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Pak trying to...

in a few months," Sinha told reporters. The Jammu region of the Union Territory has witnessed a spurt in militancy-related violence over the last few months. The LG also welcomed the Union Budget, describing it as historic. "I want to thank the Prime Minister and the Finance Minister for presenting a historic budget in Parliament. I think it will lay a strong foundation for a developed India and, along with that, a developed Jammu and Kashmir," he said. Farmers, youngsters, women and the poor are the main focus of the government, Sinha said. The Finance Minister has given money with a free hand for the overall growth of Jammu and Kashmir, he added. (PTI)

2,900 pilgrims leave...

cave shrine, as compared to the over 4.5 lakh last year. The 27th batch of 2,907 pilgrims under the Bhagwati Nagar base camp here at 3:40 am in 103 vehicles left Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) escort. The group included 2,194 men, 598 women, 11 children and 104 sadhus and sadhis. Of them, 1,773 pilgrims have opted for the traditional 48-km Pahalgam route, while 1,134 have chosen the shorter but steeper 14-km Baltal route, the officials said. Since June 28, when Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha flagged off the first batch of pilgrims from Jammu, a total of 1,28,404 pilgrims have embarked on the annual pilgrimage from the base camp here. The 52-day yatra, which commenced formally on June 29 from the Baltal and Pahalgam base camps in Kashmir, is scheduled to conclude on August 19.

Over 12,000 complaints...

is a centralised portal for registering public grievances related to central ministries or departments and also for state and Union territories. He said the status of the grievances filed using the portal can be tracked with a unique registration ID generated at the time of filing of the complaint. The grievances received are redressed by the ministries, departments, states and Union territories concerned in a decentralised manner, the minister said, adding that a majority of these are redressed in less than 30 days. According to data he shared, as many as 58,612 complaints were received between January and June. In addition to that, 34,659 complaints were brought forward from the previous year. Of these, 80,513 were redressed and 12,758 are pending, the data showed. In 2023, 1,84,227 such complaints were received (in addition to 19,705 brought forward from the previous year). Of these, 1,69,273 were redressed and 34,659 were pending. The minister also shared data on pending complaints related to the state governments and Union territories. As many as 46,696 complaints (excluding 25,724 brought forward from the previous year) about states and UTs were received during January and June. Of these, 46,219 were redressed and 26,201 were pending.

Either jail or...

in the region after the abrogation of Article 370 in 2019. "Modi government has zero tolerance for terrorism. We will end terrorism. They (terrorists) will be either in jail or jahannum... I want to assure the House," Rai said. Between 2004-2014 when the UPA was ruling at the Centre, there were 7,217 incidents of terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir. The number came down to 2,259 from 2014, when the BJP was voted to power, and July 21 this year, Rai said. "These should not have happened. It is unfortunate but they (opposition) should not do politics over it," the minister said. Rai told the House that 2,829 citizens and security personnel lost their lives between 2004 and 2014. This number has come down by 67 per cent since 2014. Besides, there is also reduction of 69 per cent in terror incidents.

Major relief to...

Duty on energy charges resulting into no net rise in consumer bills. Likewise, for the current financial year (2024-25), Jammu & Kashmir has again refrained from increasing electricity tariffs. He further mentioned that, in addition to alleviating any additional financial burden on consumers, the department is on a war footing to bring about numerous reforms in the sector under Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) for ensuring better quality and reliable power supply to consumers. This will empower the consumers with better control over their budget through transparent and real time monitoring of their consumption patterns, facilitated by smart meters. The smart consumer metering is being implemented at a rapid pace to eliminate unmetered consumers, which are significant contributors to high AT&C losses. Notably, J&K, which had a metering percentage as low as 50% in 2019, now ranks among the top seven states in the country for smart metering implementation, having surpassed the six lakh mark. Despite the improvements observed in smart-metered areas, challenges remain with unmetered consumers, particularly in Kashmir.

Budget 2024-25 to...

Modi, such a system has been created in which the beneficiaries are getting their entitlements directly into their bank accounts without any middleman and without any leakage. During these years, about 25 crore people have come out of the poverty line. India is continuously setting records in exports due to Product Link Incentive (PLI) and Make in India initiative. In the past one decade, Indian economy has moved towards formal economy. Digital India has not only strengthened the country's economy but is also leaving a global mark, he asserted. "This budget is going to encourage employment, skill development and natural farming", Chugh said, adding that the Prime Minister's decision to launch Tribal Advanced Village Campaign is a commendable initiative. It will cover 63,000 villages, benefiting 3 crore tribal brothers, he said. Chugh said that Indian economy is on the right track and moving towards a bright future. "Once again, I convey my best wishes and congratulations to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and their entire team for this wel-

fare budget". Referring to terror violence, the BJP National General Secretary said that those having weapons in their hands and attacking citizens of the country will not go unpunished. "Action will be taken. Safety of our citizens is most important for the BJP", he asserted.

