

**!! Continuations from Page 1 !!
Search continues for...**

is underway in the Pathi Nalla Khaned area of Basantgarh, where brief contact was established with a group of terrorists late on Tuesday, they said. They said the terrorists were believed to be still hiding in the forest area and more reinforcements was rushed in the morning to expand the cordon to neutralise them, the officials said. Meanwhile, security forces also launched a cordon and search operation in the Diyar Gala forest in the Kalakote area of Rajouri district following information about the movement of two terrorists, one of whom was reported to be injured, they said. The terrorist is believed to have been injured in a recent encounter with security forces in the Gunda village but managed to escape, they added. The combing operation is underway to trace the two terrorists noticed in Diyar Gala, the officials said.

RS elections for...

and Jyotiraditya Scindia, were elected to the Lok Sabha. The notification for the Rajya Sabha elections will be issued on August 14 and the last date for filing of poll papers is August 21, the Commission said. According to the announcement by the ECI, the separate elections for each Rajya Sabha seat will be held on September 3 and the results will be announced on the same day. The last date for the withdrawal of nominations is likely to be August 26-27. The polling will be held on September 3 from 9 am to 4 pm and counting of votes will be held on September 3 at 5 pm. Out of the total 12 seats vacant in the Rajya Sabha, 2 each are from Assam, Bihar and Maharashtra; 1 each from Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Tripura, Telangana and Odisha. Bypolls are also being held for two seats in Telangana and Odisha. K Keshava Rao from Telangana resigned recently from the House after quitting the Bharat Rashtira Samithi (BRS) to join the Congress while Biju Janata Dal (BJD) MP Mamata Mohanta resigned from her Rajya Sabha seat and primary membership of the party.

Woman dies in...

weather across Jammu division till August 15 with intense showers for a brief period and possibility of flash floods and landslides in vulnerable places across Jammu and Kashmir and heavy rainfall at isolated places in Jammu division.

Budha Amarnath Yatra...



welcomed the pilgrims. A total of 15 vehicles carrying 687 Yatris reached Poonch on the first day. On the occasion, Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Yasin M. Choudhary, DIG Rajouri- Poonch Tejinder Singh, SSP Poonch, Yougal Manhas, ADDC Poonch, Sandesh Kumar Sharma, ADC Poonch, Tahir Mustafa Malik, DDC member Ch.Abdul Ghani, ARTO Poonch, Tara Mani, SE PHE, CHO, Sanjeev Kumar, CMO Poonch, Dr. Zulafkar Ahmed, Yatra Officers and esteemed members of the civil society, including the President of VHP, Nishu Gupta, the President of Akhara Mandir, Basant Ram, the President of SDS, Khetarpal Pal, the President of DGPC, Narinder Singh, Dr. Updesh Sharma, and Adv. Rajinder Singh, Taj Mir, were present to welcome the Yatris and wish them a safe pilgrimage. On the occasion, Various types of food stalls were set up on the ground to cater to the needs of the Yatris, ensuring their comfort and well-being during their stay. The arrival of the first batch of pilgrims marks the beginning of a significant event, and the District Administration, along with the local organizations, has left no stone unturned to ensure a warm and memorable experience for the Yatris. The Yatra will continue for around 10 days and Poonch will host thousands of Yatris. It will end with the commencement of Chari Yatra from Poonch to Budha

Amarnath Ji Mandi. The Yatra is a landmark event in the history of J&K and more particularly for district Poonch as it's an old age tradition. With time it has become a local culture to extend hospitality to Yatris.

No alliance for...

(Amit Shah)," he added. To a question about the situation in Bangladesh, the former Union minister said India has been left alone as none of its neighbours is its friend anymore. "Bangladesh is a different issue, our country has a different issue. In Bangladesh, (Sheikh) Hasina was pro-India, but the people there were not pro-India. She ran the affairs till she could. Today, India should be ready to deal with dangers. "Today, none of our neighbours is our friend. We are alone -- be it Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh or Sri Lanka. The regret is that this big brother has miffed the younger brothers," Abdullah said. The need of the hour is the revival of the SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation) and India should fulfil its duty as the big brother, he added. India should sit with everyone and discuss their problems, which was the aim of the SAARC. "Only then can all our neighbours become our friends," Abdullah said.

