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**Justice Suresh Kumar...**

appointed on 5 September 2008. He belongs to the Scheduled Caste category," the collegium said.  
"Justice Suresh Kumar Kait ranks at SI No 5 in the All India Seniority list of High Court Judges, including Chief Justices. He is due to retire on May 23, 2025. The Judges of the High Court of Delhi who are senior to Justice Suresh Kumar Kait are due to retire in the near future," it said.

Bearing in mind the position of Justice Kait in the All India Seniority list, the collegium is of the view that he should be recommended for appointment as the chief justice of the Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh High Court, the collegium said.

The collegium recommended the name of Justice G S Sandhwalia as the chief justice of the Madhya Pradesh High Court, noting that he is the senior-most puisne judge of the high court.

The name of Justice Nitin Madhukar Jandkar has been recommended as the Chief Justice of the Kerala High Court and Justice Tashi Rabstan as the Chief Justice of the Meghalaya High Court.

"Justice Tashi Rabstan is the senior-most puisne Judge of the High Court for Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. He was appointed as a Judge on 8 March 2013 and is due to retire on April 9, 2025. He hails from Ladakh. Justice Dhiraj Singh Thakur, who is presently serving as the Chief Justice of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh, was appointed as a Judge of the High Court for Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh," the collegium said.

"Bearing in mind that Justice Tashi Rabstan would be the first Chief Justice from the region of Ladakh which has otherwise little or no representation among the Judges of the High Court and no representation at all so far in the office of Chief Justice, the collegium recommends his appointment as Chief Justice of the High Court of Meghalaya on the retirement of Mr Justice S Vaidyanathan, Chief Justice of that High Court, who is due to retire on August 16, 2024," it said.

The collegium noted that there is a vacancy in the office of the chief justice of the Madras High Court after the retirement of Justice Sanjay V Gangapurwala on May 23, 2024, and recommended name of Justice K R Shriram as its chief justice.

"Justice K R Shriram is the second senior-most puisne Judge of the High Court of Bombay. He was appointed on June 21, 2013. Bearing in mind that Justice K R Shriram is a senior Judge of the High Court of Bombay with experience on the judicial and administrative side, the Collegium recommends his appointment as Chief Justice of the High Court of Madras," it said.

In a separate resolution, the collegium recommended the transfer of Justice M S Ramachandra Rao, the current chief justice of the Himachal Pradesh High Court.

"A vacancy in the office of Chief Justice in the High Court of Jharkhand would arise on the retirement of Dr Justice Bidyut Ranjan Sarangi on 19 July 2024. Considering the seniority of Justice M S Ramachandra Rao and the exigencies of the administration of justice, the collegium considers it appropriate in the public interest to recommend his transfer as Chief Justice of the High Court of Jharkhand consequent upon the retirement of Dr Justice Bidyut Ranjan Sarangi. The Collegium recommends accordingly," the collegium said.

**Govt to observe...**

"brazen display of a dictatorial mindset, strangled the soul of India's democracy by imposing the Emergency on the nation".

Lakhs of people were thrown behind the bars for no fault of their own, and the voice of the media was silenced, he said.

"The Government of India has decided to observe the 25th of June every year as 'Samvidhaan Hatya Diwas.' This day will commemorate the massive contributions of all those who endured the inhuman pains of the 1975 Emergency," he said in a post on X.

"The decision made by the government led by PM Shri @narendramodi Ji is intended to honour the spirit of millions who struggled to revive democracy despite facing inexplicable persecution at the hands of an oppressive government," he said.

**Reminder of what...**

decision to observe June 25, the day on which the Emergency was declared in 1975, as 'Samvidhaan Hatya Diwas' to commemorate the "massive contributions" of those who endured "inhuman pains" of the period.

June 25, 1975 was the black day when the "dictatorial mindset" of the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi imposed the Emergency on the country by "murdering" the democracy enshrined in the Constitution, BJP chief and Union Minister JP Nadda said in a post on X.

