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### Jagdeep Dhankhar elected...

of political and ideological loyalty who became one of the BJP's most visible leaders and later India's vice president, Naidu came a long way.

He entered into student politics through the ABVP and played an active role in the movement led by Jayaprakash Narayan.

Born in a humble agricultural family in Andhra Pradesh's Nellore district, Naidu has served as a BJP president, a union minister and a long-time Rajya Sabha member.

Known for his oratory skills, Naidu often uses interesting one-liners and rhyming phrases to put across his views effectively.

Not many know that Naidu translated former prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee's speeches for his audience down south.

As Rajya Sabha chairman, Naidu had to deal with difficult situations on various occasions, including protests in the House by opposition members on issues such as the now-repealed three central farm laws.

For Alva, the vice presidential election has been another comeback. Barring a brief lull in 2008 triggered by her standoff with Congress president Sonia Gandhi over the issue of family entitlement in ticket distribution, the suave and soft-spoken Alva's career has largely been a dream run.

She has had a political career spanning over four decades during which she occupied several positions, including a five-time Congress MP, a union minister and governor. She congratulated Dhankhar on his victory.

In the past there had been four instances when candidates were elected unopposed to the post of the vice president who is also the chairperson of Rajya Sabha.

In the 1992 vice presidential poll, K R Narayanan bagged 700 of the 701 valid votes while his rival Kaja Jaginder Singh alias "Dharti Pakad" managed just one vote in his favour.

### Amrit Mahotsav golden...

programme should be taken up for the youth to familiarise them with the life of people residing there.

Similarly, the programme to construct 75 ponds in every district and similar such programmes should be designed in a way which is conducive for water and environment conservation.

The youth should be familiarised with such programmes to help them understand the ground realities of the country, he said.

Addressing the committee, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said more than 60,000 programmes have been organised successfully in the country till date and the campaign has percolated down from the national to the state, district and grassroots level.

The programme commenced on March 13 last year launching a 75-week countdown to India's 75th anniversary of independence and will end on August 15 next year.

Meanwhile, Trinamool Congress sources claimed West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee was not given a chance to speak at the meeting. She wanted to highlight her state's contribution to freedom struggle, they said.

Members of the national committee who attended the meeting included the Lok Sabha speaker, governors, Union ministers, chief ministers, other political leaders, officials, media personalities, spiritual Leaders, artists and film personalities and eminent persons from other walks of life, the statement said.

Several participants also joined the meeting virtually.

Culture ministry secretary Govind Mohan gave a presentation on the overview of activities of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav since its inception.

The first meeting of the National Committee was held on March 8 before the launch of the campaign and the second meeting was held on December 22.

Modi said India is passing through an era of "Amrit Kaal" realising its resolves and this will take the country to the "peak of success" in the next 25 years.

### Two notorious criminals arrested; heroin, sharp-edged weapons seized

#### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Continuing its drive against drug trafficking and substance abuse, Police on Saturday arrested two notorious criminals and recovered 5 grams of Heroin along with sharp edged weapons.



As per the details, a team of Police Station Miran Sahib led by SHO Miran Sahib Inspector Zaheer Mushtaq while on Naka duty round-up two suspects. On search 5 grams of heroin was recovered from the suspects Arjun Kumar and Ashok Kumar, both sons of Bodh Raj, resident of Phinder and on their disclosure 5 grams of Heroin along with a sharp edged weapon was recovered.

Two were arrested and FIR No. 89/2022 under sections 8/21/22 NDPS Act, 4/25 Arms Act was registered against them at Police Station Miran Sahib.

Intensive questioning has been going on to ascertain details about weapon along with contraband. The whole operation was done under the supervision of SDPO R.S Pura Surinder Singh.

### 4 vehicles seized for illegal mining

#### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a quest to stern the menace of illegal mining, a

multi-pronged strategy was devised by Jammu Police in which police teams of Police Station Jhajjar Kotli and Police Post Chinore acted stringently on the specific inputs and raided at different locations in their respective areas and seized 4 different vehicles involved in illegal mining.

The seized vehicles include two tippers (JK02BF-1458 and JK02AX-0947) seized by Police Station Jhajjar Kotli and two tractor trolley bearing Chassis No. MBNAAL2BMRMO1314 and Chassis No. MBNBG55AEMCG20108 by Chinore Police.

It is pertinent to mention that around 1.5 lakh fine has been imposed on the violators by Police teams of Police Station Jhajjar Kotli and the fine is to be paid at Joint Director Office, Geology and Mining Department.

The recoveries were made by SHO Police Station Jhajjar Kotli In-charge Vikram Sharma and In-charge Police Post Chinore PSI Amit Singh in their respective jurisdictions.

### Youth arrested for molesting girl

#### STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: A youth was arrested for molesting a girl on Saturday.

As per details, an accused named Adil Aziz Khan, son of Abdul Aziz Khan, resident of Saidakadel, Rainawari was arrested for molesting a girl (name with held) studying in Islamia college. The accused was harassing the girl and also forcibly tried to drag her inside his i20 car. Clip of victim girl went viral in social media, after which police identified the youth and arrested him.

## Communal harmony on display: Muslims help transport idols to hill top temple in Bhadarwah

#### RAJA REHBER JAMAL

BHADARWAH: Setting an example of Hindu-Muslim brotherhood, Muslim residents in Kursari Panchayat of Jammu and Kashmir's Additional district Bhadarwah joined hands with minority community to help them carry idols of Hindu gods to the hill top temple by toiling hard round the clock for four days.

The amity of Muslim gentlemen towards their Hindu neighbours is winning hearts as the kind gesture has helped to carry 6 idols weighing 500 kg to 700 kg each to the temple which is located 3km away on hill top from the motorable Bhadarwah - Doda highway.

The Committee of ancient Shiv Temple Kursari after receiving the consignment of giant idols from Rajasthan was caught in a fix as authorities failed to build the road to temple in time, making it almost impossible to carry



the heavy idols made of granite stone to the temple.

Sensing the difficulty, Sarpanch Kursari Panchayat, Sajid Mir not only immediately allotted 4.6 lakhs from Capex budget for urgent construction of road but also motivated 150 villagers from majority community of the village from all age groups who volunteered to give their Hindu neigh-

bours a helping hand to manage the transportation of idols to its destination.

Sajid Mir, Sarpanch Kursari said that this is our culture and these are our values which we have inherited from our elders. That's why we never feel prey to the nefarious designs of those who try divide us on the basis of religion. Today we have again showed that we are one

and nobody can change this - come whatever may.

"It's really encouraging to see the attention we are getting as the show of communal harmony by our villagers acted as a catalyst, which has resulted in the form of help from different quarters including Army, Road construction Companies and civil administration," Mir added.

Shiv Mandir Committee is all praise for the Muslim neighbours for the solidarity with them and the enthusiasm they have shown to help them in difficult times.

"It is heartwarming to see the love and affection of our Muslim neighbours who gave us strength and are untiringly toiling hard since last four days to manage the transportation of idols to the temple, which at one point seemed an impossible task," said Ravinder Pardeep, Chairman Shiv

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