

Honesty is mandatory, not optional, in army enrolment: DB

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh has dismissed a writ petition filed by Dharninder Kumar, a former Territorial Army recruit, who had challenged his discharge from service for concealing information about his involvement in a criminal case.

A Division Bench comprising Justice Sindhu Sharma and Justice Shahzad Azeem, while pronouncing the verdict through virtual mode from Srinagar, upheld the findings of the Armed Forces Tribunal (AFT), Srinagar Bench at Jammu, which had earlier rejected his plea.

HC holds discharged recruit cannot march back into Army

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh has dismissed a writ petition filed by Daljeet Singh, a former Army recruit, seeking reinstatement into service after his premature discharge in 2021.

A Division Bench comprising Justice Sindhu Sharma and Justice Rajesh Sekhri, while pronouncing the judgment through virtual mode, upheld the order of the Armed Forces Tribunal (AFT), Srinagar Bench at Jammu, which had earlier rejected the plea on similar grounds.

Daljeet Singh was enrolled in the Indian Army on May 1, 2021, at the Punjab Regiment Centre, Rangarh Cantt, and was undergoing training. However, he was discharged on July 20, 2021, after submitting a sworn affidavit dated July 5, 2021, in which he expressed disinterest in continuing military service. Singh later alleged coercion and sought reinstatement, but his representation was rejected by the competent authority on August 25,

60 blood units donated by Sant Nirankari Mission



■ STATE TIMES NEWS
RAJOURI: Keeping the ideologies and teachings of Satguru Mata Sudiksha ji Maharaj in mind, saints of Sant Nirankari Mission, Rajouri, organised a Blood Donation Camp at Sant Nirankari Satsang Bhawan, Rajouri on Sunday. Satguru Mata Sudiksha ji Maharaj says, 'Our life should be devoted to the service of humanity; we all have to live a life with such a spirit'. Satguru Mata Ji says, 'taking inspiration from the life and teachings of Baba Hardev Singh Ji Maharaj that, we can save someone's life by giving our valuable contribution in the service of humanity through donating blood.'

This blood Donation camp had been carried out under the banner of Sant Nirankari Charitable Foundation. MLA Rajouri, Iftikar Ahmed and DDC Chairman, Adv:Naseem Liaqat jointly inaugurated the camp and urged all the members of society to come forward and donate their blood as donating blood is considered as the supreme donation towards humanity. Both of these dignitaries along with many civil society members, who marked their

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charged him from service on December 29, 2016, under Territorial Army Regulations, 1948.

The AFT dismissed his challenge in 2018, holding that no formal inquiry was necessary in such cases and that concealment of material facts during enrollment justified termination. A review petition filed by him was also dismissed the same year.

Endorsing the Tribunal's reasoning, the High Court noted that the petitioner had knowingly suppressed his criminal antecedents, depriving the Army of its right to assess his suitability. The Bench relied on Supreme Court judgments

Flood havoc at SKUAST-J: research farms, roads, equipments, greenhouses destroyed

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: A catastrophic flash flood struck the Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu (SKUAST-Jammu) on Tuesday severely impacting both the campuses at Chatha and R.S. Pura.

The Chatha campus was the worst hit where water levels rose to nearly seven to eight feet submerging buildings, roads, parapets, vehicles, agricultural fields while the R.S. Pura campus also reported significant damage.

The floodwaters caused widespread devastation with initial estimates suggesting losses of around ₹100-120 crores. Apart from costly research equipment, vehicles, IT infrastructure, records, experimental fields and livestock units, the university suffered extensive damage to roads, boundary parapets, power house, internal pathways, drainage structures, playgrounds, library, sports facilities, stadium, student centre, Community Radio Station and e-studio etc of grave concern is the potential loss of invaluable research data, experimental trials and

Drug peddler arrested with 1 kg Ganja

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SAMBHA: Continuing its drive against drug smugglers & peddlers, Samba Police has arrested a drug peddler in the jurisdiction of Police Station Bari Brahmana and recovered approximately 01 Kg Ganja like substance from his possession.

A Police party of Police Station Bari Brahmana while performing naka duty near Railway Station Bari Brahmana, intercepted a person who was moving under suspicious circumstances and during frisking recovered approximately 01 Kg Ganja like substance from his possession.

The drug peddler identified as Ajay Kumar S/o Mangal Singh R/o Pipar Pantu Koila Khaagaria (Bihar) has been arrested and contraband item has also been seized.

A case FIR No 123/2025 U/S 8/20 NDPS Act has been registered at PS Bari Brahmana and investigation started.

Two arrested in sacrilegious act

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
POONCH: Poonch Police received reliable information regarding a sacrilegious act in the Kuniyan area. Acting swiftly on the input, a police team from Police Station Poonch rushed to the spot and apprehended two persons involved in the incident. A vehicle used in the commission of the act was also seized from the spot.

