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Amid protests, grenade...

job to his kin. We will continue to fight for that".

J&K BJP chief Ravinder Raina, who took part in the cremation, said targeted killings are evil designs of Pakistan to wound Kashmir and the neighbouring country has always shed blood of Kashmiri people.

In Jammu, Bajrang Dal, Shiv Sena, Dogra Front and VHP held protests demonstrations against Pakistan and terrorists blaming them for selective killings of Hindus in Kashmir.

Amid anti-Pakistan and anti-terrorist sloganising, they also burnt effigy of Pakistan.

"Over 18 Hindus have been killed in Kashmir by terrorists since 2019 end. 13 minority Hindus have been wounded in attacks. Government has failed to protect the minorities in Kashmir", claimed Bajrang Dal head Rakesh Kumar.

Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal, accompanied by DIG Rajouri-Poonch Range, Vivek Gupta and SSP Mohammad Aslam, today met with the family of Ranjith Singh who was killed in a grenade explosion at Baramulla and expressed solidarity with the bereaved family members.

Family and villagers of the Bakhar area staged a symbolic protest seeking justice for the victim and government job for one of the family members.

The Deputy Commissioner visited the spot of the protest and pacified the bereaved family. He expressed sympathies with the family and assured all possible help from the district administration.

The Deputy Commissioner also handed over ex gratia relief of Rs. 1 lakh to the bereaved family.

Criminal proceedings can't...

opined that the complainant has exaggerated the allegations against the petitioners and on this ground, the prosecution is required to be quashed. Court observed that argument is without merit for the reason that internal correspondence between the police officers during the investigation of the case does not reflect the final opinion of the investigating agency. "During the course of investigation of a case, various queries, observations and remarks are recorded by superior officers of the police but ultimately what is approved finally reflects the opinion of the investigating agency. If that opinion of the investigating agency is supported by the material assembled during the investigation of the case, the Court cannot quash the proceedings simply because some superior officer has, at some point in time during the investigation of the case, expressed a contrary opinion," the Court observed and dismissed the petition.

Centre asks states...

to reduce the impact of natural disasters on human lives.

The two-day conference is being held to review the preparedness of states and UTs for dealing with any natural disasters that may occur during the coming south-west monsoon season.

This conference is being held in physical mode after a gap of two years due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The home secretary observed that Union Home Minister Amit Shah had said that after 2014, there has been a big change in the approach to disaster management as earlier the approach was only relief-centric but now the approach of saving human lives has become an additional component of disaster management.

It should be ensured that lives as far as possible should not be lost in incidents such as heat waves and lightning, he emphasised.

Bhalla underlined the importance of taking the right steps and investing resources in a timely manner to further reduce risks.

Attempts should be made to increase efforts towards risk reduction and mitigation, with the aim to reduce loss of human life to near zero, he said.

He called on states to undertake capacity building of urban local bodies, their State Disaster Response Forces (SDRFs), fire service and civil defence since they are the first responders during a calamity.

He also emphasised the importance of building capacities at the city and district levels and involving communities.

The home secretary said besides floods, in recent years, cyclonic storms, forest fires, heatwave conditions and lightning strikes have shown an increasing trend.

He stressed that the key to effective disaster risk management is to build synergies and effective coordination amongst institutions.

This could be ensured by preparing action plans at local, district and state levels, he said.

During the conference, various states will share their preparedness, experience and best practices evolved for handling various calamities over the years.

Representatives of 27 states, seven UTs, representatives of the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), central ministries, the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) and the India Meteorological Department (IMD) are participating in the conference.

Officials of the Central Water Commission (CWC), the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), the Geological Survey of India (GSI) and other scientific organizations along with the Armed Forces are taking part in the conference.

CRIME REPORT

Vehicle seized for carrying goods with tax-related discrepancies, polythene bags

STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: Police on Wednesday seized a vehicle carrying goods for tax related discrepancies and polythene carry-bags of below recommended microns.

