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Zero-waste pilgrimage...

various parameters pertaining to the conduct of the yatra this year. On the occasion, the Lt Governor also released Insignia, IEC material and guide-lines for Sustainable and Zero Landfill Yatra campaign. Rural Development Department is working in partnership with Swaaha Resource Management. The Yatra anthem is sung by the renowned Bollywood singer Shaan Mukherji to spread awareness about sanitation and sustainability. Movable inflatable Mascots, Touch screen kiosks, Audio Jingles, guidelines for pilgrims and langers, IEC Posters and Banners have been designed to educate and sensitize pilgrims and other stakeholders for Cleanliness, Zero Landfill and to Avoid Plastic. Free reusable cloth bags are also being distributed to make the yatra experience polythene free for pilgrims. Dr Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, CEO, Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board; Mandeep Kaur, Commissioner/Secretary, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj; senior Rural Development Department and SASB officers and representatives of Swaaha Resource Management attended the ceremony at Raj Bhawan.

AC approves establishment...

reform measure is in line with the commitment of the Government that envisages promotion of citizen-centric governance with emphasis on grievance redressal innovations through e-Governance. This will ensure better administration and quality public grievance with better outcomes for the aggrieved thereby guaranteeing efficient disposal of official business.

12 people ‘bound’...

grant police the power to arrest or detain a person or ask him or her to sign a bond in anticipation of a crime. According to officials, some people chose to not stand up during the closing ceremony of the 'Pedal for Peace' cycling event, organised by Jammu and Kashmir Police, on June 25. The J&K administration took a strong note of the "disrespect" to the national anthem and launched an inquiry into the alleged infraction, they said. Sources from police had earlier said that 14 people were arrested for disrespecting the national anthem and a few policemen too suspended – a version later challenged in a tweet by Srinagar Police, which said it had only "bound down" 12 people under sections of Criminal Procedure Code, and not arrested them. "There is unverified news doing round that 14 policemen/persons have been arrested/suspended for disrespecting national anthem. It is clarified that the news is completely false, rather 12 persons have been generally bound down for good behaviour under sections 107/151 of CrPC," Srinagar Police said on Twitter.

GST Council to...

this, 11,015 GSTINs have been suspended and 4,972 have been cancelled, while Rs 15,000 crore tax evasion have been detected. Sources said in light of several cases of unscrupulous elements obtaining fake/bogus GST registration, it is desirable to strengthen the process of registration under GST by amending provisions of Central GST Rules, wherever required. As per the existing GST Rules, a registered person is required to furnish details of PAN-linked bank account, which is in name of the registered person, within a period of 45 days from grant of registration or the date on which returns are due to be furnished, whichever is earlier. The Law Committee suggested that the time period be reduced to 30 days from the date of outward supplies of goods or services in GSTR-1 or using invoice furnishing facility, whichever is earlier. In case of a proprietorship concern, the Permanent Account Number (PAN) of the proprietor shall also be linked with the Aadhaar number of the proprietor. In 'high risk' cases, the Law Committee suggested that the registration shall be granted within 30 days of application, after physical verification of the place of business. The Committee was also of the opinion that the requirement of physical verification of business premises in the presence of the applicant poses "risk of manipulation by unscrupulous applicants making temporary arrangements in anticipation of the officer as well as risk of undue delays in case of wilful absence of the applicant". Accordingly, the Committee recommended to the Council that the requirement of the presence of the applicant for physical verification of business premises may be done away with, sources said. A final decision on the recommendation of the Law Committee will be taken at the 50th GST Council meeting on Tuesday.

