in Rajasthan, and many of these properties have been restored and reused attracting tourists.

Arun Gupta re-elected...

who was declared elected as Junior Vice President, defeated Ashu Gupta (1017 votes). For the post of Secretary General, Manish Gupta (1467 votes), was declared elected. He defeated his rivals Deepak Aggarwal (1013 votes) and Ajay Langer (183 votes). For the post of Secretary, Rajesh Gupta (1291 votes) was declared elected. He defeated Raj Gupta (847 votes) and Mukesh Gupta (Mantu) (513 votes)

Rajesh Gupta (1747 votes) has been elected Treasurer by defeating Manik Gupta (926 votes).

The Biennial Elections of CCI for the term 2023-25 were held on Sunday at Royal Park, Greater Kailash, here under the supervision of the election committee headed

The president elect thanked the team of election Committee comprising of Manmohan Singh, Vijay Gupta, Anil Gupta, Kulbhushan Gupta and the Polling Staff for their contribution in conducting the peaceful, free, fair and transparent elections. The president elect also thanked all the members who participated in such a large number by casting their valuable votes and elected their future leader for the term 2023-2025.

Radical preacher Amritpal...

evasion of arrest ever since he and a posse of arms brandishing supporters stormed a police station last month, was seen as a challenge by the country's security apparatus, and brought back fears of the militancy which had stalked Punjab in the 1980s

The preacher was taken into custody in the early hours of the morning at 6.45 am as he came out -- in traditional attire that included a sheathed sword -- of the gurdwara in Rode, Bhindranwale's native village and also the place which he took over last year as the chief of Waris Punjab De.

The pujab police which had completely surrounded the Gurudwara where Singh was hiding, detained the 29-year-old radical under the stringent National Security

"A joint operation was conducted by Amritsar police and the intelligence wing of

Punjab Police. He was located in village Rode based on operational inputs with Punjab Police. He was surrounded from all sides. The village was surrounded by the Punjab Police," said Inspector General of Police Sukhchain Singh Gill.

The special flight which brought him to Assam's Dibrugarh, nearly 2,000 kms from Bhatinda Air Force station, landed at Dibrugarh at 2.20 pm and a double cordon of armed police personnel whisked him away for a medical check-up and other formalities before eventually lodging him in the Central Jail, where nine other associates of his, picked up over the past several weeks, have also been kept.

Shortly after his arrest, a video surfaced online in which the extremist preacher was seen delivering a brief address, indicating that he is surrendering.

Another clip showed him sitting before a portrait of Bhindranwale, who died in a controversial Army operation in 1984 to flush out militants holed up inside Amritsar's Golden Temple.

Gill countered the preacher's claim that it was a "surrender", and underlined that the fugitive was cornered on the basis of intelligence inputs. A message was conveyed to the preacher that he had no chance of escaping, Gill

"NSA warrants were issued against Amritpal Singh and these have been executed

today morning. Further, law will take its own course," he said. In a video message hours after the arrest, Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann said those who disturb peace and harmony in the state will have to face the law, and inno-

cent people will not be disturbed. Mann said he continuously monitored developments during the night, leading to the

Former Akal Takht jathedar Jasbir Singh Rode said he met Amritpal Singh at the gurdwara as the preacher prepared to surrender.

Poonch terror attack...

along with two pictures of the soldier.

Five soldiers were martyred and one was injured after the terrorists attacked the lone Army truck, which was carrying eatables for iftar to a nearby village.

The Army's northern commander visited the attack site on Saturday. The Bhata Dhurian forest area has for long remained a preferred infiltration route for terrorists from across the Line of Control because of its topography, dense forest cover and natural caves.

Dwivedi reviewed the security in the border area and the ongoing combing operation to track down the terrorists

The Northern Command said in a tweet that he was briefed on the actions undertaken so far and exhorted the troops to be steadfast in their resolve.

While the search operation was underway amid a high alert in the twin border districts of Poonch and Rajouri, vehicular movement on the Jammu-Poonch highway resumed Sunday morning after remaining suspended since Thursday evening, offi-

They said traffic was earlier diverted to other routes to secure the highway which connects the twin border districts with Jammu. Some of the people who passed through the scene of the attack said a traffic sign-

board put up by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) bore three bullet marks and the road stretch was strewn with vegetables and fruits. The officials said around 30 people have been detained for questioning so far.

"Among those rounded up are two couples from Degwar in Poonch -- Iqbal and his wife Mudifa and Salam Din and his wife Rashida," an official source said, adding further investigation was underway.

The martyred soldiers were from a Rashtriya Rifles unit deployed for counter-terror operations. Sources earlier said the attack was suspected to have been carried out by a group of three to four terrorists

The attackers possibly spent more than a year in Rajouri and Poonch and had adequate knowledge of the terrain, they added.