As per details, a team under supervision of Ranjeet Singh Deputy Commissioner Enforcement Kathua HQ Lakhampur along with R K Vaid AC, Kaka Ram STO, Azhar Amin STO and Insp Anil Sharma, SI Darshan Kumar, Guard Ajay Kumar and Omkar Singh intercepted a vehicle (JK-03-J-3760) enroute from New Delhi to Srinagar. During checking, besides detecting tax-related discrepancies in loaded articles, a huge quantity of banned polythene carry-bags, below the recommended microns level, were found in vehicle. After conducting legal proceedings under GST Act, the vehicle was handed over to anti-polythene check post Lakhampur for further appropriate action under rules.

Woman among four arrested with banned drugs in Katra

STATE TIMES NEWS

REASI: Continuing drive against drug abuse launched by District Police Reasi, teams of Police Station Katra during surprise Nakas and raids at various locations in and around Katra town registered 2 FIRs and arrested 4 notorious drug-peddlers besides recovering 2 gm Heroin (Chitta), 600 gm Ganja and 600 capsules of Tramadol from their possessions.

Cases registered against drug peddlers include FIR No. 144/2022 under sections 8/21/22 of NDPS Act registered at Police Station Katra against accused Ajay Kumar; son of Raj Kumar; resident of Kundrorian, Katra and Sunny Sharma, son of Ashok Kumar; resident of Nangal Tehsil Katra. Another FIR No. 145/2022 under sections 8/20/21/22 of NDPS Act was registered at Police Station Katra against accused namely Sunil Kumar, son of Yash Paul, resident of MH Road Udhampur and Rekha Devi, SHO of Subash Chander, resident of Railway Road Katra. All accused were arrested and vehicles used in crime were seized. Further investigations are going on to unearth forward and backward linkages of drug-peddlers. Superintendent of Police Reasi, while sharing details, conveyed that Reasi Police is committed to eradicate menace of drug abuse and illicit liquor smuggling from the area and while working on this front, Reasi Police is leaving no stone unturned to eradicate the drug menace from society.

Two notorious drug-peddlers arrested with Charas

STATE TIMES NEWS

DODA: Continuing drive under operation Sanjeevni, Police on Wednesday arrested two notorious drug peddlers with Charas at Thathri



and Bhalla in Bhadarwah.

While giving details, Police said that a party from Police Post Karara led by Head Constable M. O. H. Shah Nawaz, during Naka duty at Karara observed a suspect, who tried to flee on seeing Naka but he was chased and apprehended. After his search,

295 gm Charas like substance was recovered from his possession. On enquiry, the accused disclosed his identity as Mohd Hussain, son of Mohd Ramzan, resident of Domail Bhadarwah. FIR No 58/2022 under sections 8/20 of NDPS Act was registered at Police Station Thathri and investigation of case started.

Another drug peddler namely Mohd Yaseen, son of Mohd Iqbal, resident of Droundi Bhalla Tehsil Bhalla was apprehended with 250 gm Poppy Straw like substance on Bhalla road by a party from Police Post Bhalla led by PSI Ankush Kumar, Incharge Police Post Bhalla. Accordingly FIR No.76/2022 under sections 8/15 of NDPS Act was registered at Police Station Bhadarwah and investigation started. The forward/backward links of accused are being ascertained to unearth the source of supplier / buyers.

The recovery of contraband items were made by parties of Police Post Karara & Police Post Bhalla under supervision of Inspector Amrit Katoch, SHO PS Thathri and Inspector Jatinder Singh Rakwal, SHO Bhadarwah respectively under the overall supervision of Aftab Ahmed Mir, Addl SP Bhadarwah.

Two narco-smugglers arrested, heroin recovered

STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: In its drive against drug smugglers and their propagators, Samba Police under supervision of SSP Dr Abhishek Mahajan arrested two drug peddlers in two separate incidents at Bari-Brahmana and Samba, and recovered approximately 15.20 gm Heroin (Chitta) like substance from their possession.

