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BSF detects suspected underground cross-border tunnel in Samba

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: BSF on Wednesday detected a suspected underground cross-border tunnel in Samba district of Jammu and Kashmir, nearly a fortnight after security forces gunned down two suicide bombers of Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) outfit who had infiltrated from Pakistan, officials said.

Deputy Inspector General of BSF (Jammu) S P S Sandhu said a small opening, believed to be a suspected tunnel, was found in a general area near fencing in Samba.

Due to darkness further search could not be carried out. Detailed search will be carried out early in the morning at first light, Sandhu, who is the public relations officer of the force, said, sharing a few pictures of the suspected tunnel.

However, BSF sources said the suspected tunnel was detected by the troops



(L to R) Underground cross-border tunnel in Samba district & BSFmen patrolling along IB.

during the ongoing anti-tunnelling drive in the border outpost area of Chak Faqira around 5.30 pm.

A newly dug tunnel at a distance of 150 metres from the IB and 50 metres from the border fence was detected opposite Pakistani post Chaman Khurd (Piaz) which is 900 metres from the Indian side, an official said, asking not to be named.

He said the opening is about 300 metres from the

border outpost Chak Faqira and 700 metres from the last Indian village.

BSF has launched a massive drive to detect any tunnel all along the International Border (IB) following the April 22 encounter in Sunjwan area of Jammu when two heavily-armed JeM terrorists, wearing suicide vests, were eliminated in an encounter after they attacked a bus carrying Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) per-

sonnel. An Assistant-sub inspector of CISF was killed and nine security personnel, including two policemen, were injured in the encounter.

The subsequent investigation led to the arrest of three conspirators including a truck driver and his helper who transported the Pashtu-speaking terrorists from Sapwal border in Samba district to Jammu in the middle of the night the previous day.

NC Sarpanch among 4 drug peddlers arrested

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Continuing its efforts to eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, police on arrested 3 drug peddlers including a Sarpanch affiliated with National Conference in Budgam and recovered contraband substances from their possession. Besides, also arrested 1 drug peddler who was evading his arrest.

As per the details, officers from Police Station

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Committee constituted to check littering of plastic waste on National Highway in J&K UT

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The government on Wednesday constituted Committee for suggesting measures to check littering of plastic waste along the National Highway in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir.

"Sanction is accorded to the constitution of Committee, for suggesting measures to check the littering of plastic waste along the National Highway in the

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Major reshuffle in Administration Two Addl Chief Secys, 2 Prpl Secys among 21 IAS, 12 JKAS officers transferred

► Dulloo Addl CS Agriculture; Vivek Addl CS Finance; Parmar Prpl Secy Jal Shakti; Navin Prpl Secy H&ME

► Raghav Secy Planning; Ramesh Div Com Jammu; Avny DC Jammu; Pandey DC Kathua; Jyotsna DC Udh; Sehrish DC Baramulla; Rahul Comm JMC; Akshay Dir Info; Rajesh Chairman JKSSB; Anshul CEO SMVDB; Khalid DC Kupwara

JAMMU: The J&K Government on Wednesday ordered major reshuffle in civil administration.

According to order issued by Manoj Kumar Dwivedi, Principal Secretary, General Administration Department, Atal Dulloo, IAS (AGMUT:1989), Financial Commissioner (Additional Chief Secretary), Finance Department. He shall continue to hold the charge of the posts of Administrative Secretary, Industries and Commerce Department and Chairman, BOPEE, has been transferred and posted as Financial Commissioner (Additional Chief Secretary), Agriculture Production Department; Vivek Bhardwaj, IAS (WB:1990), Financial Commissioner (Additional Chief Secretary), Health and Medical

Education Department, holding additional charge of Administrative Secretary, Industries & Commerce Department, Civil Aviation Department and Chairman, BOPEE, has been transferred and posted as Financial Commissioner (Additional Chief Secretary), Finance Department. He shall continue to hold the charge of the posts of Administrative Secretary, Industries and Commerce Department and Chairman, J&K BOPEE, in addition to his own duties, till further orders.

Alok Kumar, IRS, Principal Secretary, Youth Services and Sports

Department, holding additional charge of Administrative Secretary, Science & Technology Department and Estates Department, shall also hold the charge of the posts of Administrative Secretary, Civil Aviation Department and Civil Aviation Commissioner; Ashok Kumar Parmar, IAS (AGMUT:1992), Principal Secretary, Irrigation and Flood Control Department, holding additional charge of Administrative Secretary, Mining Department, has been transferred and posted as Principal Secretary, Jal Shakti Department;

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Under court orders, DC Jammu to head committee to find out which agency constructed Nallahs/roads

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In compliance of the orders of the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir on writ petition OWP No.1026/2014 titled 'Arun Sharma v/s State of Jammu and Kashmir & Ors', Deputy the government constituted a committee headed by Deputy Commissioner, Jammu to find out which agency constructed Nallahs/roads.

