## !! Continuations from Page 1!! 10 Vaishno Devi...

to be human error or over speeding.

"It is possible that the driver might have dozed off on the wheel. It's a high flyover kind of road from where the bus fell off, so the reason could also be overspeeding. It s part of our investigation," he told reporters.

A CRPF officer said 10 bodies have been recovered.

As per police statement, the ten deceased have been identified as driver Ganesh Sharma resident of son of Jagdish Sharma resident of Amritsar, Punjab, Kailash Sharma age 65 yrs son of Sita Ram resident of Lakhisarai, Bihar, Lalita Devi age 30 yrs wife of Manoj Kumar resident of Amritsar, Punjab, Krish Sharma age 12 yrs son of Manij resident of Amritsar, Punjab, Arvind Sharma son of Mohinder Sharma resident of Amritsar, Punjab, Bimla Devi wife of Meena Sharma, Phooli Devi wife of Mohinder Sharma resident of Uttar Pradesh, . Kunti Devi age 50 yrs wife of Girdhari Sharma, Rajinder age 45 yrs resident of Lakhisarai, Bihar and Julli Devi wife of Arvind Sharma resident Bihar.

Moreover, 66 injured have been identified as Rohan Sharma (27) of Lakhisaryi Bihar, Muna Sharma (27)of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Shallu Kumari (18)of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Nisha Kumari (17 )of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Lov Sharma (13) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Baso Mistri (60)of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Kunti Devi (50) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Batul Devi (50) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Abhishek Kumar (21) of Lakhisaryi Bihar , Himanshu Sharma (13) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Biba Sharma (28) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Lado (2) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Jaana Sharma (50) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Banarsi Sharma (50) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Lakshman (32) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Dinesh Sharma (40) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Ram Dulari Devi (55) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Pintu Kumar (20) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Radia Devi (60) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Parteema Devi (40) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Abhishesk (18) Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Nitish (20)of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Poonam Sharma (45)of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Rubi Devi (35) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Nitu Devi (35) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Payal (18) Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Shobha (19) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Geeta Devi (35) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Vikash (35) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Parva Devi (60) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Ravinder Panday (63) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Unknown male age approx 50 yrs of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Gopali Mistri (65)of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Chinta Devi (64) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Bittu (20) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Pankaj Kumar (21) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Nitika (11) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Phool Devi (60) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Ajay Sharma (47)of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Nageshwari Devi (60) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Sushant (27) Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Rohit Sharma (23) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Avinash Kumar (29) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Prince (13) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Virnder Sharma (65) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Ryansh (4) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Pooja Sharma (35) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Bimla Devi (50) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Manoj Sharma (41) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Preeti (16) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Vinesh Sharma (45) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Rahul (8) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Soni (5) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Rajesh Sharma (35) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Malti Sharma (26) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Roohi (6 Months) of Lakhisharyi Bihar, Pooja (35) of Lakhisaryi Bihar, Komal Sharma (11) of Bihar, Sarita (12) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Ranjana (35) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Sonu (18) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Ram Brij (60) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar, Sarju Devi (35) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar and Ankush Sharma (22) of Lakhhisaryi Bihar

Lt Governor Manoj Sinha approved an ex-gratia of Rs 5 lakh each for the next of kin of those who lost their lives and Rs 50,000 each for those seriously injured. Condoling the deaths, he said in a tweet, "Extremely pained by the loss of lives in a tragic bus accident in Jhajjar Kotli, Jammu. My heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families & prayers for speedy recovery of the injured. Directed district administration to provide all possible assistance & treatment to the injured.

Ravinder Panday, one of the travellers, said they felt that something hit the bus. 'It lost balance and rolled down," he said

The accident site looked horrific with bodies trapped under the mangled remains

Describing the accident, witnesses said the bus was in the left lane, but it crossed over to the right side after the driver lost control, hit the railing of the bridge and

The front wheels came off and got stuck in the parapet of the bridge. "We were going to pay obeisance at the Mata Vaishno Devi temple and perform

mundan' (rituals related to shaving a baby's hair for the first time). We were sever al families together," said Ramesh Kumar, who escaped unhurt.

For the journey to Katra, the vehicle, carrying a registration number of Uttar Pradesh (UP 81 CT 3537), should have taken a left turn nearly two km before the spot of accident, but passengers said the driver seemed to have lost the direction and was probably going to the Udhampur-Srinagar side of the highway.