Justice Tashi chairs...

Amit Kumar Gupta, Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority as well as Juvenile Justice Committee; Spalzes Angmo, Member Secretary, Ladakh Legal Services Authority; Prem Sagor, Secretary, HCLSC; Hilal Bhat, Incharge, UNICEF and Manoj Gupta, Director, AIVC. Justice Tashi Rabstan emphasized the importance of collaborative efforts to ensure the success of the upcoming State Level Conference. During meeting, the venue for the conference was finalized to be at Sher-i-Kashmir International Conference Centre (SKICC) Srinagar. The consultation is tentatively scheduled to take place on Saturday, August 03, 2024. The discussions highlighted the roles and responsibilities of various departments and organizations involved in the consultation. Notably, Commissioner Secretaries from the Social Welfare Department, UT of J&K, and the Social & Tribal Affairs Department, UT of Ladakh, assured their full support for the event. Additionally, the Incharge UNICEF voluntarily accepted to bear all the financial liabilities relating to the conference, including boarding and lodging of the resource persons, providing refreshment to the participants, making IT arrangements and other incidental expenses. A consensus was reached for the nomination of minimum 10 participants from each participating department along with a nodal officer to ensure success of the event. The meeting concluded with a resolve to work in collaboration to ensure the success of the State Level Stakeholders Consultation on Child Protection, reflecting a unified commitment to the Child Welfare and Protection across the Union Territories of J&K and Ladakh focusing on persons with disabilities.

Oppn walks out...

Sitharaman announced Rs 60,000 crore for Andhra Pradesh and pledged support to get Rs 15,000-crore assistance from multilateral agencies for the southern state. Kharge said the Congress and the other parties in the Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) "condemn" this discrimination. As Dhankhar gave Sitharaman the floor to respond, Kharge led the opposition bloc out of the House, saying they were walking out in protest. The finance minister said she did not name any states either in the interim budget presented in February ahead of the general election or in the full budget tabled in Parliament on Tuesday, but that does not mean that government schemes are not working for the states. She cited the example of Maharashtra, which was not named in either of the budgets, and said that did not prevent the Union Cabinet from approving the Rs 76,000-crore Vadnavan port project in Daham in the state last month.

Kashmir Marathon will...

and experience the unique charm of J&K. He said the Kashmir marathon is the next addition to the series of world class events being organized in J&K following the successful F4 racing event in Srinagar, Sunburn Music Festival in Jammu and J&K Tourism Development Conclave held recently in Srinagar. "We are exploring possibilities to organise the annual 'Jammu Marathon'," he said. Highlighting the socio-economic impact of the Kashmir marathon, the Lt Governor said the event will boost local businesses, including hotels, restaurants, and souvenir shops, thereby contributing to the prosperity of the region. For centuries, sports has remained the most powerful bridge to connect people of different cultures and languages. The Kashmir Marathon will integrate cultural events, performances, and exhibitions to showcase Kashmir's rich heritage, enhance the experience for all participants, the Lt Governor said. "Kashmir Marathon is not just a race but a celebration of resilience, beauty, and the unbreakable human spirit. It will also celebrate our breathtaking scenery and promote eco-friendly tourism that benefits local communities," he said. On the occasion, the Lt Governor highlighted the efforts of the UT Administration, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, to revolutionise the sports sector of J&K. He called upon the youth of J&K to make the best of the opportunities being provided by the government in sports and other sectors and become the brand ambassadors of J&K. The Kashmir Marathon will have two categories- full marathon for 42 kms and half marathon for 21 kms. The proposed route for the Kashmir Marathon will take runners through some of the most picturesque landscapes, featuring Chinar trees, Mughal gardens, and the serene Dal Lake. Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to Lt Governor; Dulloo, Chief Secretary; RR Swain, DGP; Yasha Mudgal, Commissioner Secretary, Tourism and senior officers of civil and police administration were present.

ACB arrests SIDCO...