"This day will remind us of the sacrifices and martyrdom of all our great men who fought against this dictatorial mindset of the Congress, endured torture and died for the protection of the Constitution and restoration of democracy," he said.

"I express my gratitude towards the prime minister for this decision which would remind us of the importance of democracy every year," he added.

**GoC White Knight...**



has been reaching out to the ground troops to review their operational readiness and security measures.

On Tuesday, Lieutenant General Sachdeva visited the forward areas of Guluthi and Dera Ki Gali (DKG) in Rajouri district to review the security situation and operational preparedness.

On July 3, Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi reviewed the security situation along the Line of Control (LoC) in Poonch, urging troops to remain steadfast in meeting all security challenges.

As per the officials, there are three-four groups of terrorists, mostly foreign militants, operating the region.

**Bail order should...**

Expressing surprise over the high court order, the bench had said the direction was shocking.

"Unless he is a terrorist, where is the reason to stay?" Justice Oka had remarked.

Khurana was granted bail by the trial court in a PMLA case on June 17 last year but the HC stayed the order. The apex court on June 7 stayed the HC order and restored Khurana's bail.

**Our clients are...**

expectations. This interaction is a testament to our commitment to nurturing strong and lasting relationships with our esteemed clients like you. Today I assure you all that we will continue to deliver superior banking experiences to you."

"Furthermore, we look forward to continuing this series of interactive sessions across operational geographies to ensure satisfaction of our valuable customers through service excellence while keeping the avenues of their feedback open and wide for further improvement in our service standards", he added.

In his remarks, Executive Director Sudhir Gupta said that direct feedback from our HNI clients in Jammu as well as Kathua is crucial for understanding the unique financial needs and aspirations of these zones. "Through these interactions, we gain insights that help us refine our strategies and deliver personalized banking solutions. We are grateful for the continued trust and support of our HNI clients, which is truly grounded in their loyalty and our service excellence", he said.

In his welcome address to the valuable customers, GM & Divisional Head (Jammu) Sunit Kumar highlighted the fact that the Bank had witnessed huge transformation in its outlook and operations under the leadership of our MD & CEO during the last few years.

He further said, "Customer meet is an event of celebration of trust and expression of gratitude for the journey, we have shared together. Going forward, I believe our mutual bonds will become more robust and resilient with our valued customers."

During the question-answer sessions, the participants appreciated the turnaround and transformation of the Bank both in terms of its functioning and performance. The participant clients voiced their concerns freely, raised many queries, shared their experiences and provided useful feedback on the Bank's various offerings.

After listening patiently to the concerns and experiences of the participant clients, MD Baldev Prakash along with top management functionaries thanked them for their frank feedback. "As partners in each other's growth and progress, we have to understand and empathise with each other. And I assure you that all your genuine concerns and suggestions have been taken note of and will be incorporated in the process of Bank's policy formulation, however within the regulatory guidelines, especially for better servicing of our HNI customer base", MD & CEO asserted.

Pertinently, the events also included discussions on future banking, digital transformation and the personalized financial solutions required to meet the unique needs of HNI clients.

The meetings concluded with the vote of thanks delivered by General Manager (Credit) Ashutosh Sareen, wherein he extended gratitude to the HNI clients.

**CS reviews arrangements...**

Dulloo asked about the cultural performances to be presented during the national celebrations. He exhorted for selection of high impact cultural items by respective divisional committees giving preference to the students for their encouragement. He emphasised that no repetition of similar performances should be made so that the events are concluded as per the already framed schedule and time.

The Chief Secretary stressed on meticulous management of traffic on roads so that the participants reach venues without facing any difficulties. He also asked the concerned divisional and district administrations to take adequate measures to deal with the adverse weather conditions. He impressed upon them to ensure safety measures especially for the student participants.

The Chief Secretary impressed upon the concerned to ensure better sanitation, power supply and availability of drinking water facilities at all the locations. He asked for inviting the former PRI members, members of women Self Help Groups and other prominent citizens in the events.

He enjoined upon the concerned divisional/district authorities to take stock of arrangements in their respective jurisdictions to ensure that the events right upto panchayat level are held in a manner befitting to this national carnival.