Search operations are underway to trace and apprehend other individuals suspected to be involved in the case.

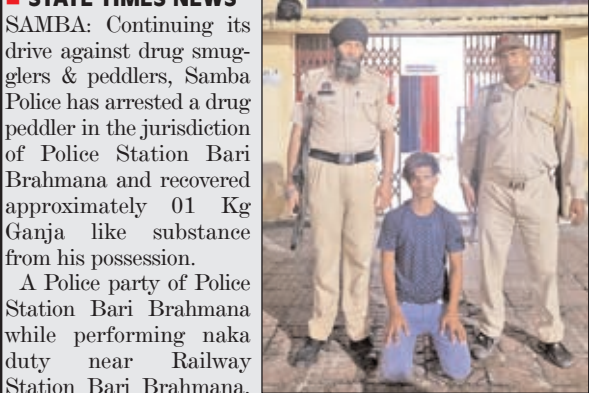
Taking cognizance of the matter, Police Station Poonch has registered FIR No. 160/2025 under Section 299 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), and further investigation is in progress.

District Police Poonch assures the public that strict legal action will be taken against all those found involved in this act.

Multiple bovine smuggling bids foiled, 23 bovines rescued, 5 vehicles seized, 5 arrested

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
RAJOURI: Police foiled three separate smuggling attempts across the district by rescuing 23 bovine animals, five Arrested and seizing five vehicles involved in bovine smuggling.

Naka checking was conducted by Police Post Chingus led by IC PP Chingus. A Tata Mobile (JK20-5057) was intercepted



DB says enough is enough, orders regularization after 30 years

Three decades of service can't be paid in Daily Wages: DB

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Bringing long-awaited relief to a group of Floriculture Department workers, the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh has upheld their regularization after nearly three decades of continuous service, dismissing the Union Territory administration's plea against the order.

A Division Bench comprising Justice Sindhu Sharma and Justice Rajesh Sekhri, while hearing the matter through virtual mode, ruled that denial of regular status to these workers, despite their uninterrupted service since 1993, amounted to "grave injustice".

The respondents were engaged as daily-rated workers in the Department of Floriculture, Gardens and Parks in 1993 for maintaining parks and gardens. Their cases were repeatedly recommended for regularization by the department but were rejected in 2016 on the plea that they were not covered under SRO 64 of 1994.

After multiple rounds of litigation including an earlier direction from the High Court in 2016 and a fresh rejection in 2021-the workers moved the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT), Jammu Bench, which in December 2024 ordered their regularization with effect from the date they completed seven years of service, along with consequential benefits.

Upholding the Tribunal's verdict, the High Court noted that the workers had been engaged prior to the ban of April 1, 1994, and their continuous service for over 30 years clearly proved a sustained need for their work.

Citing earlier Division Bench rulings in Mushtaq Ahmed Sohail and Anuradha, the Court reiterated that

DB says enough is enough, orders regularization after 30 years



He remained in constant coordination with rescue agencies, faculty and staff to ensure that no life was lost.

Prof. Tripathi commended the swift action of the Army, CRPF, NDRF, SDRF and the courage of university staff who supported evacuation operations.

Expressing deep concern over the damages, Prof. Tripathi stated, "The loss is enormous; not only in terms of property and equipment but also in terms of invaluable research data and ongoing experiments. However, I want to assure our students, faculty and the scientific community that SKUAST-Jammu will recover from this disaster with renewed strength. We will rebuild our infrastructure, restore our research fields and continue our mission of serving the farming community of Jammu and Kashmir."

Amidst the crisis, Prof. B. N. Tripathi, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-Jammu, personally monitored the situation from the onset of flooding until the last stranded student and employee was safely rescued.

and found transporting 08 bovine animals illegally via Keri Road without valid permission. The driver managed to flee while the bovine animals were rescued and the vehicle seized.

In this regard a case FIR No. 436/2025 U/S 223 BNS & 11 PCA Act stands registered at Police Station Rajouri.

In another Incident, a police team of Police Station Kandi intercepted a Tata Mobile (JK02AF-1785) during naka checking and found it loaded with 07 bovine animals being transported without valid permission. The bovine animals were rescued and the vehicle seized. Accordingly FIR No. 109/2025 under relevant sections of law has been registered at Police Station Kandi.

Naka was laid by Police Station Sunderbani at Thandapani, where a Mahindra Bolerio Pick-up (JK11C-0760) coming from Mawa towards Rajouri was stopped. On checking, 04 bovine animals were found loaded without valid permission. The bovine animals were rescued and the vehicle seized.

In this regard a case FIR No. 53/2025 U/S 281/223 BNS & 11 PCA Act has been registered at Police Station Sunderbani.