The Jammu and Kashmir Gaznavi Force (JKGF) is said to be active in the area and its "commander", Rafiq Ahmed alias Rafiq Nayi, hails from the region.

Currently, three-four terrorist groups are active in the region of Rajouri and Poonch, the sources said. The terrorists who ambushed the Army truck used steel core bullets, capable of piercing an armoured shield, and decamped with the soldiers' weapons, officials said

on Sunday. They said a sniper is believed to have targeted the truck from the front before the other terrorists sprayed bullets and lobbed grenades on it. Experts from various agencies, including the National Security Guard (NSG) and the National Investigation Agency (NIA), have visited the site of the attack over the

past two days and have managed to get a clear picture of the deadly ambush which was laid by the terrorists, the officials said. Meanwhile, members of the Gujjar and Bakarwal communities on Sunday visited an Army unit in the Akhnoor sector here to express their solidarity with the forces.

Mohd Akram, who was leading the 113-member-strong community delegation, appealed to Defence Minister Rajnath Singh to provide free hand to the Army in tackling the threat of cross-border terrorism. "We moved from Banihal tehsil in Ramban district to Akhnoor some 25 years back when militancy was at its peak and it was the Army which provided relief to us and

ensured that we did not face any problem. We strongly condemn the attack on the troops and our community stands with our soldiers," Akram told reporters. He said the terrorists are working at the behest of Pakistan to disturb the peaceful

atmosphere in Jammu and Kashmir and should be dealt with sternly. "We request the defence minister to provide a free hand to the Army to tackle with terrorism," he said. A defence spokesman thanked the community for its concern and said the Guijars

and Bakkarwals are one of the most victimised communities of Pakistan's state-sponsored terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir since the early 90s. "The community has suffered at length, frequently at the cost of precious lives and

property at the hands of terrorists supported from across the border. These valiant people have supported the Indian Army in counter insurgency and counter terrorism operations with great courage and conviction," the spokesman said.

Pattan, Mohammad Shaban Gojri son of Sonaullah Gojri resident of Iqbal Colony efforts, arrested accused persons namely Vinod Kumar, resident of UP at present Pattan, and Favaz Ahmad Najar son of Ab Rahim Najar resident of Cham Mohalla Pattan. Police have seized stake money of Rs 13,140 and playing cards from the gamblers. They have been shifted to police station where they remain in custody. Accordingly, cases under relevant sections of law have been registered in respective police stations and investigations have been initiated.

CRIMERE

Theft case solved; accused arrested, stolen items, cash recovered

STATE TIMES NEWS

BISHNAH: Police on Sunday solved a theft case by arresting an accused and recovered stolen items and cash from his posses-

As per details, a complaint was lodged at Police Station Bishnah by one Santosh Kumari, wife of Joginder Lal Sharma, resident of Lower Kanhal stating that thieves decamped with some household items, clothes and cash from her house. Accordingly, FIR No. 95/2023 under sections 454/380 of IPC was registered at Police Station Bishnah. A team of Police Station Bishnah led by SDPO R S Pura Nikhil Gogna assisted by SHO Bishnah Inspr Vikram Sharma, after putting in strenuous efforts and with help of CCTV



footage, arrested an accused namely Zaffar Hussain, son of Abdul Hussain, resident of Pneyadh Rajouri, at present Ward-8, Teli Basti Bari Brahmana. During search, stolen items and cash was recovered from his possession. More arrests are likely to be made in case.

Vehicle lifter gang busted; 2 arrested, stolen vehicles recovered

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Police on Sunday busted a vehicle lifter gang by arresting two accused and recovered stolen vehicles from their possession.

Incharge Police Post Talab Tillo PSI Sonu Choudhary, after putting in strenuous



As per details, a complaint was lodged at Police Post Talab Tillo by one Amit Bali, son of Sukhdev Raj, resident of Resham Ghar Bakshi Nagar regarding theft of his scooty (JK02BM-3289) from Golpuli, Talab Tillo. In this regard, FIR No.57 /23 under section 379 IPC was registered at Police Station Nowabad Jammu and investigation started. A team of Police Post Talab Tillo led by DySP Hqrs Dr Sunniya Wani assisted by SHO Nowabad Inspr Surinder Raina and

Nitco Lane, Talab Tillo and Prince Sharma, son of Vikrant Sharma, resident of Peermitha, at present Dogra Hall. During questioning, accused confessed their involvement in crime and on their disclosure stolen vehicle along with other vehicles were recovered which included a Scooty (JK02 BM 3289); motorcycle (JK02BN-3426) stolen from Canal Road; Scooty (JK02AR-2395) recovered in FIR No. 40/2023 under section 379 of IPC of Police Station Nowabad.