Dulloo impressed upon the Information Department to check the functionality of Public Address System (PAS) beforehand. He asked them to have proper back ups available to avoid any hindrance in the celebrations.

The Chief Secretary impressed upon all the HoDs, divisional heads and DCs to illuminate the major public infrastructure including their offices, major bridges and other prominent places for the event.

On the occasion, it was revealed that a total of 21 contingents including 6 student contingents and a lady contingent is going to participate in the two main events at Jammu and Srinagar.

In addition, the concerned presented the details of preparations being made by them regarding sanitation, medical, water and power availability.

It was revealed that the full dress and other rehearsals would be conducted from 29th of July in order to provide adequate time of preparation to the participants going to perform in the 77th Independence Day to be celebrated in the UT.

**Human trafficking module...**

Tantray have been arrested and efforts are underway to apprehend other individuals involved in this human trafficking racket, he added.

The police urged the public to remain vigilant and promptly report to the authorities any suspicious activities.

**J&K among 5...**

the United Nations in India, measures the progress at the national and sub-national level in the country's journey towards meeting the global goals and targets. It has been successful as an advocacy tool to propagate the messages of sustainability, resilience and partnerships as well.

**Over 4,400 devotees...**

two base camps of the yatra -- Baltal and Pahalgam. Till Thursday, 2,66,955 people paid obeisance at cave shrine, the officials said.

The 52-day pilgrimage, which began on June 29, is underway amid a spate of terror attacks in the Jammu region and an ongoing massive search operation there to track down the terrorist behind an ambush in Kathua district on Monday, in which five army personnel were killed.

In view of the situation, the security at the Bhagwati Nagar base camp, from where the pilgrims embarked on their journey to Kashmir from Jammu, has been increased, the officials said.

The fifteenth batch of 4,434 pilgrims left in 165 vehicles for the base camps from 3 am and were escorted by CRPF security, they said.

While 2,713 pilgrims will take the 48-km traditional Pahalgam route for their yatra, 1,721 will take the shorter but steep 14-km Baltal route, the officials said.

They said with this batch, the number of people who started from Jammu for the yatra is 81,644.

The pilgrimage will end on August 19.

**Modi stresses on BIMSTEC's role as engine for economic, social growth**

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday reaffirmed India's commitment to seven-nation grouping BIMSTEC and stressed on its role as an engine for economic and social growth.

The foreign ministers of the BIMSTEC member states made a joint call on Modi on the second and final day of their retreat in Delhi.

The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC), brings together seven countries of South and Southeast Asia for multifaceted cooperation.

Besides India, the BIM-

STEC comprises Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Thailand, Nepal and Bhutan.

"Glad to meet BIMSTEC Foreign Ministers. Discussed ways to strengthen regional cooperation, including connectivity, energy, trade, health, agriculture, science, security and people-to-people exchanges. Conveyed full support to Thailand for a successful Summit," Modi said on X.

A readout by the PMO said Modi reaffirmed India's commitment to a peaceful, prosperous, resilient and safe BIMSTEC region and highlighted its significance to India's 'Neighbourhood First and Look East Policies as

well as in its SAGAR vision. "The PM had fruitful discussions with the group of ministers on further strengthening the regional cooperation in diverse areas including connectivity, energy, trade, health, agriculture, science, security and people to people exchanges," it said.

"He stressed on the role of BIMSTEC as an engine for economic and social growth," the readout noted. It said Modi expressed India's full support to Thailand for the upcoming BIMSTEC Summit to be held in September. India hosted the BIMSTEC foreign ministers' retreat to review various initiatives to expand cooperation among the grouping's

member nations. In his inaugural address at the retreat, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar called on the grouping to infuse new energies, resources and a fresh commitment to bolster cooperation.

India has been making concerted efforts to make BIMSTEC a vibrant forum for regional cooperation as initiatives under SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation) were not moving forward for a variety of reasons.

India has been cooperating with the countries of the Indian Ocean region under the broader policy framework of SAGAR or Security and Growth for all in the Region.

