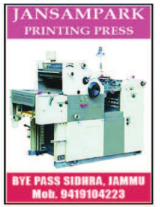




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All J&K PM Package employees & kin living in constant fear: Report

NEW DELHI: A fact-finding report on 'Unabated Genocide of Kashmiri Pandits' said that nearly all of the Prime Minister (PM) Package employees and their family members are scared and living in constant fear, and feel that it is a matter of time before they will be targeted and killed.

The report by a three-member fact-finding delegation led by Rahul Kaul, Amit Raina and Vithal Choudhary in its findings said that they constantly face taunts directly and indirectly about their religion, their patriotism to India and are held responsible for the abrogation of Articles 370 and 35A.

Seeing the revival of 1990 in Kashmir once again and worried about the safety of the Hindu brethren in Kashmir, the fact-finding delegation was nominated by the front-line Kashmiri Pandit organisations like Panun Kashmir, Roots in Kashmir and Youth 4 Panun Kashmir.

The brief of the committee was to visit the camps in the Valley, employees serving and families living in the Valley and PM Package employees protesting in Jammu. The committee was also authorised to meet various officials and political workers for a better understanding of the situation.

The employees feel that they are discriminated by most of their colleagues and seniors. The women and children are forced to wear dress in line with Sharia dress code. They are constantly taunted, eve-teased and even stalked in few cases.

Women wearing 'bindis' or 'sindoor' or marks of Hinduism felt more vulnerable," the findings of the report said.

The employees currently stationed in Kashmir are not staying out of their own will, most of them are compelled because their children have schools and they don't want to jeopardise their education, it said.

The findings said that the children are the worst lot. "They have to live within the four walls of the house in case of a rented accommodation or within the transit camp areas, thus impacting their overall psychological health. They feel as if they are in jails and are in constant mental agony. Although not many were open about the same, few children and parents did complain of being discriminated against by the teachers for their religious belief, the findings of the report said.

PM Modi thanks global leaders for support to India's G20 presidency

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday expressed gratitude and thanked global leaders for their support towards India's G20 presidency.

India formally assumed the presidency of G20 on December 1 from Indonesia making it the premier forum for international economic cooperation. G20 is an inter-governmental forum of the world's 20 major developed and developing economies.

Responding to a tweet by US President Joe Biden, the Prime Minister tweeted, "Your valued support will be a source of strength for India's G20 Presidency. It is important we all work together to build a better planet."

The US President had written that that US and India will advance sustainable and inclusive growth while tackling shared challenges.

"India is a strong partner of the United States, and I look forward to supporting my friend Prime Minister Modi during India's G20 presidency. Together we will advance sustainable and inclusive growth while tackling shared challenges like the climate, energy, and food crises," Biden said.

The Prime Minister also thanked French President Emmanuel Macron responding to his congratulatory message.

"Thank you, my dear friend Emman-



uel Macron! I look forward to consulting you closely during India's G20 Presidency, as we work to focus the world's attention on the issues that affect humanity as a whole," Modi wrote on Twitter.

"One Earth. One Family. One Future. India has taken over the presidency of G20! I trust my friend Narendra Modi to bring us together in order to build peace and a more sustainable world," Macron wrote on the microblogging platform.

In response to a congratulatory tweet by Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, Prime Minister Modi tweeted, "Your solidarity is vital. Japan has contributed a lot to global well-being and I am confident the world will continue to learn from Japan's successes on vari-

ous fronts."

Responding to wishes of Prime Minister of Spain Pedro Sanchez on India's G20 presidency, the Prime Minister Modi expresses gratitude for his kind words.

"Gratitude for your kind words Mr Pedro Sanchez. Fully endorse your views on collectively working to mitigate challenges of the present to leave a better planet for the coming generations," Modi said in a tweet.

India is in denial of genocide of Kashmiri Pandits: Report

SRINAGAR: Around 43 percent voting was recorded on Monday in the two District Development Consistencies which went to the re-poll in Kashmir, officials said.

The re-poll for two DDC seats was held in Hain-A and Drugmulla constituencies of Bandipora and Kupwara districts respectively. The two seats are reserved for women.

The polling passed off peacefully in both these seats, an official spokesman said.

He said 53.33 voter percentage was recorded in Hain-A whereas 32.73 % was recorded in Drugmulla constituency.

42 polling stations were set up for DDC Drugmulla and 10724 votes were polled against a total electorate of 16026.

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NEW DELHI: The state of India is in complete denial of the genocide of Kashmiri Pandits in Jammu and Kashmir, and the Kashmiri Pandit community continues to be sacrificial lambs on the altar of 'Kashmiriyat' and 'secularism'. This has been stated in the conclusion of

a fact-finding report 'Unabated Genocide of Kashmiri Pandits'.

"The report is based on the life of Hindu minority in Kashmir post-abrogation of Article 370 and after targeted killings since the start of 2020."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

CS interacts with Prabharis of Jammu division under MTMP

JAMMU: Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta today held a marathon live interaction with the visiting officers (Prabharis), President's and representatives of different Municipal Wards and Councils of Jammu division under Mr. Town My Pride Programme (MTMP) at Civil Secretariat here.

During the interaction, the Chief Secretary held detailed deliberations on different deliverables with the officers and took on spot assessment from them about the participation of general public in the MTMP.

While interacting with the officers and representatives of Municipal Wards, the Chief Secretary impressed upon them to encourage maximum participation of general public in the programme so that the prime objective of this festival of development is achieved. He asked



them to involve educational institutions in the celebrations of MTMP and organise events under this programme so that a much larger

awareness is generated among the public about different government beneficiary schemes.

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17 injured as bus turns turtle in Rajouri

RAJOURI: At least 17 persons, who were part of a marriage ceremony, were injured in a road accident in Rajouri district on Monday morning.

An official told the news agency that the accident took place when a bus carrying 'Baratis' turned turtle near Tarkundi LoC road.

He said at least 17 persons were injured in the accident and they were immediately evacuated to a nearby hospital.

The official added condition of five of the injured persons is stated to be serious

At minus 3.4 degree Celsius, Sgr records coldest night of season

SRINAGAR: With persistent dry spell in Jammu and Kashmir, the night temperature has plummeted further in the Valley while Srinagar has recorded the coldest night of the season at minus 3.4 degree Celsius.

Data available with the news agency said that the minimum temperature at world famous ski-resort, Gulmarg was recorded at minus 3.2 degree Celsius while Kupwara in north Kashmir recorded a temperature of minus 2.7 degree Celsius. The mercury in Kokerang set at minus 1.4 degree Celsius

while in Qazigund the minimum temperature was recorded at minus 3.4 degree Celsius.

As per the data, Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, recorded the coldest night of the season at minus 3.4 degree Celsius. Pahalgam also recorded the lowest temperature at minus 4.4 degree Celsius.

Pertinently, the weatherman has predicted dry weather till December 8. The local Meteorological department has also predicted light

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Mayor JMC inaugurates ambitious "My Town My Pride 2.0" in District Jammu



JAMMU: My Town My Pride 2.0 program commenced on Monday in all the Municipal areas of Jammu District amid overwhelming public response.

Mayor Jammu Municipal Corporation, Rajinder Sharma inaugurated the main function organised at the Gulshan Ground Jammu.

The Mayor inspected the stalls of different departments and also engaged

about different schemes initiated by the government for the benefit of common masses.

Speaking on the occasion, the Mayor appreciated the efforts of UT Administration and said that after successful response of Back to Village initiative in rural areas, the government launched My Town My Pride

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Farooq Abdullah re-elected unopposed as NC president

SRINAGAR: Dr Farooq Abdullah was on Monday re-elected unopposed as president of the National Conference.

The party presidential polls were held today at party head office Nawa-e-Subb in Srinagar, NC spokesperson, Imran Nabi Dar told the news agency that Dr Farooq was re-elected unopposed as party president.

Earlier, Dr Farooq, who has been heading the party since 1981, on November 19 had announced not to contest the presidential polls. The announcement was made by him just a few hours after the party officials announced elections.

Sources told KNO that after persistent requests by the leaders, Dr Farooq announced to contest the presidential

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

BSF targets Pak smugglers using drones for drugs & arms trafficking

NEW DELHI: The Border Security Force (BSF) has been cracking down hard on Pakistan's aerial conspiracy - its attempts to send drugs and weapons through drones inside India.

Pakistani smugglers have started using old drones assembled in Pakistan instead of new ones made in China to carry out their nefarious plans.

According to sources, this is being done to reduce the economic loss due to the continuous actions taken by the security forces and the expensive Chinese drones.

Most of the drones that come from Pakistan to the Indian territory are made in China including the hexacopter and quadcopter drones.

The BSF has achieved great success in shooting them down in recent times.

According to a security source, a Pakistani drone was shot down by the BSF personnel in Punjab recently.

Preliminary investigation revealed that the drone was about 18 kg heavy and had been assembled in Pakistan by adding different parts, mostly Chinese.

The equipments fitted in the drone belonged to different companies and



it has been sent for forensic examination to gather more information.

A senior official said that Pakistani smugglers have been facing huge economic losses due to the China-made drones being shot down by the forces.

The BSF has installed anti-drone systems on the border.

According to data, a large Hexacopter drone, which does not have the capacity to lift much weight, costs around Rs 14-16 lakhs in Pakistan.

Apart from this, the BSF has been

killing the smugglers' hopes by seizing large amounts of drugs and weapons from these drones, causing them financial loss.

The old drones assembled in Pakistan are said to be capable of carrying more cargo.

17 drones shot down in 2022, drugs worth crores seized

According to the BSF, the jawans have been achieving great success

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Charity welcome, but can't be for conversion: SC

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Monday said that the freedom of religion doesn't include forced conversion, any charity is welcome, but it could not be for conversion purpose, while hearing a PIL seeking steps to ban forced religious conversion.

"Charity is welcome. But the purpose of the charity should not be conversion. The freedom of religion doesn't include forced conversion. No conversion through force, allurements, the two-judge bench of the Supreme Court, headed by Justice M R Shah and also comprising Justice C T Ravikumar, observed.

"We are here for solution, to set things right. Every charity or good work is welcome, but the intention has to be checked," the Apex Court observed.

"Everybody has a right to choose religion. But that does not mean that



you can convert by luring. If you want to help a particular community, you help. But the purpose of charity should not be conversion. Every good work is welcome. But what is required to be considered is the intention. The intention must be very clear," the Supreme Court observed.

The Supreme Court was hearing the PIL (Public Interest Litigation) filed by lawyer and Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader, Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay seeking steps to ban forced religious

conversion, including stringent provisions in the Indian Penal Code (IPC). The Centre and Gujarat government has already filed their respective response supporting the PIL and strongly favouring the national law to deal with the menace.

During the course of the hearing, the Supreme Court said, this forced conversion is a very serious issue.

"It is a very serious. Because this (forced conversion) is against our Constitution. Everyone says in India, they have to act as per the culture and religious harmony of India," the SC observed.

The Solicitor General (SG) Tushar Mehta submitted that the Centre is gathering data from the states. He submitted that the state of Gujarat has a strong law in this regard and that a stay has been granted with respect

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Secretary in SWD, Director FCS&CA visit Poonch to attend My Town My Pride

Varied services provided to people in all Municipal areas of border district

POONCH, DECEMBER 05: My Town My Pride 2.0 programme took off in Poonch District amid a host of activities and the visit of Secretary in Social Welfare Department, Bhawani Rakwal and Director FCS&CA Jammu, Dr. Naseem Javaid Chowdhary.

The inaugural session started with a scintillating cultural event followed by an awareness programme organized by the MC Poonch at Dak Bunglow.

The visiting officers inspected stalls established by different departments to provide different services to the public.

Further, the officials of MC Poonch aware the public about the scheme like PMAY (U) and the process to avail this scheme.

Similarly, Project manager DIC, Superintendent IITL

Project officer (POSHAN) ICDS Poonch and other departments educated the public about schemes/courses run by their departments.

Speaking on the occasion, President MC Poonch, Adv. Sunil Sharma lauded the decision of the government to organize the MTMP program. He further highlighted the progress and issues faced by the Council.

Speaking on the occasion, Bhawani Rakwal said that My Town My Pride is a flagship program of administration of UT of J&K.

He also urged the public to keep their surroundings neat and clean. He further added that the benefits of different Govt. Schemes and programmes should reach the last beneficiary in the urban areas.

During the event, Cheques were presented to the students who participated in Talent Hunt organized by JKAACL.

The Beneficiaries were handed over keys of vehicle sanctioned under the MUMKIN scheme. Cheques were distributed to beneficiaries selected under Tejaswani scheme, followed by issuance of Land Passbooks to the land owners. Further, Sanction letters under PMEGP and MUDRA schemes were issued.

Sanitation workers were also given the certificate of appreciation for their selfless contribution in keeping the town clean followed by distribution of Certificates of Registration to the street vendors under PMSVANidhi scheme.

The Secretary in Social Welfare Department and

Director FCS&CA also conducted inspection of ongoing developmental works in the town.

Similar activities were observed in Municipal Council Surankote where Joint Director Youth Sports and Services, Suram Chand was the visiting officer.

In a number of events, the public was sensitized about the benefits and importance of cleanliness, sanitation, waste segregation and were urged to keep their environment neat and clean.

Stress is being laid on saturation of all deliverables of different departments are making dedicated efforts in this direction and it is being made sure that the last beneficiary in queue gets benefited with the welfare initiatives of the Govt.

Vi Launches Ludo Tournament - 'Ludo Khelo London Jao', 25 peddlers booked under PSA: Police

Varied services provided to people in all Municipal areas of border district

JAMMU: Exclusively on Vi App: Tournament is running from 30th November, 2022 till 15th December, 2022.

- Participants can win Amazon Gift Vouchers every day
- Bumper Prize winner gets a family trip to London
- Play Tambola every night starting 8pm till midnight and win cash vouchers

Leading telecom operator, Vi has announced an exciting offer for online gamers, specifically targeting casual gamers. Vi is inviting its customers to play 'Express Ludo Tournament' on the Vi Games platform on the Vi App and win a trip for two to London. The tournament is on from 30th



the winners will be shared on Vi social media pages.

In addition to this, Vi is running Tambola Nights under Vi Games on Vi App for last few weeks, wherein there is a Tambola game every 30 minutes starting 8pm till midnight daily. With this, Vi has attempted to replicate the real Tambola experience for its users. Vi users can enjoy playing Tambola at no ticket cost and also win cash vouchers for a full-house or a line or early 5.

Vi Games on the Vi App, offers an immersive gaming experience with 1200+ android and HTML5 based mobile games across 10 popular genres like - Action, Adventure, Arcade, Casual, Education, Fun, Puzzle, Racing, Sports and Strategy.

MTMP kick started in Jammu Municipal Corporation



JAMMU, DECEMBER 05: The My Town My Pride 2.0 (MTMP) programme was kick started today in Jammu Municipal Corporation by Mayor JMC, Rajinder Sharma and visiting officer, Jammu district Shaheen Kabra at Convention Centre, Canal road here.

During the event, an interactive session was held by Mayor and visiting officer with Councillors

and representatives of different line departments.

Mayor while addressing the gathering said that the benefits of MTMP programme will percolate down to grass root level and pave way for greater development of urban areas. Mayor desired to mitigate the problems being faced by the public related to unauthorized constructions.

Mayor highlighted that

the changes shall be affected in the existing building by laws to make the laws more people friendly. He further advised that JMC must explore more options to enhance revenue generating sources for the Corporation.

The Mayor said that under MTMP five visiting officers are visiting different areas of Jammu Municipal Corporation to ascertain the development

needs and aspirations of general public.

Rahul Yadav Commissioner, Jammu Municipal Corporation on the occasion gave an overview about various activities to be carried out during MTMP.

The other visiting officers of JMC, Shiv Anant Tayal, Vikas Gupta, Deepika Kumari Sharma and Shiv Kumar Gupta were also present on the occasion.

The visiting officers also interacted with locals and assured them that their genuine issues will be resolved in a time bound manner. In some cases, the visiting officers gave on spot directions to the concerned officers for redressal of the public grievances.

MTMP witnesses overwhelming response in Udhampur

UDHAMPUR, DECEMBER, 05: The urban outreach programme My Town My Pride (MTMP) today witnessed overwhelming public response in the Udhampur Municipal Council and two other Municipal Committees of District here.

Principal Secretary, Education Department, Alok Kumar who is the visiting officer for MC, Udhampur visited the district and participated in MTMP there.

The programme was attended by Deputy Commissioner, Udhampur Kritika Jyotsna; visiting officers, Rajinder Singh Tara and Sargun Sharma; Senior Superintendent of Police, Dr Vinod Kumar; Vice president MC, Udhampur, Surinder Singh Khalsa; Additional Deputy Commissioner, Mohammad Syed Khan; CEO MC, Dalip Abrol; Urban Local Body members, Representatives of Chamber of Commerce and Beopar Mandal and other officers besides Social activists/NGOs, SHG members, Senior citizens, among others.

During the visit, the Principal Secretary held extensive interactions with Urban Local Body members, Social activists/NGOs, SHGs, Senior

citizens at Town Hall Udhampur and also inspected various stalls established by the different departments for awareness of the public.

The ULB members and local people of Udhampur town during the interaction projected several issues and demands being faced by them like unsheduled power cuts, implementation of Udhampur master plan, parking facility, establishment of housing colonies, replacement of damaged water supply pipes in various wards, augmentation of drinking water supply in Udhampur town, renovation of water springs, establishment of Multipurpose hall/development of parking places in Udhampur town, among others before the officer.

After giving patient hearing to the problems and demands of the ULB members and general public, Principal Secretary assured them that their genuine demands would be taken up with the concerned quarters for early solution.

