

LG gets Telecom powers

NEW DELHI: The Centre has authorised the Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor to exercise powers, such as interception of signals, suspension of service and decryption of messages, related to telecom services in the UT during public safety events or national emergency, an official notification said.

According to the order issued on Thursday, the President directed the LG to exercise the powers and discharge the functions of the state government under Sub-Section 20 (2) of the Telecommunications Act, 2023 (44 of 2023), which deals with situations involving public safety and national security, within the Union territory.

"In pursuance of clause (1) of article 239 of the Constitution, the President hereby directs that the administrator (whether known as the lieutenant governor) of the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir shall, subject to the control of the P11

Outmaneuver adversaries with 'strategic' surprise: DM Rajnath to Top Commanders



JAIPUR/NEW DELHI: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Friday directed the top military commanders of the three services to integrate an "element of surprise" into modern warfare to outmaneuver India's adversaries and bolster strategic posture.

In his address at the joint commanders conference in Jaipur, Singh also described the Operation Sindoor as a testament to the "swift, precise, and joint response" of the Indian armed forces to safeguard

national interests and called upon the military to remain ready to deal with any security challenges.

In their two-day deliberations, the commanders carried out a comprehensive review of the combat preparedness of the military in the wake of the evolving regional security situation.

Operation Sindoor was a demonstration of India's growing capabilities and a symbol of the nation's collective resolve and new military ethos, Singh said, a day after the first P11

'Op Sindoor augments reverence'

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Minister of State for Defence Sanjay Seth on Friday said that "Operation Sindoor had enhanced the nation's pride" and added that the government's uncompromising stance against terrorism would continue.

Seth visited Pan-gode Military Station and interacted with officers and soldiers stationed there.

Brigadier Anurag Upadhyay, Station Commander, along with commanding officers and soldiers from the Madras Regiment and the Garhwal Regiment, attended the function, according to a Defence release. P11

Over 9K animal cruelty cases in 2024; J&K tops UTs: NCRB

NEW DELHI: In a first, the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) has included cases of crime and cruelty against animals in its annual database 'Crime in India 2024', recording a total of 9,039 cases under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act across the country.

The data comes amid persistent demands from animal rights activists, who have long argued that while attacks by animals on humans are documented, there has been no official nationwide database tracking cruelty against animals.

According to the latest NCRB report, Maharashtra recorded the highest number

of such cases at 2,927 in 2024.

Among Union Territories, Jammu and Kashmir recorded the highest number of cases at 223, followed by Delhi with 35 cases.

State-wise data showed that Telangana recorded 1,890 cases under the act, followed by Kerala with 1,510 cases and Uttar Pradesh with 1,121 cases. Karnataka registered 320 cases, Tamil Nadu 259 and Gujarat 181 during the year.

Several states and Union Territories reported either very low or zero cases under the law.

The NCRB data showed no cases were registered in

Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura in 2024.

Among Union Territories, Ladakh, Lakshadweep and Chandigarh also reported zero cases under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act.

Reacting to the data, animal rights activist and former Union minister Maneka Gandhi welcomed the NCRB's decision to include animal cruelty cases in its annual crime report, saying that it was an important recognition of an issue that had long been overlooked.

"On average, there will be 9,000 to 10,000 cases per day. And this is P11

3 youths drown in Jhelum

SRINAGAR: Three youths allegedly drowned in the Jhelum in Bandipora district on Friday, officials said.

The incident took place at Chandergin area of the north Kashmir district when the three youths were washing tents in the river, officials said.

They said rescue efforts were launched immediately and following a search operation, the bodies of the trio were recovered. The deceased have been P11

CM interacts with MLAs, deputations TVK chief should get chance to prove majority in house: Omar

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Friday said there was no justification for the Tamil Nadu governor to stop TVK leader Vijay from forming the government, and he should be provided an opportunity to prove majority in the assembly.

Tamil Nadu Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar on Thursday rejected TVK chief Vijay's claim to form the government, stating that his party lacks the requisite numbers.

The Tamilaga Vettri



Kazhagam (TVK) has fallen short of meeting a simple majority to form the government in Tamil Nadu. Though the Congress with five MLAs has

offered support to TVK, Vijay's party falls short of a simple majority of 118 in the 234-member Tamil Nadu Assembly.

Abdullah said there was no justification for President's rule in Tamil Nadu in view of numerous Supreme Court judgements emphasising on inviting the single largest party to form the government and then prove its majority on the floor of the house.

"If we see the Supreme Court judgement, then there should be no President's rule. There are so many cases in which the SC has clearly stated that after the elections, the single largest party should be invited (for government formation) and they should be allowed P11

Three interstate robbers from J-K held after chase

NEW DELHI: The Delhi Police has arrested three alleged interstate robbers, including an associate of the Nitu Dabodiya gang, from Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua area, after a 10-day chase in connection with two armed robberies reported from the national capital last month, an officer said on Friday.