**Absconder arrested**

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
BARAMULLA: Continuing its crackdown against absconders, Police in Baramulla have arrested an absconder who was evading his arrest from the last four years.

A Police Party of Police Station Boniyar arrested an absconder namely Feroz Ahmad Khan son of Gh Mohammad resident of Zehanpora Biniyar involved in case FIR No. 12/2020 u/s 498-A, 147,34 & 506 IPC of Police Station Boniyar. Warrant of arrest was issued by the Hon'ble Court of JMFC Boniyar against him. He was produced before the Hon'ble Court & was lodged in District Jail Baramulla.

**Police crack theft case in Uri, Baramulla**

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINGAR: Police in Baramulla have solved a theft case by arresting the accused person involved in the commission of crime.

Police Station Uri received a written complaint from Hasan Din, son of Ghulam Qadir, resident of Gawalta stating therein that at about 1705hrs, while waiting in line at SDH Uri for an OPD ticket, a sum of Rs 1 lakh was stolen from his pocket.

Accordingly, a case vide FIR No. 56/2024 under Section 303/BNS was registered at Police Station Uri & further investigation was taken up.

During the course of investigation, and after reviewing CCTV footage, a suspect person identified as Syed Bidar Ali, son of Syed Nazar Shah, a resident of Kund Berjala Kamalkote was called for questioning. During questioning, the said accused person confessed his involvement in the commission of the crime which led to the recovery of ₹2,000 from his residence. Further investigation into the case is going on.

**Police attaches properties worth crores of notorious drug peddler**

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
KULGAM: Continuing its unwavering efforts to eradicate the menace of

drugs from the society, Police attached properties worth crores of a notorious drug peddler on National highway in Qazigund, Kulgam.

Police in Kulgam under the supervision of SSP Kulgam today attached properties (One double storied residential house and a residential cum commercial house) measuring 3457 Sq. Ft (Valuing 3 Crores) belonging to a notorious drug peddler namely Abdul Rashid Rather @Mathur Son of Ghulam Hassan Rather resident of Bonigam Qazigund, Kulgam under section 68-F(2) of NDPS Act 1985.

The properties were identified as illegally acquired property during the course of investigation/enquiry conducted by Kulgam police and were prima facie acquired from illicit trafficking in narcotic drug and psychotropic substances by the owner, who is presently detained under PIT NDPS act and is lodged at Central Jail Kot Balwal Jammu. Pertinently the said drug peddler is involved in Case FIR number 128/2020 and Case FIR number 227/2023 of Police Station Qazigund.

This operation reaffirms the commitment of Police to combat the drug menace. Local people of the area hailed the initiative of Police.

**Vehicle with wooden logs seized**

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SAMBA: Police has seized a vehicle laden with wooden logs in the jurisdiction of Police Station Ghagwal district Samba which were being transported without any valid permission.

A Police party of Police Station Ghagwal headed by SHO PS Ghagwal while performing vehicle checking duty at Naka Tappal, intercepted a truck bearing registration No. JK08C-7213 which was coming from Samba side driven by driver Surjeet Kumar S/o Ram Lal R/o Salalpur tehsil Marbeen district Kathua for its checking. During checking, wooden logs were found laden inside the truck being transported illegally without any valid permission were found and were seized accordingly. The seized vehicle has been handed over to Forest Department Samba for further legal proceedings.

**Two bovine smuggling bids foiled; 2 smugglers arrested, 12 bovines rescued**

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SAMBA: Police has foiled two bovine smuggling attempts in the jurisdiction of Police Station Ghagwal, arrested two bovine smugglers, rescued twelve bovines and seized vehicle being used in the illegal transportation of bovines.

Police teams of Police Post Rajpura and BPP BabbarNallah in the jd of PS Ghagwal have successfully foiled bovine smuggling attempt, arrested two bovine smugglers and rescued eight bovines which were being smuggled by foot via border Madoon area.

The arrested bovine smugglers have been identified as Miyan S/o Dulla and HussanHussain S/o Ammi both R/o Jhang/ChaekTehsil Marbeen district Kathua.

