

Dipke granted
conditional bail,
Delhi Police files
multiple FIRs

NEW DELHI: Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) founder Abhijeet Dipke was granted conditional bail and asked to sign a peace bond on Saturday, police sources said.

Dipke was detained moments after he stepped out of his house in Delhi's Jhandewalan area to participate in the CJP's "Lehra Do Tiranga" protest at Connaught Place on Friday.

He was arrested on Saturday morning for allegedly violating a peace bond furnished by him on October 10.

"Based on the assurance given in the peace bond, he was let off. We are awaiting for the written order for further details," a senior police officer said.

Dipke was produced before a special executive magistrate at the Mandir Marg police station and ► P11

Rs 475 Cr PM-SETU grant to upgrade J-K ITI clusters: CM

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Saturday expressed gratitude to the Central government for approving Rs 475.41 crore under the PM-SETU scheme to upgrade key ITI clusters across Jammu and Kashmir.

PM-SETU, or Pradhan Mantri Skilling and Employability Transformation through Upgraded ITIs, is a flagship scheme of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship to modernise Industrial Training Institutes (ITI) and align vocational education with needs of the modern industry.

"Chief Minister has expressed gratitude to Prime



Minister (Narendra Modi) and Union Minister for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (Jayant Singh) for approving Strategic Investment Plans (SIPs) worth Rs 475.41 crore under PM-SETU to upgrade key ITI

Encounter breaks out in Kupwara; IED defused

SRINAGAR/JAMMU: An encounter broke out between terrorists and security forces in Kupwara district on Saturday, officials said.

However, it is not yet clear whether it was an infiltration attempt, they said.

Alert troops noticed suspicious movement along the LoC in the Jumgund area of Keran sector in the north Kashmir district, and challenged and intercepted the terrorists early Saturday, the officials said.

The operation is underway, and further details are awaited, they added.

Meanwhile, ► P11

IGP calls for tech-driven, people-centric policing



■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Kashmir Inspector General of Police (IGP) Sujit Kumar Singh on Saturday directed all police stations in the Valley to adopt modern, technology-driven

Court awards 'life term' to 3 persons in murder case

SRINAGAR: A court in Srinagar has sentenced three people, including a woman's husband, brother-in-law and mother-in-law, to life imprisonment for her murder in 2022, police said on Saturday.

The court of the Additional Sessions Judge, Srinagar, convicted Hafeeza Begum, Parveez Ahmad Dar alias Bilal, and Shah-nawaz Ahmad Dar in a murder case registered at Batamalo police station, a police spokesperson said. The case was registered under ► P11

and citizen-centric policing.

He was chairing a conference on 'SMART Policing and Digital Beat Policing', attended by Range DIGs, District SSPs, Additional SPs, Zonal SPs, DySPs and SHOs from across Kashmir ► P11

India's internal security landscape improved irrevocably: Home Secy



HYDERABAD: Union Home Secretary Govind Mohan on Saturday said the conventional internal security landscape, which the country has grappled with over decades, has changed irrevocably, while narcotics, cybercrime, illegal immigration and others have emerged as new challenges.

Addressing the Dikshant Parade of the 78th Regular Recruit (RR) batch of IPS at the Sardar Vallabhbhai National Police Academy (SVNPA) here, he shared Union Home Minister Amit Shah's message emphasising zero-tolerance towards terrorism, time-bound action, and improved intelligence coordination.

The young officers have an important role to play in securing borders through the Centre's Smart Border Initiative, which involves

modern techniques, integrated surveillance, digital systems and better coordination among different security agencies, Shah said.

He stressed the need for effective action against drug trafficking networks, better coordination, technology-based investigation and raising awareness among people to realise the goal of 'Nasha-Mukt Bharat' (drug-free India).

Shah said the real identity of a police officer is built on the basis of conduct, impartiality, dutifulness and people's confidence more than on their post and popularity.

That's why the young officers should stay away from publicity and focus on results. They should let their work become their identity, he said. Mohan urged the graduating IPS ► P11

More Schemes, Where Are Results?



Shivang Satya Gupta
Editor-in-Chief

INKING THE TRUTH

Official audits reveal wasteful projects, misdirected welfare publicity and overlapping training programmes. The cost to citizens lies not only in money spent, but also in services delayed, opportunities lost and responsibility divided.

beyond whether money was sanctioned and spent.

The public also needs to know whether the expenditure was necessary—and whether the promised service arrived.

Welfare money published while its intended outreach was missed

Another case brings the consequences closer to vulnerable households.

CAG's performance audit of the National Social Assistance Programme, Report No. 10 of 2023, found that ₹2.83 crore earmarked for its information, education and communication activities was diverted to publicity for other Rural Development Ministry schemes.

The work orders mentioned PMAY-G and DDU-GKY, but not NSAP. Auditors also recorded payment without confirmation that the publicity work had been executed. Consequently, the planned effort to inform potential NSAP beneficiaries was not undertaken as envisaged. The ministry's December 2022 response said the matter had been referred to its communication division.

This is not a finding that ₹2.83 crore was stolen, or that precisely that amount was deducted from individual pensions. It is a finding that an intended public service—helping potential beneficiaries learn about assistance—lost its earmarked funding to another activity.

For a welfare programme, information is part of delivery. Publicity for government generally is not interchangeable with information that helps an eligible person obtain a particular benefit.

Training continued across an agreed departmental boundary

Skill development provides a direct example of overlapping governmental work.

CAG's Report No. 20 of 2025 records a September 2016 decision dividing textile-sector training responsibilities. PMKVY was to concentrate on spinning and weaving, while the Textiles Ministry covered handloom, khadi, knitting and processing.

Yet 1.48 lakh candidates received PMKVY training in those latter subsectors between November 2016 and February 2022. Samarth training data had also not been integrated into the Skill India Portal at the stage examined.

The Skill Development Ministry disputed that the decision prohibited it from conducting those courses. CAG maintained that the division intended to prevent duplication had not been followed. The report also records subsequent steps towards convergence.

The finding does not prove that these trainees were fictitious, received no benefit or were funded twice. It shows a failure to coordinate publicly financed efforts.

The question for citizens is whether money and training capacity were directed to unmet needs—or committed without a sufficiently clear picture of what another ministry was already providing.

Money released for better governance remained unused

An inspection of NITI Aayog's 2023-24 ► P11

6 IPS among 18 officers shifted

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: Police Headquarters (PHQ), Jammu and Kashmir, has ordered the adjustment of six IPS officers of the AGMUT cadre and the transfer and posting of 12 Deputy Superintendents of Police (DSPs) across the Union Territory.

According to official Order No. 2897 of 2026, the six IPS officers have been adjusted following their joining the Jammu and Kashmir segment after completing Basic Course Training (Phase-II), in accordance with the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) order dated August 4, 2026.

The officers adjusted to various assignments are Kumari Someya (AGMUT-2023) as ASP Headquarters Jammu, Daniel Raj C (AGMUT-2023) as ASP Headquarters Budgam, and Aditi Verma (AGMUT-2023) as SDPO West Srinagar.

Similarly, Chaitanya Giri (AGMUT-2024) has been posted as SDPO R.S. Pura, Anant Dhanraj Singh (AGMUT-2024) as SDPO Bari Brahmana, and Ayush Mani Chaudhary (AGMUT-2024) as SDPO Nowshera.

Separately, PHQ has ordered the transfer and posting of 12 DSP-rank officers in the interest of administration, with immediate effect.

As per the order, Abdul Ghafoor has been transferred from SDPO Saddle to DSP Railways ► P11

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