The accused were identified as Sahil (28) and Ansul alias Golu (30), both residents of Haryana's Charkhi Dabri, and Himanshu (24), a resident of Rewari in Haryana, he said.

According to police, the accused allegedly carried out two armed robberies within an hour on April 25.

In the first incident, the

trio allegedly robbed a shopkeeper of Rs 15,000 at gunpoint in the Vikaspuri area. Soon afterwards, they allegedly carjacked a Ford Ecosport from a couple near Vegas Mall in the Dwarka North area, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Dwarka) Kushal Pal Singh said.

Police said the incidents triggered an intensive probe.

"Acting on technical surveillance and intelligence inputs, the team launched a multi-staged and tracked the accused nearly 800 kilometres away to Jammu and Kashmir," said the DCP.

After conducting operations in Kashmir for P11

Suvendu Adhikari to be Bengal's first BJP CM; to take oath today

KOLKATA: Senior BJP leader Suvendu Adhikari will be the first BJP chief minister of West Bengal, marking a watershed moment in the state's political history after decades of resistance to saffron politics.

Adhikari has been unanimously elected leader of the BJP legislature party, Union Home Minister Amit Shah announced on Friday after a meeting of newly elected BJP MLAs and senior leaders here, formally sealing the BJP's emphatic capture of power in Bengal in the assembly polls.

Shortly after his election, Adhikari drove to Raj Bhavan and met Governor R N Ravi to stake a claim to form the



new government. The governor invited him to take the oath as chief minister at Brigade Parade P11

China backs Pak during 4-day conflict

BEIJING: China, for the first time, has confirmed that it provided on-site technical support to Pakistan during the four-day conflict with India last year, official media reports here said.

China's state broadcaster CCTV on Thursday aired an interview with Zhang Heng, an engineer from the Aviation Industry Corporation of China's (AVIC) Chengdu Aircraft Design and Research Institute, a key developer of China's advanced P11

100-DAY NASHA MUKT JK ABHIYAAN

DAY 28

The EARTH NEWS joins with the campaign launched by Honourable Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Ji to eradicate drug menace from union territory of J&K.

Rs 6.5 Cr assets attached in major narcotics action

SRINAGAR: Properties worth over Rs 6.5 crore, allegedly acquired through illicit drug trafficking, were on Friday attached in the Anantnag district, making it the single largest attachment under the NDPS Act in Jammu and Kashmir, police said.

"In continuation of its sustained and aggressive crackdown against the narcotics network, the Anant-



nag police initiated seizure proceedings under Section 68-F of the NDPS Act against Bashir Ahmad Mir P11

6000 Pregabalin capsules seized in joint operation

SHOPIAN: In continuation to the leads received during the recent operation at Batpora Shopian, wherein 200 capsules of Pregabalin 300 mg were seized, another major consignment comprising 6000 capsules of Pregabalin 300 mg worth approximately Rs 2,53,000 were seized by joint teams of Drug Control department, Shopian and Pulwama.

The consignment was being transported P11

Two chemist shops sealed for violations

SOPORE: In continuation of the ongoing enforcement drive under the Nasha Mukta Jammu & Kashmir Abhiyaan, police in Sopore, in coordination with the Drug Control authorities, have taken further stringent action against illegal pharmaceutical practices in Police District Sopore.

During a joint inspection at Nowpora Kalan Sopore, two chemist shops were found P11

NDPS accused's asset demolished, commercial establishment sealed

BARAMULLA: Continuing its sustained crackdown against drug trafficking and allied illegal activities under the ongoing Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan, police in Baramulla, in coordination with the Revenue authorities and Gulmarg Development Authority (GDA), carried out decisive action against individuals involved in narcotics-related offences in the Tangmarg area.

In a joint operation conducted at Ferozpora P11



Community participation key to drug-free society: Sheetal Nanda



REASI: In an effort to spread awareness about the ill effects of drug abuse and make Reasi a drug-free district, the district administration today organised a mega

awareness programme under the Nasha Mukta Jammu Kashmir Abhiyan at the Deputy Commissioner's Office Complex.

Commissioner Secretary, Forest, Ecology and Environment, Sheetal

Nanda, was the chief guest on the occasion.

The programme aimed at sensitising and strengthening the role of Mahila Nigrani Samitis in combating the menace of drug abuse and promoting a drug-free society.

Addressing the gathering, Sheetal Nanda expressed concern over the growing menace of drug abuse and underscored the need for sustained community participation to effectively tackle the issue. She said that a collective and coordinated approach involving families, educational institutions, civil P11

Poster making contest conducted

REASI: As a part of 100-Day Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan, the Government Polytechnic College Reasi on Friday organised a poster making competition, encouraging the students to express their mind on the highly important issue.

As many as 40 students actively participated in the competition and showcased their creativity through meaningful and informative posters.

The event was P11