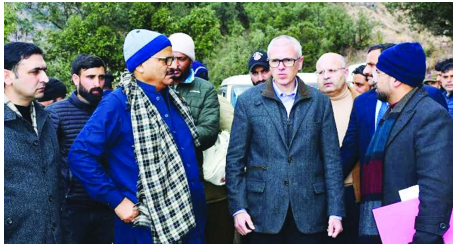


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Inter-ministerial team collects samples, Omar visits Budhal



GY CORRESPONDENT RAJOURI, JAN 21 As the inter-ministerial team continued investigations into the mysterious deaths of 17 persons at Budhal village in Rajouri District, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah arrived in the hamlet on Tuesday and reiterated the government's commitment to uncover the truth behind the tragedy.

An official told the news agency, the inter-ministerial team, constituted by the Union Home Minister Amit Shah, led by a director-level officer from the Ministry of Home Affairs on the second consecutive day spent hours collecting samples and interacting with villagers and surviving family members. Initial investigations,

according to the officials, ruled out a communicable bacterial or viral disease, focusing instead on neurotoxins found in the samples of victims. Authorities also sealed a local spring after discovering traces of pesticides or insecticides in its water. CM OMAR VISITS BUDHAL Chief Minister Omar

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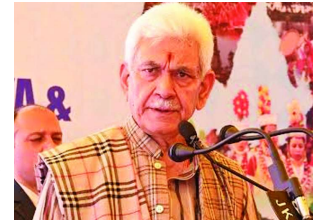
Dispute Over Power Projects in J&K Setback for Pak, neutral expert backs India; MEA welcomes decision

NEW DELHI, JAN 21 In a big setback to Pakistan a World Bank-appointed neutral expert has extended support to India on the framework to resolve certain disputes between the two neighbours on Kishenganga and Ratle hydroelectric projects. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), according to the news agency, has welcomed the decision by the World Bank-appointed neutral expert, International Commission of Large Dams president Michel Léno, who stated that he is competent "to render a decision on the merits of the Points of Difference" between India and Pakistan on the two hydropower projects under the Indus Water Treaty. India has consistently maintained that the neutral expert alone has the authority to address the concerns surrounding the Kishenganga and Ratle hydroelectric power plants. The World Bank had appointed the neutral expert and a Chairman for the Court of Arbitration in 2022, following the impasse between India and Pakistan over the projects. While Pakistan had requested the establishment of a Court of Arbitration to resolve the issue, India had sought the appointment of a neutral expert, arguing that the dispute could be addressed by such an expert rather than through arbitration. The neutral expert's statement clarified that he would proceed with evaluating the merits of the case based on the differences submitted by both countries. The MEA today said that India's

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J&K Raj Bhawan celebrates Foundation Day of Tripura, Meghalaya and Manipur

GY CORRESPONDENT JAMMU, JAN 21 The Foundation Day of Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura was celebrated in J&K Raj Bhawan. Security personnel and the people of Tripura, Meghalaya and Manipur living in J&K were the special invitees for the cultural programme celebrating the spirit of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat, organized to commemorate the occasion. In his address, Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha conveyed his hearty greetings and best wishes to the people of Tripura, Meghalaya and Manipur. He paid homage to the great personalities of the three states and remembered their significant contribution in nation building. The Lieutenant Governor also spoke on the socio-economic



transformational journey of the North Eastern States under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. He said the rapid and inclusive development has connected the aspirations of the people of the North East to the aspirations of the nation. "Tripura, Meghalaya and Manipur are the treasure troves of India's rich traditions, culture, folk art & crafts. I can say with immense pride that today the North Eastern States have emerged as growth engines of the country and are inspiring the entire society through their spiritual ideals and cultural values. May these blessed states continue to achieve new heights of growth, progress, and development. I wish the people happiness, peace, and prosperity in the years to come," the Lieutenant Governor said.

