

# Ten-day Ganesh Utsav concludes

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SAMBHA: The ten-days long Ganesh Utsav concluded with the immersion of Ganesh Visargan at Basanatar River Samba here on Tuesday.

Scores of people along with various religious and social organisations participated in the Shobha Yatra which started from Mandi Sangwali Samba.

The Shoba Yatra after passing through Main Bazaar Samba, Hari Singh Chowk, Link Road Samba reached at Basantar River Samba where the idol of Lord Ganesha was immersed in the river.



Shobha Yatra of Lord Ganesha being taken out in Samba.

# Water supply affected in Akhnoor town

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
AKHNOOR: Water supply was remained affected in Akhnoor town as main water pumping station of Baazigar Basti Akhnoor burned two days back.

Besides thus, main boosting motor of Chandian tube well burned since the last twenty days, Main transformer of Ambaran tube well burned since the last 15 days.

As per the Mechanical Engineering Wing of Public Health

# Army organises quiz competition

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NOWSHERA: As part of observing the International Literacy Day, the army at Bihota organised a quiz competition for school children to commemorate the importance of the day.

A total of 83 students from classes 9th, 10th and 11th participated from Manota, Khatriar, Chilot, Sarwal, Upper Bihota, Pitarwal, Gadhori, Kundru and Shalikund in the competition. At the end of the competition, prizes were distributed among the winners.

The spirit and zeal shown by the children during the competition displayed the growing awareness about the importance of education, national integrity and amity amongst different communities of the region, said PRO Defence, Lt Col Devender Anand.

# Develop tourist spots of Thathri: TDF

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
DODA: The members Thathri Development Front appealed to the Governor Satya Pal Malik to develop tourist spots of Sub-Division Thathri.

The natural tourist spots like Jantron Dhar, Mata Rashwar Temple and Lamote Dhar are in Sub-Division can be developed as tourist attraction spots like Gulmarg, which will create economic revolution of the State but have been totally ignored by the successive governments.

They demanded black-topping from Bhatola to Joura Khurd; Punaja to Chiralla-Sunarthava road; Punaja to Bhallara road and Thathri to Jangalwar-Chirra road immediately.

The TDF members Ram Rattan Manhas, K. K. Rao, Advocate Kanwar Jeet Singh Thakur, Om Raj Bhall, Layaquat Ali, Behari Lal Bhagat, Yog Raj Sharma and Mohd Saffi present in the meeting.

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# Peaceful procession taken out on Muharram

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
POONCH: A peaceful procession on Muharram was taken out on Tuesday in the border town of Poonch in which besides people of community, DDC Poonch Rahul Yadav and SSP Poonch Romesh Angral and other prominent persons of different communities also registered their presence.

The big procession was taken out from Takiya Sharief under the supervision of President Anwar Hussain which passed through main Poonch Bazar, Parade Ground and finally culminated in Imam Bara near Court Complex.

While addressing the a gathering, President Anwar Hussain highlighted the significance of the occasion and stressed on maintaining unity and harmony among all the communities. He thanked the administration and the police force for the cooperation and peaceful completion of the event.

Prominent among others present include ex-MLC Jehangir Mir, ex-President Municipal Council Senior Advocate Rajinder Singh, President District Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee Prof Narinder Singh, Additional SP Adil Hamid, SHO Nishant Gupta and others.

# Corporator installs street lights in ward no 7

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
BISHINAH: Corporator Ward No 7, Sahil Gupta installed street lights in the Ward, here on Tuesday. The people of the area said the street lights in the locality were not functioning during rainy season due to which they had to suffer a lot.

Gupta thanked Power Development Department of the Municipal Committee Bishnah for installing the lights.

# Domana police arrests 8 drunkards

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Domana Police has arrested eight drunkards on Tuesday who were roaming in the area.

On receipt of information from the villagers, the Domana Police conducted a raid and arrested eight drunkards. Those arrested have been identified as Sandeep Bhatia, Piyara Singh, Johny Masih, Shubham Mehta, Shubham Sharma, Narinder Singh, Nirmal Kumar and Pritam Singh.



Corporator Ward No 7, Sahil Gupta along with others during installation of street lights.

Satish Arora, Rakesh Kumar, Verinder, Monu and Rajesh were also present on the occasion.