CB raids residence...

year, her DoB was tampered as April 8, 1964. After the complaint was registered, an investigation was conducted and it was found that Dr. Shashi Sudan was in possession of two Date of Birth (DoB) certificates. April 8, 1964 is written on one and April 8, 1965 on the other. While taking admission in MBBS course, she gave her Class 10 diploma in which her Date of Birth was written as April 8, 1964. And, later in-service she registered her DoB as April 8, 1965. After registering of FIR, the crime branch has started investigating the matter in detail. Crime Branch teams together reached Dr. Shashi Sudan's residence in Bakshi Nagar and office at Government Medical College Jammu at around 10 o'clock on Thursday morning. The CB sleuths have taken some documents in possession for scrutiny. The CB has not so far issued any statement on the recoveries made during the raids.

ACB arrests clerk...

the card and letting him know about formalities to be completed. The concerned clerk assured him in getting the experience certificate also from AEE, duly attested

by the Executive Engineer Bandipora, as required under rules. He asked him to handover the relevant documents like marks cards of 10th/12th, graduation, Pan card, Aadhaar card, four photographs, bank statement and unemployment certificate, which he did. He further asked the complainant to prepare an affidavit along with e-stamp fee and handover it to him, which also he did. After handing over these documents and affidavit, the clerk demanded Rs 30,000 from him as bribe for doing so. Under these circumstances the complainant approached ACB with complaint and requested for legal action against the accused clerk. The complainant requested accused clerk for some concession on the pleas that he is very poor and cannot pay huge amount and finally he agreed for Rs 29,000 as bribe. As the contents of complaint prima facie disclosed the commission of offence punishable under Section 7 of the PC Act 1988 by accused public servant namely Gh. Nabi Wani, accordingly a Case FIR No. 04/2023 was registered at Police Station Anti Corruption Bureau Baramulla and the investigations were initiated. During the course of investigation a trap team was constituted which laid a successful trap and caught the accused clerk red-handed while demanding and accepting bribe amount of Rs 29000 from the complainant. He was arrested on the spot after completing all legal formalities. Further investigation in the case are going on.

Frustrated Mehbooba spreading...

He also said post-2019 the BJP government has brought J&K into the path of peace, prosperity and development where every citizen of the UT is feeling proud and are contributing in nation building. However this outlook of the common masses of J&K doesn't suit Mehbooba Mufti and her like-minded politicians who are leaving no stone unturned to instigate people on baseless issues. Chugh praised efforts of PM Narendra Modi for rolling out people-friendly schemes that have brought reformation in the country.

100-bedded hospital...

and nursing staff, ICU wards, oxygenated wards and triage areas and other required inventories for all critical medical care. At the Baltal hospital, chief medical officer (CMO), Ganderbal, Dr Afroza Shah said the medical facility carries 100 beds, which include 30 residential beds and 70 clinical beds. "Among these, 29 are oxygen beds and nine are triage beds. Intensive Care Unit has four beds," she told PTI. The CMO said the staff working at the hospital has been acquired from all over the country and has been facilitated by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. "Around 1,200 healthcare workers -- both doctors and para-medical workers -- including from outside Jammu and Kashmir, are working here," Shah said. The official said the hospital has two separate OPDs for male and female patients. Abundant space is available in the form of a waiting area including washroom facilities. Fully functional and well-equipped laboratories are also available where all kinds of tests can be performed, she added. Radiologists, X-rays, ultrasonography machines, and cardiac monitors are provided. A liquid medical oxygen plant has been installed here, the CMO said. Shah said to cater to high-altitude-related sickness, oxygen is readily available at the facility including medium size, portable and bulk oxygen cylinders. A total of 16 oxygen booths are set up along the 16-kilometre track, that is from Baltal to Domail -- out of which six booths are permanent and the rest 10 are mobile, she said. "Where the hill becomes steeper, four to five mobile booths are also provided along the stairs," she added. Patients and their attendants visiting the hospital expressed satisfaction with the facilities. "All the facilities at the hospital are impressive. I am amazed after seeing such a fully-equipped hospital," Kushal Goyal, a yatri from Chandigarh, said. It is just like any other upscale private hospital, he added. Zubair Gulzar from Kulgam said the facilities at the hospital were quite well and hygiene was also taken care of. Asked whether the hospital was ready to deal with any kind of eventuality including of the magnitude like the last year, the CMO Ganderbal said the facility is fully equipped and prepared for dealing with any possibility including a natural disaster. "To deal with any kind of natural disaster and to handle any emergency, we are fully equipped and prepared for that. A team of disaster management is also available here in order to tackle any kind of emergency," she said. Apart from the state-of-the-art hospital, there are four more hospitals along the Baltal axis -- Base Hospital Baltal, Base Hospital Panchtarni, Base Hospital Lower Holy Cave, and Base Hospital Holy Cave -- where all kinds of facilities are available to cater to any possibility including the breathlessness issues often confronted by the pilgrims, according to officials.