Vaishno Devi pilgrim dies, four injured in mishap

REASI: A 21-year-old woman died and four members of a family sustained injuries when their car collided with another vehicle in Reasi district, officials said. The victims were returning back to Himachal Pradesh after paying obeisance at Mata Vaishno Devi shrine, the officials said.

They said that a traffic police vehicle, coming from base camp Katra towards Jammu, collided with car at Moori, injuring all five persons aboard, who were identified as Vivek Kapoor (43), his wife Monika, their relatives Shivani (21) and daughters Muktika (20) and Rashita (11). The injured were rushed to community health centre Katra where Shivani was declared as brought dead, the officials said, adding after initial treatment, the rest of the injured were referred to Government Medical College (GMC) hospital Jammu for specialised treatment. Police has registered a case and further investigation is on, the officials added.

UP man arrested for abetting teen girl's suicide in Samba ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: Police on Sunday arrested a man for allegedly abetting suicide of an 18year-old girl in Samba, an official said.

The girl, a resident of Uttar Pradesh's Hardhoi district, was found hanging under mysterious circumstances at her rented accommodation in Bari Brahmana area on Wednesday, SSP Benam Tosh said. The inquest proceedings led to the arrest of one Sahil Wilson, hailing from Kanpur in Uttar Pradesh, he said. After completing postmortem and other legal formalities, the inquest proceedings were conducted expeditiously. It was also revealed that girl had committed suicide, Tosh added. The senior police official said the inquest was converted into an FIR and Wilson, who allegedly abetted girl to kill herself, was arrested. Further investigation is underway.

8 gamblers arrested, stake money seized ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

HANDWARA/BARAMULLA: Acting tough against social crimes, police on Sunday arrested 8 gamblers in Handwara & Baramulla and seized stake money from their possession.

In Handwara, a Police party of Police Post Langate while on patrolling near Shanoo area of Langate apprehended 4 gamblers, who were identified as Fayaz Ahmad Bhat son of Ghulam Rasool Bhat resident of Goripora Dardpora Sopore, Shabir Ahmad Chopan son of Gh Mohammad resident of Bumai Sopore, Showkat Ahmad Khan son of Ab Majeed Khan resident of New Colony Sopore and Ishfaq Altaf son of Altaf Hussain Shah resident of Hamam Sopore. Police also seized stake money amounting to Rs 19,380 and playing cards from gamblers, who were shifted to police station where they remained in custody.

In Baramulla, acting on specific information about gambling activities in Par Mohalla Pattan, a police party of Police Station Pattan raided the specific site and arrested 4 gamblers on the spot. They have been identified as Sajid Ahmad Najar son of Ali Mohammad & Showkat Ahmad Waza son of Gh Nabi both residents of

2 drug peddlers arrested; psychotropic substances recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BARAMULLA: Continuing its efforts to eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, Police on Sunday arrested 2 drug peddlers and recovered psychotropic substances from their possession.

As pr the details, a party of Police Station Tangmarg under the supervision of SDPO Tangmarg Shri Imtiaz Ahmed during routine patrolling at Ferozpora Tangmarg intercepted 2 suspects. During search, 48 tablets of SpasmoProxyvor Plus & 75 tablets of Alprox were recovered from their possession. They accused were identified as Waseem Ahmad Dar son of Mohd Sultan Dar resident of Watalpora & Javid Mohiuddin Bhat son of Gh Mohiuddin Bhat resident of Allahpora Karhama. They were arrested and shifted to police station where they remain in custody. Accordingly, a case under relevant sections of law was registered in Police Station Tangmarg and further investigation started.

Man crushed under train

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BARI BRAHMANA: A man got crushed under train in Bari Brahmana area or Sunday. According to information, a person suddenly came in front of the train late at night due to which he died on the spot. After getting information, police reached the spot and shifted body to hospital. His identity is yet to be ascertained.

BSF troops open fire at drone spotted along IB in Samba ■ STATE TIMĖS NĖWS

SAMBA: Alert troops of the Border Security Force (BSF) on Saturday morning opened fire at a drone seen flying over their outpost along the international border at Narayanpur in Ramgarh sector. The drone, with blinking white and red lights was flying approximately 600-700 metres above the ground, officials said. After BSF troops fired nearly 20 rounds towards it, the object flew back to Pakistan side

Theft at Chenab Agro Chem Limited, 2 expensive motors stolen

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: A case of theft came to light in an industrial unit namely Chenab Agree Chem Limited located in Panchayat Govindsar, just 4 Km away from district headquarters. Thieves have stolen two expensive motors from the unit.

Unit manager, Nitesh Mahajan told that he is running industry in Kathua for last 25 years and till date there has not been any incident like theft but for first time a theft happened in unit.

He informed that two valuable motors worth Rs 1 to 1.5 lakh have been stolen from premises of the unit. Hatli police has registered a case under relevant section and started investigation.