In first instance, a party from Police Station Samba while on patrolling duty, apprehended a suspect on border road near Chak Manga, Samba and recovered 8.70 gm Heroin (Chitta) like substance recovered from his possession. The accused was identified as Abdul Habib alias Veer Khan, son of Mam Din, resident of Ladana Ramnagar, District Udhampur at present Nanak Chack Samba. FIR No 123/2022 under sections 8/21/22 of NDPS Act was registered at Police Station Samba.

Similarly, in another incident, a party from Police Station Bari-Brahmana, laid a surprise check point at Saro Adda near Bridge and intercepted a suspect. During frisking of accused, approximately 6.50



gm Heroin (Chitta) like substance was recovered. The accused, identified as Shaib Akhtar, son of Mohd Anwar, resident of Draj, Tehsil Kotranka, Rajouri was arrested and contraband item was seized. FIR No. 101/2022 under sections 8/21/22 of NDPS Act was registered against him at Police Station Bari-Brahmana and investigation started.

Smuggler arrested; 12 Kg Charas, Rs 5.60 lakh cash recovered

STATE TIMES NEWS

KUPWARA: Police on Wednesday arrested a drug peddler and recovered 12 Kg Charas and cash amounting to Rs 5.60 lakh from his possession.

As per details, specific information was received that one Mohd Shafiq Gojar, son of Jumma Gojar, resident of Diver Lolab, is indulged in narcotics smuggling and has hoarded huge quantity of narcotic substance in his house. Acting swiftly, a police team led by DySP Lolab and SHO Lalpora rushed to the spot and along with Executive Magistrate. During search, police recovered 12 Kg Charas like substance and cash amounting to Rs 5,64,000, believed to be the proceeds of narcotics sale. The accused was arrested and FIR No 27/2022, under relevant sections of NDPS Act was registered against him at Police Station Lalpora.

Attack on police at Ban Toll Plaza: Bovine smugglers arrested

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Police have detained some people for attacking police officers at Ban toll plaza in Nagrota. However, names of those arrested by the police have not been made public.

A senior police officer said that members of Gujjar community, who had attacked police team and were carrying cattle from Jammu on foot, have been identified and few of them were arrested.

Pertinent to mention here that under the supervision of Additional District Commissioner Jammu Rakesh Dubey, Nagrota Police laid a Naka at Ban toll plaza during which members of Gujjar community, who were taking cattle on foot towards Valley, were asked to show order of District Commissioner, Jammu for taking cattle. On this, members of Gujjar community got enraged and attacked on-duty police personnel with sticks. In the attack, five police personnel including SDPO Nagrota, SHO Nagrota, outpost Incharge Jagti were injured.

Traffic police headquarters partially damaged in fire incident

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Traffic police headquarters and Police Station Kothibagh got partially damaged in a fire incident in Srinagar on Wednesday.

As per details, a massive fire broke out in top floor of Traffic Police Headquarters building at around 4:30 AM, due to which top floor of Headquarters and Kothibagh Police station got damaged while other high-end equipment of Traffic Control room were burnt to ashes. The cause of fire was not known immediately however a case has been registered in this regard.



India successfully flight tests naval anti-ship missile

STATE TIMES NEWS

BALASOR NEW DELHI : The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Indian Navy Wednesday successfully conducted the maiden flight-test of indigenously-developed Naval anti-ship missile launched from a Naval helicopter from Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur off the coast of Odisha, DRDO sources said.

The mission met all its objectives. It is the first indigenous air launched anti-ship missile system developed for the Indian Navy, they said.

The missile followed the desired sea skimming trajectory and reached the designated target with high degree of accuracy, validating the control, guidance and mission algorithms, they said.

Statting that all sub-systems performed satisfactorily, DRDO said that sensors deployed across the test range and near impact point tracked the missile trajectory and captured all events.

The missile employed many new technologies, including an indigenously developed launcher for the helicopter. The missile guidance system includes state-of-the-art navigation system and integrated avionics. The flight test was witnessed by senior officers of DRDO and the Indian Navy. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh congratulated DRDO, Indian Navy and associated teams for the maiden developmental flight test. He said, India has attained a high level of capability in indigenous design and development of missile systems.