Justice Dhiraj Thakur...

of Bombay in June 2022 and has been functioning there since then," it said. It said the recommendation made by the collegium on February 9, 2023 for Justice Thakur's elevation as the chief justice of the Manipur High Court has been pending with the government. "On appointment of Justice Thakur, the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh would get representation amongst the chief justices of the high courts," the resolution said, adding, "In view of the above, the collegium, in supersession of its recommendation dated February 9, 2023, resolves to recommend that Justice Dhiraj Singh Thakur be appointed as chief justice of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh." Justice Thakur completed his LLB from Jammu University and joined the legal

profession in 1989. He was enrolled as an advocate on the rolls of Bar Council of Delhi and his enrolment was later transferred to Bar Council of J&K in November 2010.

Jammu gets 9...

deposits and withdrawals simultaneously", he added. On the occasion he also informed that the J&K bank is coming up with an upgraded version of mobile banking service. "Besides being more feature-rich and user friendly, the service will be able to handle peak volumes of transactions smoothly. Similarly, the Bank is upgrading its other services also like UPI, e-banking to bring more comfort to its customers", he said. Besides urging the customers to on-board themselves on the various digital services of the bank, he advised them to use cards more for the cashless transactions like payments through POS for offline spends and ecommerce platforms for online expenditure. Locals present at the CRM sites hailed the Bank's management for commissioning of these of self-serving terminals which not only dispense cash but allow the deposition of cash as well. "We had to wait in queues at the branch for depositing cash and that too during the business hours. Now we can deposit or withdraw cash as and when required. J&K Bank has really added convenience to our business and banking", said a local trader at one of e-inaugurated CRM sites.

Another batch of...

1,375 women, 101 seers and 25 children -- left Bhagwati Nagar base camp here for the Valley in a convoy of 272 vehicles amid tight security arrangements in the early hours of Thursday, they said. The officials said 3,864 pilgrims, headed for Pahalgam, left in a convoy of 141 vehicles for the Valley, while another convoy of 131 vehicles carrying 2,690 pilgrims left for the Baltal base camp at 3.30 am. With this, a total of 36,823 pilgrims have left the Jammu base camp for the valley since June 30 when the first batch of pilgrims began the yatra, which was flagged off by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha. The yatra is scheduled to conclude on August 31. The administration has registered over 3,000 fresh pilgrims on tatkal yatra counters in Jammu for their onward journey to Amarnath, officials said. Over 300 pilgrims, who were carrying fake permits, have also been given permits after fresh registration at on-the-spot counters in Jammu. These pilgrims were duped by the travel agencies by providing them fake registration documents for their yatra. Three persons have been arrested in this connection so far, they said.

17,202 Yatris paid...

surge with each passing day making it one of the most successful yatra in the country. The entire yatra is being monitored from Integrated Command & Control Centre (ICCC) at HMT which has been put in use for Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra since 2022. ICCC, HMT is being integrated with RFID to monitor Yatra remotely on real time basis. All departments monitor and send communication to their staff in field from here to cater to the requirements of yatries. ICCC helps in effective management of operations in exceptional scenarios such as disaster mitigation using information and communication technologies. An official at ICCC said that ICCC has been Integrated with RFID which is a pure data science and helps in effective crowd control management, traceability, avoidance of traffic jams and management besides ensures coordination among all stake holders on a real time basis. The data analysis and simulation models are effective in disaster mitigation and preemptive actions, he added.