Chief Secretary Arun K Mehta, DGP Singh, ADGP (Jammu Zone) Mukesh Singh and other senior officials visited the Jammu GMC Hospital to enquire about the condition of the injured.

The Chief Secretary called the incident highly unfortunate and directed that the njured may be provided best possible medical care.

He prayed for those who lost their lives in the mishap and extended his heartfelt condolences to their families, saying the government would extend all necessary

facilities to the victims He said the government is going to provide adequate relief to the families of dead

and those injured in the mishap. He directed the Divisional Administration to look into the causes of the road accident so that such incidents are avoided in future. Speaking to reporters, Mehta said all possible help and the best of treatment are being provided to the injured.

Condoling the loss of lives, BJP J&K president Ravinder Raina said, "We stand by their families in times of grief." Chairman Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) Ghulam Nabi Azad

expressed grief over the loss of lives in a bus accident, saying, "I send my heartfelt condolences to the members of the bereaved families and wish those injured a speedy

Soon after learning about the accident near Katra in Reasi district, Azad asked party leaders and workers to visit the spot and provide all assistance to the injured

"Pained to know about the loss of lives in Jhajjar Kotli, Jammu bus accident. I

appeal to my party workers in the area to provide all possible assistance to the injured and families of those who have died," Azad said in a statement.

On the directions of Chairman DPAP, chief spokesperson Salman Nizami, and District President Jammu (Urban) Gourav Chopra on Tuesday visited the injured in the hospital and extended every possible help.

They also expressed solidarity with the bereaved families and prayed for the speedy recovery of the injured.

Azad also urged the government to provide all medical assistance to the injured and compensation to the kin of victims. Besides, he demanded a proper probe into the regular accidents in Jammu province as reports of accidents are being received

Ajatshatru Singh, senior BJP leader and former minister expressed grief over the loss of lives in an accident. Ajatshatru prayed for peace to the departed souls and fortitude to the bereaved families. He also prayed for speedy recovery of the injured and impressed upon the divisional administration in Jammu to ensure the affected families get relief and adequate ex gratia.

#### J&K can contribute...

"Our initiatives in health, education, infrastructure, connectivity and emphasis on empowering women and youth have opened up a vast array of opportunities. Focus on balanced development is benefitting all sections of society and backward areas are being linked to the mainstream," said the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor called upon the PRI members and all the stakeholders for their active participation in effective implementation of the Holistic Agriculture Development Program and other development endeavours of the government.

"Holistic Agriculture Development Program (HADP) offers an opportunity to empower 3/4th population of J&K UT. We have to ensure that Kisan Sampark Abhiyan benefits more farmers and subsequent interventions lead to sustained growth and development," the Lt Governor said.

Safina Baig, DDC Chairperson Baramulla, while speaking on the occasion, highlighted various developmental issues and demands of district Baramulla and sought the intervention of Lt Governor for their early redressal.

Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir also shared his views on the impact of Holistic Agriculture Development Program in the lives of farmers of

The projects inaugurated by Lt Governor also include Water Supply Schemes at

Kreeri, Ushkura, Singhbagh and Cherdari and 6.3 MVA, 33/11 KV Receiving sta-The projects for which foundation stone was laid today include Construction of

Hostel block and Classroom Block for Government Degree College Uri, and installation of entry gate near Amargrah Bypass and District Library Baramulla. The Lt Governor also distributed wheelchairs, tricycles and medical aids to the

beneficiaries on the occasion. Dr. Syed Sehrish Asgar, Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, senior officials of Civil Administration and Police, PRI members, farmers and people in large numbers were present.

#### Filled with humility...

welfare measures like housing and toilets for the poor, boost to piped water supply, infrastructure growth and efforts to ramp up the manufacturing sector, were among the initiatives cited at the press conferences they held in every state of the country.

#### **CEO SASB visits...**

registration vigorously and to upload data on portal on real time basis so that RFID cards could be generated and distributed timely to the service providers.

Regarding sanitation measures, ACD Ganderbal briefed in detail about the preparedness of sanitation services being put in place for the convenience of the pilgrims at the base camp Baltal and enroute. This included deployment of sufficient staff for managing these toilets including sanitation workers, supervisors and other

The CEO stressed on the need to appoint nodal officers/ supervisors to monitor keep cleanliness and sanitation in and around toilet points and other locations and to maintain check lists for the same.