As per order issued by by Manoj Kumar Dwivedi, Principal Secretary, General Administration Department, Deputy Commissioner, Jammu will be the Chairman of the committee while Additional Deputy

Commissioner, Jammu; Rajnesh Kumar, JKAS, Additional Secretary, PW (R&B) Department; Rakesh Kumar, JKAS, Additional Secretary , Housing and Urban Development Department; Sanjay Kumar Bhat, JKAS, Additional Secretary, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Department; and any other Member as may be co-opted by the Committee will be its Member.

"The Committee shall hold inquiry in the matter so as to find out which agency or department has

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BJP Govt ‘hero’ in publicity, we were ‘zero’ as Cong failed to publicise its work: Azad

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NAGPUR: Senior Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad on Wednesday said the BJP government is "hero" in publicity, while his party and the dispensation led by it were "zero" on that front as they "failed to publicise" their work and achievements.

He was speaking at the Lokmat Times Excellence in Healthcare Awards 2021 here.

Azad said his 42 years as an elected representative, his tenure as the chief minister of the erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir state and as the Union health minister gave

him the "biggest job satisfaction", wherein he undertook several innovations and implemented new ideas for the welfare of the people.

He recalled that he had asked the then Prime Minister Manmohan Singh to allot him health portfolio when he was made a union minister, to which Singh said that ministry was too small for an experienced leader like him.

"But I was lucky enough as I was made a health minister. I told the PM that I want to do something for the country, want to work in health sector and bring my ideas into ex-



ecution," he said.

Azad said he brought a basic paradigm shift in the country's health care sector and introduced major changes in land use for building medical colleges, for increasing the age for med-

ical teaching faculty.

Taking the name of BJP leader Devendra Fadnavis, who was on present on the dais, Azad said, "Their government is hero in publicity, but we were zero in publicity...completely zero..It is good, I appreciate them and I blame myself, my government and my party that we failed miserably whatever we did we could not publicise."

The veteran Congress leader said the most basic thing that India and the world should work on is improving health and education. Azad praised

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Rain-related incidents kill two in Jammu, national highway closed

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Two girls were killed in rain-related incidents as heavy downpour lashed various parts of the region on Wednesday causing a landslide on Jammu-Srinagar National Highway that led to its closure, authorities said.

A thick cover of cloud benighted the region that witnessed rain in the early hours of Tuesday, bringing down the temperature by over 3 degrees celsius, they said.

A 13-year-old girl sustained critical injuries as she was struck by lightning in Manwal area of Udhampur

district. She succumbed to injuries in a hospital on Tuesday night, officials said. In another incident, an 18-year old girl, who had gone to collect fire wood from forest in Charala area in Doda district, died after a tree fell on her due to high-velocity wind, they said.

According to officials, a few houses in Jammu region and power lines in Doda, Kishtwar, Reasi, and Rajouri districts suffered damages after trees fell on them. However, all power lines have been restored.

Banihal in Ramban district and Bhaderwah in Doda

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SSP Crime Kashmir, SP Sopore, SP Shopian among 9 IPS officers transferred

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The government on Thursday transferred nine IPS officers.

According to Home Department order, Imtiaz Ismail Parry, IPS (RR:2009), SSP Crime Kashmir, has been transferred and posted as Commandant IRP 8th Battalion; Amritpal Singh, IPS (RR:2014), SP Shopian, has been transferred and posted as SSP Crime Kashmir; Sudhanshu Verma, IPS (RR:2015), SP Sopore has been transferred and posted as Addl SP Crime, Jammu; Sandeep Gupta, IPS (RR:2015), SP Handwara has been transferred and posted as SP (Tech) CID Hqrs; Sheema Nabi Qasba, IPS (RR:2016), SP (Tech) CID Hqrs has been transferred and posted as SP Handwara; Tanushree,

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Court awards life-imprisonment to four in murder case

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SAMBA: Principal Sessions Judge Samba Sonia Gupta on Wednesday awarded life-imprisonment to four persons in connection with murder case.