NC, PDP enter into verbal brawl over recruitment scams, accuse each other of irregularities

GY CORRESPONDENT SRINAGAR, JAN 21 The ruling National Conference (NC) and opposition People's Democratic Party (PDP) entered into a verbal brawl on the recruitment scams in Jammu and Kashmir, with leaders from both parties targeting each other for irregularities in examinations. Iltija Mufti, the daughter of PDP chief and former chief minister Mehbooba Mufti, as per the news agency

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BJP announces new District Presidents after organizational elections

GY CORRESPONDENT JAMMU, JAN 21 New District Presidents of BJP got elected for the 15 organizational districts after organizational elections in the Jammu region of Jammu & Kashmir. The announcements in this regard were made by Rakesh Mahajan, Returning Officer for the BJP's organizational elections. Rakesh Mahajan, while announcing the names of new District Presidents, said that the BJP holds the distinction of upholding the democratic principles in the highest esteem. He



said that the elections were held under the ongoing "Sangathan Parv" of the party at the national level. He shared the names of new District Presidents as follows: Gopal Krishan will be the new District President for the BJP's organizational District Basohli. Updesh Andotra will be the new District

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Secretary J&K Legislative Assembly participates in 61st Conference of Secretaries of Legislative Bodies

GY CORRESPONDENT JAMMU, JAN 21 Secretary, J&K Legislative Assembly, Manoj Kumar Pandita, participated in the 61st conference of Secretaries of Legislative Bodies in India held at Patna, Bihar. The conference was presided over by Secretary General Lok Sabha, Utpal Kumar Singh. The conference brought together the Secretaries of Legislative Assemblies and Legislative Councils to share their experiences of Parliamentary Democracy and issues confronted by them while discharging their duties.

During the conference, robust discussions were held on adoption of modern technologies in Legislative Bodies for greater efficiency, effectiveness and productivity. During the discussions, Manoj Kumar Pandita spoke on the initiatives being taken by the Legislative Assembly of Jammu and Kashmir under the leadership of present Speaker Advocate Abdul Rahim Raif. He mentioned that the three day orientation programme was recently held at Jammu for newly elected Legislators which has been appreciated

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ED attaches two hotels worth Rs 14.93 crore in Jammu in Patnitop Development Authority case



NEW DELHI, JAN 21 The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has attached two hotels in Jammu and Kashmir worth Rs 14.93 crore in the Patnitop Development Authority (PDA) case, the agency said on Tuesday. Hotel Trinetra Resorts and Hotel Green Orchid both at Patnitop in Jammu and

Kashmir were attached under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). In 2002 ED's Jammu unit attached these properties as part of its investigation initiated on the basis of First Information Report (FIR) registered by the Central Bureau of Investigation, Jammu against various

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HC takes cognizance of election of office bearer of J&K Olympics Association, issue notice to UOI and Indian Olympics Association

GY CORRESPONDENT JAMMU, JAN 21 Vacation Judge of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court Justice Moksha Khajuria took cognizance of election of office bearer of J&K Olympics Association, issue notice to UOI and Indian Olympics Association & Others. Justice Moksha Khajuria Kazmi after hearing Advocate Amit Gupta for the petitioner while issuing notices, observed that in the instant petition, the petitioner has

challenged the notification dated 15.12.2024 whereby respondent Nos. 6 to 18 have been declared as President, Vice President, Office Bearers and Executive Members respectively of J&K Olympic Association Jammu. It is stated by learned counsel for the petitioner that the election has been held in violation of National Sports Development Code of India 2011 read with J&K Govt. Employees' Conduct Rules, 1971 issued

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Suresh Kumar Gupta (IFS) Appointed as PCCF & HoFF for J&K

GY CORRESPONDENT SRINAGAR, JAN 21 The Government of India has appointed Suresh Kumar Gupta, IFS (AGMUT:1991), as Principal Conservator of Forests (PCCF) and Head of Forest Force (HoFF) for the Jammu and Kashmir segment of the AGMUT cadre. As per an order issued by the Government of India, Suresh Kumar Gupta, IFS (AGMUT:1991) who is presently posted as PCCF (Ex-cadre), UT of J&K, is hereby appointed as PCCF & HoFF, Jammu and

