

## SSP Kathua Ms. Mohita Sharma, IPS, Greets People on the Eve of Diwali.

GY CORRESPONDENT  
KATHUA, OCT 20

On the auspicious occasion of Diwali, Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Kathua, Ms. Mohita Sharma, IPS, on behalf of all ranks of District Police Kathua, extended warm greetings and best wishes to the people of Kathua district and the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. She wished that the festival of lights brings joy, prosperity, and happiness to every home. "May the mirth and merriment of this illuminating festival brighten everyone's lives with positivity, harmony, and success," she said. SSP Kathua also appealed to



the citizens to celebrate the festival with their families in a safe, peaceful, and responsible

manner, ensuring adherence to safety norms and avoiding any untoward incidents.

## J&K Police Kathua tightens noose on illicit liquor trade; approx. 1000 litres of lahan destroyed at Mirpur Jaggo Nagri area.

GY CORRESPONDENT  
KATHUA, OCT 20

In continuation to stringent actions against illicit liquor menace, J&K Police Kathua under the overall supervision of SSP Kathua Ms. Mohita Sharma -IPS- cracked down on illicit liquor, conducted a series of raids in the jurisdictional area of PP Nagri at Mirpur Jaggo Nagri as well as its adjoining area of PS Kathua, destroyed approx. 1000 litres of Lahan as well as equipment used for manufacturing illicit liquor (Desi) were also seized on spot. On 19/10/2025, police team

led by IC PP Nagri under the close supervision of Addl SP Kathua Sh. Rahul Charak JKPS and DySP Hqs Kathua Sh. Ravinder Singh raided at Mirpur Jaggo Nagri as well as its adjoining area of PP Nagri. During checking the police team was able to recover approx. 1000 litres Lahan. Thereafter the said team destroyed approx. 1000 litres of lahan from the spot as well as destroyed makeshift production units used for manufacturing of illicit liquor was also destroyed on spot and further investigation is

underway. SSP Kathua Ms. Mohita Sharma IPS said that strong steps are being taken to contain drug and liquor menace in the district. She further said that such raids will be conducted in other identified areas where such illegal activities are going on. The SSP Kathua also warned all those who are indulging in illicit liquor trade saying, strict action under law will be taken against them. She also appealed to people of the area to come forward and share information about any such illegal activities with Police by dialing 100 or 9858034100.

## Major breakthrough; 02 drug peddlers nabbed with approx. 302.02 grams of heroin (chitta) like narcotics by police team of P/S Lakhampur

GY CORRESPONDENT  
KATHUA, OCT 20

In the drive against the drugs & its propagators, J&K Police Kathua under the overall supervision of SSP Kathua Ms. Mohita Sharma -IPS- today seized approx. 302.02 grams of Heroin like narcotics & 02 drug peddlers were arrested at Basohli Morh area of PS Lakhampur. On 20.10.2025, police team led by SHO PS Lakhampur Insp. Tariq Ahmed under the guidance of "Addl. SP Kathua Sh. Rahul Charak JKPS & DySP DAR Kathua Sh. Ritesh Sambyal laid Naka near Basohli Morh Lakhampur and held one motorcycle bearing Registration No. JK08Q-7769 coming from Punjab towards Kathua via link road Basohli



morh. During enquiry, rider disclosed his name as Hanief Shah S/O Yousuf Shah R/O Bhamberwan Tehsil Marbeen District Kathua & pillon rider disclosed his name as Hasan Din S/O Moju Din R/O Taran Taaran District Amritsar. During checking, approx. 302.02 grams of Heroin-like substance recovered from their possession.

Accordingly, a Case FIR No. 125/2025 U/S 8/21/22/29 NDPS Act registered at PS Lakhampur and further investigation in the case is going on. J&K Police Kathua again requested people of the area to come forward and share information about any such illicit activity with Police for the cause. Your identity will be kept confidential.