The meeting also discussed the illumination of track and power supply scenario upto Holy cave. The Chief Engineer KPDCL informed that illumination plan is already in place and power supply has been restored upto Domail. In addition, backup gen sets will be stationed at identified locations.

While reviewing the preparations of Health department, timely establishment of health centers at various locations was emphasized in addition to setting up of oxygen booths at vulnerable spots. It was also informed by BMO Gund that work on installation of 100 bedded DRDO hospital at Baltal has also started.

The CEO while interacting with the officers observed that all the departments must be fully geared up for making adequate arrangements well in advance by working in close coordination for smooth conduct of the Yatra.

It was informed by Border Roads Organization that widening of tract is in full swing besides fencing and other restoration works are also in pace. BRO is installing wire mesh and retaining walls in vulnerable stretches so that safety of Yatris and other service providers is ensured along the tract.

The meeting was attended by Additional CEO Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board; Additional District Development Commissioner Ganderbal; CEO Sonamarg Development Authority; ACD; ACP; SDM Kangan; Chief Engineer PDD, Executive Engineers of various engineering wings and concerned district officers.

## Admin gears up...

The spokesman said security arrangements as well as preparedness related to fire and emergency services and traffic regulation were also reviewed during the meet-

### Man held with...

stabilizer and one speaker have also been recovered during the raid.

"Some part of recovered property is suspected to be stolen in nature but exact use of mobile phones will be clear during investigation," the police said.

A case under relevant sections of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act has been registered against Ahmed, who was becoming notorious for peddling of narcotics in the town and was luring youth towards addiction.

Rajouri Senior Superintendent of Police Amritpal Singh (IPS) said, "There is zero tolerance policy against peddlers and stringent action as per law of land will continue against them." "Parental surveillance at home is the first but most powerful form of preventive measure to save the youth and younger generation from falling into the net of addiction of drugs and narcotics," he said.

#### Block Forest Officer...

public servant the same was verified through verifying officer who reported that prima facie commission of offences under section 7 of PC Act 1988 is made out against the accused Abneet Kumar Forest Guard. Accordingly, case FIR No. 02/2023 of PS ACB Rajouri and investigation started", said officials.

"During investigation a trap team was constituted. However, during the trap proceedings, another forest official Sat Pal, Incharge Block officer Thakrakote was also found involved in the conspiracy with the said Forest Guard Abneet Kumar. They were caught red-handed while demanding and accepting bribe of Rs 15,000 from the complainant. Both of them were arrested on spot after completing necessary legal formalities." "Searches were also conducted in the houses of the accused persons situated at Pouni, Reasi and Gurha Jagir, Akhnoor", official further said.

#### India to host...

the chair," it said. The SCO is an influential economic and security bloc and has emerged as one of the largest transregional international organisations.

The SCO was founded at a summit in Shanghai in 2001 by the presidents of Russia, China, the Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. India and Pakistan became its permanent members in 2017.

Heads of the two SCO bodies, the secretariat and the SCO RATS (Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure), will also be present.

The MEA said heads of six international and regional organisations have also been invited to the summit.

The organisations are the UN, the ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations), CIS (Commonwealth of Independent States), CSTO (Collective Security Treaty Organization), EAEU (Eurasian Economic Union) and CICA (Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia).

The theme of the summit is 'Towards a SECURE SCO'.

Deepu Kumar killed...
committed a great sin," Raina said, adding "the culprits cannot escape the law here and the creator too will not forgive them".

The BJP leader said he spoke to the Lt Governor and sought adequate compensation for the poor family. "I am hopeful that the government will come out with a proper rehabilitation plan for them"

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has approved an ex-gratia of Rs 5 lakh for the next of kin of Kumar.

Hailing from remote Thial village of Majalta, about 60 kms from the Udhampur district headquarters, Kumar was a sole breadwinner in a joint family comprising his pregnant wife, ailing father besides blind brother, his wife and two children who are putting up together in a single-storey mud-house on a slope in the village.

Union Minister Jitendra Singh has condemned the killing and sought strict security measures to prevent such targeted killings.

Singh, the Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office wrote on Twitter, "While on a visit to Chennai, I was extremely shocked to learn about the brutal killing of young Deepu who hailed from Majalta, district Udhampur and was earning meagre livelihood in Anantnag. BJP Karyakartas have already reached the house of the bereaved family to provide all possible help.

"While strongly condemning the killing of this youth from a poor family, it is strongly urged that strict security measures be enforced to prevent such target killings and also to act as deterrent against terror activities.