Alok Kumar asked the elected representatives of Municipal Council that basic principle of the local elected bodies is to self-sustain and resolving the local issues. He advised them to

work with zeal and passion and generate local resources for becoming self-reliant. He said that the main purpose of conducting this programme is to see the impact of government schemes on ground.

The Principal Secretary also highlighted the objective of My Town My Pride saying that this grand public campaign is aimed at reaching out to the people for redressal of their grievances and addressing developmental issues.

The Principal Secretary also distributed golden cards under Ayushman Bharat scheme, Mamma kits under BBBP, handed over keys under Mumkin Scheme, Sports kits under Khelo India and sanction letters among the beneficiaries.

Later, Principal Secretary visited Saheed Inspector Kamal Singh Government Model Higher Secondary School Boys Udhampur. He also unfurled the National Tricolour and interacted with the students.

While addressing the students, the Principal Secretary exhorted upon the students to play one or the other game to keep themselves physically and mentally fit.

DDC organises Collage making and Slogan writing intercollege competition on "wildlife conservation day"

J1 NEWS SERVICE SAMBA, DEC 5: Dogra Degree College, Bari Brahmana, Samba organized a Collage making competition on the theme "Compassion for Wildlife and Slogan writing competition on the theme "Climate change and Wildlife" on 05th December, 2022 to mark the "Wildlife Conservation Day" which is celebrated on 4th of December every year. The Inter College event was organised under the supervision of Ms. Palak Gupta (Convener Eco Warriors Club).

Eight teams of two each and eleven participants volunteered from Dogra Degree College, Dogra Degree of Education and Dogra Law College to participate in the Collage making and slogan writing event. The participants made quality collages and



wrote slogans expressing their perception on the importance of Wildlife Conservation Day. The judges had a tough time deciding the winners. After scrutiny the result was declared. In Collage Making Competition the First Prize was bagged by Abhishek and Hummera of Dogra Law College, 2nd Prize winner was Jatim from Dogra Degree College, 3rd Prize went to Chiranjeev and Sarajot

from Dogra Degree College and Consolation prize went to Priya and Pooja from Dogra College of Education.

In slogan writing competition the First prize was bagged by Niharika Lalotra from Dogra Degree College, 2nd prize went to Mannat Bhardwaj from Dogra Degree College and 3rd prize went to Komal Sanotra from Dogra Degree College.

The main motive behind the celebration of this day was to encourage the students, who are the young blood and future of the Nation, to contribute in wildlife protection and conservation.

Kr. Samar Dev Singh Charak, Secretary Dogra Educational Trust appreciated the initiative taken by Ms. Bela Charak, Principal Dogra Degree College and the faculty members for conducting this event.

Balance between studies and extracurricular activities key to success: DC Jammu

J1 NEWS SERVICE JAMMU, DECEMBER 05: Career Counseling and Placement Cell of Government Degree College (GDC) Jindrah, in collaboration with NSS unit on Monday organised a one day workshop on "Career in Civil Services".

Deputy Commissioner Jammu Avny Lavasa was the Chief Guest, who had a thorough interaction with students on "Career in Civil Services".

Tehsildar Dansal, Dhruv Gupta, Anil Sharma and Chairman All J&K Panchayat Conference were also present on the occasion. The College Principal Dr. Raj Shree Dhar, welcomed

the guests. The resource person of the workshop was Career Counseling Officer, Dushyant Singh and Employment Officer, Shivali Chaudhary.

Both resource persons presented their views on various topics, ranging from current affairs to enrollment on the Employment portal. They also spoke on how to enhance skills to avail the job opportunities and to choose best between available career options.

In her address, the Deputy Commissioner shared her experience with the students regarding pre and post qualification of 'Civil Services'.

She also shared the experience of difficulties faced during preparation for IAS and challenges faced by the civil servants while performing the duty.

Pertinent to mention that Jindrah is a far flung area in District Jammu and it was a golden opportunity for students to have one on one interaction session with Deputy Commissioner Jammu Avny Lavasa. The DC blessed the students with her experience and guidance for the future. She also cleared the doubts of students and inspired them to opt civil services as their career option. Giving them the success mantra, the Deputy Commissioner said that the balance between

studies and extracurricular activities is key to success.

The students enjoyed the interactive session by raising many questions to clarify their doubts related to preparations to build a career. The students said that such sessions should be held on regular intervals.

The program was coordinated by Prof. Jasneet Kaur, Convener, Career Counseling Cell and Prof. Deepika Sharma, Program officer, NSS Unit and HOD, Environment Science (EVS). Dr. Seema, Librarian and Member, NSS Committee compiled and reported the event. A formal vote of thanks was delivered by Prof. Jasneet Kaur.

Agriculture Directorate Jammu celebrates World Soil Day

J1 NEWS SERVICE JAMMU, DECEMBER 05: The Directorate of Agriculture today organised a function to celebrate World Soil Day. Director Agriculture Jammu, K. K. Sharma emphasized upon all the stakeholders including Farmers, Officers, Officials, and others to generate awareness amongst the society to help protect the Soil Health. The programme was organized by the Agriculture Chemist section of the Directorate.

In a fervent appeal to the farmers, the Director Agriculture listed some remedial measures for maintaining

soil health including Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) of the soil by incorporating the organic manures and inorganic fertilizers in an appropriate ratio, prevention of the stubble burning by making use of super seeders in sowing of the crops especially wheat, ensuring use of Micro-Nutrients/Bio-Fertilizers and Bio-pesticides.

He advised the farmers to use Chemical Fertilizers, Pesticides only on the recommendations of the Agriculture experts of the department and apply the fertilizers as per the Soil Health Cards recommenda-

tions. The Director cautioned against the indiscriminate use of the chemicals as it may lead to a catastrophe and ultimate reduction in overall production. According to estimates, cultivable soil in India may reduce to 100 million hectares from approx. 140 million hectare in the near future if current trend continues. He enjoined upon the Extension Agency of the Department to organize sensitization programmes on the Soil Health at Panchayat level on regular intervals and ensure that the Soil Health card recommendations are adopted by the farmers.

MTMP 2.0 starts in across all three MCs of Doda

J1 NEWS SERVICE DODA, DECEMBER 05: All the three towns of District Doda witnessed a gleeful day today as people participated in the ambitious My Town My Pride 2.0 programme with great interest and enthusiasm.

The 2-day programme is being conducted under the overall supervision of District Development Commissioner Doda, Vishesh Paul Mahajan.

The DDC conducted an extensive tour of MC Doda and MC Bhaderwah to ensure that the ambitious MTMP initiatives harness a good omen for the public of

the towns.

At MC Doda, the main function/ Mela is being organised in the local Community Hall. The visiting officer Jahangir Hashmi inspected the stalls and interacted with the President Municipal Council and other councillors and discussed with them the issues and demands of the council to upgrade the socio-economic base of the Doda township.

The function in Bhaderwah was held in the Community Hall where visiting officer Raj Kumar Katoch, member, J&K Special Tribunal Jammu

Branch, inspected the stalls and conducted other scheduled activities. The Thathri town witnessed a range of activities, while the Visiting Officer Dr. Khalid Hussain Malik, Joint Director Employment Jammu, inspected stalls, met different people and inspected the government offices. A volleyball match was also held as part of the day-long activities.

Beautiful stalls of all the service delivery departments, set up in all the three MCs, were of special attraction for the public.

The Visiting officers inspected the stalls and the public got their issues settled on the spot at concerned departmental stalls.

Forenoon session of day one started with interaction with ULB members, frontline government functionaries, social activists/NGOs, prominent citizens, etc.

An informal discussion with Members of ULBs and public on Nasha Mukht Abhiyaan, Cleanliness Campaigns and other social and commercial issues gave visiting officers the idea of the aspirations and concerns of the town. Cultural and sports activities were also organised during the first day in all three MCs.

At Sheikh Abdullah's Masoleum, Dr Farooq asks security forces, Admin no to interfere in election process

SRINAGAR: Stating that National Conference (NC) will never opt to go for a poll boycott, party's president Dr Farooq Abdullah on Monday warned security forces and administration not to interfere in the election process in Jammu and Kashmir... Addressing a gathering on the 117th Birth anniversary of party founder Sheikh Muhammad Abdullah, Dr Farooq...

Corporal punishment to transfer woes, DSEK receives 400 complaints this year

SRINAGAR: The Directorate of School Education (DSEK) has received over 400 grievances this year varying from corporal punishment to transfer woes. An official said the grievance cell receives complaints and grievances of different nature from employees as well other stakeholders of the department including parents as well. As per the official figures available with the news agency...

Two decades on, Sub Distict Hospital Qaimoh awaits completion

KULGAM: Sanctioned about two decades ago, Sub-district hospital building in Qaimoh area of Kulgam is awaiting completion causing hardships to people. Locals told news agency that a new building for PHC Qaimoh which was later upgraded to SDH on request of locals was sanctioned during the PDP-Congress government in 2003. They said PHC was upgraded to a 50 bed SDH and building was to be constructed at Rs 19.34 crores. According to people, the construction of the building was started in 2003 and in seven years, only pillars of the building were constructed and the work was stopped due to shortage of funds. But now, almost 20 years have passed since construction work was started, authorities are yet to complete construction work...

Grid station partially damaged in fire incident in Qazigund

ANANTNAG: A grid station in Hiller area of Qazigund in South Kashmir's Anantnag district was partially damaged in a fire incident on Monday morning. An official told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that the fire broke out in the grid station, located close to Pir Panchal Tunnel, today morning. "We said soon after the electricity fire tenders rushed to the spot and after hectic efforts fire was put off. "The grid station suffered partial damage and the loss was being estimated," he said. KNO

Directions passed to minimize inconvenience to public due to ongoing projects: Srinagar Mayor

SRINAGAR: Srinagar Municipal Corporation Mayor, Junaid Azim Mattoo on Monday said directions have been passed to minimize inconvenience to the general public due to ongoing developmental works in the city. Talking to the news agency, he said developmental projects come with inconveniences, but the executing agencies have been directed to minimise the same. He also said a plaza is coming up near Ghanta Ghar Lal Chowk and the work is going on at a rapid pace, while the deadline for the project is 3-4 months. KNO

DDC Re-Polling: 105-year-old woman votes for development of her village in Hajin

BANDIPORA: Braving the cold weather, a 105-year-old woman cast her vote at a polling station in Hakbarra area of Hajin-A constituency in north Kashmir's Bandipora district on Monday. The 105-year-old Aze Begum of Hakbarra village told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), that she cast her vote for the benefit of her locality, which was being ignored by the authorities in terms of the development. She also said she has been a regular voter and didn't want to miss her chance even today with the hope to see her village developed. Meanwhile, the Hajin-A constituency polled 21.38 per cent votes till 10 am. The polling began at 7 am and will end at 2 pm. KNO

Announce amnesty for power tariff to commercial, industrial consumers: KCCL to LG

SRINAGAR: The Kashmir Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KCCL) on Monday urged Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha to announce amnesty for power tariff in favor of commercial and industrial consumers. The industrialist of Jammu & Kashmir region has almost collapsed due to the pandemic Covid-19 crisis, President Sheikh Ahsiq Ahmad said in a statement issued to the news agency. He also drew attention of Lieutenant Governor and Chief Secretary Arun Kumar towards the industrial sector of Jammu & Kashmir, due to the financial crunch a number of units have not availed the previous power amnesty scheme. President also requested the authorities not to disconnect the power supplies forcing the industrialists and commercial establishments to close down their units. "Recently we met Principal Secretary, Power Development Department, J&K and we are waiting for the outcome of our suggestions given in the meeting and we request LG Administration to announce amnesty to the Commercial Consumers at par with Domestic Consumers so that they can pay their (pending) electricity bills waiting interest and penalties besides after settling the same with the Power Development Department," he said. He added that the power situation in the Kashmir both for industries as also domestic use remains to be uncertain and erratic load shedding and curtailment of power is frequent beyond tolerance, the supply is erratic yet the bills are raised irrationally. "Transformers damaged take months to get replaced leaving the people on lurk to cry for the essential requirement of electricity. With the onset of winter, unsheduled and prolonged power cuts have become an unwritten rule, not only in non-metered areas, but metered areas as well," he said. He said that the administration must come out immediately with a comprehensive power supply policy to cope with intermittent and unsheduled power cuts during this harsh winter. KNO

On World Soil Day, experts sound caution about excessive use of pesticides, chemicals

SRINAGAR: Due to the excessive use of fertilizers, pesticides and other chemicals, soil is fast losing its health paving way for catastrophic impact on soil as well as humans, experts said on Monday. They suggested people to act very responsibly and preserve soil besides could help land managers to increase the soil-aibility. Dr Zulfiqar Siddiqui, an expert told news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that the over exploitation of soil on unscientific lines is one of the main reasons behind its deterioration. He said that the pressure of population explosion and all sorts of pollution is responsible for the deteriorating condition of the soil as well. "We must be conscious and act responsibly so as to preserve soil for future generations," suggested Dr Siddiqui. Dr Parvaiz, another expert, told KNO that soil is under tremendous strain because of deforestation, urbanization, erosion, loss of soil biodiversity, improper agricultural practices, salinization, nutrient depletion and chemical pollution. He said that with deforestation underway, it will have very harmful environmental hazards and people must avoid excessive use of inorganic fertilizers and should prefer organic fertilizers. "We need to work on how to make land productive which has become unfruitful due to excessive use of fertilizers. Besides, we need to think about the limited land available for production on how to feed the growing population in the world. So, we must act responsibly and preserve soil for future generations as well," Dr Parvaiz added. KNO

Azad congratulates Dr Farooq for re-electing as NC president

JAMMU: Chief of Democratic Azad Party and former chief minister, Ghulam Nabi Azad on Monday congratulated Dr Farooq Abdullah for being re-elected as National Conference president. In a statement issued to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), Azad said that he prays for the good health of Farooq Abdullah and his long spell in Jammu Kashmir politics. "I congratulate Farooq Abdullah for being re-elected as his party president," he said. "Since he has been elected as party president, I am sure Jammu Kashmir politics will thrive and will expand the democratic space," he added. KNO

FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

PM Modi...

global good." Earlier, the Prime Minister also penned an article outlining India's vision for the G20 Presidency. The article was carried by leading publications across the world. Modi had said that India's G20 Presidency will also work to promote the universal sense of oneness and will add that India's G20 agenda will be inclusive, ambitious, action-oriented, and decisive.

CS interacts with...

Dr. Mehta enjoined upon the officers to involve common masses into the MTMP activities and hold events of such nature which create interest and enthusiasm among the public. "People first" is basic policy of J&K Government and we must serve people as per their needs," Dr. Mehta observed. While interacting with visiting officer Udhampur district (Principal Secretary, School Education Department), Alok Kumar, the Chief Secretary asked him to involve the local public as well as municipal council representatives for the completion of prestigious Devika project. He further asked him to take action against officers as well as contractors who are hampering the progress of the project. Similarly, interacting with visiting officer for Jammu district Shaheen Kabra, Principal Secretary, Jal Shakti Department, the Chief Secretary asked him to keep complete tab on all the ongoing works in the district so that the Jammu city is made one of the cleanest and vibrant cities of the country. The Chief Secretary also highlighted that Jammu city has lot of potential as tourist destination and we must channelize our resources to make it one of the finest attractions in the country.

The Chief Secretary further asked the visiting officers of Jammu district to involve all wards of Jammu Municipal Corporation into the celebrating officers of Kthour, Bishnah, Bhaderwah, Bhakshi Nagar, Bari Brahmana, and other municipal wards and councils of Jammu division.

Likewise, interacting with visiting officer Ramban district (Commissioner Secretary, Forest, Ecology and Environment), Sanjeev Verma, the Chief Secretary impressed upon the officer to involve local and other public representatives for developing Ramban as a tourist place owing to its significance due to NH-44. He asked the officers to make it such an attraction that people stay there purposefully.

Dr. Mehta while delving on different aspects of MTMP, impressed upon the officers to saturate the different beneficiary oriented schemes among the public besides young generation should be made aware about different self-employment schemes like Mumkin, Tejaswani, among others. Highlighting that digitisation of services is vital for better public service delivery, Dr. Mehta impressed upon the officers that people should make use of online services. He underlined that any service offered through offline mode is a source of corruption and therefore we should sensitize public about using only online mode for receiving benefits of government schemes. During the interaction, the Chief Secretary also held deliberations with the officers of Kthour, Bishnah, Bhaderwah, Bhakshi Nagar, Bari Brahmana, and other municipal wards and councils of Jammu division.

Around 43 pc...

5624 males and 5100 females exercised their franchise. 141 Migrant votes were also cast at Special Polling Stations for Kashmiri Migrants set up at GMS Jagti, GGHs Patta Bohri and GMS Model Higher Secondary school Udhampur. Similarly in Hajin-A, 53.33% voting was recorded in 57 polling Stations, 9689 electors out of the total 18310 cast their votes. 4717 males out of 8565 and 3862 females out of 7748 cast their votes. The voting started at 7 am and concluded at 2 pm. "The polling passed off peacefully with people across the age groups participating," the spokesman said. Counting for both the constituencies would be held on December 8. The DDC elections in these two seats were in December 2020. However, the counting of votes was withheld in Hajin-A and Drugmulla seats after the State Election Commission responded to a complaint that two women candidates contesting polls were Pakistan-occupied Kashmiri (POK) residents who had married two former militants. They had returned to Kashmir from POK under the government's rehabilitation policy for surrendered militants in 2010.

India is in...