NC ready for...

public rally at Nagri in Kathua district. The former Chief Minister said that his party started preparing for the elections the day when the Supreme Court set the deadline of September 30 for holding of the assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir last year. On the prevailing situation in Bangladesh, the National Conference leader in a lighter vein said "when my own situation is not so good, what I should speak for others". "We will only hope that the people of Bangladesh live peacefully," he added. Abdullah said there are many young boys and girls from Jammu and Kashmir getting education in Bangladesh and there should be proper arrangements for their security. "They have temporarily returned and we are eagerly waiting for them to return to Bangladesh and complete their education," he said.

J&K Police security...

stadium, they said. Vehicles are being checked, and people carrying security cards are only allowed into the stadium after thorough frisking and checks, they said.

Justice Tashi reviews...

J&K besides reviewing the progress on the resolutions passed in the previous meeting and deliberating upon the issues confronting the proper implementation of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children), 2015 Act in the UT of J&K. While reviewing the pendency and disposal of cases before the JJBs, the Member Secretary informed Justice Tashi that a total of 2769 cases were pending at the beginning of the current calendar year and 360 fresh cases were instituted up till 31.07.2024, out of which, 447 cases were disposed of between January to July 2024 despite the fact that 19 JJBs are operating with Principal Magistrates having additional charge and sole Principal Magistrate working on full time basis. He further informed that as on July 31, 2024, there is pendency of 2682cases in JJBs across the UT of J&K. The Committee expects that the Principal Magistrates in all the 20 JJBs shall be posted soon. The Commissioner Secretary, Social Welfare suggested that the data of POCSO cases be also reviewed in the next meeting. Justice Tashi recorded satisfaction regarding the working of Juvenile Justice Boards and appreciated the efforts of Home and Social Welfare Departments in strengthening the JJBs. He further impressed upon the Committee to conduct the review meeting regarding the functioning of Juvenile Justice Boards at least once in six months. During the meeting the Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority, informed Justice Tashi about the non-furnishing of detailed information regarding the establishment of Special Juvenile Police Units and the nomination of Child Welfare Police Officers, which was discussed in the previous meeting. The Principal Secretary Home assured the Committee to furnish the information on establishment of the Special Police Units and Child Welfare Police Officers, as well as the creation of child-friendly corners in all police stations. Regarding the payment of compensation to the victims and their dependents under Victim Compensation Scheme 2019, the Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority informed Justice Tashi that during the current calendar year compensation to the tune of Rs. 1,03,62,000/- has already been disbursed in 52 cases whereas 15more applications are under process which shall be disposed of very soon. He raised a demand for release of funds to the tune of Rs. 4.00 Crores to clear the awarded compensation and to cater to the petitions pending before various DLSAs. The Member Secretary also highlighted the need to fully computerize all the JJBs for which the Commissioner Secretary, Social Welfare assured the Committee to raise the demand before concerned Authorities for release of funds. Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority acknowledged the participation of Social Welfare Department in organizing Joint Awareness Programmes to spread awareness among the masses regarding the implementation of the JJ Act. This meeting underlines the ongoing efforts and resolutions aimed at enhancing the implementation of the Juvenile Justice Act and improving the support systems for juvenile care and protection in the UT of J&K.

Chhari-Sthapana ceremony...

and another Goddess Parvati, shall be kept in the temple at Akhara Building here for 'darshan' till it leaves for pilgrimage on August 14. Pilgrims and the public in general can have a 'darshan' of the holy mace kept in the temple located at Dashnami Akhara here from 10:15 am to 12:15 pm. Traditional 'Chhari-Pujan' would be performed on Friday August 9 on the occasion of 'Nag Panchami' (Shravan Shukla Paksha Panchami) at Dashnami Akhara here. The 'pujan' will be streamed live and devotees can participate in the 'pujan' virtually as well. 'The True Trust', founded by Mahant Deependra Giri in 2004, has made all the necessary arrangements for food, tented accommodation and transportation during the annual pilgrimage.