Kumar hailed from Udhampur district, represented in the Lok Sabha by Singh. Leaders of all political parties also expressed their condemnation.

Peoples Democratic Party chief Mehbooba Mufti said in a tweet, "Deeply anguished by yet another attack on an innocent civilian in Anantnag. Deepu eked out his living by working at an amusement park. My heart goes out to his family in this hour of grief. This speaks volumes about GOI's policy which have been a monumental failure in J-K.

National Conference leader Omar Abdullah tweeted, "Pained by the news of yet another targeted attack against a civilian in Anantnag area of South Kashmir. The murder of Deepak who worked with a travelling circus to earn an honest living is an abomination and I condemn this militant attack unreservedly. May Deepak's soul rest in peace.'

Condemning the killing, Democratic Progressive Azad Party chief Ghulam Nabi Azad said "terrorism is a menace that needs to be fought by all collectively".

"Strongly condemn the heinous act of killing Deepu of Udhampur by terrorists in Anantnag. Terrorism is a menace that needs to be fought by us collectively. It is a curse against humanity!" Azad said in a tweet.

He also expressed solidarity with the victim's family and urged the authorities to bring the culprits to justice.

Sajad Lone, chairman of the People's Conference, tweeted, "The killing of Deepu by terrorists in Anantnag is yet another incident of savagery. In wonderment how does the killing of a civilian help anybody. Deepu was here in search of livelihood for himself and his family. And May Allah burn in hell those thugs who killed him."

The 27-year-old Kumar was expecting his first child in June and was the sole breadwinner in his family.

Kumar's body was on Tuesday taken to his remote Thial village where, in a heartwrenching gesture, locals came forward to help the Below Poverty Line-family perform his last rites. A little-known outfit, Kashmir Freedom Fighter, believed to be a dow outfit of the banned Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba, has claimed respons bility for the killing.

# Protests held over...

a Hindu boy," Kumar told reporters.

Kumar also urged Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to ensure the sustenance of the victim's family, consisting of a blind brother and aged parents. He was the sole breadwinner of the family, Kumar said.

# 4 bovines rescued, smuggler arrested

#### **STATE TIMES NEWS**

POONCH: Tightening noose against the bovine smuggling, Police station Poonch rescued 4 bovines from the clutches of bovine smugglers while foiling bid of bovine smuggling in Poonch.

As per details, on the directions of SSP Poonch Vinay Sharma, a special Naka was laid at TCP Poonch by a party of Police Station Poonch which intercepted a vehicle (JK12C 1916) near SK Bridge Poonch. The vehicle which driven by Sarfaraz Ahmed, son of Mohd Akbar, resident of Lassana Tehsil Surankote District Poonch coming from Degwar was signalled to stop and was found laden with 4 bovines with utmost cruelty in starvation and were illegally transporting to Kashmir from Poonch without any permission.

The driver was arrested and FIR No 68/2023 under section 188 IPC, 11 PCA Act was registered against him at Police Station Poonch.

# Drug peddler nabbed with intoxicating capsules, heroin, over Rs 70 K cash

#### **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Police on Tuesday nabbed a drug peddler and recovered 3.5 grams of heroin, 62 psychotropic capsules and cash Rs 70,050 from his possession.

As per details, a team of Police Station City led by SDPO North Sunil Kumar Kesar assisted by SHO City SI Mohinder Singh and In-Charge Police Post Residency PSI Darshan Singh while on Naka duty at Vivekanand Chowk rounded up a suspected person later identified as Rahul, son of Joginder, resident of Amratsar Punjab at present Valmiki colony Gandhi Nagar Jammu. He was arrested and FIR No. 27/2023 under section 8/21/22/27-A NDPS Act was registered against him at Police Station City.

# Accused involved in sexual harassment arrested; vehicle seized

# BUDGAM: In response to a distressing incident reported on 29th May 2023, involv-

ing an act of sexual harassment against a young girl (identity withheld), Budgam police on Tuesday arrested the accused involved in the commission of crime. The brave victim approached Soibug Police Post on the aforementioned date at 22:00 hours to file a written complaint detailing the events that unfolded.