## Fire damages seminary building in south Kashmir's Pulwama



GY CORRESPONDENT  
SRINAGAR, OCT 20

A massive fire broke out early Monday morning at a religious seminary (Darsgah) in Bongam Rahmoo area of south Kashmir's Pulwama district, damaging a three-storey building before being brought under control by Fire & Emergency Services (F&ES). According to official sources, the fire engulfed

a three-storey concrete building belonging to the local Darsgah. Firefighters launched a coordinated operation to prevent the flames from spreading to adjacent structures. After continuous efforts, the blaze was brought under control. An officer from the Drabang Fire Station confirmed that the situation was contained in time and no casualties or injuries were reported. The extent of property damage, however, is yet to be fully assessed. The cause of the fire remains unknown, though police have initiated an inquiry to ascertain how it started. Authorities have urged institutions and the public to ensure basic fire safety measures, especially as colder months approach when the use of heating devices typically rises.

## MLA Javid Beigh urges Edu Dept to invite elected representatives to school events

GY CORRESPONDENT  
SRINAGAR, OCT 20

National Conference MLA Javid Beigh on Monday urged the Education Department to ensure that elected representatives are invited to special programmes held in government schools. Addressing a student gathering at Government Girls Higher Secondary School Baramulla, Beigh expressed concern that schools were often inviting unelected individuals to official events.

If request Education Minister Sakina Ito to issue directions that elected representatives be invited to special programmes of education.



educational institutions. Elected representatives have the people's mandate, but we often see schools inviting those whom we have defeated in elections," Beigh said, according to news agency. He also praised students, saying that peace and prosperity in society prevail because of their contribution and commitment to education.

## Police arrests drug peddler in Kulgam; Contraband substances recovered



GY CORRESPONDENT  
KULGAM, OCT 20

In its sustained efforts to root out the menace of drugs from the society, Police in Kulgam have arrested a drug peddler and seized significant quantity of contraband substances from his possession. A Police party of Police Station Qaimoh at a checkpoint established at Khudwani Bypass arrested a drug peddler along with 09 grams of Charas and 01 Kg of grinded cannabis like substances.

Regarding the incident, a case vide FIR No. 82/2025 under relevant sections of law has been registered at Police Station Qaimoh and further investigation has been initiated. J&K Police remains committed to its zero-tolerance policy against drug abuse and trafficking and urges the general public to come forward with any information regarding drug peddling or other anti-social activities in their areas. Together, we can build a drug-free society.

## Police arrests 2 persons, seizes 02 vehicles involved in illegal extraction and transportation of minerals in Awantipora

GY CORRESPONDENT  
AWANTIPORA, OCT 20

In continuation of its ongoing drive against illegal mining, Police in Awantipora arrested two persons and seized 02 vehicles including 01 JCB used in illegal excavation and transportation of minerals. A police party of Police Post Reshpora headed by In-charge PP Reshpora SI Muner Ahmad seized two vehicles including a JCB without registration number and a dumper vehicle bearing registration number JK13D-8100. Two person who were driving these vehicles identified as Arshid Ahmad Bhat son of Ab Rehman Bhat resident of Renzipora and Mysar Yousuf Bhat son of Mohd Yousuf Bhat resident of Kachkoot were arrested. Accordingly, a

case FIR number 221/2025 under relevant sections of law has been



registered in Police Station Awantipora and further investigation has been initiated. Community members are requested to come forward with any information regarding illegal mineral-related activities in their neighbourhood.

## NOTICE FOR CORRECTION

It is hereby informed to the general public through this notification that my name has been incorrectly entered as "Usha" instead of "Sushma Devi" in the birth record of my daughter Vanshika maintained by the Birth and Death Records, Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC), Jammu. This correction is required for the admission of my daughter in Government Primary School, Pacca Talab, Bahu Fort, Jammu. Any person having any objection to this correction may contact the Registrar, Birth and Death Records, Jammu Municipal Corporation, Jammu within seven (7) days from the date of publication of this notice.

Sushma Devi W/o Sh. Rakesh Kumar  
R/o Bahu Fort, Jammu

## China's economy slows to 4.8 per cent annual growth in July-September, hit by tariffs and slack demand

HONG KONG, OCT 20

China's economy expanded at the slowest annual pace in a year in July-September, growing 4.8 per cent, weighed down by trade tensions with the United States and slack domestic demand.