A three-member fact-finding delegation comprising Rahul Kaul, Amit Raina and Vithal Chodwary was nominated by front-line Kashmiri Pandit organisations like Panun Kashmir, Roots in Kashmir and Youth 4 Panun Kashmir. The brief of the mission is to visit the camps of PM Package employees in the Valley, employees serving and families living in the Valley and PM Package employees pro-

testing in Jammu. The report in its conclusion said that internally displaced Hindus of Kashmir are caught up between the forces that continue to perpetrate genocide on them and the forces of denial of the genocide. It also said that the PM Package, which is primarily an economic and survival package, has been deliberately tweaked to make it look like a rehabilitation package. This package with its draconian and almost bonded labour conditions, is an exploitation of the vulnerabilities of a community facing genocide. "Political parties, including the leaders responsible for Ghazwa-e-Hind being enacted in the Valley continue to enjoy patronage of the state. The prime example being the facilities and security being provided to political leaders like Mehbooba Mufti, Farooq Abdullah, Omar Abdullah, Sajad Lone, Altaf Bukhari, among many others," it said. It also said that almost zero conviction and the reluctance of the judiciary and executive to punish the perpetrators of these horrendous crimes further emboldens the jihadi elements in the Valley. "The policies on the return and rehabilitation of internally displaced Hindus of Kashmir pursued by successive governments in the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir as well as in the Centre have been the most brazen expressions of denial of genocide. These policies have actually been attempts to enter into a deal with the Muslim separatist fundamentalist class in Kashmir responsible for genocide of Hindus in Kashmir. Such policies seek to hand over the victims of genocide to a Muslim fundamentalist order that allowed genocide to happen," said conclusion of the report.

The denial of genocide of Hindus in Kashmir is not only being distracting to Hindus of Kashmir but has also led to the erasure of Jihadi rest of India. Expansion of Jihadi ideologies is taking place along the length and breadth of India. Demographic assaults are happening in numerous places across India, the report added. The report has recommended that PM package employees may be relocated outside the Valley or deployed/attached in the Relief Commissioners' Office, Jammu, in order to avoid further genocidal/target killings of Hindus in the Valley. It also recommended that a Genocide Bill should be enacted immediately. "The Prevention of Kashmir Genocide and Atrocities Bill as proposed and submitted by Panun Kashmir to the Government of India is a reference while enacting the Genocide Bill," it recommended.

At minus...

snowfall during December 09 and 10. The MtT had said that as per the forecast, there is a possibility of light snow over plains and lower reaches, light to moderate snow over middle and higher reaches during 9th December (evening) to 10th December (evening) particularly over north, northwestern, central parts of Kashmir & South Kashmir—(KNO)

Mayor JMC...

program for urban population which aims to deliver public services at doorsteps of residents, garner cooperation and participation of people in development and evolve a strong and vibrant local self-governance. He said that there was a need for smart and sustainable solutions to urban challenges. "With active participation of the public, we can transform cities into vibrant urban economic centres," He added. The artists from Information Department and JKAACL presented a spectacular cultural program showcasing the vibrant Dogra Culture through the traditional Dogri folk dance and music, including Haran and Jaganara. Meanwhile, multifarious activities, including awareness cum training programmes, plantation drives, special sanitation drives, distribution of land passbooks and other certificates, awareness regarding govt. schemes etc were held across all the Municipal areas of Jammu district. The Government departments including Revenue, Health, Education, Agriculture, Horticulture, C-DYTE, Handicrafts, Tourism, Culture, Ayushman Bharat, Social Welfare, SBI Bank, Employment, Industries, Cooperatives, Tourism etc established stalls to sensitize people regarding their respective schemes. The MTMP was also held at Town Hall, Convention Centre, FWD Guest House Gandhi Nagar, Engineering Institute, Jhanna and Auditorium of Polytechnic Shiv Nagar in Jammu district. Besides, the MTMP was also held at Akhnora, Arniya, Jourian, Gho Manhasan, R.S Pura, Bishnah and Khour.

Charity welcome...

to the law. He was asked by the Bench to mention that matter before the CJL. The Supreme Court asked the Centre to file a detailed affidavit after collecting information from the State governments on anti-conversion laws and posts the matter for further hearing on December 12. The petitioner, Upadhyay, claimed that fraudulent and deceitful religious conversion is rampant across the country. Upadhyay seeks direction to the Law Commission of India to prepare a report and a bill to control religious conversion by intimidation, threatening, and deceitfully luring through gifts and monetary benefits. On the previous hearing, the Centre was directed to file its response by the 12th. Upadhyay has said in his petition filed through Advocate Ashwini Kumar Dubey that "There is not even on district which is free of religious conversion by 'hook and crook and the carrot and the stick'. Incidents are reported every week throughout the country where conversion is done by intimidating, threatening, deceitfully luring through gifts/monetary benefits and also using black magic, superstition, miracles but Centre has not taken stringent steps to stop this menace." The state of Gujarat has filed an affidavit in the case stating that the right to freedom of religion does not include a fundamental right to convert other people to a particular religion.

Farooq Abdullah...

polls again during a provincial meeting of the party, held

recently in Srinagar. The decision was appreciated and welcomed by all the participants, they said—(KNO)

BSF targets Pak...

In shooting Pakistani drones in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir. Seventeen drones were shot down this year as compared to only one last year. Official data revealed that the BSF seized 26,469.943 kg of drugs till October 31 this year, which includes 518.272 kg from the Western Front and 25,951.671 kg from the Eastern Front.

The last one month, the BSF recovered about 45 kg of heroin and many weapons from the international border of Punjab. The cost of heroin has been estimated around Rs 300 crore. BSF DG Pankaj Kumar Singh said that nowadays big and heavy drones are being used from Pakistan which are easy to shoot down.

Huge increase in cases of drone intrusion in 2022

Data shows that in 2022, cases of drone infiltration by Pakistan have increased more than double as compared to previous years. According to the information, 79 drones were seen in 2020, 109 in 2021, which has increased to more than 266 in 2022. More than 215 cases of drone infiltration have been reported at the Punjab border and about 22 cases have been seen in Jammu so far, the sources said.

A chip in drone could expose Pakistan

The BSF DG said that information about the drones is being collected through better technology. Questions like where the drone comes from, when and where it is planned to land are now ascertained by the BSF's intelligence and through its own system. He said that secretive information is revealed by the chip in the drone. With the help of which, eight people involved in drug smuggling were caught in Punjab. Six of these had been convicted earlier under the NDPS Act. Border surveillance work is being carried out by the security force with the help of equipment prepared at low cost and indigenous technology.

Border monitoring with anti-drone system and 5,500 cameras

BSF has installed anti-drone systems along the India-Pakistan border to prevent drone infiltration. This helps in intelligence and monitoring of the drones. According to the data, Rs 30 crore is being spent by BSF this year to further strengthen the borders, along with 5,500 additional cameras being installed to monitor border infiltration and drone activities. Singh said that Indian drones are also being used on a large scale to further strengthen day-night patrolling. At the same time, the help of state police is being taken to stop smuggling.

Drug money used in terrorism, youth becoming victims

According to sources, Pakistan has been using drugs to help terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab, to supply arms and drugs in large quantities across the border, as well as supplying drugs in large quantities. Drugs dropped through these drones are being sold to the youth and the money received in return is used for terrorist activities. Pakistan, in this way is not only promoting terrorism with drugs, but is ruining the coming generation, the sources added.

Manjakote Road Mishap: DC Rajouri meets injured at GMC&AH; Assures every possible support to victims

JI NEWS SERVICE

RAJOURI, DECEMBER 05: Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal today visited Government Medical College Rajouri, to inquire about the condition of the persons injured in a bus accident at Nyaka Panjgrain of Tehsil Manjakote.

Amarjit Singh, Principal GMC; Mohd Arief, President MC Rajouri; Dr. Mehmood Bajar, MS DH; Mohd Rafi, AD Planning; and other officers also accompanied the DC during his visit. As per Tehsildar Manjakote at least 20 persons were injured after a bus in which they were traveling turned turtle at Paryali, in Nyaka Panjgrain of Tehsil Manjakote. "Of the 20 injured, 16 were referred to GMC Rajouri for specialised treatment, while four were treated at Army Hospital Manjakote," he added. Interacting with the injured, the Deputy Commissioner asked about their well being and instructed the



medical team to provide best possible treatment for early recovery of the injured persons. In addition, he promised that the district administration would provide the injured and their families with all the help necessary during these trying times.

To expeditiously pay the compensation to the accident victims, the Assistant Regional Transport Officer was instructed to process the cases under the Jammu and Kashmir Road Accident Victims Fund and submit the same at the earliest.

BJP OBC Morcha Organised Cleanliness drive at Swankha Temple, Samba

JI NEWS SERVICE

On the directions of Brahm Jyot Satti, President BJP OBC Morcha Jammu Kashmir; BJP OBC Morcha is organising Social Programs and Serving Humanity across Jammu Kashmir.

Today BJP OBC Morcha Samba Unit organised cleanliness drive at Swankha Temple, Samba. Program was organised by Madan Verma (District President BJP OBC Morcha, Samba).

Bishan Verma (General Secretary BJP OBC morcha District Samba), Sachin Mehra (General Secretary BJP OBC morcha District Samba), Chuni Lal Tarkhan, Parveen Dogra Yogi (Booth President),



Panch Bawa Ditta Yogi were present on the occasion.

In the program they clean garbage dump, wells thoroughly from inside and outside by broom and other tools and cut wild grass from there. They also make people aware about sanitation.

They also cleaned Hand Pumps and public Taps

and their adjoining areas. Speaking on the occasion Brahm Jyot appreciated BJP OBC Morcha whole Samba team for conducting commendable tasks across Samba.

He said Swankha Temple in Samba is religious place of Baba Surgal Dev ji and thousands of devotees comes to this Temple for their religious practices

and beliefs.

He said Swachh Bharat Abhiyan is Prime Minister Narendra Modi's pet project aimed at enhancing the level of sanitation in India and make the country open defecation free.

Keeping India clean, beautiful and sustainable is an investment in well being and prosperity of our generation & the future.

He said the sanitation and Plantation drive of BJP has brought a major change in public behavior, and raised sanitation greenery level across country.

He said BJP OBC Morcha stands with every citizen of Jammu Kashmir and working for all segments and will continue to serve humanity in future also.

My Town My pride begins in all four ULBs in Kulgam

Commissioner Secretary Revenue assesses issues of people at Kulgam
Visiting Officers takes stock of public issues; reviews development scenario

JI NEWS SERVICE

KULGAM, DECEMBER 05: Ambitious programme launched by the government 'My Town My Pride' began here today in all four Urban Local Bodies (Municipal Council and Municipal Committees) in Kulgam district.

On first day of the programme, the Visiting Officers listened to issues and concerns of the people besides taking stock of development scenario in these areas. Commissioner Secretary Revenue, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, who is the Visiting Officer for Municipal Council Kulgam visited Kulgam where he interacted with the people to listen to their issues for redressal.

He was accompanied by Deputy Commissioner, Kulgam, Dr. Bilal-Mohi-Ud-Din-Bhat, SSP, Dr. G V Sandeep, Municipal Council, Kulgam, Muneeb Ahmad and other Councilors and officers.

He also inspected stalls installed by

different departments to aware people about their schemes and programmes. Registration counters were also setup to provide on spot registration facilities to the beneficiaries here at Rest house Chawalgalam Kulgam.

Later, Commissioner Secretary distributed sanction letters, golden cards, domicile certificates among the beneficiaries besides giving away landpass books to the land owners. Besides, the beneficiaries were also provided advance mobilization payment under PMAY-U.

Earlier, a plantation drive was kick started by planting a sapling of Conifer at Rest house Kulgam.

On the occasion, colourful and mesmerizing cultural programmes were also presented by the professionals groups and schools students.

Meanwhile, in Municipal areas of Devsar, Frisal and Yaripora the Visiting Officer Sheikh Fayaz Ahmad,

Commissioner Secretary Floriculture, Parks and Gardens, visiting officer to Yaripora, Mufti M Farid Ud Din, Secretary Royal Spring Golf Course, Visiting Officer to Frisal, Mohammad Ahsan Mir, Director Command area Development Kashmir, Visiting Officer to Devsar listened to issues of people in these areas.

They also took stock of developmental scenario in these areas.

In these Municipal Committees, awareness sessions regarding government schemes, sanitation drives, plantation drives, distribution of Land pass books and other activities were carried out.

Meanwhile, registration documents were set up by the departments at the designated venues where people were apprised of government schemes and beneficiaries were also registered on spot. The visiting officers also took rounds of these stalls and counters.

DC Samba directs for reinforced measures to curb drug trafficking

JI NEWS SERVICE

SAMBA, DECEMBER 05: Deputy Commissioner, Anuradha Gupta today directed the stakeholder departments for reinforced measures to curb drug trafficking. She was chairing the NCORD meeting here in the Conference Hall of the DC office.

The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner, Rakesh Dubey; Additional SP, Surinder Choudhary; ACR, SDMs

Vijaypur & Ghagwal, Commandants from BSF, Tehsildars, SHOs, heads of Degree colleges, besides other members of NCORD.

It was also informed that the district police have booked 25 notorious drug peddlers under PSA to tighten the noose around the perpetrators of Drug Trafficking.

The Deputy Commissioner discussed key issues related to the menace of drug addiction, areas of concern, age

group of addicts, and hot spots of drug peddling, while laying stress on taking concrete measures to curb and prevent the cultivation of illicit poppy and cannabis in the District.

All the line Departments, particularly the members of the NCORD, which was constituted by the Government, were directed to reinforce the steps at different levels to combat drug trafficking and ensure better coordination among the departments.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, MECHANICAL DIVISION (MED), DODA.

GIST OF e-TENDER NOTICE No.MDKD/TS/2022-23/45& 46

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of UT of J&K, e-tenders are invited from the reputed Workshop Holders/Firms/Contractors for the below mentioned job:-

S. No.	Name of Work	Cost of Tender Document	Due Date	Earnest Money (In Rs.)	Time of Completion	Tender Receiving Authority	Eligibility criteria
1.	Repairs/maintenance to Moveable DG Arc welding set, Himalaya	Rs. 200/-	12.12.2022	1,500/-	10 days	Executive Engineer, Mechanical Division, Doda	i) Registered firms/Contractors.. ii) Experience certificate in the relevant field
2	Providing of printed departmental Stationery as per sample	Rs. 200/-	12.12.2022	500/-	10 days		

For details of work, terms and conditions and any other clarifications, kindly contact the Office of the undersigned on any working day up to 12.12.2022.

SD/-
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
MECHANICAL DIVISION (MED),
DODA.

DIP/J-12558/22

NDPI Chief says successive govt's failed people of J&K

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, DEC 05: Successive governments that remained in office in Jammu and Kashmir have failed the people of the region, National Democratic Party Indian (NDPI) J&K UT president Rajesh Gupta said on Monday. Successive governments that remained in office in Jammu and Kashmir have failed the people of the region, NDPI leader said on Monday. NDPI Chief, said all the sectors in Jammu and Kashmir including healthcare and education are in the "worst state" and a glaring example of the failure of the previous governments. "Jammu and Kashmir is the

crown of the entire country but the poor condition of different sectors is a cause of concern and shows that political parties and the successive governments that remained in office have failed the people of the region," Gupta said addressing a party workers meeting in Jammu. He claimed that there is not even a single government hospital in Jammu and Kashmir that can compete with the private healthcare sector and that the condition of primary as well as secondary health institutions in rural areas is on God's mercy. The NDPI leader said the education sector in Jammu and Kashmir is yet another

example of the alleged failure of successive governments. "The government education institutions are in the worst state and students are not even having proper seating facilities leaving aside water, electricity, and hygiene," he alleged. Due to this, the private education sector is flourishing day by day and the hefty fee collected from parents is burdening the lives of people, Gupta added. After 75 years of the country's Independence, he said the NDPI has become the only platform that will "turn dreams into realities as there is no place for hollow slogans".

One Day Sensitization Programme on Senior citizens Act organized in Samba

JI NEWS SERVICE

SAMBA, DECEMBER 05: National Institute of Social Defence, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Govt. of India and Anugraha Regional Resource and Training Centre on Ageing, in collaboration with J&K Legal Services Authority and District Legal Services Authority Samba on Monday organised a one day Sensitization Cum Awareness Program on the effective implementation of "The Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007." Sonia Gupta, Chairman District Legal Services Authority Samba (also Pr. District and Sessions Judge Samba) was the chief guest and Anuradha Gupta, Deputy Commissioner Samba and Abhishek Mahajan, Senior Superintendent of Police Samba were the guests of honor. Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Guest stressed upon the participating police functionaries and students from the Dogra Law College Samba and other senior citizens as to how the long cherished traditions with respect to the respect and the value of senior citizens are degrading day by day and how this

Act of 2007 is effective in immediate redressal of the grievances of the elderly people and how the different stakeholders can contribute with respect to issues and challenges being faced by the Deputy Commissioner Samba, in her address, apprised the participants about the prevalent schemes which exist for the welfare of the senior citizens and how the senior citizens of District Samba can come forward and take the benefits of the same. The Senior Superintendent of Police Samba assured the people to provide every possible help to the people of District Samba whenever they will approach his office. Durga Dass, Retd. Joint Registrar, High court of J&K and also one of the senior citizens thanked the efforts made by Deputy Commissioner Samba for the welfare of Senior Citizens and requested her to take more steps for the betterment of the people of District Samba. Rekha Kapoor Nischal, Secretary District Legal Services Authority Samba, in her welcome address gave an overview of the program and vote of thanks was presented by Poonam Gupta, Ld. Munsiff Samba. The inaugural session

was followed by four technical sessions. Poonam Gupta, Ld. Munsiff Samba was the resource person in the first session, Versha Anthal, Panel Advocate, District Legal Services Authority Samba was the resource person in the second session, Priyanka Gupta Legal Cum Probationary Officer, Mission Vatsalya, District Child Protection Unit Samba was the resource person in the third session and Davinder Attri, Community Health Officer Samba was the resource person in the final session and all the sessions were chaired by Rekha Kapoor Nischal, Secretary District Legal Services Authority Samba. The inaugural session was attended by Addl. SP Samba, Surinder Choudhary, District Social Welfare officer Samba, Deep Kumar police functionaries, senior citizens, Faculty Members and Senior students from Dogra Law College, representatives from Department of Health, Department of Social Welfare, Panel Advocates and PLVs of DLSA Samba. While speaking on the occasion in the first session, the resource person deliberated upon the historical background.

