

MUSTREAD

Arms and ammunition suspected to be airdropped recovered near LoC

Jammu: Security forces on Friday recovered arms and ammunition suspected to be airdropped near the Line of Control in Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir. Sources said security forces on the intervening night of Thursday-Friday fired a few rounds on noticing a quadcopter near the LoC in the Jhangar area of Nowshera sector. Suspecting airdropping, the army troops launched the Cordon and Search Operation (CASO) in the area early morning on Friday. Sources said, "One pistol, 37 rounds, and two loaded magazines were recovered from the spot." The searches are being carried out in the area, they said.

Jammu SIA attaches property of accused involved in terror-related acts

Jammu: The Jammu Wing of the State Intelligence Agency (SIA) on Friday attached the property of an accused involved in terror-related activities in Poonch district. An official said the SIA Jammu has attached an immovable property (Land) of one accused namely Mohd Liyaqat, resident of Khari Karmara, Tehsil Haveli, District Poonch by the orders of Principal Sessions Judge, Poonch. The property (land) is situated at Dharmal, Khari falling under Khasra No. 37 measuring 18 Marlas and under khasra No. 38 measuring 11 Marlas recorded in the name of the accused person who is absconding, he said. He said the accused is already wanted in cases registered against him under the Explosive Act, NDPS Act, Arms Act, UA(P) Act, and other relevant sections along with other associates.

Punjab VB arrests Junior Engineer for taking Rs 1 lakh bribe

Chandigarh: The Punjab Vigilance Bureau (VB), on Friday apprehended Jatinder Kumar, posted as Junior Engineer, Engineering Branch-cum-Building Inspector, Municipal Corporation Pathankot, and holding additional charge of MC Batala for demanding and accepting bribe of Rs One lakh. An official spokesperson of the state VB said the accused was arrested based on a complaint lodged by Rashpal Singh, a resident of village Bhorli Kalan, Gurdaspur district. He further informed that the said complainant has approached the VB and alleged in his complaint, that the aforementioned JE had demanded Rs One lakh bribe for not reporting about complainant's Agricultural land as a part of illegal colony being examined by the accused.

Meghalaya autumn assembly session from August 23

Shillong: The autumn session of the Meghalaya Legislative Assembly will be held from August 23 to 30. Talking to reporters after chairing the Business Advisory Committee meeting, Assembly Speaker, Thomas Sangma said the session will have five working days, with three days each allotted for government business and two days for private member's business. The Business Advisory Committee meeting was attended by Deputy Chief Minister in-charge Parliamentary Affairs, Prestone Tynsong, Leader of Opposition Ronnie V Lyngdoh, and Public Accounts Committee Chairman Charles Pyngrope.

Summit in Mumbai to push for Muslim quota

Mumbai: In what could prove to be a decisive move towards reservation for Muslims in Maharashtra and rest of the country in education and jobs, intellectuals, scholars and law-makers from the community will come together in Mumbai to discuss the issue and decide the future course of action, an organizer of the Muslim Leadership Summit 2024 said on Friday. The event, scheduled to held next week in Mumbai, is being hosted by the Muslim Welfare Association to discuss various issues related to the community. "This event will serve as a platform for discussions on critical issues affecting the Muslim community, including welfare, reservation, safety, and security," said Saleem Sarang, the founder of Muslim Welfare Association.

PM Modi lying to nation

Army not consulted for Agnipath Scheme: Mallikarjun Kharge

New Delhi (UNI)

Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge on Friday accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi of lying to the nation on the Agnipath Scheme and said that the scheme was implemented without consulting the Army.

He said that this scheme has invited anger and opposition from the youth and demanded it to be scrapped immediately.

On social media handle X, Kharge said, "Modi ji is saying that his government implemented the Agnipath scheme at the behest of the Army, this is a blatant lie and an unforgivable insult to our valiant Armed Forces".

He said, "It is very unfortunate and deplorable that Prime Minister @narendramodi ji is doing petty politics even on occasions like paying tribute to martyrs on Kargil Vijay Diwas. No Prime Minister has ever



done this before".

The Congress President stressed, "Modi ji, it is you who are spreading LIES!".

It may be mentioned that the PM in his address in Dras had said that the government had respected the decision taken by the armed forces because as the security of the country was more important than politics.

Mentioning about the former Army Chief, Kharge said, "Former Army Chief (Retd.) General MM Naravane has said on record that 75% of recruits were to be taken for permanency in the 'Agnipath Scheme' and 25% of people were to be let go after 4 years. But the Modi Govt did the opposite, and forcibly implemented this scheme for all three Armed Forces".