Water supply in...

proposed to be taken over by the Jal Shakti (PHE) department soon. He was informed that a joint team of Relief Organization and Jal Shakti (PHE) department is in the process of making assessment of existing infrastructure to be taken over by the Jal Shakti (PHE) Department.

He directed the engineers to ensure that thorough technical assessment of the scheme is made to ensure its sustainability and smooth functioning for providing adequate water supply to the dwellers of Jagti Township for Kashmir Migrants.

SC orders release...

also used in the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid land dispute case.

The Centre had earlier defended the Tamil Nadu governor's decision to send the mercy plea of Perarivalan to the president.

Additional Solicitor General K M Nataraj had said that only the president can decide the plea regarding remission, commutation and mercy plea of an individual convicted under the central law.

On March 9, the top court had granted bail to Perarivalan while taking note of his long incarceration and no history of complaints when out on parole.

The top court has been hearing pleas including the one in which Perarivalan sought suspension of his life sentence in the case till the Multi Disciplinary Monitoring Agency (MDMA) probe is completed.

The CBI, in its affidavit of November 20, 2020, had told the apex court that the Tamil Nadu governor has to take a call on grant of remission to Perarivalan.

Later, the governor referred the mercy plea to the President of India saying he does not have the power to decide it.

The mercy plea has been pending since then and the apex court said till the time the legal issue over the power to grant remission is decided, it would grant the bail to the convict.

The CBI had said Perarivalan was not the subject matter of further investigation carried out by the CBI-led MDMA which is conducting a probe on the aspect of larger conspiracy as per the mandate of the Jain Commission report.

The Jain commission of inquiry in the assassination of the former prime minister has recommended a probe into the larger conspiracy by MDMA, and it required monitoring/tracking of absconding suspects and the role of Sri Lankan and Indian nationals in the case.

The state government had earlier told the top court that the Cabinet had already passed a resolution, on September 9, 2018, recommending to the governor to prematurely release all seven convicts in the case.

The MDMA was set up in 1998 on the recommendations of the Justice M C Jain Commission of Inquiry which had probed the conspiracy aspect of Gandhi's assassination.

Gandhi was assassinated on the night of May 21, 1991 at a poll rally in Tamil Nadu's Sriperumbudur by a woman suicide bomber, identified as Dhanu. Fourteen others, including Dhanu herself, were also killed.

Gandhi's assassination was probably the first case in the country of suicide bombing which had claimed the life of a high-profile leader.

In its May 1999 order, the top court had upheld the death sentence of four convicts -- Perarivalan, Murugan, Santhan and Nalini.

In April 2000, the Tamil Nadu governor had commuted the death sentence of Nalini on the basis of the state government's recommendation and an appeal by former Congress president and Rajiv Gandhi's widow Sonia Gandhi.

On February 18, 2014, the top court had commuted the death sentence of Perarivalan to life imprisonment, along with that of two other prisoners -- Santhan and Murugan -- on the grounds of an 11-year delay in deciding their mercy pleas by the Centre.

GoM finalises report...

race courses & online gaming has come to a consensus. The report of our submissions will be handed over to Hon'ble FM, Smti. @nsitharaman Ji in a day or two & the matter will be presented in the next @GST_Council Meeting," Sangma tweeted.

At present, services of casinos, horse racing and online gaming attract 18 per cent GST.

The government had in May last year set up a panel of state ministers for better valuation of services of casinos, online gaming portal and race courses for levying Goods and Services Tax (GST).

The report of the GoM is likely to be taken up in the next meeting of the GST Council expected later this month.

Other state ministers in the eight-member GoM include Maharashtra deputy chief minister Ajit Pawar, Gujarat finance minister Kamubhai Patel, Goa panchayati raj minister Mauniv Godinho, Tamil Nadu finance minister P Thiaga Rajan, Uttar Pradesh finance minister Suresh Khanna and Telangana finance minister T Harish Rao.

SC upholds provisions...

the Constitution, it held.

Dismissing the plea of the bar body, which also sought a branch of NGT in all 28 States and 8 union territories, Justice Roy, writing the verdict, said there were 2237 pending cases in five NGT branches in the country.