Station ACB Srinagar, and investigation launched. A trap team was formed as part of the investigation, which successfully caught Mohammad Yaseen Sheikh red-handed while he was demanding and accepting the bribe amount of Rs 15,000 from the complainant. The ACB team promptly arrested him at the scene, and the bribe money was recovered from his possession in the presence of independent witnesses associated with the trap operation. The investigation into the case is ongoing, indicating a proactive stance by the ACB in combating corruption and upholding the rule of law, the spokesperson said.

Padma Shri Chewang Motup Goba, Founder & Race Director Ladakh Marathon, prominent sports personalities and youth in large number were also present on the occasion.

18 killed as plane crashes after takeoff at Nepal's Kathmandu airport, pilot survives

■ STATE TIMES NEWS KATHMANDU: A Nepalese airliner crashed and caught fire shortly after taking off from the Tribhuvan International Airport here on Wednesday, killing 18 people aboard, including a child, and seriously injuring the pilot - the lone survivor, in the latest aviation disaster to hit the Himalayan nation. The Bombardier CRJ-200 aircraft of Saurya Airlines, carrying 19 people, including two crew members and technical staff of the airline, was bound for Pokhara International Airport for regular maintenance service when the accident occurred at 11.11 am (local time). "Shortly after takeoff from runway 02, the aircraft veered off to the right and crashed on the east side of the runway," said a statement issued by the Civil Aviation Authority of Nepal. It said rescue operations were initiated immediately and fire was brought under control. "One injured person (Captain Manish Ratna Shakya) was rescued and taken to the hospital, and 18 People were found dead," it added. The deceased were identified as co-pilot S Katuwal, the employees of Saurya Airlines and a Yemeni national (Aref Reda). Manu Raj Sharma, a technician of the airline, his wife Priza Khatiwada and their four-year-old son Adhi Raj Sharma, were among the deceased.

Notorious inter-state drug supplier arrested with 16.82 gms heroin, Rs 613000 drug money

■ STATE TIMES NEWS SAMBA: Acting sternly against drug smugglers/suppliers, Police under operation Sanjeevani has arrested a notorious inter-state drug supplier with approximately 16.82 grams Heroin and rupees six lacs thirteen thousand (Rs 6,13,000) drug money from his possession. A Police Party of Police Station Vijaypur headed by SHO PS Vijaypur during special Naka at 17 Miles Vijaypur, signalled to stop a swift car bearing registration No. JK08P-1912 coming from Jammu side for its checking. But on seeing Police Party, the driver of the vehicle accelerated the speed and tried to escape from the spot. Alert cops successfully chased the vehicle and intercepted it few meters away from Naka point. During checking, approximately 16.82 grams Heroin and cash amounting to Rs 6,13,000 were recovered from the possession of the driver of said car. The accused driver identified as MohdAslam S/o Teg Ali R/o MathraChak tehsil Hiranagar district Kathua has been arrested and contraband item, weighing machine & drug money have been seized by Police. The arrested accused is a notorious inter-state drug supplier and was earlier also arrested at PS Vijaypur in a NDPS case registered in the year 2022. He was involved in multiple NDPS cases registered against him in Punjab, PS Pouni (Reasi), PS Rajbagh (Kathua) and PS Vijaypur. Further investigation of the case is going on to ascertain backward/forward linkages.

8 arrested, 8 vehicles involved in illegal extraction & transportation of minerals seized

■ STATE TIMES NEWS KULGAM/BARAMULLA: Cracking a whip on illegal mining & transportation of minerals, police have seized 08 vehicles and arrested 08 drivers in Kulgam & Baramulla. Police in Kulgam along with officers of Geology and mining department, arrested 6 persons and seized 6 vehicles (Tractors) involved in illegal extraction and transportation of minerals at Devsar and Behibagh areas of Kulgam. In Baramulla, a police party under the supervision of SDPO Pattan assisted by Incharge Police Post Kungamdara seized 2 vehicles (2 Tractors) & arrested 2 drivers involved in illegal extraction/ transportation of minerals at Khore Sherabad. They have been identified as Mohd Ashraf Wani son of Gh Ahmad resident of Shiroora Pattan & Muzamil Ahmad Wani son of Manzoor Ahmad resident of Hanjwera Bala. Accordingly, cases under relevant sections of law have been registered in respective Police Stations and investigation has been taken up. Persons found indulging in illegal mining activities shall be dealt as per law. Community members are appealed to share information regarding the crimes in their neighbourhood with their concerned police units.