16.83 crore new jobs created in last 6 years: MoS Karandlaje

Agencies, New Delhi

As many as 16.83 crore new jobs have been created in the last six financial years from 2017-18 to 2023-24, Minister of State (MoS) for Labour and Employment Shobha Karandlaje informed the Parliament.

The total employment in the country registered a robust 35 per cent increase during this 6-year period from 47.5 crore in 2017-18 to 64.33 crore as of March 2024, the minister stated in a written reply to the Rajya Sabha.

The information is based on the latest KLEMS (K: Capital, L: Labour, E: Energy, M: Materials and S: Services) data of the RBI which provides employment trends at the all-India level.

The minister said that the manufacturing sector (formal and informal entities) saw an increase of 85 lakh employment opportunities from 2017-18 to 2022-23.

In answer to another question on child labour, the minister said that



the government is pursuing a multi-pronged strategy to eliminate the menace and has taken comprehensive measures which include legislative actions, rehabilitation strategy, providing the right to free education and promoting general socio-economic development.

The Centre has also framed a model State Action Plan enumerating the action points to be taken by respective state governments for eradication of child labour, the minister added.

HC grants pre-arrest bail to customs broker

Mumbai: The Bombay High Court has granted anticipatory bail to a customs broker in a case of allegedly importing over 64,000 e-cigarettes worth over Rs 5.60 crore which were concealed behind declared furniture goods, a lawyer said here on Friday.

Accused Mohammad Shaikh approached the high court after his pre-arrest bail plea was rejected by the Panel sessions court.

According to officials, the Special Investigation Intelligence Branch of Jawaharlal Nehru Customs House, Uran, in November 2023 intercepted a container on a tip off.

It contained declared furniture goods - table, sofa, chair etc. - having an assessable value of Rs 16.86 lakh and involving duty of Rs 5.66 lakh.

However, a detailed examination of the goods resulted into recovery of 64,084 pieces of e-cigarettes having a market value of Rs 5.64 crore.

New GOCs take charge of two Army divisions in Kashmir

Srinagar (UNI)

Two divisions of the Indian Army - Vajr and Kilo Force - operating in north Kashmir, now have new commanders, officials said on Friday.

Major Gen K Mohan Nair took over as General Officer Commanding of the strategic and prestigious Kupwara-based Vajr Division from Maj Gen Girish Kalia, who had taken charge in February last year.

The Kupwara-based Vajr Division guards nearly 300 kms of the Line of Control in the twin districts of Kupwara and Bandipora.

"Maj Gen K Mohan Nair, YSM, SM took over as General Officer Commanding of the strategic and prestigious Vajr Division from Maj Gen Girish Kalia, AVSM, VSM. On assuming command, he paid homage to the #Bravehearts and exhorted all ranks to continue soldiering with commitment and dedication," Army's Chinar Corps said in a post on X.



Maj Gen Vivek Narang took over the command of the Army's counter-insurgency division, Kilo Force, headquartered at Sharifabad, on the outskirts of Srinagar. He took charge from Maj Gen Mohit Seth.

"Maj Gen Vivek Narang, an alumnus of NDA & an experienced officer

steeped in Counter Terrorism Operations took over as the General Officer Commanding, Kilo Force today, relieving Maj Gen Mohit Seth. He exhorted all ranks to continue to strive for excellence & be #combat ready to thwart nefarious designs of inimical forces," Chinar Corps post said.

FIR against X user for posting derogatory remarks against Maha Dy CM Fadnavis

Mumbai (UNI)

Police registered an FIR against a user of the social media platform 'X' for allegedly posting derogatory remarks against Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, officials said on Friday.

The FIR was lodged at Khadakpada police station in Thane district under relevant provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) for promoting enmity between different groups and public mischief.

The police are currently investigating the matter, and no arrests have been made yet.

According to details available, the complaint specifies that the 'X' handle @gajabhauX has been creating and sharing derogatory memes featuring morphed photographs of Fad-



navis since July 19.

The posts contain morphed pictures of Fadnavis portraying Afzal Khan, Aurangzeb and other Mughal personalities.

The posts also contain texts of derogatory language against the Deputy CM considering him as the evil villain responsible for all the bad that is happening in the state.

India to have first integrated agri-export facility

New Delhi (UNI)

In a significant move to bolster India's agricultural export and import capabilities, the country's maiden integrated agri-export facility will be established at Jawaharlal Nehru Port in Mumbai, an official statement said on Friday.

Union Minister for Ports, Shipping, and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal has approved the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA)'s project worth Rs. 284.19 Crore for the Development of Export-Import cum Domestic Agricultural Commodity-Based Processing and Storage Facility at JNPA on PPP Mode.