CBI arrests employee...

the bribe from the property dealer. Subsequently, the patwari was also apprehended while accepting the bribe from the middleman, the spokesman said.

Dir Agriculture initiates Rabi Campaign with Hybrid Vegetable Seed Sowing

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Director Agriculture Jammu, Arvinder Singh Reen, on Wednesday marked the beginning of the Rabi campaign by sowing hybrid vegetable seeds in Hi Tech polyhouse at the Vegetable Improvement Scheme, Talab Tillo Jammu.



Director Agriculture Jammu, Arvinder Singh Reen sowing hybrid vegetable seeds.

The initiative aims to produce early seedlings for distribution to farmers across Jammu Division, ensuring an advantage over seasonal market fluctuation rates. The Director commenced the nursery sowing of Hybrid variety of Cauliflower in the polyhouse. Agronomist (VIS), Vikas Padha and departmental staff were also present on the occasion. This effort underscores the department's commitment to enhancing agricultural productivity and better market price for farmers produce through advanced techniques. Speaking on the occasion, the Director advised farmers in the Jammu Division to opt for nursery sowing of hybrid vegetables in naturally ventilated conditions. He highlighted the distribution of Hi Tech and Low-cost polyhouses under the

HADP to farmers across the division, emphasizing the benefits of raising vegetable nurseries in polyhouses for early crop growth through vegetable forcing and higher returns. Agronomist (VIS), Vikas Padha informed that the department-produced nursery seedlings will be available from second fortnight of August at a nominal

cost, facilitating timely and affordable access for farmers. Additionally, the Director participated in a plantation drive conducted within the premises of the Vegetable Development Scheme as part of the ongoing Swachhata Pakhwada 'The Shuchita Sangram' campaign 2024. His involvement underscored the department's commitment to promoting cleanliness and environmental stewardship alongside agricultural development initiatives. The Director Agriculture Jammu expressed confidence that these efforts will contribute significantly to improving agricultural outcomes in the region, ensuring enhanced productivity and economic stability for farmers.

KVM demands Piller Based Flyover Bridge, early functioning of Inter State Bus Stand Kathua

STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: A meeting of Kathua Vikas Manch(KVM) was held in Mahajan Sabha Hall Kathua the other day under the chairmanship of Sat Pal Gupta , President of the Manch to review the functioning of the manch and discuss development related issues of Kathua. The manch took stock of the current status of demands and grievances projected by the manch in the recently held public darbars by various administrative secretaries of UT of Jammu & Kashmir. A concern over delay in giving practical shape to the assurance given by the authorities on spot was expressed by most of the members, and it was resolved unanimously to continue the efforts in this context .

The members sought the attention of Concerned authorities for the Construction of Pillar Based flyover Bridge from Maghar Khad to Sahar Khad on Jammu- Pathankot National Highway 44 (A-1), Early functioning of already completed Inter State Bus Stand (ISBS) Kathua, Proper development of Parshuram Ji Chovk near D.C Office Kathua and Dream Land Park

Kathua from canal side to reduce traffic road on college road and refixing the missing main hole covers over footpaths and Resumption of J&K RTC Bus Service between Kathua & Pathankot withheld on account of Corona Pandemic 2020. The issue regarding the proper provision of Community Bathrooms/ Ghats for performing rituals along Kathua Cannal , Proper Traffic Management at Kalibari Chowk , Proper desilting of drains, concern over frequent thefts and establishment of Police Chowki in Housing Colony Kathua were also discussed in the meeting. The meeting was attended by Prof. Ram Murti Sharma (patron), Dr. Paramjeet Sharma (Vice President), Dr. Kuldeep Mahotra , Mahesh Kumar Gupta, Bansil Lal Gupta, G. S. Katal, Dr. C.R Munday, Dr. Sohoni Lal, Kuldeep Goswami, Mulk Raj Sharma , Kapil Sharma, Rajeev Mahajan, Shiv Kumar Gupta, Ajay Sharma, Joginder Sharma, Dwaraka Nath, Jyoti Saroop, Mohinder Gupta, Gouri Shanker, Rajesh Gupta, Jagdish Slathia and many others.