Drug peddler arrested; contraband substance recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS KULGAM: Continuing its efforts to eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, Police have arrested a drug peddler in Kulgam and recovered contraband substance from his possession. A police party of Police Station Qazigund at a checkpoint established at Wampora near bridge intercepted a suspicious person identified as Sartaj Ahmad Shah Son of Abdul Gani Sha resident of Gundipora carrying a nylon bag. During search, 2 Kgs of poppy straw like contraband substance was recovered. He has been arrested and shifted to Police Station where he remains in custody. Accordingly, a case vide FIR No. 195/2024 under relevant sections of law has been registered at Police Station Qazigund and investigation has been taken up.

Three narco smugglers nabbed with heroin

■ STATE TIMES NEWS KATHUA: Continuing its efforts against drug menace under the "Operation Sanjeevani" J&K Police recovered approx. 65 grams of Heroin (Chitta) like narcotics at Golden Gate area of P/S Lakhampur, 01 drug peddler arrested along with recovered narcotics substance got seized on spot. An information was received through the reliable sources at P/S Lakhampur that one person namely Rashid Ali alias Teg, son of Shatu, resident of Jandriari Tehsil Ramnagar District Udhampur A/P Korepunnu Tehsil Marheen District Kathua doing illegal trade of selling Narcotics like Contraband and kept huge quantity of narcotics substance in his possession and trying to sell same to the people of Lakhampur area near Golden Gate. Acting swiftly, a Police team of PS Lakhampur under the supervision of DySP DAR Kathua & SHO PS Lakhampur laid down a special naka/ checking at Golden Gate Lakhampur area was able to apprehend said person Rashid Ali. During checking approx. 65 Grams of Heroin(Chitta) narcotics were recovered from his illegal possession. Thereafter all the recovered narcotics were seized and one drug peddler was arrested on spot. On this case vide FIR No. 74/2024 U/S 8/21/22/NDPS Act has been registered at Police Station Lakhampur while further investigation is underway. Meanwhile, an information was received through the reliable sources at PP Nagri Parole that two persons namely Karanveer Singh, son of Ranjodh Singh, resident of Aima Sajda Narot and Hrithik Salaria, son of Omkar Singh, resident of Aima Sajda Narot were doing illegal trade of selling Narcotics like Contraband and kept huge quantity of narcotics substance in their possession and trying to sell the same to the people of Nagri Parole. Acting swiftly, a Police team of PP Nagri Parole under the supervision of DySP Hqrs Kathua & SHO PS Kathua laid down a special naka/ checking in its jurisdictional area and was able to apprehend both. During checking approx. 53.52 Grams of Heroin(Chitta) narcotics were recovered from their illegal possession. Thereafter all the recovered narcotics were seized and two drug peddlers were arrested on spot. On this case vide FIR No. 229/2024 U/S 8/21/22/29/NDPS Act has been registered at Police Station Kathua while further investigation is underway.

CCIU recovers online defrauded amount of rs. 13.9 lakh

■ STATE TIMES NEWS DODA/KISHTWAR : CCIU (Cybercrime Investigation Unit of J&K Police District Doda has exhibited highest level of professionalism and commitment in combating against cyber-crime by successfully solving and recovering online defrauded money amounting Rs.109898 /- in the month of July,2024. While giving details J&K Police of District Doda said that the unit received complaints from complainants namely Farhan Ahmed Dev Doda; Mohd Sehran S/o Wahid Hussain R/o Doda; Faheem Nisar s/o Nisar Ahmed R/O .Doda; Salinder Kumar s/o Ram raj R/O Bhalla, Doda; Mohd Ameen Malik s/o Ghulam Rasool Malik and Tabinda Wani w/o Aadil. During the course of investigation, CCIU team, exhibited hectic efforts and advanced technical skills which ultimately led to the successful recovery of defrauded amount of Rs. 109898 /-.

Mentionable here that CCIU Doda came to be established on 07-02-2024 and since then the unit has successfully recovered huge de -frauded money amount Rs.24,47,453 so far.

District Police Kishtwar has reaffirmed its commitment to combating cybercrime by successfully solving case and recovering online defrauded funds amounting to Rs 3,00,000. In a recent breakthrough, the Unit resolved a case involving multiple online frauds, recovering Rs 3,00,000 (Three Lac). The reported scams included mobile recharge frauds, unauthorised third-party app installations, and malicious Telegram links promoting fraudulent trading apps like Aviator, Happybet, 11winner, and Skywinner. Upon receiving complaints, the Cybercrime Investigation Unit launched an immediate and detailed investigation, leveraging advanced technical methods to trace and recover the defrauded funds. The swift actions of the Unit led to the recovery of Rs 3,00,000. Investigations continue to retrieve additional funds, with promising leads in several cases. Since its inception, the Cybercrime Investigation Unit Kishtwar has successfully recovered a total of *₹34,18,506 (Thirty-four lacs eighteen thousand five hundred six)* from various online scams, underscoring its effectiveness and commitment to combating cybercrime.