(Union Territory of J&K) Office of the Sub-Divisional Magistrate Katra Cum Secretary (Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Katra)

Ph/Fax:- 01991232011

E.mail id:- sdmkatra1@gmail.com

Notice

Subject:-De-registration/Cancellation of registration of Pony/Pithoo/Palki wallas-reg.

On the directions of Hon'ble NGT and the requirement of service providers on track for smooth yatra affairs, it has been observed that many service providers are registered but have provided less than 30 days of service on the SMVD track, since registration which clearly portray that these service providers are not depend on service for which they are registered.

Keeping this in view, unanimous decision was taken to de-registration/cancellation of registered service providers those have filed for less than 30 days on track since registration.

Further, any aggrieved is requested to visit the office with appropriate reason within 10 days otherwise registration shall be cancelled after 10 days after issuance of this notice.

No:-SDM/K/2022-23/1765-68

Dated 30.11.2022

DIP/J-12523/22

SD/-
SECRETARY (SPCA)
SUB DIVISION MAGISTRATE,
KATRA

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

“Don't Dream to be something but Rather dream to do Something great” - PM Narendra Modi

JINDRAH IMAGES

KPs living in constant fear

The minorities in Kashmir Valley continue to live under the constant fear of terror and the recent letter containing open threat to Kashmiri Pandit employees serving under Prime Minister package further deepened their worries. Infact, the displacement of over three lakhs Kashmiri Pandits (KPs) from Kashmir Valley in early 1990s was a big blot on humanity. What was more distressing were the painful sufferings of these people living in exile in different parts of the country as they continued to yearn for their dignified return to their native homes despite threats to their lives. The recent targeted killings only rubbed salt on their wounds. Now, the fresh diktats of terrorists to the 6,000 Prime Minister package employees by preparing their hit list has created a sense of deep fear and uncertainty. Lashkar e-Toiba affiliate terror group The Resistance Force (TRF) operating in Kashmir which has issued an open threat to Kashmiri Hindus appointed under package has created fear psychosis among these employees who had been agitating for the last several months seeking their permanent transfer to Jammu or other safer places. The TRF has issued a threat letter to 57 PM Package employees of the Education Department from Srinagar district. The threat letter has generated a fear psychosis among the package employees in particular and Kashmiri Hindus in general and they have sought a probe into the matter as to how the names of the information of the employees working under PM package in Education Department with their names and place of posting was leaked to a hardcore militant outfit. What is of serious concern is as to how official documents relating to their candidature and postings reached the militant organization who issued a warning letter to the employees. If Kashmiri Pandits are to be believed the TRF has made those Hindu employees their target who have been provided accommodation in the Valley and it circulated the names of 57 package employees. The employees who have been provided accommodation under the PM package are their target. Shockingly the names of the employees have been leaked to the terror outfit and there is every apprehension that insiders in the department are in league with the terrorist groups who have leaked information to them. The matter needs a thorough probe into deliberate leak of a list containing the names of PM package employees. The list was circulated on social media after being published by a blog linked to a terror outfit. The government, without any mercy, should identify sympathizers of terrorists in the system and bring them to justice. Moreover, demand of package employees that they be shifted to safer places has been vindicated with this threat letter which indicates that Pandits are not safe in Kashmir under prevailing circumstances. The UT administration should revisit its Kashmir policy regarding weeding out of terrorism and rehabilitation of displaced Hindus. The dignified rehabilitation and return of KPs to Kashmir is totally a humanitarian issue and it needs to be looked into the prism of humanity only.

Israel has built ties with India, its states too

Israel helped India during the Kargil war in 1999 when the latter could not get weapon-locating radars to detect Pakistani guns across the border that were pummelling the Indian side. Israel also plunged into dialogues and actions in state capitals, tempting Chief Ministers with its strengths in irrigation and startups.

K. P. Navar

INTERVENTION by Israel's Ambassador to India Naor Gilon in the controversy triggered by his compatriot Nadav Lapid, who was the head of the International Competition Jury at the 53rd International Film Festival of India, has once again underscored the exceptionalism in India-Israel relations.

It is inconceivable that a US ambassador in New Delhi — if there was an incumbent — would apologise for anything any US citizen said in reasonable exercise of his freedom of speech as Lapid did about the film, *The Kashmir Files*. For the record, the US has had no Ambassador to India during the tenure of President Joe Biden. It is equally inconceivable that Russia's Ambassador to New Delhi or the United Kingdom's High Commissioner to India would apologise for what their fellow national said in the discharge of an important duty for which that citizen of theirs had been invited to this country in an official capacity or in any other role.

Some editorials have criticised Gilon for his foray, which was described as “uncalled for”, but that only reinforces the exceptional nature of India's links with Israel since the founding of the Jewish state. At the second United Nations General Assembly from September to November 1947, India voted against Resolution 181, which midwifed Israel's birth as a nation, but not before Sardar KM Panikkar, delegate to that session, said Jews had a case for a homeland. The domestic Muslim factor decided India's “nay” vote on the history-making resolution.

Subsequent correspondence by Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister, to his interlocutors within the country gave expression to Nehru's fears that the more vocal Arab countries on Palestine could collectively blackmail India into treating Israel as a diplomatic untouchable. Nehru genuinely feared that this would undermine India's strategic autonomy, which he considered sacrosanct. Yet, the same domestic compulsions, which forced India to vote against the 1947 resolution on the “Future government of Palestine”, which passed with well over the mandatory two-thirds support in the General Assembly, prevented Nehru from exercising his better judgment.

It was not until PV Narasimha Rao became Prime Minister in 1991 that a committed effort was made to change India's policy towards Israel. That effort was exceptional for its diplomatic dare, the full story of which is yet to see the light of day. Then Foreign Secretary JN Dixit, instructed by Rao to work out a fundamental shift in India's West Asia policy, began the exercise with an unconventional decision to keep his ministry's West Asia and North Africa division, which covered Israel, completely out of the loop on his intentions. He feared that this division, staffed by diplomats whose orientation was generally pro-



Palestine, would leak Rao's plan. So, he asked a trusted aide, KC Singh, to prepare a working paper on establishing full diplomatic relations with Israel. Singh was then Joint Secretary in charge of administration in the Ministry of External Affairs and was far removed from anything to do with the West Asia region. But Dixit could trust him on this emerging, highly sensitive scenario.

Dixit told Rao that he could test the waters by voting in the UN General Assembly in favour of an upcoming resolution on December 17, 1991, revoking the world body's position, since 1975, that “Zionism is a form of racism and racial discrimination.” Once again, Rao had to resort to subterfuge: the Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs (CCPA) was made up of die-hard minority appeasers, who fortunately had little clue of foreign policy. Some of these Congress heavyweights were also Rao-baiters who thought one of them had a better claim to succeed Rajiv Gandhi after his assassination. Besides, Rao was heading a minority government that was perceived as weak and unstable.

Towards the end of a CCPA meeting, Rao murmured typically to his Cabinet colleagues that a resolution on racism was coming up at the UN and he had instructed “our people” in New York to vote for the resolution. By the time Arjun Singh, who was Rao's nemesis and pretender to the top job, realised what was happening, the vote was over. The minutes of the fateful CCPA meeting, dictated by Dixit, categorically spell out that the committee had resolved to vote for repealing the 1975 document, which was not entirely true.

Although India and Israel had no embassies in each other's capital, the Jewish state had all along been the object of exceptional affection and admiration among the people of this country, barring the minority. No country other than the Soviet Union has been the object of such popular adula-

tion among Indians. So, Rao found it easier than anyone thought to move to the next stage; in January 1992, India established full diplomatic relations with Israel. But Rao did not do much beyond setting up an embassy in Tel Aviv and facilitating reciprocal representation.

Coalition compulsions prevented even the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government from expanding the scope of engagement with Israel. A turning point came during the Kargil war in 1999, when India could not get weapon-locating radars to locate Pakistani guns across the border that were pummelling the Indian side. At that time, Israel alone offered to meet India's critical need for these radars. They airlifted these radars directly to Srinagar, which was another example of exceptionalism in meeting India's defence needs. The secret airlift — which subsequently became known — brought about a turnaround in the situation on the Kargil front.

Over the years, there have been other such examples that made Israel the top defence supplier to India at one point.

Another example of Israeli exceptionalism in engaging India was the former's wide-ranging outreach to Indian states. Even big powers engaged states through their consulates, with occasional trips by their ambassadors to state capitals and an odd ministerial visit from their headquarters. Not so with Israel, which plunged into dialogues and actions in state capitals, tempting Chief Ministers with Israel's strengths in irrigation, startups and state-of-the-art technology. Even Samajwadi Party founder Mulayam Singh Yadav, whose vote bank was the minority community, fell to Israel's offers of engagement that could not be resisted. The controversy over The Kashmir Files will, therefore, pass with or without Gilon's intervention. India-Israel relations have become multifaceted and strong enough to withstand storms in teacups.

Pitfalls in Haryana's MBBS bond scheme

SOHAM D BHADURI

THE Haryana Government's new bond policy for MBBS students, promulgated in early November, has caused a commotion. Originally, it posited a bond amount of Rs 40 lakh, constituted in a tripartite arrangement involving the state, the student and the bank, and a compulsory government service period of seven years after graduation.

On November 30, following protests, the state made some revisions, bringing down the amount and service period to Rs 30 lakh and five years, respectively, while factoring in postgraduate residency within the service period and offering a contractual job guarantee within a year of graduation.

Alongside, the Union Government is reportedly contemplating to scrap bonded service policies altogether, following the recommendations of the National Medical Commission. While confusion and controversy prevail, there is a case for revisiting its underpinnings so as to be able to conceive an effective policy approach towards compulsory service stints.

Compulsory service stints have long existed on the global picture, with the first known programme originating as early as in the early 20th century. Their putative aim is to incentivise students who have availed the government-sub-

sidised medical education to serve for a pre-defined period in the public sector, mainly in rural areas, in an act of “giving back to society”. They come in varied shapes and configurations — ranging from service in return for scholarships as in Nepal and Indonesia to rural recruitment, training and placement as in Thailand. What needs to be remembered, however, is that compulsory rural service comprises an act of giving back to society, not necessarily to the government.

On the contrary, Haryana's policy, involving banks and having an untenably long service period, seems to be directed more at indemnifying the state and its cost recovery rather than incentivising public service. This is further exemplified by two other factors: first, the number of applicants has exceeded the announced vacancies in the recent past and the second, the recent Rural Health Statistics (RHS), 2020-21, shows a surplus of rural primary health centre doctors in the state against their requirement. This contradicts the spirit of such measures because irrespective of compulsory public service clause, the state is obliged to invest in medical education given its public good characteristics, and the fact that doctors continue giv-



ing back to society even while in the private sector or abroad.

Besides, such measures conflict with and can negate the positive effects of many recent initiatives taken towards increasing the strength of doctors. Over the last decade, the country has witnessed considerable growth in the number of private and government medical seats and ambitious private-public partnerships in medical education. Further, vernacularisation of medical education to increase its access to marginalised sections has been prominent on our agenda. By dissuading students from pursuing medicine, more so from poorer sections, such

significant medical educational reforms have taken place since their introduction.

This is anything but true. Most of the primeval characteristics of Indian medical education such as training concentrated in tertiary-care hospitals, lack of a strong community-care emphasis, and a predilection for specialisation and sub-specialisation haven't undergone a significant change over the years. Rather, evidence indicates that medical educational costs have increased sharply over the past decade. This, coupled with the advent of public-private partnerships, could stand to exacerbate the tendencies of graduates to sub-specialise and practise resource-intensively in the private sector.

The need of the hour is evidence-based, well-balanced interventions to attract recent graduates into rural areas that are sensitive both to societies' and students' needs and aspirations. On the societal side, it is necessary to ensure that such interventions are cost-effective and don't overly burden the exchequer, since the very motive of these interventions is to recover public investments made in medical education. The answer to this lies in distinguishing between rural recruitment

and retention. While the latter is the desirable end goal, addressing rural-doctor retention over long periods will be cost-intensive, since the rural-urban dichotomy is primarily a development problem. Rather, making periodic, short-term recruitments attractive is easier to tackle and would require fewer tweaks in existing policies. While this will come with a high but predictable attrition, this is an inevitable trade-off.

On the students' side, the ideal mix should consist of a combination of strategic interventions, incentives and disincentives in a rough 50:40:10 ratio. Towards this, inspiration can be drawn from many global and national precedents. For instance, evidence supports the role of rural reservations, rural-based training and improvement in practice conditions, as exemplified by countries such as Thailand.

Chhattisgarh is a stand-out example that used a combination of higher salaries, postgraduate study benefits, and improved living and practice conditions for doctors, coupled with a higher penalty.

Evidence shows that it paid off well for the state, not just in terms of filling vacancies, but also in increasing healthcare utilisation.

When Jacqueline Fernandez called cosmetic surgery 'an unfair advantage': It comes down who can afford it

Jacqueline Fernandez was crowned Miss Universe Sri Lanka in 2006, and represented her country at Miss Universe 2006. In an old video, the actor was seen answering a question related to cosmetic surgery on stage, while she competed in the Miss Sri Lanka beauty pageant, held to select the country's representatives to various international pageants.

In the clip from 2006 that was shared on a fan page, Jacqueline spoke about how cosmetic surgery was an 'unfair advantage' and how it went against the 'concept of beauty pageants'. The actor was seen in a shimmering gown as she spoke on stage dur-



ing the question round of Miss Sri Lanka 2006.

"I do believe cosmetic surgery is an unfair advantage because it goes against the whole concept of beauty pageants, and that is to celebrate the natural beauty of women. And plus, if it comes to cosmetic surgery being encouraged, it will become a matter of who can afford it, opposed to who can't afford the cosmetic surgery. And that is not what beauty pageants are about," Jacqueline said.

Many on social media praised the actor's answer in the throwback video. One Instagram user explained, "I know people are going to comment on how she went on doing surgeries later. But here the question was just about

surgeries for beauty pageants. And she is talking about that only. Understand before trolling." Another one wrote, "No woman, no man should do cosmetic surgery. It teaches the young children that they are not good enough the way that they were born and created."

However, a section of online users said that Jacqueline's 'opinion' on cosmetic surgery appears to have changed since 2006. Some insinuated that the actor herself had undergone plastic surgery. Reacting to her video, a person wrote, "Except now she looks nothing like this." Another comment read, "And all of a sudden she changed her opinion."

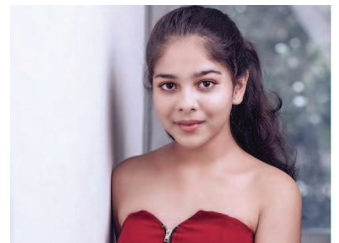
Amber Heard demands new trial against Johnny Depp, files appeal against 'chilling' \$10 million defamation verdict



Less than a month after Johnny Depp appealed against Amber Heard being awarded \$2 million in their high-profile defamation case, Amber's lawyers have now reportedly filed a new 68-page appeal against him, claiming that the verdict will have 'chilling effect' on women who are trying to speak up against abuse by powerful men. Amber had filed her appeal last month in a Virginia court in the US, and argued that the exclusion of some of her therapy notes, in which she reported being abused by Johnny, resulted in an unfair trial, as per a new report.

"The trial court erroneously refused to dismiss this action on the ground of forum non conveniens, based on its mistaken conclusion that Depp's claims arose in Virginia because the Washington Post's servers are located here," responded Amber's new lawyers Jay Ward Brown and David L. Axelrod in the November 23 filed document, reported Deadline. Amber Heard's team made objections revolving around Judge Penney Azcarate's decision to not consider certain parts of 'highly probative' evidence, which included detailed notes from therapists that document the allegations of abuse. "This case also should never have gone to trial because another court had already concluded that Depp abused Heard on multiple occasions," the 68-page document stated. "The trial court also erred in overruling Amber Heard's demurrer, in which she argued that the challenged statements are non-actionable expressions of opinion and are not reasonably capable of conveying the alleged defamatory implication," appealed the court document that now seeks to have more than \$10 million verdict against her reversed or tossed out for demanding a new trial.

Niharika Chouksey Says It Was Not Easy For Her Family To Accept Her Profession Being A Girl

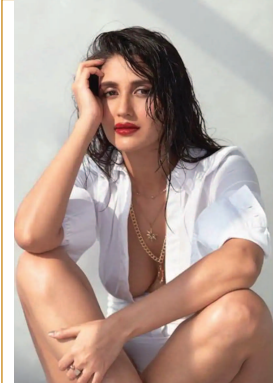


TV actress Niharika Chouksey, who is playing the titular role in the show 'Faltu', said like the lead character, she also faced similar kind of situation in her real life and felt discriminated against by her family members being a girl child.

She shared: "I had a similar experience in a way like Faltu when I told my parents that I want to make my career in acting. They were pretty supportive but my relatives weren't. They were like girls shouldn't be working in this field, this clearly shows their lack of knowledge about this and how discriminative they are." Niharika has been part of films such as 'Jahaan Chaar Yaar' in which she played the character of Swara Bhasker's daughter, and she was also seen in 'Janhit Mein Jaari', playing the sister of Nushratt Bharuchia. Now, she is playing the lead in 'Faltu' which is all about the attitude of people living in rural parts towards girl child and how certain times they end up giving them names like 'Faltu' with a belief that the next child will be a boy. The actress added that she would not have faced those kinds of differences with the family, had she been a boy and expressed desire of becoming an actor.