The court awarded life-imprisonment to Jagmandeep Singh @ JD, son of Chanchal Singh, resident of Trikuta Nagar, Jaswinder Singh @ Jimmy, son of Kulbir Singh, resident of Ward No. 72 Bhor Camp, Jarnail Singh @ Katta, son of Harpal Singh, resident of Ward No. 72 Bhor Camp, Jammu and Ramesh Kumar @ Chacha, son of Jia Lal,

resident of Rehari Chungi Jammu in murder on land dispute.

Madan Lal, son of Rohu Ram, resident of Channi Himmat Jammu was killed in Kartholi in August 2010 by the convicted persons.

As per case, on August 12, 2010 at 7:45 AM, an information was received from reliable sources at Police Station Bari Brahmana, that a vehicle No. JK02H-9654 (Tata Sumo) driven by an unknown driver rashly and negligently from Jammu to Vijaypur could not be controlled due to high speed at Kartholi on National

Highway and hit scooter No. JK02AL-9076 (Vespa) being driven by Madan Lal, on its rear and due to this accident, the scooterist Madan Lal succumbed to his injuries on spot and that the tata sumo driver fled away with the offending vehicle.

On the basis of this information a case was registered at Police Station Bari Brahmana Under Sections 279/304-A RPC.

During investigation it was found that the offending vehicle No. JK02H-9654 was being driven by Simranjeet Singh, son

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Civilian who inadvertently crossed LoC sent back to PoK

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: A man, who had inadvertently crossed the Line of Control and entered India, was sent back to Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) on humanitarian grounds on Tuesday, officials said.

Mohammad Hussain, a resident of Kotli (PoK), entered Indian territory on April 28 via Tarkundi area of Poonch, they said.

Indian Army officials along with civilian officials handed over Hussain to authorities in PoK at the Poonch-Rawalakote crossing point in Jammu and

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DGP reviews Police functioning, Amarnathji Yatra preparations

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Director General of Police J&K Dilbag Singh chaired a meeting of senior Police officers here at PHQ and reviewed the functioning of PHQ and other wings of J&K Police. Preparedness of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra (SANJY) was also reviewed during the meeting.

Spl. DG Crime J&K A.K Choudhary, ADGSP SJM Gillani, M. K. Sinha, IGP Kashmir Vijay Kumar, IGP (CIV) PHQ, Alok Kumar, AISG of PHQ, SSP Budgam, CAO PHQ and other gazetted officers of the PHQ



DGP Dilbag Singh chairing a meeting of senior Police officers at PHQ, Srinagar on Wednesday.

attended the meeting.

During the meeting the DGP sought reports from the wing heads and PHQ officers on their functioning

and status of different proposals which were deliberated during previously held meetings. The DGP

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New defence tech to be identified for Northern Command: Lt Gen Dwivedi

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
UDHAMPUR: The Northern Army Commander Lieutenant General Upendra Dwivedi said that two-day tech symposium here from Friday will pave the way to identify suitable technologies and products for subsequent trials and induction into armed forces operating in Northern Command.

Over 160 top companies will be showcasing their products in defence, surveillance and security sectors at the North Tech Symposium to be held at Udhampur from May 6 to enhance the Atmanirbharta' drive of the Indian government in defence technology.

Northern Tech Symposium 2022 is being organised on May 6 and 7 at Udhampur by the Army at Northern Command in its bid to promote make in India' initiative in defence technology, Northern Command defence spokesperson Colonel Abhinav Navneet said. The Northern Command will be looking for drone and anti-drone technology, robotics and artificial intelligence, virtual reality and aug-

‘High standard of operational preparedness needs to be maintained along LAC’

mented reality, fire power, security solutions, disruptive technologies, individual force protection and habitat and medical innovations in this tech symposium, Lieutenant General Dwivedi said.

"The symposium will pave the way to identify suitable technologies and products for subsequent trials and induction into Northern Command, as also facilitate defence industry interface with the field army to orient their products towards specific operational requirements", he said in an interview to PTI on Wednesday.

Asked about the focus of the symposium, he said that it is a unique technology demonstration platform aimed at knowledge diffusion on contemporary military technologies and providing the avenues for procurement. "The broad theme for the

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WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)

Max: 29.1°C Min: 21.2°C

Humidity

Max : 48 Min : 42

Temperature (Srinagar)

Max: 31.8°C Min: 16.6°C

Humidity

Max : 74 Min: 36

Sunset : 19:15 Hours

Sunrise : 05:39 Hours



Prime Minister Narendra Modi meeting President of France, Emmanuel Macron at Elysee Palace in Paris on Wednesday.