Notorious timber smuggler booked under PSA

■ STATE TIMES NEWS NAGROTA: A notorious timber smuggler has been detained under the Public Safety Act (PSA) in Jammu District by Nagrota Police today on 24-07-2024.He has been identified as Muneer Ahmed S/O Mohd Sadeeq R/O Pangali Tehsil Nagrota District Jammu. The subject has been booked under Public Safety Act for his continuous involvement in timber smuggling activities in an organised manner; posing a threat to peace and order.The accused did not change his behaviour; criminal activities & inspite of been booked under multiple FIRs' and arrested by authorities in number of cases. But he continued his criminal activities and such activities are likely to disturb public order particularly in NAGROTA & adjacent areas of Jammu District. As per police records multiple FIR's under Forest Act were registered against the above mentioned subject. "Keeping in view the activities of aforesaid accused as illegal amount to propagating the illegal activities,thus accused was ordered to be detained under section 8 (1) (a) of J&K Public Safety Act (PSA) 1978 vide District Magistrate Jammu's order No 28/2024 Dated 22/7/2024 and has been lodged in Kotbhalwal Jail. A team lead by PSI Mashkooor Ahmed and SHO Nagrota under the supervision of Sdpo Nagrota executed the warrant. Action against notorious hardcore criminals is among the top priorities of Jammu Police, which aims not only to take stringent action as per law of the land against notorious criminals, but it is also a preventive step towards maintenance of peace and order.

3 bovine smuggling bids foiled,18 bovines rescued, 3 vehicles seized

■ STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: Jammu police tightening nose against bovine smugglers under operation KAMDHIENU Police team of Police Post Sidhra led by ICPP PSI Rohit Manhas foiled three bovine smuggling bids in which 18 bovine were rescued from three different vehicles bearing registration number No. JK02CX-5691, JK02AR-3089 and JK08P 4676 at Bajalta Morh.The driver of all three vehicle's fled away from the spot after leaving behind their vehicles on road. In this connection, three FIRs under relevant sections of law stands registered in PS Nagrota and further investigation of all the cases are underway.

3000 banned drugs tablets recovered in Rajouri, two peddlers arrested

■ STATE TIMES NEWS RAJOURI: Police arrested two youth following a recovering of consignment of banned drugs/tablets from their possession. A team of police headed by SHO Rajouri intercepted two youth near Children Park, Rajouri and recovered 3000 tablets of banned drug, tramadol hydrochloride from their possession following which duo have been arrested. The duo accused persons have been identified as Umar Malik S/O Nisar Ahmed R/O Atti Rajouri A/P Malik Market and Mohd Arif S/O Mohd Raqeeb R/O Malik Market, Rajouri. Notably, a formal criminal case under FIR No. 327/2024 U/S 8/21/22/29 NDPS Act has been registered at Police Station Rajouri. Investigation into digging both Forward & Backward linkages of instant NDPS recovery is going on.

SSP Jammu asks border dwellers to strengthen vigilance

■ STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: SSP Jammu Dr. Vinod Kumar held a series of crucial meetings with local residents and weapon license holders from Arnia, Treva, Sai, Baspur; Agrachak areas of the RS Pura Sub-Division. These meetings aimed to enhance community awareness and their involvement in maintaining regional security amidst ongoing threats. Presided over by SSP Jammu Dr. Vinod Kumar, the meetings saw the attendance of SP Headquarters Jammu Irshad H. Rather, SDPO RS Pura Nikhil Gogna-JKPS, SHO Arnia, SHO RS Pura, IC BPP Sai, IC BPP Treva, IC BPP Baspur, IC BPP Agrachak, and other officials. Residents from border villages actively participated, receiving detailed briefings on the current security situation and the continuous terrorist threats in the Jammu zone. The SSP urged locals to report any suspicious individuals or activities immediately to the police to help prevent potential incidents. SSP Jammu also urged the public to keep a close watch on the activities of outsiders visiting border areas daily for pheri purposes and on the movements of vehicles, especially in the early morning hours carrying milk and vegetables towards the city. Any unusual or suspicious activities of unknown persons should be reported promptly to the nearest police station or police post to avert any adverse incidents.

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