"They wouldn't have reacted in the same way if my brother wanted to do it, so as we can see we all face this kind of discrimination in our day-to-day lives and we don't even know," she added.

Nikita Dutta On 'Khakee: The Bihar Chapter': Neeraj Pandey Makes Thrillers With No Unnecessary



Actress Nikita Dutta, who has worked in projects like 'Kabir Singh', 'Gold', 'The Big Bull', and horror movie 'Dybbuk', last featured in web series titled 'Khakee: The Bihar Chapter'. The

Netflix show is inspired by the true story of how Bihar's most dangerous criminal was caught, and depicts a tussle between dreaded gang lord and an upright Indian Police Service officer Amit Lodha, played by Karan Tacker. Nikita plays the character of Tanu, the wife of Amit Lodha. Filmmaker-producer Neeraj Pandey, who is known for films such as 'A Wednesday', 'Special 26', 'Baby', 'MS Dhoni: The Untold Story' and others, worked in the show capacity of a show creator.

In a conversation with Outlook, the actress opened up on working with Neeraj Pandey and Karan Tacker, and what made her pick the role. Excerpts from the interview.

'Khakee: The Bihar Chapter' and how has been the feedback so far?

One of the reasons why I had said yes to the role was because of the opportunity to work with the entire setup, Neeraj Pandey making it and the entire ensemble cast. The feedback has been positive, and one of the best things I have heard so far is that the show, despite being set in Bihar, has nothing crass, nothing vulgar. Another one I have got into the frame, because my character was meant to be a reality check to the protagonist, Amit Lodha, played by Karan Tacker. So, we have hit the target that we wanted to.

How was your experience of working in



'IT'S BEEN AN AMAZING YEAR': MRUNAL THAKUR

Actress Mrunal Thakur, who made her Telugu debut opposite Dulquer Salmaan with 'Sita Ramam', shares that she has had quite an amazing year and it will be always special to her. The actress is filled with gratitude.

Mrunal, who started her career with television, has progressed to the silver screen and has delivered films like 'Dhamaka', 'Jersey', 'Bata House' and is currently looking forward to the much-anticipated, 'Pippa'.

Summing up her year, Mrunal said: "I have had an amazing 2022 and this year is always going to be special to me. There are some amazing projects lined up that are coming up

next year. Now I am looking forward to 'Pippa', which makes me so happy being associated with it. It's been a satisfying year for me."

'Pippa' also stars Ishaan Khatter and is based on the Battle of Garibpur that was fought during the India-Pakistan War of 1971.

She further mentioned: "It's just gratitude that I am feeling right now for the love I am receiving. Most importantly, I have grown so much as an actor because of being part of movies which are vastly different from each other."

The actress also has 'Pooja Meri Jaan',

Mrunal Thakur says she's criticised for playing Ishaan Khatter's sister in Pippa: People feel nobody would cast me as...

Mrunal Thakur, who has been backing in the success of her Telugu-Hindi bilingual Sita Ramam with Dulquer Salmaan, is now looking forward to her next project, the war drama Pippa, co-starring Ishaan Khatter. Directed by Raja Krishna Menon, the film features Mrunal as the sister of Brigadier Balam Singh Mehta, played by Ishaan.

The actor revealed she feels that audience is much more

accepting now, and willing to see different kinds of roles onscreen. In an interview, Mrunal spoke about playing Ishaan's sister in Pippa. She also spoke about how her friends have missed out on roles because they were asked to play the lead's sister or wife.

Speaking with Filme Shilpy, Mrunal said, "A lot of people criticised me for saying that hey, you are playing Ishaan's sister [in Pippa]. Nobody, in future, would

cast you as Ishaan's love interest. I want to break that stereotype... I do not worry if people are going to like it or not like it. If they like it great, if they don't like it, they should share their feedback with me so I can implement it the next time I work on the character."

Mrunal further said, "I have met a lot of friends who are actors and they have missed out on important roles because it was a sister's role or a wife's role. I'm

not saying go against your age. I have done that; I have played a mother when I was really young. But again, that's something that the character demands."

Mrunal was seen opposite

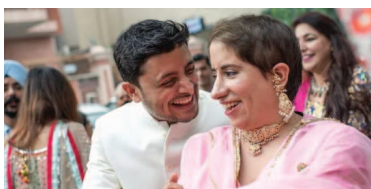
Shahid Kapoor in the Hindi remake of 2019 Telugu film Jersey earlier this year. While the Hindi version had a muted response, her foray into the south industry with Sita Raman has proved to be



Guneet Monga writes about getting married at 39, what her relatives would say: 'Beta shadi nahi ki'

Filmmaker Guneet Monga has shared her love story ahead of her wedding with fiancé Sunny Kapoor on December 12 in Mumbai. She has revealed how she had been looking for her Raj after watching Shah Rukh Khan's Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge and is now finally getting married at 39. She said that she had a doubt if she would ever find 'the real hero' of her film and even cursed her body, intelligence, way of talking, education and even her job

for the same. Her note read: "DDLJ ruined me... Like every girl growing up in the 90s, I too have been on a constant lookout for my Raj ever since I was 18. Anyone I dated, I ran to my friends to tell them this is it, I found my partner for the rest of my life. Some even indulged me a couple of times but mostly rolled their eyes and wanted to say, "Guneet please just take your time". I never wanted to take my time, my magical forever



started from Day 1. I was ready to commit from Day 1!" She went on, "Everyone

would always tell me, at the right time the right person will come into my life, and this irri-

tated me the most! Why on earth has my time not come? Ab toh chaalis saal hogaye (its 40 years already), actually 39 but a round figure sounds better na. And every time an extended family member would ask me, "Beta shaadi nahi ki (you are yet not married)", I would reply, "Koi dhond do, kal karloongi (get one for me, I will get married tomorrow)", and they would have no answer. Just "Beta hum kahan se dhondhein... tum toh film industry mein ho na (how

can we find a match for you, you are from the film industry)". Now that is also my fault. "Honestly, I have cursed my body, my intelligence, my way of talking, my education, my middle-class life and even my job designation to be able to find someone! Wait, did I tell you, I have also tried missing the last Euro train but wahan pe door automatic shut hotay hain (the doors shut automatically there) and no one keeps their hand out to pull you in! Haath kat jayenge

behenon! (your hands will be cut my dear sisters)." She added, "My dear girlfriends, can I tell you, when the time is right and when that person comes into your life, you just know it. When he shows you how much YOU mean to him. That kind of love is everything. Aur phir meri real life ki picture main, mera real hero aagaya! (and then I found my real hero of my film). And while he is sure of me, this time I am in self-doubt."

Eating These 'Psychobiotic' Foods Can Lower Stress and Improve Sleep, New Study Suggests

Irish researchers found that eating prebiotic and fermented foods may improve quality of life.

You might be aware of the fact that there are foods that can ruin your sleep. There are also foods that you should avoid when you're stressed. On the other hand, a new study has found that eating a "psychobiotic diet" may not only lower stress but may also help you get a better night's sleep.

The October 2022 study that was published in *Molecular Psychiatry* involved 45 adults between the ages of 18 and 59 years old who normally consumed a diet that was low in fiber. While all participants met with a registered dietitian for counseling, researchers from APC Microbiome Ireland at the University College Cork also split the participants into two groups who were instructed to eat different diets. The first switched to a diet that followed the food pyramid. The second group was asked to eat a "psychobiotic diet" which includes a large amount of prebiotic and fermented foods. Dr. John Cryan, the lead author of this study, told *Medical News Today* that his research team coined the phrase "microbiota-targeted interventions" to refer to "microbiota-targeted interventions that support mental health."



Foods That Help Or Harm Your Sleep

The second group was specifically instructed to stick to a daily menu that included 2 to 3 servings of fermented foods (such as sauerkraut, kefir, or kombucha), 5 to 8 servings of grains, and 6 to 8 servings of fruits and vegetables that are rich in prebiotic fibers (including apples, bananas, cabbage, leeks, and onions). They

were also asked to eat 3 to 4 servings of legumes each week. The resulting findings showed that while both groups noted an improvement in their sleep, the participants who had been eating a psychobiotic diet also experienced a decrease in the amount and intensity of the stress they may have been under at the time. Beyond that, the level of perceived stress went further down the more closely a participant followed the psychobiotic diet. "The study provides promising benefits of what a psychobiotic diet can do in relation to digestion and stress," Catherine Gervacio, RD, a registered dietitian and contributor at Living Fit, tells *Eat This, Not That!* "Stress affects digestive health and can hinder the efficient absorption of nutrients needed to combat stress and other potential risk associated with it. Further study is needed, but it does give further evidence of how big diet and nutrition is in

managing stress and sleep."

While Gervacio says that "this type of diet still walks through the path of healthy eating and abides by the recommended intake of food," she notes that "people need to know, however, that all diets have to be thoroughly reviewed first if a person can better benefit from it—or there may be other diets that fit their health data and fitness goals."

Gervacio offers an example, pointing out that "a person who does not have a low histamine diet may not benefit from psychobiotic food and can do well with Mediterranean instead." That's why she says that "it is best to talk to an expert before starting a diet." Beyond that, Gervacio adds, "Further studies are yet to be conducted in order to prove that probiotics do contribute significantly to stress and sleep. Until then, everyone should focus on healthy eating, and practice ways to combat stress and sleep."

BUILD UPPER BODY STRENGTH IN JUST 15 MINUTES AND A SET OF DUMBBELLS

This short routine strengthens your whole body, works your core, and burns fat



When you're tight on time, it can be hard to squeeze in an extended gym workout. Fortunately, all this short workout routine requires is a set of dumbbells and 15 minutes to build muscle around your shoulders, arms, and chest. If you're training at home, it's worth picking up a set of the best adjustable dumbbells. These combine several weights in one for easy storage, and you can change the load as you get stronger, in line with the progressive overload technique.

You might be wondering which dumbbell weight should you use at the gym when you've got a selection of fixed-load dumbbells. The aim is to choose a load that'll challenge your muscles without affecting your form. With weights by your side, you're ready to take on fitness YouTube stars.

Tiff x Dan's (opens in new tab) five-move dumbbell workout. To pack a muscle-building session into just 15 minutes, you'll exercise for 40 seconds, take a 20-second rest, then start the next move. It's essential to perfect your form if you want to get the most from your training and avoid injury, a concern when exercising with weights.

Fortunately, you can use Dan's demonstrations to practice your technique before starting. This exercise style is known as high-intensity resistance training (HIIT), where the aim is to work out intensely in short bursts with only minimal rest.

You'll give your muscles a good workout, but there are other benefits.

High-intensity workouts raise your heart rate, which helps burn more energy during the session than a steady-paced routine. Plus, sustaining that high heart rate boosts your metabolism, the amount of energy you burn at rest.

HIIT routines are much like high-intensity interval training (HIIT) workouts but with a focus on strength-building exercises — like the dumbbell rows and swings in Tiff x Dan's routine — rather than cardio-based exercises. Because of the metabolism-boosting effect, many people also use a HIIT workout for fat loss when they're looking to drop pounds. But this 15-minute workout combines muscle-building moves with fat-burning effects. If you like the idea of a time-efficient workout with weights, consider investing in one of the best kettlebells and learn how to do kettlebell swings. This multi-muscle compound exercise works your whole body and boosts your metabolism. James is a London-based journalist and Staff Writer at *Fit&Well*. He has over five years experience in fitness tech, including time spent as the *Buyer's Guide* Editor and Staff Writer at technology publication *MagneUseOf*. In 2014 he was diagnosed with a chronic health condition, which spurred his interest in health, fitness, and lifestyle management.

2 Breakfast Habits That Are Slowing Your Metabolism Over Time, According To A Registered Dietitian

Whether you're dealing with belly rolls, a beer gut, or the middle-aged spread, it's safe to say your midsection situation is cramping your vibe—and putting your health at risk. Excess waistline fat makes squeezing into your favorite pants or shorts quite the chore, and you'd like to shape things up. To get you started, we've put together a bodyweight workout that'll help you lose five inches off your waist with no equipment required.

According to the Mayo Clinic, abdominal fat should not be taken lightly. Whatever your body weight may be, having too much extra fat in your midsection is associated with sleep apnea, high blood pressure, type 2 diabetes and insulin resistance, cardiovascular disease, colorectal cancer, and a greater chance of early mortality. Your age, the number of calories you feed your body every day, and the number of calories you torch can all contribute to your weight and gaining belly fat.

Bodyweight Core Workout With Kathy Jacobs



When it comes to trimming your waistline down by five inches or more, you need to eat a healthy diet, strength train at least two to three times a week, and make sure you're doing enough aerobic work. In addition to cardio and strength training, a pretty

underrated—but stellar—kind of workout you can add to your routine is one that's totally body-based. Bodyweight workouts can be performed basically anywhere and don't call for fancy equipment. So whether you're traveling for the holidays or simply don't

want to leave your house, there's no excuse not to squeeze in a healthy fitness session.

Get ready to build muscle, boost your endurance and strength, and improve your core stability. Here's a great bodyweight workout to lose five inches off your waist or more.

Walking Lunges
Walking Lunges begin by stepping forward with one leg and firmly planting your foot on the floor. Then, lower yourself with control into a lunge until your back knee gently touches the ground. Walk forward with the other leg, and repeat the movement. Perform three to four sets of 12 reps for each leg.

Judo Pushups
Judo Pushups stretch out your core and improve your shoulder mobility. Start the exercise by getting in a pushup position. Drive your hips up to the ceiling, and get a solid stretch in your hamstrings. Swoop down toward the ground, leading with your head by your chest. Right before your body reaches the floor, push yourself back up, flexing your triceps

to finish the motion. Perform three to four sets of eight to 10 reps.

Step-Ups
Step-Ups start with you putting one foot on a bench or sturdy surface, like a plyometric box. Keep your chest tall and core tight by placing your foot on a bench or sturdy surface. Make sure your chest remains tall and your core tight as you lean into the heel of your front leg and push off of it to step up. Flex your quad and glute at the top of the movement, then lower yourself under control before performing another rep. Perform three to four sets of 12 reps for each leg.

Side Plank Leg Raise
Get into a side plank position with your shoulder in line with your wrist and feet stacked. Lift your hips up and forward and brace your core.

Leading with your top leg, raise from the heel up as high as you can, flexing the glute at the end of the movement. Lower the leg under control back to starting position before performing another rep.

Ultra-Processed Foods Linked to Premature, Preventable Deaths, New Study Finds

It's no secret that healthy food is good for you, while unhealthy food can be, well, unhealthy. And although diet is not the only determining factor when it comes to a person's overall health (and health risks), a new study has found that eating a specific type of food can potentially lead to deaths that are both premature and preventable.

The study, which was published in the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, took a look at Brazilian dietary surveys and noted that around 13% to 21% of foods being consumed by participants were ultra-processed foods (UPFs). They also found that out of 541,160 adults between the ages of 30 and 69 who died prematurely in 2019, 261,061 of those deaths were caused by preventable, non-communicable diseases, such as diabetes, heart disease, and cancer. Taking a closer look, the study model found that around 57,000 deaths in Brazil that occurred in 2019 were connected to UPFs. That equaled 10.5% of the total amount of premature deaths. It also made up 21.8%



of deaths of adults between 30 and 69 that were caused by preventable non-communicable diseases. Although the study considered data from Brazil, the team pointed out that the premature, preventable deaths linked to UPFs in countries like the United States as well as Canada, Australia, and the United Kingdom, could be higher, as residents of these countries tend to have diets that include even more UPFs.

"Consumption of UPFs is associated with many disease outcomes, such as obesity, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, some cancers, and other diseases," said lead investigator Eduardo A.F.

Nilson, ScD, of the Center for Epidemiological Research in Nutrition and Health, University of São Paulo, and Oswaldo Cruz Foundation, Brazil, according to *EurekAlert!* "The findings contribute to a mounting body of evidence that ultra-processed foods are contributing to disease and premature deaths in a very similar fashion to tobacco use," Dawn Harris Sherling, MD, FACP, DABOM, Clinical Affiliate Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine at Florida Atlantic University College of Medicine, tells *Eat This, Not That!* "The scariest part of this study as an American, however, is that in

this study done with Brazilian data, it is estimated that only about 20% of their diet was ultra-processed. In the US, studies estimate that nearly 60% of the average diet is ultra-processed. It's not scientifically sound to just triple the estimate for the US population, but it does raise very scary implications for the health of the population here." Fortunately, Sherling, the writer behind *Eat This, Not That!* "We just have to go back to eating minimally processed foods that our grandparents knew how to make (or that they make in places like Italy and Spain today)," Sherling says. Beyond that, "Once we give up the highly processed and fake-flavored stuff and start eating whole foods again, we not only develop healthier habits, but our taste buds get used to eating the real food and we crave that over the ultra-processed junk. We can do this and enjoy real food again!"

4 Yogurt Habits That Jumpstart Weight Loss, Says Dietitian

Making yogurt a daily healthy eating habit is always a good idea. The benefits of this tasty, creamy snack are endless. According to WebMD, yogurt that contains active cultures could give your gut health a nice little boost, helping with constipation and even lactose intolerance. This nutrient-dense treat is also a stellar source of calcium and protein, according to Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. Yogurt is even a great option to grab and enjoy if you're looking to lose weight. So we've rounded up the best yogurt habits for weight loss, according to an expert. Get ready to take your healthy snacking game to the next level.