Jammu's Mahakali Temple...

suits, ripped jeans and capri pants within the temple grounds. According to the notice written in Hindi, the management aims to maintain the sanctity of the shrine and seeks the cooperation of devotees in adhering to the dress code. Speaking to PTI about the move, head priest Mahant Bitta said, "It is not an order. It is an advisory. It is requested that all devotees visiting the temple follow certain discipline. People have of late turned the temple into a picnic spot." The priest emphasized the importance of following a proper and traditional dress code while entering the temple premises, saying visitors should wear respectable attire and cover their heads as a sign of reverence. The temple management has stationed several staff members at the gate to educate visitors about the dress code. "We have kept head cloth and longis at the gate for visitors. Nobody is being forced to wear it," the head priest said. Many devotees said they were happy with the dress code and commended temple authorities for the move. Dhananjay Patil of Uttar Pradesh said devotees should religiously comply with the dress code and cover their heads when visiting the temple. "It is good for the revival of Hindu samskaras and I welcome it," he told PTI. Manmeet Kour, another visitor, too welcomed the decision and said it should be implemented in letter and spirit. The temple premises should not be treated as a picnic place, she added. Several other devotees also expressed their approval of the dress code and said wearing clean and appropriate clothes and covering one's head is an integral part of the customs to be observed during temple visits and religious events. Brig R S Langeh (retired), President of the Jammu and Kashmir Dharmarth Trust, told PTI that if other temples too want to impose similar dress codes, the matter should be discussed. "We have temples in Kashmir where a large number of foreigners come to visit daily and imposing a dress code will mean denying them the opportunity to visit," he stressed.



Thief arrested, stolen gold ornaments recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: Police on Thursday solved a theft case by arresting the accused and recovered stolen items worth Rs 1.2 lakhs. As per details, an information was received at Police Station Gandhi Nagar regarding theft in the area. On this, FIR No 164/2023 under section 457/380 IPC was registered and investigation started. After this, a team of Police Station Gandhi Nagar led by SDPO South Sachit Sharma assisted by SHO Gandhi Inspr Pankaj Sharma did strenuous efforts and with the help of CCTV footages of the area finally rounded up the suspected person later identified as Sharan Sharma alias Sunny, son of Satish Kumar, resident of H. No. 99, W. No. 09 Rajouri. During questioning accused confessed his involvement in the above case and on his disclosure following stolen items worth more than Rs 1.2 lakhs were recovered from his possession which include 1 golden Nose Nath, Golden Tops 01 pair, Golden Jhumke 01 pair, Golden Rings two(ladies), 01 Wrist Watch The overall arrest and recovery was made under the supervision of SP South Shaheen Wahid.



Two thieves arrested, stolen money recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: Police on Thursday arrested two thieves who steal Rs 21,000 from a Amarnath Yarti at Yatri Niwas Bhagwati Nagar. As per details, On July 4, 2023 a report about theft of Rs 21,000 at Yatri Niwas Bhagwati Nagar was lodged by Anand Sharma, resident of Banadada Indore MP. On this FIR No 105/2023 under section 379 IPC was registered and investigation started. During course of investigation two suspects Raj Kumar, son of Sehdev and Ram Jeevan, son of Raghunath, both residents of Distt Gonda UP were picked up for questioning after proper analysing of CCTV footage. On their disclosure theft amount of 21000 was recovered from them. Both the accused were having proper Yatra slips to gain entry into the premises. Recovery was made by Insp Surinder Raina SHO Police Station Nowabad assisted by PSI Younis Khanday under the

supervision of DySP Hqrs Dr Sunaya Wani and over all supervision of SP City North Kulbir Handa.