NABARD Kathua celebrates National Handloom Day



STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, Kathua celebrated Handloom day at Basholi, Kathua on 07 August 2024. On this occasion DDM NABARD, Amit Kumar, Surinder Singh

Department), KK Bhardwaj MD KYASC society and weavers from different weaver's societies were present. During the program, Romesh Kumar and Rahul Kumar highlighted the work done by their societies and the problems

Department), KK Bhardwaj MD KYASC society and weavers from different weaver's societies were present. During the program, Romesh Kumar and Rahul Kumar highlighted the work done by their societies and the problems faced by weavers at the current time. Later, the DDM NABARD, Amit Kumar discussed the various schemes of NABARD in the off-farm sector. He highlighted why it is important to promote the off-farm sector in the current context of the pressing need to reduce rural India's over-dependence on agriculture by providing alternate livelihood options. He further discussed various promotional schemes like exhibitions, melas, rural Hart rural mart, GI Tagging initiative, and OFPO being implemented by the NABARD. In the end, weavers were facilitated for their contribution to the handloom sector.

Come back stronger: Modi on Phogat's disqualification

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday described wrestler Vinesh Phogat as a "champion among champions" and exuded confidence that she would come back stronger following her disqualification from the final Olympic bout. "Vinesh, you are a champion among champions! You are India's pride and an inspiration for each and every Indian," Modi posted on X. "Today's setback hurts. I wish words could express the sense of despair that I am experiencing. At the same time, I know that you epitomise resilience. It has always been your nature to take challenges head on," he said.

"Come back stronger! We are all rooting for you," Modi said. Phogat was disqualified from the Olympics after being found overweight ahead of her women's 50kg final here, leaving her medal-less within hours of coming close to an unparalleled gold. Sources said the prime minister also spoke to IOA president PT Usha and sought first hand information from her on the issue and the options India has in the wake of the setback. He asked her to explore the full range of options to help Phogat's case. Modi urged Usha to file a strong protest regarding her disqualification if that helps Phogat.

Judges should exercise restraint, responsibility while making observations in court: SC

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Wednesday said judges should exercise restraint and responsibility while making observations during the proceedings in courts, particularly when the hearings are live streamed. The apex court's observations came while expunging the "scandalous" and "unwarranted" remarks made by a single judge bench of the Punjab and Haryana High Court against the top court in a contempt proceeding. "In an age where there is widespread reporting of any proceeding which takes place in the court, particularly in the context of live streaming which is intended to provide access to justice to citizens to the proceedings of the court, it is all the more necessary that judges exercise restraint and responsibility in the observations which are made in the court during the course of the proceedings," a five-judge special bench headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud said. The bench, also comprising Justices Sanjiv Khanna, B R Gavai, Surya Kant and Hrishikesh Roy, expunged the observations made by Justice Rajbir Sehrawat of the high court in his July 17 order. During the hearing, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, who appeared in the matter, referred to a video of the July 17 proceedings before the high court being circulated.

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SFs recover old UBGL shell in Poonch

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: An old under-barrel grenade launcher (UBGL) shell was recovered by security forces in Poonch district on Wednesday, officials said. The shell was found near the Chandimarih river in the Surankote area after some people spotted it and informed authorities, they said. The shell was defused, they added.

Man dies in police custody in Reasi; inquiry ordered

STATE TIMES NEWS

KATRA: A 25-year-old man allegedly died by hanging inside a police station after he was detained in the Reasi district of Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday, officials said. The death of Anmol Dogra, a resident of the Mathyal village in Katra, triggered protests by his family following which Sub-divisional Magistrate Piyush Dotra ordered an inquiry, the officials said. Puran Chand, father of Dogra, said his son died in the custody of Katra police station after he was picked up for questioning in connection with a case last week. Demanding a magisterial probe into the incident, he questioned how his son managed to arrange a rope to hang himself in the lock-up. The body of the deceased was handed over to his family after post-mortem, the officials said, adding the relatives of the deceased blocked the main road near Mathyal to protest his "custodial death". The SDM along with the additional superintendent of police, Katra, met the protesters and persuaded them to disperse, assuring them that an inquiry is underway in connection with Dogra's death.