Eat This, Not That! chatted with Lauren Manaker, MS, RDN, LD, CLEC, an award-winning registered dietitian, book author, and recipe developer who sits on our Medical Expert Board. She explains, "Yogurt can be a fantastic food to include in a weight loss-supporting diet. It contains high-quality protein



and, depending on which one you pick, it can have some satiating fat, too. It is versatile, economical, and delicious. Many yogurts contain live and active cultures, which can help support healthy and diverse gut microbiota. This may, in turn, help support weight loss goals."

Research links yogurt consumption to reduced or improved body weight. A study performed by the University of Tennessee revealed that participants who consumed three servings of fat-free yogurt on a daily basis—within a reduced-calorie diet—dropped 61% more fat and 22% more body weight than individuals who just cut back on calories. The individuals who ate yogurt also experienced a whopping 81% decrease in belly fat

when compared to the calorie-cutting group, according to WebMD.

Now that we've established just how beneficial this snack is to include in your diet, let's talk about how you can up your game with these yogurt habits for weight loss. Keep reading to learn more.

Pair your yogurt with a banana that's slightly underripe.

If you're a banana fan, this one's for you. According to Manaker, a banana that's just a bit underripe is a solid source of prebiotic fiber. (And we all know that bumping up your fiber intake can result in weight loss—science says so!)

"Prebiotics fuel probiotics, including the probiotics that may be found in your yogurt," Manaker explains, adding, "Eating both together

can support a healthy gut microbiota, which may support weight loss efforts." So the next time you grab some yogurt, don't forget the slightly underripe banana to go with it!

Top off your yogurt with a handful of walnuts. Walnuts are chock-full of satiating nutrients, including protein, fiber, and healthy fats. According to Manaker, "Including walnuts in your yogurt dish can help you feel fuller longer, potentially helping you eat less after your yogurt meal and help you lose weight." That sounds like a pretty sweet weight loss deal to us.

Be mindful of your portion size. Okay, we've raved about how healthy and totally awesome yogurt can be for more than one reason, but as with all good things, you don't want to overdo it. Manaker warns that including too much of a high-sugar, high-fat yogurt in one portion can actually be detrimental to your waistline.

Be mindful of portion control when enjoying this tasty snack so you don't hurt your progress.

Family first for NC-PDP, Nation first for BJP: Vibodh



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 05: BJP general secretary and former MLC Vibodh Gupta today said that BJP is party with a difference as it does not believe in vote bank and dynastic politics while referring to the re-appointment of Farooq Abdullah as party president of National Conference at the age of 85. "For BJP nation comes first while for Congress (Gandhi),

NC (Abdullah) and PDP (Mufti) family comes first. These parties used politics for looting people and pulling down India's economy. However the aim of the BJP's 'one India' is to ensure politics without any appeasement or discrimination, he said during a function organized at the party office Rs Pura to facilitate newly appointed District president Sunil Dutt. Vibodh also extended

his best wishes to newly appointed District President Shri Sunil Dutt and asserted that he has always served the party with utmost dedication. Other senior BJP leaders present on the occasion were former Minister and BJP J&K vice president Sham Choudhary, BJP J&K secretary Ayodhya Gupta, Ex district president HS Pummy, Ex MLA and SC Morch J&K BJP president Prof. Garu Ram Bhagat,

Brijeshwar Singh Rana, and Advocate Dev Raj Sharma. Vibodh Gupta along with senior party leaders and outgoing BJP district president HS Pummy gave a rousing welcome to newly appointed district president Sunil Dutt. Speaking on the occasion HS Pummy expressed gratitude towards the party and said, "During my tenure as district president I prioritized strengthening the party at booth level". He also extended his best wishes to Sunil Dutt and praised him for his dedication towards the party. All the senior leaders honored Sunil Dutt and said that under his leadership Rs Pura will touch new heights. Sunil Dutt expressed gratitude towards all senior party leaders for reposing faith in him and committed to work day and night for strengthening the party at the grassroots level.

Mayor Srinagar, Principal Secretary HUDD launches events under 'My Town My Pride 2.0'

Initiative is an opportunity to rejuvenate urban amenities, says Mayor Srinagar
Principal Secretary interacts with corporators, frontline functionaries, NGOs, prominent citizens



JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR DECEMBER 5: Mayor Srinagar, Junaid Azim Mattu and Principal Secretary, Housing and Urban Development, Department, Dheeraaj Gupta, today kick started various events and programs in and around Srinagar city under 'My Town My Pride 2.0' being organized by Srinagar Municipal Corporation at SK Park, Srinagar. Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Aijaz Assad and Commissioner SMC and VC, LCMA, Dr. Bashir Ahmad Bhat were also present during launch of the events. During the programme, Principal Secretary interacted with corporators, frontline government functionaries, members of NGOs and prominent citizens. Dheeraaj Gupta inspected about 30 stalls set up by different departments for on spot delivery of services. He also inaugurated a plantation drive in the park launched by DFO Urban

Forestry and DFO LCMA. Earlier, during the program, Junaid Azim Mattu and Dheeraaj Gupta distributed letters, cheques and certificates among beneficiaries under various schemes. Principal Secretary also visited Ganta Ghar, Polo View, Jhelum Bund ABC/ARV Centre Tengnagor, and Community Centre Batamalo and took detailed stock of the ongoing projects in these areas.

Later, a 'Nukkad Naatak' was organized to spread the public service message and open discussion on 'Nasha Mukta and Bhrastachaar Mukta J&K' was also organized by Department of Youth Services and Sports, J&K. Mayor Srinagar and Principal Secretary also visited Kothbagh Higher Secondary School and took pledge for 'Nasha Mukta Kashmir' along students, teachers.

BJP on its last legs in J&K: Harsh Dev



JI NEWS SERVICE
UDHAMPUR, DEC 05: Peeved over the failure of the govt to meet the power and drinking water requirements of the people of Chenani constituency besides their neglect by the administration over a host of other issues, Mr. Harsh Dev Singh, Former Minister and senior AAP leader said that the present dispensation had left the people of various rural and remote areas at the mercy of God with none to even listen to their tales of woes and sufferings. He said that with the majority of the rural schools facing chronic staff deficiency, the govt had failed to act so as to save the careers of students. And contrarily it had imposed a ten year ban

on recruitment of teachers thereby suggesting that worse was yet to happen with rural education already suffering for the dearth of teaching staff. He said that while the govt was indulging in self praise and incessant chest thumping over its much proclaimed development initiatives, the ground situation was altogether different revealing a complete mismatch between slogans and the physical delivery. He was addressing several public meetings during his tour of Bashed in Chenani and Kuh Nalah in Udhampur East constituency. Addressing various gatherings, Mr. Harsh Dev lambasted the govt for accusing the general masses for power crisis in the

name of power theft. The govt. can't absolve itself from the responsibility of ensuring un-interrupted supply of basic amenities merely by deflecting the blame upon the public at large. And it's not the common man who is involved in power theft, mind you. It's the big, moneyed, powerful and influential people who are using more power by abusing their position and authority and even failing to pay the power tariff. And it's the unholy nexus between unscrupulous officers and corrupt politicians who are involved in theft of power, water and other resources needed by the society", asserted Mr. Singh. Mr. Singh said that the position of water supply was equal-

ly pathetic with the concerned authorities having miserably failed to fulfill even the drinking water requirements of the people. The govt which had assured 24x7 power supply and "Har Ghar Nal" scheme had failed to redeem its lofty promises with all round disenchantment growing rapidly amongst the masses. He said that AAP alone could fulfill the aspirations of the people who felt cheated by the present regime. With BJP on its last legs, the people were eagerly awaiting for the much needed change in the erstwhile state.

Manju Singh senior AAP leader urged upon the people to strengthen AAP in J&K so that the common masses could be assured of Justice and fair deal. She said that the govt had not only failed to provide basic amenities to the people but had posed the most menacing threat to the very survival of poor and marginalized sections of the society through uncontrolled prices of essentials and raging inflation. She said that with unemployment at its peak and development having come to a grinding halt, the BJP govt had lost the moral authority to continue in office.

Airtel and Meta collaborate to accelerate India's digital ecosystem

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 05: Bharti Airtel ("Airtel"), India's premier digital communications solutions provider, and Meta Platforms, Inc. ("Meta") today announced a collaboration to support the growth of India's digital ecosystem. Airtel and Meta will jointly invest in global connectivity infrastructure and CPaaS based next-generation digital solutions to support the emerging requirements of customers and enterprises in India.

As members of the Telecom Infra Project (TIP) Open RAN project group, Airtel and Meta have been pioneers of Open RAN technologies with the shared goal of increasing ecosystem diversity, driving innovation, and cost-efficiency in connectivity networks.

Airtel will integrate Meta's WhatsApp within its CPaaS platform. With this integration, businesses will now be able to use WhatsApp's rich features and reach to provide an unparalleled omnichannel customer engagement to enterprises.

Foundational connectivity infrastructure such as subsea cable systems are crucial for supporting the rising demand for high-speed data and digital services as India prepares to roll out 5G networks later this year. With the constant endeavor to augment the nation's infrastructure, Airtel will partner with Meta and STC to extend 2Africa Pearls to India. 2Africa is the world's longest subsea cable system and is expected to provide faster internet connectivity to almost 3 billion people globally. Airtel and Meta will extend the cable to Airtel's landing station in Mumbai and also pick up dedicated capacity to further strengthen its submarine network portfolio.

Airtel has signed an agreement to help increase operational efficiency of Open RAN and facilitate energy management and automation in radio networks using advanced analytics and AI/ML models. Airtel is currently conducting trials for 4G and 5G Open RAN solutions on select sites in the state of Haryana and will commercially deploy the solution across several locations in India over the next few quarters. Airtel will share its learnings with wider ecosystem partners within the TIP community, including Meta, to help accelerate the deployment of Open RAN based networks across the world.

Vani Venkatesh, CEO - Global Business, Bharti Airtel said: "We, at Airtel, are delighted to deepen our partnership with Meta to serve India's digitally connected economy by leveraging the technology and infrastructure strengths of both companies. With our contributions to the 2Africa cable and Open RAN, we are investing in crucial and progressive connectivity infrastructure which is needed to support the increasing demand for high-speed data in India. We look forward to working closely with Meta to deliver best-in-class digital experiences to our customers in India."

The 2Africa cable will significantly boost India's cable capacity and empower global hyper-scalers and businesses to build new integrated solutions and provide a high-quality seamless experience to customers.

Businesses in India are rapidly shifting to cloud-based solutions to serve their customers digitally. Airtel IQ, the world's first network embedded Communications Platform as a Service (CPaaS) ecosystem, offers cloud communication across voice, messaging and video channels to help enterprises transform their customer engagement and drive profitability by leveraging automation and boosting revenue.

Francisco Varela, vice president of mobile partnerships for Meta said: "Subsea cables and open, disaggregated networks continue to play a huge role in the foundational infrastructure needed to support network capacity and fuel innovation. We look forward to continuing our collaboration with Airtel to further advance the region's connectivity infrastructure that will enable a better network experience for people and businesses across India."

Yudhvir, Nidhi kick-start development of deep drain in Ward 17



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 05: Development in Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory is the top priority of the Prime Minister Modi led government at the Centre which is evident now with the visit of lakhs of tourists this year. This was stated by Yudhvir Sethi, J&K BJP Vice President while inaugurating the development work of a deep drain along with Councillor Advocate Nidhi Mangotra at New Plot area of Jammu city. This development work will be completed with an estimated cost of Rs 32 lakh and was started in presence of Raman Sharma Ambphalla Mandal President, Ishant Mahajan, District President Yuva Morcha, Davinder, Smarty, Rahul, Rocky (Booth President of Ward No 17), Balwan

Singh Ex. Councillor of Ward 17, Yuva Morcha team and prominent people of the area. Addressing the gathering, Yudhvir Sethi said that the Central Government committed to provide world-class amenities to the people of Jammu and in the future, the City of Temples will be among the greenest and cleanest cities of the country. He said that for the last many years, the gates of development have opened for J&K which is evident from the fact that all the centrally sponsored schemes and programmes like Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Jan Dhan Yojana, MUDRA, PM Ujjwala Yojana, Scholarship Schemes for Students, Welfare Schemes for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes are now imple-

mented in J&K. "The BJP government at the Centre has granted adequate funds time to time for the overall development of Jammu so as this mission goes on, without any hindrance, he said and assured that the liberal funding from the Centre will continue in the future," Sethi said. Councillor Advocate Nidhi, in her address, said that the Government is working relentlessly to create state of art modern facilities infrastructure for the people. She asserted that while the government is making every endeavour in transformation of Jammu City, it cannot be accomplished successfully without the proactive participation of the people. The Councillor asked the people of New Plot area to come forward to play a vital role in making Ward 17 a model Ward through their effective and result oriented participation and set an example for the people living in other Wards of the City of Temples. She said that several works are in the pipeline for the uplifting of this ward and welfare of its people. She said that she is working day and night to make her ward a model ward so that other wards look up to it. Later, the Councillor met with people of the area and listened to the grievances of people of the area and assured for their timely redressal.

NYK Rajouri observe International volunteer day at BJSB institute

JI NEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI, DEC 5: International Volunteer Day (IVD) 2022 celebrates the theme of solidarity through volunteering. This campaign highlights the power of our collective humanity to drive positive change through volunteering.



Mohd Arif principal of institute was Chief guest on the occasion. While addressing Arif said International Volunteers Day gives individuals, organisations and communities to promote the contributions made by them at the local, national and international levels. The best way that one can celebrate this day is by contributing or rather volunteering at organisations, government agencies, non-profit

institutions, community groups and academia. Each year hundreds of millions of people volunteer their time and skills to help improve

the lives of others like Blood Donation Clean village etc. This initiative is part of holistic effort to the Indian Army towards women empowerment.

This will encourage women to earn additional income for themselves. During the final closing day large number of society members were present to motivate the trainees.

Army establishes Women Empowerment Node at Dhar Sakri

JI NEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI, DEC 05: Women have always been an important part of society, their contribution to society and nation building has helped in achieving greatest of milestones. Women Empowerment Node has been established and Dress Making classes for women were commenced at village Dhar Sakri. A total of ten women



were trained for duration of 20 days. During the classes

these women were imparted with practical training in tailoring, stitching and sewing technology skills. This initiative is part of holistic effort to the Indian Army towards women empowerment. This will encourage women to earn additional income for themselves. During the final closing day large number of society members were present to motivate the trainees.

'My Town, My Pride' aims to deliver public services at doorsteps: Talat Parvaiz

Visits MC Pulwama, inspects departmental stalls

JI NEWS SERVICE

PULWAMA, DECEMBER 05: Secretary, Hospitality and Protocol, Talat Parvaiz Robellah, today inaugurated "My Town My Pride 2.0" programme in Municipal Committee, Pulwama.

"My Town, My Pride", aims to deliver public services at doorsteps, build developmental initiatives on the feedback, cooperation and participation from people and strengthen strong and vibrant local self-governance," Commissioner maintained.

"It is the responsibility of every officer to ensure integrated development concepts and its execution," he observed.

During the Shihri Jan Abhiyan, Commissioner said that the government is determined to take due care of interests of Youth for which a number of measures have been initiated. He said that "My Town My Pride 2.0" programme is aimed at to improve service delivery and redress the public grievances within the shortest possible time and achieve cent percent saturation of beneficiary oriented schemes. He added that the purpose behind B2V is to strengthen the roots of good governance in J&K and empower the common people in all respects.

He was accompanied by District Development Commissioner Pulwama, Baseer Ul Haq Choudhary, SSP Pulwama, Ghulam Jeelani, ADDC, Pulwama, Dr Sheikh Abdul Aziz besides other district officers.

Commissioner inspected the stalls installed by different departments

and enquired about the benefits being provided by these departments to the general masses under their respective schemes. He enquired about the grievances redressal mechanism being adopted by them to satiate public aspirations.

He interacted with the people and listened to their issues and grievances. Later, he distributed PMAY cheques, Age certificates, Land pass-books, Golden cards, income and domicile certificates besides giving away baby kits to newly born girl children under BBBP. He also distributed hearing aids, UDID cards among the beneficiaries.

On the occasion, school children displayed various sports activities like Cultural programmes, Punjabi songs, Skit regarding sanitation, Ban on polythene etc.

PRIs, social activists, trader unions, central aauq committee Pulwama and local welfare committee members met the visiting officer and raised their demands and issues.

They demanded beautification of the town, management of dumping sites, upkeep of slaughter houses, maintenance of street lights besides beautification of Dhoobi Khul.

Commissioner assured the delegations that the administration is committed to work for decongestion, rejuvenation and beautification of the cities. Together, with active participation of public, we can transform cities into vibrant urban economic centres," commissioner said.

Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Commissioner said that the Shihri Jan

Abhiyan has been organized to spread awareness among the people regarding various government initiatives in place for the welfare of the citizens, assess needs for planned development of urban areas.

He apprised the visiting officer that every effort is being made to ensure delivery of public welfare services and the district administration is committed to ensure 100 percent coverage of eligible genuine beneficiaries.

DC said that inputs of the public under the overall supervision of PRI members and in consultation with the departments will be the basis of formulation of resource mobilization plans.

Pertinently, "My Town My Pride 2.0" programme was held in all five municipalities of the district like MC Khrew with visiting officer, Mohammad Younis Malik, Joint Financial Commissioner Agrarian Reforms, MC Tral with visiting officer Dr Firdous Ahmad Giri, Secretary J&K BOPEE, MC Pampore with visiting officer Purnima Mittal, Director Animal husbandry Kashmir and MC Awantipora with visiting officer Ashiq Hussain Lily where detailed discussion was held with the said Visiting officers by the district officers regarding different development projects. Besides, issues being faced by the common masses of different panchayats were listened to by the Visiting Officers.