Naka checking teams of Police Station Nowshera intercepted two vehicles - Bolerio Pick-up (JK11B-0779) and Bolerio Pick-up (JK12B-7987). On checking both vehicles were found loaded with 04 bovine animals in total being transported illegally without valid permission. All animals were rescued and both vehicles were seized. In this regard FIR No. 115/2025 and FIR 116/25 under relevant sections of the law stand registered at Police Station Nowshera.

Rajouri Police successfully rescued 23 bovine animals and seized 05 vehicles involved in bovine smuggling and 05 Arrested. Further investigation in all the cases is underway.

Drug peddler nabbed with heroin

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
UDHAMPUR: Continuing its drive against drug menace, Udhampur Police apprehended a drug peddler and recovered contraband substance from his possession.

During patrolling duty, a police party of PS Rehambal led by its SHO intercepted one person for checking purposes. On his personal search, 03.83 grams of heroin-like substance was recovered.

The accused has been identified as Tariq Hussain S/O Shah Mohd. R/O Dudial, Chak Udhampur.

In this connection, FIR No. 135/2025 U/S 8/21/22 NDPS Act has been registered at Police Station Rehambal and investigation has been set into motion.

Five arrested, vehicles seized for illegal rooster fight and animal cruelty

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
R S PURA: In a stern action against cruelty to animals, Jammu Police apprehended six persons for organizing and participating in an illegal rooster fight at village Kharian in R.S. Pura area.

During routine patrolling, a police team of Police Station R.S. Pura led by PSI Naresh Kumar under the supervision of SHO R.S. Pura, Inspector Ravi Singh Parihar, noticed a gathering where several individuals were forcing roosters to fight in a cruel manner for unlawful gains. On seeing the police, some participants attempted to flee; however, swift action by the patrolling team led to the arrest of six persons, while oth-

the damage to critical laboratories and data but reaffirmed resilience.

The University administration has initiated a comprehensive damage assessment across both campuses and a consolidated report is being prepared for submission to the Government of Jammu and Kashmir to seek immediate relief and restoration support.

To assess the situation on the ground, a high-level team from the Agriculture Production Department comprising the Secretary, Special Secretary, Director Planning, Joint Director Planning and Deputy Secretary visited SKUAST-Jammu.

As per preliminary estimates, the losses have been tentatively assessed at Rs 100-120 crores including civil works (electrical and mechanical), laboratory equipment, furniture, IT equipment, glassware, chemicals and consumables, playgrounds, library, sports facilities, stadium, student centre, Community Radio Station, e-studio, vehicles etc. Detailed item-wise information is being compiled and the consolidated report will soon be submitted to the Government for necessary action.



ers managed to escape.

The arrested persons were identified as Ram Parshad S/o Bachan Lal R/o Kharian Tehsil R.S. Pura, Bodh Raj S/o Karnail Chand R/o Jajawal Tehsil R.S. Pura, Ranjit Singh S/o Paramvir Singh R/o Gondla Tehsil R.S. Pura, Arjun Singh S/o Jagdish Lal R/o Kalan Tehsil R.S. Pura and a minor while some other persons namely Nownit Singh R/o Miran Sahib, Sukha R/o Dhari and Satvinder R/o Dewangari fled from the spot.

Police also seized 18 motorcycles from the scene. In this regard, FIR No. 179/2025 U/S 11(1) PCA Act has been registered at Police Station R.S. Pura and further investigation is underway to apprehend the remaining accused.

Thieves attempt robbery in ATM, CCTV damaged

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
UDHAMPUR: In a shocking incident, a group of unidentified thieves made an abortive attempt to loot the State Bank of India (SBI) ATM booth located near the main branch on Dhar Road, Udhampur, during the intervening night of August 30 and 31. The miscreants damaged the ATM machine and CCTV cameras, and may have succeeded in stealing some cash before fleeing the scene, taking advantage of bad weather and darkness.

Sources said that the thieves targeted the ATM booth situated just adjacent to the main SBI branch. The group reportedly managed to damage the ATM machine and escape, possibly with cash, under the cover of rain and nightfall. CCTV cameras installed at the site were also deliberately damaged to erase evidence.

Speaking to the media, SHO Purab Singh confirmed the attempted theft and damage to the machines. "Yes, there was an attempt to rob the ATM booth, and the machines were indeed damaged. However, as today is a Sunday and a bank holiday, the actual financial loss is yet to be determined. We are waiting for the bank to provide details and CCTV footage," he said.

A police team was promptly dispatched to the spot, and circumstantial evidence has been collected. Further investigation is underway.

The incident has sparked concern and fear among local residents, who questioned how such a daring act could take place so close to the main branch and in a busy residential area. Locals also raised serious concerns about the apparent absence or negligence of security personnel at the ATM booth during the incident.

Despite the presence of several other banks in the vicinity, this incident has highlighted the urgent need for improved security measures at ATM booths, especially during night hours.