According to the victim's statement, on 25th May 2023, around 10 AM, she left for her coaching classes in Budgam. She accepted a lift from an unknown vehicle near Soibugh along her journey. Unfortunately, during the course of the trip, the driver subjected her to sexual harassment. In a fortunate turn of events, she managed to escape, albeit leaving behind her mobile phone and school bag inside the

Taking immediate cognizance of the matter, Budgam Police immediately began investigating the incident thoroughly. Through diligent efforts and resourceful

investigative work, the accused individual involved in this deplorable act has been identified as Saqib Ahmad Dar, a resident of Narkara Budgam. He was promptly apprehended and the vehicle bearing registration number JK01N 5711, a Verna model involved in the incident was also seized.

#### 3 drug peddlers arrested; contraband, cash recovered ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Continuing its efforts to eradicate the menace of drugs from the soci ety, Police on Tuesday arrested 3 drug peddlers/smugglers and recovered contraband substances & cash from their possession.

As per details, a party of Police Station Kunzer during patrolling at Karhama Kunzer, arrested a wanted drug smuggler identified as Mansoor Ahmad Wani son of Ghulam Mohammad resident of Kharpora Dewpora. During search, 110 grams of Charas was recovered from his possession. During preliminary investigation, cash amount of Rs 1,30,900 (proceeds of narcotic crime was also recovered from his res idential house on his disclosure.

Similarly, a party of Police Station Kulgam during patrolling at Okey crossing intercepted a suspicious person identified as Hilal Ahmad Mir son of Abdul Rashid Mir resident of Okey. During search, officers were able to recover 103 grams of Charas from his possession. He has been arrested and shifted to police station where he remains in custody.

Meanwhile in Shopian, during the course of investigation of case FIR No. 41/2023 of Police Station Zainapora, the arrested accused drug peddler namely Shahic Afridi Shah disclosed that Sheeraz Ahmad Bhat son of Ab Razaq Bhat resident of Melhura was actually supplying contraband substances to him.

Acting promptly, a party from Police Station Zainapora alongwith Executive Magistrate Wachi raided the house of Sheeraz Ahmad Bhat and recovered 1.2 Kgs of Charas Powder, 03 Steel Tubs, 01 Fire Pot (chulha made of clay) and 01 Mixed Grinder. He has been arrested and shifted to police station where he remains in custody. Regarding the incidents, cases under relevant sections of law have been registered at respective police stations and investigations have been initiated.

#### Man held with Desi liquor ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SUNDERBANI: Police on Tuesday arrested a man along with locally prepared Des

liquor thus foiling his attempt of liquor smuggling. As per details, during patrolling and Naka duty at Kangri area, a team of Sunderbani police station Sunderbani led by PSI Jatinder Sharma and

Rameshwar Singh signaled one motorcycle without number plate to stop for checking, said Rajouri police in an official statement issued from District Police Office. During checking, 10 ltrs of illicit desi liquor was recovered from him which was

concealed in bag in two cans. On questioning, the man disclosed his name as Parveen Kumar son of Ranjeet Singh resident of Kalal Seri in Nowshera sub division of Rajouri.

Accused was immediately arrested while his motorcycle and illicit liquor has been seized and a case in FIR 41/2023 U/S 48 (a) Excise Act has been registered at Police Station Sunderbani and investigation has been started.

# CRIMERE Truck falls into Chenab, two feared dead

KISHTWAR: A truck fell into Chenab in Dabrashala area of Kishtwar district as a result two brothers traveling in it are missing. Operation has been started in Chenab in search them but till late night no clue was found about them.

According to the information, a truck carrying goods was going from Jammu towards Kishtwar and on the way, driver lost control over it in Drabshala area due to which the vehicle fell into Chenab. Police reached the spot after getting information and immediately started the operation. But both have not been found. The help of divers has also been taken. It has been told that the driver and co-driver in the truck are brothers and are residents of Ratnuchak in Jammu

#### Two narco smugglers nabbed with heroin STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Continuing its drive against drug trafficking and substance abuse, Police on Tuesday nabbed two

07 grams of heroin from them. As per details, a team of Police Station Gharota led by SDPO Akhnoor Mohan Lal assisted by SHO Gharota Inspr Joginder Singh Chib while on Naka duty rounded up two suspected persons. During search, 7 grams of heroin was recovered from the accused i.e 4 grams of heroin was recovered from the possession of accused namely Payar Singh, son of Prabhat Singh, resident of Upper Thather Bantalab and 3 grams from accused namely Rajat Kumar, son of Thakur Dass, resident of

narco smugglers and recovered

Bhalwal. Duo was arrested and FIR No. 40/2023 under section 8/20/29 NDPS Act was registered against them at Police Station Gharota.