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ADGP Jammu chairs meeting to review Republic Day arrangements



GY CORRESPONDENT JAMMU, JAN 21 Addl. Director General of Police Jammu zone, Sh. Anand Jain, IPS, held a meeting with the officers of intelligence agencies, Army/BSF/CRPF/Armed and District Police at

Zonal Police Headquarters, Jammu, to review the security and logistical arrangements for the upcoming Republic Day celebrations in the zone. The agenda of the meeting

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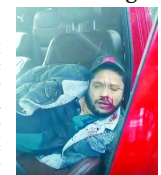
DC Jammu inspects Jal Jeevan Mission works, stresses on quality and sustainability

GY CORRESPONDENT JAMMU, JAN 21 Deputy Commissioner Sachin Kumar Vaishya today conducted an inspection of ongoing works under the Jal Jeevan Mission in the district, emphasising the need for maintaining quality standards and ensuring long-term sustainability. Accompanied by Additional District Development Commissioner Sher Singh, Executive Engineer

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Man shot dead in Jammu, ADGP rules out terror angle

GY CORRESPONDENT JAMMU, JAN 21 In a shocking incident, a 37-year-old man was shot dead in broad daylight at the busy Jewel Chowk in Jammu City on Tuesday. An official told the news agency that at around 12.40 in the afternoon, a person identified as Sumit Jandial, son of Om Parkash of Vijaypur, Samba was traveling in a SUV bearing registration number JK2C-0770 was attacked by unidentified persons in Jewel Chowk area. Eyewitnesses said that the unidentified gunmen arrived in a car and



started firing indiscriminately at Jandial, who was driving the Red colour Thar jeep. "The attackers fired six to seven rounds at the driver, injuring him seriously. The shooters managed

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Soldier injured in Landmine Blast in Krishna Ghati, Poonch

GY CORRESPONDENT POONCH, JAN 21 A soldier was injured after stepping on a landmine in the Krishna Ghati area of Poonch district on Tuesday. Reliable sources told that the incident occurred while the soldier was part of a patrolling party and accidentally stepped on the landmine. They said the soldier, whose identity has not been disclosed, was immediately evacuated to a nearby medical facility for treatment. Meanwhile, more details are awaited.

UDDU launches "Swachhanttra" - a pre-Republic Day Swachhata campaign Initiative aims to utilise R-Day as platform to unite citizens for healthier, cleaner J&K: Mandeep Kaur

GY CORRESPONDENT JAMMU, JAN 21 In a significant stride towards enhancing urban sanitation in all 80 Urban Local Bodies of J&K creating a clean environment for celebrations of 76th Republic Day, the Housing & Urban Development (H&UDD) has begun a series of Swachhata Se Bane Mahaan" under Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban, 2.0. The ambitious cleanliness



initiative was launched here today by Commissioner Secretary Housing & Urban Development

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Delegation from Padder, AoI Gangyal call on Deputy Chief Minister, highlight key issues

GY CORRESPONDENT JAMMU, JAN 21 A delegation from Padder, led by Pooja Thakur, Chairperson District Development Council (DDC) Kishtwar, called on Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Chaudhary here today. The delegation apprised the Deputy Chief Minister of the pressing issues faced by the residents of Padder-Nagseni, seeking immediate redressal. The key demands presented included improving road connectivity, addressing power supply issues,

enhancing healthcare facilities and expediting completion of pending developmental projects in the region. The Deputy Chief Minister gave a patient hearing to the delegation

and assured them of prompt action. He issued on-the-spot directions to the concerned departments for early resolution of several highlighted issues. Later, a deputation of

Association of Industries (AoI) Gangyal, Jammu led by Virendra Jain, President, and other functionaries met the Deputy Chief Minister. The delegation apprised the

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