The JNPA is set to establish an all-in-one state-of-the-art agricultural facility at the port, spanning 67,422 square meters. This pioneering facility will address inefficiencies in logistics, reduce multiple handlings,



and extend the shelf life of agricultural products, the statement said.

Expected benefits include better prices for agricultural goods, job creation, and overall growth in the agricultural sector. It will empower farmers and exporters, stimulate demand, and foster rural development, it said.

The facility will cater to exports of prominent items like non-basmati

rice, maize, spices, onion, and wheat. Additionally, as JNPA is a major gateway for frozen meat and marine products, the new facility will also benefit exporters of these products from regions distant from Mumbai.

Small exporters, in particular, will benefit from the port-based facility, improving their capabilities in logistics, container booking, cold chain logistics, and export operations. The estimated export capacity increase includes a frozen store of 1800 metric tonnes, a cold store of 5800 metric tonnes, and dry warehouses with a capacity of 12,000 metric tonnes for grains, cereals, and dry cargo.

This initiative aligns with the government's vision of empowering farmers and fostering rural development, setting a precedent for future infrastructure projects that aim to support and enhance India's agricultural capabilities, the statement said.

Demand made in LS to stop arbitrariness in fare collection by airlines

New Delhi: The issue of excessive fares being charged by airlines from Indians staying abroad was raised by members in the Lok Sabha on Friday and called it a 'loot' and demanded the intervention of the government to ban it.

Meanwhile, Speaker Om Birla also termed this as serious issue and said that the Civil Aviation Minister should call all the air service providing companies and stop their arbitrariness.

He said that the Minister should call the companies and ask them the reason about the hike in charges and come out with a solution to this problem and help the people.

Raising the issue during a Private Members' Resolution related to the arbitrariness of air services.

Maha Govt committed to welfare of ex-servicemen: CM Shinde

Mumbai (UNI)

Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde saluted to the heroes of the Kargil War on occasion of 25th Kargil Vijay Diwas on Friday.

Shinde also remembered the six soldiers from the state who were martyred in the Kargil War.

He said that the state government is committed to the welfare of ex-servicemen and their families.

The Chief Minister paid tributes to the martyrs of the Kargil war. He said that the government has decided to set up a corporation for ex-servicemen. We are also going to build a rest house for ex-servicemen at Kharghar, Shinde said.

It has been decided to construct a



war museum in Mumbai and give priority to the development works in Apshinge Military village in Satara district, he said.

The toll exemption for ex-servicemen and many other important decisions have been taken.

Stating that even today when there is any disaster, we remember our brave soldiers of the army, the Chief Minister said.

Shinde said that we will take some more important decisions to take care of the families of the brave soldiers. "Our Maharashtra is Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. He taught the country's self respect and protection of religion, gods and temples. Our government is working with this legacy. We are committed to all that we can do for the welfare of the soldiers who protect the country's borders, the CM said.

Mobile phones lying in FSL for last one year, Court calls victim to depose

Agencies, New Delhi

The Rouse Avenue court on Friday deferred the recording of evidence in a sexual harassment case against BJP MP and former WFI chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh due to a mo-

Brij Bhushan sexual harassment case

bile phone seized during the investigation lying in the Forensic Science Lab (FSL) in Rohini, Delhi.

Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate (ACJM) Priyanka Rajpoot deferred the chief examination of Con-



stable Mukesh Kumar.

Constable Mukesh Kumar was associated with the case investigation and went to the village of the ex-MP in Gonda, Uttar Pradesh. The police team seized two mobile phones from Deepak Singh and Subedar Yadav,

which are currently at the FSL.

Meanwhile, the court summoned one victim and another witness, Rashmi, to record their evidence.

The court said that the victim's statement would be recorded in vulnerable witness room if she would not be comfortable to depose in the court room.

The court has scheduled the matter for August 6.

On July 11, the court directed the trial and recording of the statements of prosecution witnesses in the alleged sexual harassment case against former MP and ex-WFI chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh and Vinod Tomar to begin.

37 cases of Chandipura virus detected in Gujarat

Agencies, Gandhinagar

Gujarat Health Minister Rushikesh Patel said on Friday that 37 cases of Chandipura virus have been detected across the state and the state government has taken a lot of initiatives to control the disease.

He also said that about 133 cases of the Chandipura virus have been registered so far in the state.

Speaking on the rising case of Chandipura virus at a press conference here, Patel said, "About 133 cases have been registered so far. Of these 37 cases are confirmed for Chandipura and the remaining cases can't be spoken of as confirmed, as far as the symptoms are concerned.



We can't call them Acute Viral Syndrome for certain".

Acute Viral Syndrome occurs every year but the number has gone up this year.