A number of grievances were solved on the spot and rest were forwarded to the concerned departments for prompt redressal.

My Town My Pride function held in MC Thannamandi

Visiting Officer inspected different stalls and interacted with people



JI NEWS SERVICE

RAJOURI, DEC 05: My Town My Pride function held in MC Thannamandi where main function was held in BHSS Thannamandi where as the function was organised by MC Thannamandi. In which all the department have presented their stalls

in the function to aware people about the various schemes available for public. On reaching the venue Visiting officer Director School Education Jammu Dr Ravi Shanker Sharma was received by Chairman MC Thannamandi Shakeel Ahmed Mir SDM Thannamandi Vikas Dhar

and Tehsildar Thannamandi Syed Sahil Ali Shah. Director School Education was accompanied by CEO Rajouri Smt Shailesh Kumari, DEPO Rajouri Abdul Rauf Dar, ZEO Thannamandi Iqbal Hussain and EO MC Thannamandi Shafayat Ullah Khan. Director

School Education checked all the stalls properly and also enquired about the different scheme available with them.

During the program Shakeel Ahme Mir Chairman MC Thannamandi briefed him about the various issues of area and area need to be focused on priority.

He also briefed Director School Education about the school, staff position and about lack of Infrastructure in school. He also raised the issues of problems of funds in MC Thannamandi.

During the program visiting officer interacted with people and assured them all their issues will be addressed properly on priority and asked people to take benefit from various schemes of government available for them.

Bureaucracy hell bent to fail LG Sinha's tirade against corruption: Tony

Seeks CBI probe into bribery case of Tehsildar



JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, DEC 05: Chairman of Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Jammu and Kashmir for Adminis-trative Engag-ement and Minority Affairs, and District Development Council (DDC) Member Suchetgarh, Taranjit Singh Tony said that bureaucracy in J&K is hell bent to fail LG Manoj Sinha's tirade against corruption and demanded CBI probe into the bribery case of

Tehsildar Rohit Sharma. The senior AAP leader said that the bureaucracy in J&K is leaving no stone unturned to shield the corrupt officer as there is a chance that a fair investigation in the case can expose the deep rooted nexus of the bureaucratic lobby in the state.

He said that the independent witnesses in the aforesaid case are being threatened to become hostile to ensure safe passage

for the accused Tehsildar. The case is not being contested with heart and spirit it because had the government counsel would have shown grit, there was no chance for bail to Tehsildar Rohit. He said that the sequence of events in the aforesaid case are indicative of big sharks sitting inside Secretariat to save Rohit Sharma with a scare of being exposed and caught.

Tony said that only CBI

probe can uncover the entire gamut which has been ruining the administrative set-up in J&K with LG Sinha himself becoming vulnerable to this strong nexus of Babus ruling the roost.

Tony was addressing a meeting in Ward No. 56 in Gangyal in RS Pura South constituency, where he had gone to listen to the problems of people.

The senior AAP leader said that the development in J&K is only on paper because the dilapidated road in the area is speaking loud and clear that the people in the locality are still reeling under severe dearth of civic amenities.

He said that the leadership of the majority party never gets tired of boasting about the work of their government but on ground the situation is abysmal with things remaining the same as they were ten to twenty years back.

JDA concedes demand of Roop Nagar Sector 6 new allottees; Allots alternate Plots through Draw of Lots

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, DECEMBER 05: Jammu Development Authority (JDA) has allotted 33 alternate plots to the allottees of Sector-6 New Roop Nagar Housing Colony through Draw of Lots.

The draw of lot was conducted in the meeting hall of JDA at Vikas Bhawan, Rail Head Complex Jammu in presence of allottees/their representatives. The draw of lot was conducted by Dr. Sahil Jandyal, Secretary JDA in presence and under the



overall supervision of Pankaj Magotra, Vice Chairman, JDA. It is pertinent to mention here that these were the long pending

genuine cases which could not be handed over plots due to litigation. The draw was conducted in a fair and transparent manner and

was duly video graphed.

Allottees who got their alternate plots have appreciated the efforts made by JDA in resolving their long pending issue. Secretary JDA was advised by the Vice Chairman, JDA to ensure issuance of the LOI to these allottees at an earliest. Other senior officers present were Superintendent Engineer, Chief Town Planner, Executive Engineer -II, Financial Advisor & CAO, Tehsildar Zone C & D, Accounts Officer and Legal Assistant, JDA.

Inhabitants of Palma hold Protest, blocked road against mysterious death of ex-cop



JI NEWS SERVICE

RAJOURI, DEC 05: Sensation spread in Palma Sankari area of Rajouri city on Monday morning after the dead body of a retired army personnel was found under suspicious circumstances. As per police a resident of Sankari Palma, a retired military employee, Sukhdev Singh, son of Lalchand, had gone missing 3 days ago and his missing report was registered in the police station, but on Monday morning, his body was found in suspicious cir-

cumstances at a distance from the house. After which a situation of tension arose in the entire region. Wherein, after receiving the dead body, the family members started a vigorous demonstration in Palma by blocking the Rajouri Budhal road regarding the dead body and demanding immediate action calling it a murder. Angry family members told that the retired army personnel was kidnapped under suspicious circumstances and after that he was brutally

murdered and the body was dumped and the police should conduct a fair investigation so that the killers are soon put behind bars and the family get justice.

The protesters told that after the disappearance, the family members kept searching for him everyday for 3 days and the road through which many people pass and the search was also done on that road, but he was not found anywhere, but today his body was found from the same road. From which it is clear

that the dead body has been thrown after killing him. Not only this, there are such marks and cuts on the dead body that it seems that the dead body has been dragged and it is very important to investigate it so that the truth comes out.

After about 2 hours of protest, SHO Rajouri Amir Ahmed reached the spot and assured the family that the police would conduct a fair investigation and those involved in the murder would be exposed soon and put behind bars.

Then they ended the demonstration after the assurance of the police and warned that if the killers are not brought to the fore soon, then they will protest by blocking the road.

On the other hand, the police started the next action by registering a case under section 174 for death under suspicious circumstances i.e. 174 after conducting the post-mortem of the dead body and completing other formalities and handed over the dead body to the relatives for the last rites.

Romesh Khajuria leads delegation to International Trade Fair in Italy

30 J&K exporters take part in International Trade Fair in Italy



JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, DEC 05: International Trade Fair in Milan, Italy is witnessing participation from over 30 exporters and entrepreneurs

from Jammu & Kashmir (J&K). AF-L'Artigiano in Fiera started on December 3 and will conclude on December 11, 2022. Its inaugural cere-

mony was held in the presence of Romesh Khajuria Chairman, Wool & Woollens Export Promotion Council (WWEPC) Ministry of Textiles, Government of

India. Khajuria is on 20 days Europe business tour leading the delegation of 48 member exporters of WWEPC to Italy (Milan).

Vishavnath Aggarwal, Chairman PDEXIL, Antonio Intiglietta, president, AFL, Gabriele Alberti, CEO, AFL, Mahesh N. Sanil, ED, PDEXIL and representatives of ITPO, EPCH, MSME and other departments were also present.

Thanking Dr. Neena Malhotra, Indian Ambassador to Italy and other members of the Embassy, Khajuria appreciated their continuous support to the Indian participants who are participating in the fair.

Resolve issues of Safaikaramcharis, daily wagers on priority: Kundal

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, DEC 05: Chairman ST, SC OBC Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) J&K and former minister, Yashpal Kundal expressed serious concern over the plights of Safai Karamcharis as well as daily wagers.

In a statement issued here today, the former legislator threw light on the plight of Safai Karamcharis who are the victim of official apathy because despite assurances and promises made by the BJP leaders during the elections in the erstwhile state nothing has been done for their regularization till date. Still this section of employees is being forced to live a miserable life, he added.

While on the other hand, Kundal said the present regime has not showing its serious concern towards the problems being faced by daily wagers in the state. He maintained that the daily wagers are rendering their services in several departments of J&K government for the last more than 30 years but still they have not been regularized due to hollow policies of the government. The senior AAP leader termed it unfortunate that despite being in the successive government the entire BJP leadership has miserably failed to regularize the daily wagers who were facing the official apathy for the last more than three decades. He said these daily wagers

who spend their youthful days working as daily wagers and now are reeling under despair and hopelessness as no one in the government is interested in looking into their dilemma.

The senior AAP leader asserted that only Aam Aadmi Party has the capability of feeling the pulse of common man and have the potential of saving the common masses of Jammu and Kashmir out of the clutches of Bharatiya Janata Party which showed the moon to the people of this sensitive region but delivered a big zero on ground thus leaving the people to fend for themselves amid enormous thrust upon them by the BJP government.

DDC Re-poll Elections: 2022

Around 43% voter turnout recorded in re-poll of DDC polls in Hajin, Drugmulla

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, DECEMBER 05: Around 43% voting was recorded in the two District Development Consistencies which went to the re-poll in the Kashmir Division of the Union Territory.

53.33 voter percentage was recorded in Hajin -A Constituency in Bandipora District whereas 32.73% was recorded in Drugmulla Constituency Kupwara District which went to the polls today.

42 polling stations were set up for DDC Drugmulla which recorded a percentage of 32.73. 10724 votes were polled against total electorate of 16026. 5624 Males and 5100 females exercised their franchise. 141 Migrant votes were also cast at Special polling Stations for Kashmiri Migrants set up at GMS Jagti, GGHS Patta Bohri and GMS Model Higher Secondary school Udhampur.

Similarly in Hajin-A, 53.33% voting was recorded in 57 polling Stations. 8669 Electors out of the total 16313 cast



their votes. 4717 Males out of 8565 and 3982 females out of 7748 cast their votes. The Voting which started at the 7.A.M in morning and concluded at 2.P.M. in after noon passed of peacefully with people across the age groups

participating, Kashmiri Migrants also cast their votes in the special polling stations set up for them in different places in Jammu. Counting for both the Constituencies will be held on 8th December.

'My Town My Pride' kick-starts at Anantnag

Massive public participation witnessed

JI NEWS SERVICE
ANANTNAG, DECEMBER 05: 'My Town My Pride' programme kick-started today at 10 Urban Local Bodies of Anantnag with Visiting Officers allotted to various ULBs inaugurated the programs at respective locations.

At Anantnag Town, Dr Syed Abid Rasheed Shah, Special Secretary to the Government, Finance Department (addl. charge CEO, JK Era and Mission Director, Jal Jeevan Mission) was the visiting officer accompanied by Manzoor Ahmad and Ahmad Hussain, Deputy Labour Commissioner, Kashmir. Dr Abid, in presence of Deputy Commissioner, Anantnag; SSP Anantnag and President MC Anantnag inaugurated the programme at Dak Bungalow, Anantnag. The team inspected the stalls set up by various departments including ICDS, Health, Agriculture, Horticulture, Industries and ITI among others for dissemination of information among the public regarding various public schemes in vogue, eligibility criteria and benefits under the scheme. Speaking on the occasion, Dr Abid said that the face-lifting of Anantnag made possible by sincere efforts of Deputy Commissioner and President MC Anantnag has shown visible improvements in the town. He said that the Government is fully

committed to ensuring 100% coverage of beneficiaries under various welfare schemes.

Highlighting the role of PRIs and officials in ensuring people exercise their right, he said people have the most important role in development plan formulation and added that PRIs and officers must facilitate them. He said PRIs are a bridge between institutional mechanisms and the people.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Anantnag, Dr Basharat Qayoom said that 7 plans are being formulated as part of the 'My Town My Pride' program aimed at planned development of the urban areas. He said that during the Jan Abhiyan held as a prelude to the MTMP, 338 awareness camps were organized, 242 beneficiaries of PMAY (U) completed Grah Pravesh, 179 licenses were issued under PM SVANidhi, land for Solid Waste management was identified at 8 locations and 561 potential youth were identified for linking with self-employment schemes. President MC Anantnag, Er Hilal Shah said that several projects have been completed by MC recently and dedicated to the public important among them being multi-level car parking, operationalization of 4 KLD sewage treatment plant at Mehdi Kadal, water reservoir at KU South Campus, Joggers Park bypass and

community hall Ashajipora. He said that the Library cum Community Hall at KP Road, Community Marriage Hall and Clock Tower are under execution and will be completed soon.

He said that the MC is committed to the overall development of the Town and inputs of the public through the various plans under formulation will form the basis of future development.

The visiting dignitaries distributed sanction letters under the MUMKIN scheme, scholarships, golden cards, etc among beneficiaries on the occasion. At Town Hall Anantnag, colourful cultural programs were organized. Similar functions were held in the other ULBs. At Kokernag, Moahmmad Harun, Secretary Tribal Affairs presided over the function. At Dooru Vrinag, Nazim Zai Khan, Secretary DMRR and Inam ud Din, Director RDD, Kashmir were the visiting officials. At Qazigund, Sajjad Hussain Ganai Adl. IG Registrations chaired the function while at Pahalgam the function was presided over by Jahangir Khanday, Jt Director School Education, South.

Mohammad Shafi Chak, Director Social Welfare and Abdul Salam Mir, Director FCS & CA Kashmir chaired the function at MC Aishmuqam and MC Bijbehara respectively.

One-day Farmers' Awareness Camp on PM-FME held in Block Narbal

JI NEWS SERVICE
BUDGAM, DECEMBER 05: A daylong Farmers' awareness camp under PM formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises Scheme (PM FME) was organized by Department of Animal Husbandry Budgam at Block Narbal.



The participants were briefed about the scope of Food Processing Industry in District Budgam and they were encouraged to get financial cover under the scheme, where handholding will be provided by the Department of Animal Husbandry Budgam.

Speaking on the occasion, the SDVH Budgam, Dr Javed Ahmed said that unemployed youth can set up their own Food Processing Units, like Milk Processing, Juice and Jam unit, Bread making unit, Tomato ketchup unit, along with poultry and Cattle feed unit, under PMFME scheme by availing facilities like 35% subsidy maximum up to 10 lakh and Easy Bank loan up to 90% of cost of

Machinery and Technical Civil Works.

He also informed the participants about the assistance and hand-holding support provided by the Department to the interested applicants and the various training provided to help and guide them at each level. Dr Javed spoke about the importance of registering food processing enterprises, branding and marketing aspects to enhance the salability of the food products. Dr Zahoor Ahmed Sofi, Block Veterinary Officer Narbal threw light on poultry meat

processing which includes addition of ingredients, and/or heat treatment to poultry meat to create a variety of value added products. He informed participants about the major product forms which can be made from poultry meat including designed poultry meat, patties (breaded or roasted), nuggets, tenders, fillets, wings, drums, and thighs, prepared and either par-fried (partially cooked in oil for less than a minute) or cooked in many different possible forms. Bashir Ahmed, Marketing officer

Department of Horticulture (Planning & Marketing) briefed about the marketing and branding of processed food products as an important intervention for sustainable development of the food industry. Officers from different allied departments like Horticulture, Agriculture and Sheep Husbandry also participated.

The camp witnessed huge participation of unemployed educated youth and other farmer groups and many farmers showed their interest to establish micro food processing units under the PMFME Scheme.

Farooq's statement against security forces' role in polls unwarranted: Kavinder

Election as President NC yet another 'drama' by octogenarian politician

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 05: Hitting out hard against Farooq Abdullah's rant over role of army and other security forces in rigging polls, senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister, Kavinder Gupta said that such statements show the frustration of NC leadership as they have foreseen worst ever political debacle in the upcoming polls in J&K. He said that such a stand against the security forces and government is uncalled for and unacceptable.



He said the so-called warning of Farooq Abdullah to security forces and the government not to interfere in the elections in J&K is nothing but yet another political stunt by the old politician, who has turned apprehensive over the outcome of polls in J&K

as BJP has become a force to reckon with and people from all nook and corners are coming forward to give full mandate to party of nationalist people.

The BJP senior leader also questioned the re-election of Farooq Abdullah as NC President claiming that this action by the octogenarian politician is just a drama as he never let anyone else including his son Omar to run the party affairs. He said that the NC has lost ground and that is the reason behind Farooq's peculiar behaviour as earlier he said that the party

affairs will be handed over to someone from the young brigade after internal polls but when the time of poll came, he maneuvered the entire thing and was re-elected as NC President.

Kavinder said that Farooq is famous for such tantrums but it is highly objectionable that to satiate his vested political interests, he is using the name of army and other security forces accusing them of rigging the polls.

President NNM J&K calls on Mayor JMC, discusses issues

Namo Namo Morcha will join JMC's Padh Yatra on Dec 9: Raj Rattan



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 05: Raj Rattan Raina, President Nammo Namo Morcha, J&K today met Mayor JMC, Rajinder Sharma and discussed various issues related to the beautification of Jammu city.

Raj Rattan Raina appreciated the Mayor for taking the Jammu Municipal Corporation to new heights by maintaining cleanliness across the Jammu city. He appreciated the civic body for taking proactive steps to beautify the City of Temples and also for ensuring extreme levels of cleanliness at all the markets and residential colonies. He said that Jammu will soon find a slot in the top list of cleanest cities in the country as JMC has been doing exemplary job in ensuring neatness and serenity.

Rajinder Sharma appreciated the concern shown by Raj Rattan Raina and assured that the JMC will make all possible efforts in standing on the expectations of the people of Jammu city.

The Mayor sought support and cooperation of Nammo Namo Morcha team in the Pad Yatra (Tramp) being conducted by Jammu Municipal Corporation on December 9 to promote the Call given by Prime Minister of India, Narinder Modi from Red

Fort on August 15th regarding Corruption Free India.

He hoped that the Nammo Namo Morcha team will participate and make this Padh Yatra a success.