# Mankotia to seek time from Guv to discuss current political scenario of J&K

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
UDHAMPUR: Former MLA and NPP President Balwant Singh Mankotia on Tuesday asked Governor Satya Pal Malik to give him time to discuss the current political scenario of J&K which has been totally stuck after abrogation of Article 370.

In a handout issued today, Mankotia said that it is necessary to main-

tain political setup in J&K which is the only way out for restoration of peace.

In his letter to Governor, Mankotia added that it is need of hour to revive political setup by coordinating with leaders of recognised political parties of J&K and he should be allowed to meet all the leaders of mainstream political parties.

# Parmeshwar Dass named Mahant of Swarag Ashram Mandir

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
AKHNOOR: Mahant of Swarag Ashram Mandir of Jia Pota Ghat Akhnoor, Mahant Rama Nand Dass on Tuesday announced Parmeshwar Dass as the next Mahant of Swarag Ashram Mandir.

This was announced by Mahant Rama Nand Dass in the presence of Maha Mandelashwer Mahant Rameshwar Dass, Mahant Ram Saroop Dass, Sh. Sh. 1008 Mahant Raghuvver Dass and number of other people of Sadhu Samaj of Jammu region.

Speaking on the occasion, Mahant Rama Nand Dass said that he was established



Mahant of Swarag Ashram Mandir Mahant Rama Nand Dass and his successor Mahant Parmeshwar Dass.

this Swarg Ashram at Jia Pota Ghat Akhnoor in 1984 with his own affords now he is not well and decided that Parmeshwar Dass will main-

tain of Mandir's development. In the end, Bhandara was also organised for Sadhu Samaj and other prominent citizens of Akhnoor.

# Lecture held on International Literacy Day

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NOWSHERA: To raise the awareness of literacy issues that are faced by people all over the world and also to endorse campaigns that help increase literacy for all people, a lecture on International Literacy Day was conducted by army at Middle School, Seyal, here on Tuesday.

A total of 60 students and four teachers of Middle School, Seyal participated in the event.

The event received an overwhelming response and was appreciated by all.

# SDH Akhnoor celebrates World Physiotherapy Day

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
AKHNOOR: Sub District Hospital (SDH), Akhnoor celebrated World Physiotherapy Day in a programme organised under the directions of Block Medical Officer, Dr. Anil Sharma.

The programme was attended by staff and senior doctors of SDH, Akhnoor.

Speaking on the occasion Dr. Pankaj Gupta briefed about the importance of Physiotherapy and advancements made in physical therapy.

Lectures and power point presentations on

CME with respect to physical therapy and pain management were also presented by various resource persons.

Dr. Rashi Chandan, Physiotherapist SDH Akhnoor briefed about the different aspects of physiotherapy, shattering myths about physiotherapy and some postural tips for healthy life.

She said chronic pain is a global health burden with low back pain causing more disability than any other condition.

She added that chronic pain can be associated with a wide range of con-

ditions including low back pain, cervical and thoracic pain, shoulder pain, headache disorders, cancer fibromyalgia, rheumatoid arthritis and osteoarthritis and physiotherapists have unique skills to recommend specific treatment and exercise programmes to help relieve chronic pains.

Physiotherapists treat impairments, prevent disability and promote health using physiotherapeutic measures after functional diagnosis, she added.

The vote of thanks was presented by Dr. Rashi Chandan.

# Abrogation of Art 370 will end terrorism in J&K: Union minister

**■ AGENCY**  
BHOPAL: Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityanand Rai said on Tuesday that the abrogation of Article 370 would eliminate terrorism from Jammu and Kashmir.

Talking to reporters on completion of 100 days of the second term of the NDA government, Rai said insurgency thrived in J&K because of the constitutional provisions which granted it a special status.

"We all know that terrorism was thriving in Jammu and Kashmir due to Articles 370 and 35(A). Due to the Modi government's strong resolve,

it was on decline. After the abrogation of these articles, terrorism will soon be finished completely," he said.

"The country's dream of 'Akhand Bharat' (unified India) has been realised with the abrogation of Article 370," the Union minister added.

With the withdrawal of special status, the people of Jammu and Kashmir will get benefits such as reservations, he said.

"Only three families were enjoying the funds allocated for the development of Jammu and Kashmir. Now this benefit will reach the public," he said.

Asked about a Special Investigation Team (SIT) set up by the Union Home Ministry deciding to reopen seven anti-Sikh riot cases, including one in which Madhya Pradesh chief minister Kamal Nath was named, Rai said, "The SIT is doing its work. Those who are not guilty, should not be afraid."