The July-September data was the weakest pace of growth since the third quarter of 2024, and compares with a 5.2 per cent pace of growth in the previous quarter, the government said in a report Monday.

In January-September, the world's second largest economy grew at a 5.2 per cent annual pace. Despite US President Donald Trump's higher tariffs on imports from China, the country's exports have remained relatively strong as companies shifted their sales to other world markets.

Tensions between Beijing and Washington remain elevated, and it's unclear if Trump and Chinese leader Xi Jinping will go ahead with a proposed meeting during a regional summit at the end of this month.

Xi and other ruling Communist Party members are convening one of China's most important political meetings for the year on Monday, where they will map out economic and



social policy goals for the country for the next five years.

The economy slowed in the last quarter as the authorities moved to curb fierce price wars in sectors such as the auto industry that resulted from overcapacity.

China is also facing challenges including a prolonged property sector downturn which has been affecting consumption and demand.

Ratings agency S&P estimates nationwide new home sales will fall by 8 per cent in 2025 from the year before and by 6 per cent to 7 per cent in 2026.

The World Bank expects China's economy to grow at a 4.8 per cent annual rate this year. The government's official growth target is around 5 per cent.

China's stronger economic growth in the

first half of this year has given it "some buffer" to achieve the growth target, said Lynn Song, chief economist for Greater China at ING Bank. However, spending during China's eight-day Golden Week national holiday in October was "mildly disappointing," reflecting sluggish consumer confidence and demand, Morningstar analysts said in a note this month.

There's room for the government to do more, Song said.

"(We) are looking to see if there will be further measures to support consumption and the property market, as the impact from previous policies begins to weaken," Song said.

Economists are also expecting a rate cut by China's central bank by the end of the year, which could encourage more spending and investment.

## Illuminating frontiers: when soldiers and civilians kindled a shared diwali in gohalla



GY CORRESPONDENT  
BARAMULLA, OCT 20

The Indian Army celebrated Diwali with the residents of the remote village of Gohalla along the Line of Control (LoC) District Baramulla on 19 October 2025 reflecting the enduring bond between soldiers and local communities in border areas. The celebration featured lighting of diyas and the sharing of sweets, filling the village with warmth and festival

cheers despite its isolation. The occasion brought joy to the villagers and offered soldiers stationed far from their families a sense of belonging and togetherness during the festival of lights.

The celebration of Diwali by soldiers and villagers at the remote location epitomised the strong bond between the Indian Army and local population. The celebration stood as a poignant symbol of unity

and shared cultural heritage. For the villagers of Gohalla, the Army's presence during the festival symbolised reassurance and companionship; for the soldiers, it was a moment of heartfelt connection with the people they protect. Together, they illuminated the remote village with the radiant spirit of Diwali - a celebration of light, hope and solidarity.

## Two killed after cargo plane skids off runway into sea at Hong Kong airport



NEW DELHI, OCT 20

Two people were killed after a cargo plane skidded off the runway and plunged into the sea at Hong Kong International Airport early Monday, local media reported as quoted by BBC.

The Emirates flight EK788, a Boeing 747-481 operated by Turkish cargo airline Air ACT, was arriving from Dubai at around 03:50 local time (19:50 GMT) when it hit a ground vehicle on the airport's north runway,

according to Hong Kong's Civil Aviation Department.

Two airport ground staff fell into the sea during the collision and were later rescued, but both died in hospital, reported RTHK and other local outlets citing police sources.

All four crew members onboard the cargo plane survived and were taken to hospital for treatment. The north runway has been closed, while the airport's other two runways remain

operational. At least 11 cargo flights scheduled for Monday have been cancelled, the Airport Authority confirmed.

Emergency teams, including Government Flying Service helicopters and Fire Services Department vessels, carried out rescue operations around the affected area.

The incident marks a rare accident for Hong Kong International Airport, which has maintained a strong safety record since its opening in 1998.