Raj Rattan Raina once again assured that Mayor that the Nammo Namo Morcha team will be on front in fight against corruption in the City of Temples.

He said due to corrupt practices of successive regimes in the erstwhile state, the J&K has top among the corrupt states and UTs in the country.

He said Pad Yatra will make people of Jammu city aware about the fight against corruption and hope that such initiatives will produce positive results in near future.

Among others who were present include Raaveena Mahant, Anju Bhan Koul, Vijay kumar, Ashwana Bhagat and Ajay Raina.

Army organises painting competition



JI NEWS SERVICE
RAJOUR, DEC 5: Indian Army organised a Painting Competition at Chassana, Hubbi & Luni Darman in Rajouri & Reasi District on 05 Dec 2022 with the theme 'Tribute to Armed Forces Veterans' is to promote patriotism and national pride in young minds.

It was also aimed to encourage the students to display their talent & boost their confidence. Painting competition was organised for 08 years to 14 years age groups children. A total number of 174 children from 08 schools (Govt Middle School Chassana, Govt Middle School Hubbi, Govt

Middle School Kandji, Global Education Mission School Kotranka, Govt Middle School Badhal Gala, Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah School, Public School Larkoti & Mission Public School, Badhal Gala) participated in the completion. Students were provided with required stationary

and accessories for the drawing and painting competition. The event also witnessed the participation of children from remote areas. A total number of 191 persons (including 89 boys, 85 girls & 17 teachers) participated in the said event. The parents, local population, teachers & the children expressed their gratitude towards the Army & paid homage to the bravehearts of Indian Army. The unique awareness drive launched by Indian Army through this painting competition was appreciated by all public representatives and social activists and will surely encourage the children of this area to join Indian Armed Forces.

Indian Army organises a Security Conference

JI NEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN, DEC 5: A security conference with the police and intelligence officials of districts of Ramban, Doda and Kishtwar was held at Dharmund to coordinate security and intelligence aspects and discuss the present situation in Doda, Kishtwar & region.



CRPF, Shri Mukesh Kumar, Formation Commander, CRPF and Intelligence officials of the region. IFS, ADGP Jammu, other Army Officers, Police,

Fund office hosts Grievance Redressal- Awareness Camps

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DECEMBER 05: Joint Director Funds (Jammu), Chanderkala Sharma on Monday visited Samba and Kathua districts to inspect the preparedness for the Grievance Redressal-Awareness Camps, being

organized by the J&K Funds Organization from 5th of December to 7th December, 2022 in all District Fund Offices throughout the UT of J&K. She was accompanied by the District Fund Officers and other senior officials of the Department.

During the visit, she took stock of the arrangements made for the grievance redressal camps. She stressed upon the officers to give wide publicity about the venues and purpose of holding camps and make adequate arrangements such as drinking

water, sitting area etc so that the subscribers having grievances feel comfortable. She also interacted with the visitors, gave them a patient hearing and also assured them that their genuine grievances will be processed for immediate redressal.

My Town My Pride

Sanjeev Verma launches 2-day programme, presides series of events at Ramban

Plants sapling to mark 'World Soil Day'



JJ NEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN, DECEMBER 05: Commissioner Secretary Forests, Ecology, and Environment, Sanjeev Verma today inaugurated the two days "My Town My Pride" phase-2 programme at Ramban.

Commissioner Secretary who is also the Mentor Secretary of the district Ramban, planted a sapling on the premises of the District Administration Complex, Maitra to mark 'World Soil Day in the presence of Deputy Commissioner, Musarat Islam, President Municipal Council, Sunita Sumbaria, ADC, Harbars Lal Sharma, Councillors, ACR, Giasul-Haq, CPO Dr Kasturi Lal, DFOs and senior officers of line departments and the general public.

Verma said that keeping in the view strategic importance of the National Highway town Ramban the creation of modern infrastructure and beautification of the town is the main priority of the Government.

The Commissioner Secretary presided over various events and meetings to discuss the issues and plans with all stakeholders to ensure the holistic development of the dis-

trict headquarters town. The Councillors, representatives of Beopar Mandal and other organizations highlighted various issues and demands of public interests.

He also interacted with officers of line departments and obtained feedback regarding the overall developmental scenario of the district including major ongoing development works being executed under different flagship schemes.

Verma also distributed sanction letters to the beneficiaries of Tejaswini, Mumkin, PMEGP and Social Welfare Department schemes besides distributing Land Passbooks among the legal land owners.

On the occasion, president MC highlighted various issues like shortage of staff especially Safai Karamcharis, completion of water supply schemes and link roads. The Deputy Commissioner informed that the issue regarding the shortage of Safai Karamchari has already been taken up with the concerned authorities. He also informed the meeting about initiatives being taken by the departments of District Administration to resolve all the

issues of public interest pertaining to their respective departments.

The Commissioner Secretary also directed the CEO MC Ramban to make a plan for a sewerage plant for Ramban town as per guidelines. He also stressed on beautification of Ramban town as it is an important town on the NH44. Appreciating the District Administration for developing a better service delivery system in the district, the Commissioner Secretary asked officers to further improve the service delivery system from best to excellent to provide benefits of all social and financial assistance schemes to the last person of the society besides ensuring holistic development of the district.

He said that the Forest Department will work on the repair and creation of water bodies for ground recharging which can help the local people in a big way like Amrit Sarovar.

The Commissioner Secretary also administered the pledge against drugs and corruption to participants in two different programmes at Conference Hall Maitra and Government Model Higher Secondary School, Ramban besides asking them to implement the pledge in their daily life. Later, Sanjeev Verma also inspected the stalls set up by the various departments at Dak Banglow Ramban besides interacting with the members of Beopar Mandal, Ramban. He also inaugurated a Kabaddi match in GMHSS Ramban. Meanwhile, the Students of GMHSS gave their speeches on the menace of drugs and corruption besides presenting a cultural bonanza.

Samoon participates in MTMP at Town Hall, Kupwara

Distributes sanction letters under PMMSY, PMEGP, KVIB

JJ NEWS SERVICE
KUPWARA, DECEMBER 05: Principal Secretary, Skill Development Department, Dr. Asgar Hassan Samoon,

today said that "My Town My Pride" 2.0 (MTMP) programme has shown a right direction towards exploring new vistas of development in towns adding that development of towns is top most priority of Jammu and Kashmir government.

Principal Secretary, who is also Mentor Secretary for Kupwara district, said this during his participation in the ambitious MTMP programme held at Town Hall, Kupwara. He inspected there stalls established by various departments highlighting their achievements and activities.

Deputy Commissioner, Kupwara, Doifode Sagar Dattaraj; Chairman Municipal Council Kupwara, Reyaz Ahmad Mir, Vice Chairman DDC Kupwara, Haji Farooq Ahmad Mir and EO MC Kupwara, Anees Ahmad Chowdhary besides other



district officers attended the function.

Principal Secretary said that "My Town My Pride" programme is envisaged to provide awareness about various government schemes to the people living in towns. He said creation of employment opportunities is paramount to infrastructural development adding that Deputy Commissioners have been directed to ensure identification of educated unemployed youth in all villages and towns for their proper training in their field of interest and trades so that they shall be able to set up their own self employment units, for which government is always ready to handhold

them. He said skill development and self-employment are interconnected fields on which the government is focusing with utmost priority.

Earlier, Dr. Samoon inspected stalls installed by various departments including Youth Services & Sports, ITI/Skill Development, Social Welfare, ICDS, Revenue, NRLM, Sheep/Animal Husbandry, Ayushman Bharat, Handicrafts, Fisheries, District Industries Centre, Social Forestry, Agriculture, Horticulture, J&K Bank, Grambank and SBI.

Dr. Samoon interacted with the stallholders and beneficiaries and enquired

about their schemes. On the occasion, Dr. Samoon distributed sanction letters among the beneficiaries under PMMSY, PMEGP and KVIB.

Dr. Samoon interacted with the Citizen Forum Kupwara who presented their memorandum to him about the developmental issues of the Kupwara town.

In his address, Deputy Commissioner Kupwara said that the Jan Abiyon activities under the ambitious programme "My Town My Pride" were held in the town during last one week in all the 3 municipalities of the district. He said sanitation and beautification programmes were held and door to door awareness about the government schemes by the functionaries of municipalities and line departments were also provided.

Chairman MC Kupwara also spoke on the occasion. Meanwhile, a cultural programme and drama skit were presented during the programme.

10-Day EDP concludes at JKEDI Reasi

JJ NEWS SERVICE
REASI, DECEMBER 05: The 10-Day Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EDP) under Mission Youth's Tejaswini (The Radiant) livelihood scheme for women, concluded today at the Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute's (JKEDI) district center Reasi. The EDP was organized by the JKEDI for the aspiring female entrepreneurs of Reasi district. During the 10-Day EDP, the candidates were appraised about basic business concepts like business plan formulation, marketing plans, accounts management, and many other topics of relevance. This is the 5th batch to pass out under the Tejaswini scheme this year. Cluster Head J&K Bank Reasi Ravi Sharma was the chief guest on the occasion. He urged the educated unemployed women of the district to come forward and take advantage of different self-employment schemes (SES) launched by the government of the U T to overcome the unemployment issue in the district.

While distributing certificates among the candidates, he said that unemployment was a serious issue and entrepreneurship is the only solution to this problem. He also held one to one interaction with the aspiring entrepreneurs and appraised them about various opportunities available for women entrepreneurs in J&K.

Bandipora wore festive look on first day of 'My Town My Proud'

Sarmad Hafeez participates, inaugurates shopping complex, lays foundation stone for terminal building at Bandipora Secretary Health presides over mega awareness camp

JJ NEWS SERVICE
BANDIPORA, DECEMBER 05: The first day of "My Town My Proud" 2.0 (MTMP) begin here today with great enthusiasm and fan fare at Nishat Park, Bandipora.

On day first of MTMP programme, Secretary Tourism and Y&S, Sarmad Hafeez, visited Bandipora and participated in day long celebrations held across the Town. Secretary inaugurated the main event at Nishat Park Bandipora in presence of Deputy Commissioner, Bandipora, Dr. Owais Ahmed and Director Employment, Nisar Ahmad Wani.

Speaking on the occasion, Sarmad Hafeez said "My Town My Proud" is an initiative to strengthen Urban Local Self Governance and to serve the people with accountable and participatory governance. He stressed on intensive awareness regarding public oriented government schemes and online services.

Sarmad Hafeez stressed on community participation for enhanced socio-

economic empowerment of the area. He urged upon the people to maintain cleanliness in and around the surroundings and cooperate with authorities for door to door collection of waste. "It is our collective responsibility to implement all government schemes at grassroots level", he added. He asked officers to work with more dedication, honesty and integrity for economic and social uplift of people and saturation of various government scheme including self employment schemes.

He urged upon the unemployed youth to come forward and take benefit from various youth oriented Government Schemes.

Secretary visited stalls installed by various departments to showcase their achievements and progress under different schemes.

He distributed cash assistance among the beneficiaries under PMAY (urban) and handed over keys and sanction letters to unemployed youth under Mumkin and Tejaswini. Deputy Commissioner

highlighted various ongoing and completed developmental initiatives in the district. He said that various works including shopping complex at New Bus Adda, installation of solar tree at Nishat Park and beautification of Papcharn bridge have been completed in Bandipora town under "My Town My Proud". Besides, out of 117 works in Bandipora, Hajj and Sumbal towns, 93 works have been completed while 24 are in progress.

The programme also witnessed speeches by various dignitaries and students who highlighted the ill effects of single use plastic and cleanliness measures besides cultural items were also presented.

Later, Secretary inaugurated shopping complex at the new bus adda which has been constructed at a cost of Rs 45 lakh.

Sarmad Hafeez also laid foundation stone of terminal building constructed at a cost of Rs 136.00 lakh in New Bus adda, Bandipora besides launching plantation drive at children's park, Bandipora.

Multifarious activities marks beginning of 2-day 'My town My Pride' 2.0 at Kishtwar

JJ NEWS SERVICE

KISHTWAR, DECEMBER 5: Two-Day My town My Pride 2.0 commenced today at Dak Banglow Kishtwar amid series of awareness activities carried out by various Banks and Line Departments including Health, Education, Jal Shakti, Animal Husbandry, Social Welfare, Ayush, Career Counseling & Employment Agriculture and Horticulture etc.

Secretary Health & Medical Education (H&ME), Bupinder Kumar, who is also the visiting officer for MTMP 2.0, presided over the programme at Dak Banglow.

DDC Kishtwar, Dr. Devansh Yadav; SSP Kishtwar Shafiq Hussain Batt; ADC Kishtwar Sham Lal; ADC Underjeet Singh Parihar; President MC Sajjad Ahmed Najjar, ACR, ADC, DPO besides other district officers and ULB members and Executive officer remained present in the programme.

Locals from all the Municipal Wards and the students from GDC Kishtwar also participated enthusiastically in the programme.

At the outset, the Secretary inspected

the stalls erected by various line departments and enquired about the various schemes which were on display in the programme including PMAY-U, SVANidhi, Self Employment Schemes under Mission Youth and financial literacy campaign of Banks.

Cultural program and speeches on NMBA, SBA and Anti-corruption were also presented by the students of GDC Kishtwar on the occasion.

Secretary distributed sanction letters among various beneficiaries under PMEGP and PM SVANidhi besides launched the "My Town My Pride" booklet.

Speaking on the occasion, Bupinder Kumar said that three-tier system of Panchayati Raj Institutions has given Vidyut to developmental tempo in the rural as well as urban areas.

He also spoke on the significance of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan and appealed people to collectively participate and contribute for maintaining the cleanliness in and around the houses to make the Swachhata Abhiyan a success in the town. While highlighted the signifi-

cance of MTMP 2.0, he said the programme aims to strengthen ULBs in terms of infrastructure and financially. He assured that the grievances highlighted have been recorded and will be forwarded to concerned quarters for immediate redressal. He also stressed for the implementation of rational civic plan in the town Kishtwar.

Speaking on the occasion, DC Kishtwar apprised the Visiting officer about various infrastructure needs in the town.

Meanwhile Senior Citizens also spoke on the occasion and highlighted various issues including proper drainage, lightning of streets, beautification of Chowgan Ground, development of infrastructure in the MC Kishtwar.

The students of GDC Kishtwar were facilitated on the occasion and Vote of thanks was presented by President MC.

Secretary Health also visited Historical Chowgan Ground Kishtwar where he Kick started the Kabaddi Competition, felicitated the students with certificates.

My Town My Pride 2.0

Comm Secy SWD visits Ganderbal, interacts with locals

Hands over benefits of over 1 crore under Education Assistance Scheme among beneficiaries
Also distributes Golden cards, Sports Kits, Financial assistance under PMAY-U, certificates under PM SVANIDHI, baby kits, hearing aids.



JJ NEWS SERVICE
GANDERBAL, DECEMBER 05: As part of My Town My Pride (MTMP) 2.0 programme initiative of Government to provide governance at the door steps of public in the urban areas, Commissioner Secretary, Social Welfare Department (SWD), Sheetal Nanda today visited Ganderbal and interacted with locals there.

During the visit, Commissioner Secretary who is also visiting officer of the district, interacted with social activists, citizens including trader's federation and market associations who appraised her about various issues and development needs and sought intervention for their timely redressal. During the interaction, the

locals demanded availability of building material, dearth of staff in district hospital, CT Scan facility at DH, early commissioning of 93 hydro power project, women College, new bus routes, beautification of town, street lights on Hospital road, Pandach-Beehama road widening besides augmentation of electricity and water infrastruc-

ture in Ganderbal town.

While interacting with them, Sheetal Nanda said that the objective of the programme is to inform the locals about the services available for socio-economic development of the people. She highlighted that the problems faced by people in urban areas and come out with solutions for upgradation of urban infrastructure and amenities also forms part of this programme.

The Commissioner Secretary maintained that the MTMP is focused to provide self-employment avenues to the unemployed youth and several departments are providing handholding to such persons who are interested to start their own employment ventures under various schemes and urged the unemployed youth to

avail benefit of such schemes.

Deputy Commissioner, Ganderbal, Shyamir while speaking on the occasion informed that during Jan Abhiyan several events were held which focused on sanitation, online services at door steps and awareness about Self-employment schemes. He added that 50 percent digital land passbooks are also distributed and 100 percent door to door garbage collection is also ensured.

Labour Commissioner, Abdul Rashid War on the occasion said that the focus of MTMP is service delivery at door steps besides to achieve feedback from the people regarding the status of delivery of services to ensure corruption free governance.

Secretary took a round of the stalls installed by various departments in the lawns of Mini Secretariat Ganderbal and enquired about the online services and schemes provided especially that offer livelihood opportunities to the locals.

Meanwhile, the Commissioner Secretary also handed over the financial assistance of Rs 99.21 lakh under Lower Education Assistance Scheme and Rs 25 lakh under Higher Education Assistance Scheme of Labour Department. She also distributed Golden cards, Sports Kits, Financial assistance under PMAY-U, Financial assistance and certificates under PM SVANIDHI, baby kits, hearing aids among the beneficiaries.

Later, Sheetal Nanda chaired a joint meeting of Municipal

Council Ganderbal and district officers here in the conference hall of Mini Secretariat.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Shyamir, Labour Commissioner, Ab Rashid War, SSP Ganderbal, Nikhil Borkar, ADC, Mushtaq Ahmad Simmani, ADC, CR, Vice-Chairman, Municipal Council Ganderbal, district officer besides councillors.

During the meeting the Commissioner Secretary was briefed by the DC through power point presentation about the status of works undertaken under various schemes in the town, SWM, physical status of PMAY (U), SWM (U), PM-SVANIDHI, status of assets besides online services provided by Municipal Council Ganderbal.