"To a question about the economic slowdown, Rai said, "The country is moving forward for achieving the five trillion dollars economy target. Shortcomings of various sectors are being removed. Steps are being taken to strengthen the economy."

Asked about declining GDP

growth and people losing jobs, the minister said, "The unemployment data is wrong.

Infrastructure is improving. Crores of people have got Mudra loans, agriculture sector is growing, production is increasing. Economy is growing stronger."

Asked about Pakistan using Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's statement on Kashmir in its petition against India on international forums, Rai said, "The country's security and development should be one's priority...Pakistan has already been exposed on international forums for its lies."

# Gurugram teacher held for molesting girls

**■ AGENCY**  
GURUGRAM: A 48-year-old government school teacher was arrested here for allegedly molesting girl students, police said on Tuesday.

The teacher was arrested on Monday soon after the complaint against him was lodged at the Farukhnagar police station," said Gurugram police PRO Subhash Bokan,

The accused was arrested from his residence in Gurigram, he added.

"The crime came to light when one of the victims disclosed it to her family. The victim's family later approached the local police," he added. "The accused teacher confessed to his crime and said he had been molesting girls whenever he found them alone in school. He was produced in a local and remanded to judicial custody," the PRO said.

# POCSO Court awards death penalty in rape & murder case

**■ AGENCY**  
JAGATSINGHPUR: A court in Odisha's Jagatsinghpur district on Tuesday sentenced a man to death for raping and murdering a nine-year-old girl last year.

Additional District and Special POCSO court Judge Munurani Mishra convicted 35-year-old Kalia Manna and sentenced him to death.

According to prosecution, Manna took the girl, who was playing near her house, into a cashew orchard on the outskirts of Gadaharipur village in Jagatsinghpur district on March 20, last year and

raped her. After committing the crime, Manna strangled the girl to death apprehending that she may disclose the incident to others and abandoned the body in the field.

The body was recovered the next day and the police launched a manhunt for Manna on the basis of clues obtained during investigation. Manna was picked up from Badambadi bus-stand in Cuttack the same day.

The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Court pronounced the verdict on the basis depo-

sition of 25 witnesses and other evidence, Public Prosecutor Siba Prasad Majhi said.

He said this was the first death penalty pronounced by the special POCSO court in Jagatsinghpur.

Manna was convicted under section 376 (rape), 201 (causing disappearance of evidence) and 302 (murder) of IPC and relevant provision of POCSO Act, he said.

Earlier, a POCSO Court in Angul had on July 26 sentenced a 20-year-old man to death for rape and murder of a minor girl.

# Free helmets to offenders, roses for law-abiding persons

**■ AGENCY**  
BHUBANESWAR: The police on Tuesday launched an awareness drive on the new Motor Vehicles Act in and around Bhubaneswar offering free helmets to bare-headed two-wheeler riders and roses to the law-abiders.

The move came a day after Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik asked officials not to enforce provisions of the new Motor Vehicles Act aggressively for three months so that people get time to arrange documents.

There has been resentment over the imposition of heavy fines on traffic rule violators after the new Act came into force on September 1.

"Now, we are conducting awareness drives at roads. The MV Act is not a revenue generating exercise. Safety of the people is our objective," Deputy Commissioner of Police

(Traffic) Sagarika Nath said.

The police personnel were found giving free helmet to those two-wheeler riders who did not have helmets. However, the offenders were also charged Rs 500 as a penalty before getting helmets.

"We are urging people to wear helmets while driving two-wheelers. After issuing challan, we are providing them helmets free of cost," she added.

Apart from DCP Nath, some celebrities were also seen giving flowers, chocolates, thank you cards and leaflets to traffic rule-abiding commuters at Madhupatna Chhak in Cuttack.

During the grace period of three months, the police have been focusing on five aspects like drunken driving, use of mobile phones during driving, driving on the wrong side of roads, triple riding and non-usage of helmets and seat belts.

Transport Minister PN Behera said transport offices across the state will remain open in holidays to allow the people to prepare documents needed as per the Motor Vehicles Act 2019.

"The State government will provide all kinds of support to the public to help them arrange their vehicle documents within the relaxation period," the minister said.

Behera said there was no question of returning money to offenders who paid through challan for violating traffic rules between September 1 and 9.

Opposition parties had demanded that the government return the fine amount to those who violated traffic rules last week in wake of the relaxation.