A case FIR No. 103/2024 u/s 223 BNS has been registered at Police Station Ghagwal and investigation started. Similarly, Police team laid surprise vehicle checking naka

near Madoon and intercepted a Mahindra Pickup bearing registration No. JK08F-6512 coming via border road for its checking. During checking of the vehicle, four bovines were found laden inside which were tied in a cruel manner and were being transported illegally without any valid permission. The bovines were tactfully concealed beneath the plastic crates to avoid being noticed by Police.

A case FIR No. 101/2024 u/s 233 BNS, 11 PCA Act has been registered at Police Station Ghagwal and investigation started.

**Theft case solved; juvenile among 2 arrested**

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
UDHAMPUR: Police have solved a theft case of PS Chenani under relevant sections of law by arresting 2 accused person (including 01 Juvenile)

involved in the commission of crime and recovered stolen property from their possession.

Police Station Chenani received a written complaint from one Rohit Anthal S/O Jagdish Chand R/O Kither Jagir stating therein that on 09-07-2024, some unknown thieves have stolen his agricultural Tiller machine from his land in the Jurisdiction of PS Chenani. In this regard case FIR No. 112/2024 under relevant section of law stands registered in PS Chenani.

Taking cognizance of the matter, a special team of PS Chenani led by its SHO was formulated to solve the case and nab the culprits. During the investigation several suspects were rounded up by the police team and put to sustained questioning. During which two suspects namely Anku Kumar S/O Lt. Darshan Kumar R/O Bain Tehsil Chenani alongwith one juvenile (name withheld) confessed their involvement in the said case. Duo have been arrested by the Police team.

On the confession of both the accused persons, stolen property (agricultural tiller machine) worth around Rs 97000/- has been recovered by the police.

Further investigation into the matter is in progress.

**Most wanted notorious drug peddler booked under PSA**

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
KISHTWAR: Police on Friday booked most wanted notorious drug peddler Muzaffer Hussain alias Dagga under PSA (PIT-NDPS) in Kishtwar district.

SSP Kishtwar, while sharing the details said that District Police Kishtwar, working on a multi-pronged strategy to combat drug abuse, has today booked a most wanted notorious drug peddler from Kishtwar Town under PSA (PITNDPS) and lodged him in District Jail Kathua.

The accused, Muzaffer Hussain @ Dagga S/O Mehraj-Ud-Din, resident of Om Mehta Road, Kishtwar, was identified as the kingpin supplying drugs to the youth in Kishtwar Town. His involvement in numerous drug peddling cases was uncovered during investigations, necessitating his detention under PSA (PITNDPS) to curb his activities and protect the youth of Kishtwar from drug addiction.

After obtaining the PSA orders, SSP Kishtwar constituted a special team under the supervision of Dy. SP Hqrs Kishtwar to arrest this notorious drug peddler from Kishtwar. He was subsequently lodged in District Jail Kishtwar.

SSP Kishtwar highlighted that District Police Kishtwar is working on a comprehensive strategy to tackle drug abuse, including organizing awareness programs across the district and taking strict legal action against drug peddlers. He also warned through a strong message to drug syndicates, asserting that there is no place for them in Kishtwar and urging them to return to the mainstream or face severe consequences.

The general public is time and again requested to report any information related to the sale and consumption of drugs by calling the helpline number 9906154100, 9103454100 or through the Kishtwar Police Facebook page & Twitter Handle. The identity of informants will be kept confidential.

**Missing girl traced, reunited with family**  
**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: A missing girl was traced and reunited with her family by Janipur Police on Friday.

An information was received at Police Station Janipur, Jammu about the missing of a girl (name withheld) whose missing report was entered at PS Janipur vide DD No. 05, dated 29.09.2021. Acting upon this, a police team of PS Janipur led by the SHO put in strenuous efforts and, with the help of technical assistance as well as human intervention, successfully traced the missing girl. After completing all legal formalities, she has been handed over to her family. Accordingly, the missing report has been closed.