Theft case solved; thief arrested, stolen cigarettes worth Rs 50,000 recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: Police on Thursday solved a theft case by arresting a thief and recovered stolen cigarettes worth Rs 50,000. One complaint was lodged at Police Post Rehari by one person namely Jagdish Kumar, son of Shiv Ram, resident of Lane No. 01 House No. 115 New Plot stating that some unknown persons stole cigarettes worth Rs 50000 from his shop. In this regard, FIR No. 77/2023 under section 380/457 IPC was registered and investigation started. After this, a team of Police Post Rehari led by SDPO North Sunil Kumar Kesar assisted by SHO Pacea Danga Inspr Sushil Kumar and In-Charge Police Post Rehari PSI Anil Kumar did strenuous efforts and with the help of CCTV footages of the area finally rounded up the suspected person later identified as Jaswant Kataria alias Jannu, son of Lt. Jash Paul, resident of New Plot. During questioning accused confessed his involvement in the above case and on his disclosure stolen cigarettes worth Rs. 50,000 were recovered from his possession.



Warrant of drug peddler booked under PIT NDPS Act

■ STATE TIMES NEWS AKHNOOR: Police on Thursday executed warrant of one drug peddler booked under PIT NDPS Act. An information was received through reliable sources at PS Akhnoor regarding a notorious drug peddler namely Vishal Singh alias Jony, son of Dhanantar Singh, resident of Bhagwana Chak Pallanwala at present Chandian Akhnoor Distt Jammu. On this a special police team of PS Akhnoor under the supervision of SDPO Akhnoor Mohan Lal Sharma was constituted. The team led by SHO PS Akhnoor Inspr Zaheer Mushtaq reached on the suspected place and



arrested the above said drug peddler. It is pertinent to mention that accused was a notorious drug peddler and was involved in a number of NDPS Act cases. Finally today in compliance to the directions by Divisional Commissioner Jammu under Prevention of Illicit Traffic of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act of 1988 (PITNDPS) detention warrant was executed and the said accused was shifted to District Jail Amphalla Jammu after completion of all legal formalities.

Samba police reunites 4 missing persons including 3 females with their families

■ STATE TIMES NEWS SAMBA : Under the guidance of SSP Samba Benam Tosh, police has traced out four (04) more missing persons including three females from different areas and reunited them with their families. The kins of missing persons had approached police to recover their missing family members. Promptly taking cognizance into the incidents of disappearance, missing reports were registered at concerned Police Stations and all out efforts were made by police to recover them. By putting in hard work, Police succeeded in recovering missing persons from different areas and reunited them with their families. The missing reports with regard to their missing were entered at Police Station Bari Brahmana, Police Station Samba, Police Station Vijaypur and Police Station Ramgarh. The missing girls have been traced by the police team comprising of SHO Police Station Bari Brahmana Sunil Sharma, SHO Police Station Samba Rajeshwar Singh, SHO Police Station Vijaypur Tribhawan Khajuria, SHO Police Station Ramgarh Sudesh Kumar, ASI Mohd Sharief, HC Rajesh Kumar, L/Foll Gurjeet Kour and L/SPO Shan Bala. Senior Superintendent of Police Samba Benam Tosh said that total 52 missing persons including 38 females have been recovered and reunited with their families by Samba Police in five and half months from different places in amd outside the J&K UT.

BSF Jawan shoots himself to death

■ STATE TIMES NEWS SAMBA: A Border Security Force (BSF) Jawan on Thursday allegedly shot himself dead at a post along the International Border in Samba District. According to the report, the deceased has been identified as Rajeev Kumar of 161 Bn BSF and was presently posted at Border out Post Chilyari in District Samba. He allegedly shot himself with service rifle. When the Soldiers heard sound of fire, they immediately went to the spot and found he was lying in a pool of blood. They immediately informed the senior officials. After getting the information Senior officials immediately reached the spot and shifted his dead body to nearby hospital for autopsy. After Completion of legal formalities, the dead body of the deceased soldier was handed over to the officials of the Battalion. In this regard Police have taken cognizance of the matter and started further investigations.