

JINDRAHIMAGES



DAILY | JAMMU | VOL NO: 10 | ISSUE NO: 294 | PAGES: 12 | PRICE: Rs 2/- | RNI NO: JKENG/2013/49471 | POSTAL REGD. NO. JK-497/22-24 | dailyjindrahimages.com/Epaper.php | jindrahimages123@gmail.com

LG flags off Shri Kailakh Jyotish & Vedic Sansthan Trust's Mobile Sanskrit Gurukul

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha flagged off Mobile Sanskrit Gurukul of Shri Kailakh Jyotish & Vedic Sansthan Trust, today.

The initiative will share the treasure of knowledge and wisdom with people and provide non-formal education of Sanskrit, one of the oldest living languages of the world, said the Lt Governor.



On the occasion, the Lt Governor also conferred Kailakh Sanskrit-Ratna Award-2022 to Sh Shakti Pathak, Chief Trustee of Chudamani Sanskrit Sansthan for his outstanding contribution in promotion & propagation of Sanskrit language.

Sanskrit is not confined to religious texts. It also offers complete knowledge structure of ancient India

that covers great works of scientists, experts in medicine, botany & mathematics like Aryabhata, Charaka, Sushruta, Bhaskaracharya, Varahamihira, Brahmagupta and many others, observed the Lt Governor.

Appreciating the Kailakh Jyotish & Vedic Sansthan Trust for engaging in the commendable work of preserving, developing

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No one can capture an inch of India's land: Amit Shah

NEW DELHI: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday categorically said that the Narendra Modi-led government at the Centre won't let anyone capture even an inch of the country's land till it is in power.

The Minister's statement comes in the wake of a barrage of condemnations from the Opposition over the recent clash between Indian and Chinese troops in Tawang sector of Arunachal Pradesh.



"I want to categorically say that till the BJP government is in power and Narendra Modi is the Prime Minister, no one can occupy even an inch of land," Shah told reporters at the Parliament premises.

Lauding the brave jawans while referring to the Tawang clash, the Home Minister said, "I deeply appreciate the brav-

ery shown by our jawans on the night of December 8 and in the morning of 9. The army chased away all the intruders in no time and protected our land."

On Friday, the Indian and Chinese troops clashed with each other in Tawang Sector leading to injuries to a few personnel on both sides.

Hitting back at the Congress, the Minister said, "The Congress should answer what did the Rajiv Gandhi Foundation do with the Rs 1 crore 35 lakh received from the Chinese Embassy during the year 2005-07? Congress should tell the country why Rajiv Gandhi Charitable Trust took Rs 50 lakh from Zakir Naik's organization in FCRA account in July 2011 without permission?"

He also claimed that India's permanent membership in the United Nations Security Council was sacrificed because of former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru.

J&K police produce chargesheet against 8 accused in NIA court

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Police produced chargesheet in special National Investigation Agency (NIA) court, Srinagar against the eight accused including a foreign handler in militancy related case on Tuesday, officials said.

Pulwama police produced chargesheet in case through FIR against 8 accused persons before the Court of Special Designated Court under NIA Act at Srinagar.

The instant case is related to recovery of an IED at

Arnulla Lassipora in south Kashmir's Pulwama district on June 15, 2022, police said.

On June 15, 2022, Police Pulwama received information that an IED had been planted within the area of Police Station Litter with the aim to inflict casualties on Police/security forces.

Consequent upon this information, Police swung into action and raided the said location and recovered an IED weighing about 15 kgs which was fitted in a pressure cooker and also

apprehended 2 accused persons.

During the course of investigation, the arrested accused persons confessed their crime and also disclosed the names of 5 other persons associated with Al-Badr outfit for their active involvement and role in procuring/transporting of the IED.

The timely recovery of the IED has thwarted onward incidents and has scuttled the nefarious plans of militant outfits to derail peace and harmony, police said.

On the basis of evidence gathered, an offence punishable under relevant

Mastermind of Wazir's murderer among five held with arms, cash



JAMMU: In a major relief to the people, Jammu police has worked out the sensational armed robbery case at the residence of a prominent businessman Rakesh Aggarwal alias Kesha Banlyia in posh Gandhi Nagar with the arrest of five hardcore gangsters including, Amit Rana, the mastermind of the

murder of prominent transporter and former MLC Tarlochan Singh Wazir.

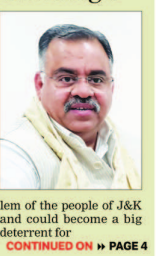
As per news agency, Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) Jammu Zone Mukesh Singh on Tuesday disclosed that after the commission of crime police has constituted 16 Special

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J&K move on I-cards would check foreign intrusions: Tarun Chugh

JAMMU: BJP national general secretary Tarun Chugh today came down heavily on the opposition leaders like Mahbooba Mufti and Abdullahs for creating fear among people in J&K where the state government has decided to introduce unique identity cards for all citizens.

In a statement Chugh said introducing "special one-stop identity cards" for residents of Jammu and Kashmir would resolve the identity prob-



'Al-Badr militant associate arrested in Pulwama, IED destroyed in Sopore'

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Police on Tuesday claimed to have arrested a militant associate in South Kashmir's Pulwama district and also said that Improvised Explosive Device (IED) was destroyed in Sopore.

A police spokesman in a statement issued to the news agency said that Police in Pulwama along with Army (55RR) and CRPF (182/183 BN) at a joint checkpoint established at Bandozo Crossing arrested one active militant associate of Al-Badr and recovered incriminating materials, arms and ammunition including a pistol from his possession.



He has been identified as Yawar Bashir Dar son of Bashir Ahmad resident of Arigan Pulwama.

In this regard, police said that a case under FIR number 358/2022 under relevant sections of law stands

registered in Police Station Pulwama and further investigation is in progress.

"Besides, the joint teams of Police and Army (52RR) detected an IED on Bypass Road near Seer Crossing

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Timely intervention forced PLA back: Rajnath on Tawang clash

NEW DELHI: Timely intervention of the troops on ground forced the Chinese soldiers back to their positions, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Tuesday assuring the Parliament that the forces are fully committed to safeguarding country's territorial integrity.



Speaking first in the Lok Sabha and then Rajya Sabha, Singh said the PLA troops, on December 9 did attempt to unilaterally change the status quo by encroaching upon the LAC in the Yangtse area of Tawang Sector in Arunachal Pradesh.

"Our Army faced the Chinese with determination. A scuffle ensued in this face-off. The Indian Army bravely stopped the PLA from encroaching on our territory, and forced them to return to their posts. Some soldiers from both sides were injured in this skirmish," he said.

Singh assured the House that none of the Indian soldiers have either died or seriously injured in the incident.

"Due to the timely intervention of Indian military commanders, PLA soldiers went back to their locations," the minister emphasised.

"After this incident, the local commander of the area held a flag meeting with his Chinese counterpart on December 11, under the established arrangement, and discussed the incident. The Chinese side was dissuad-

ed from such actions and asked to maintain peace along the border. The issue has also been taken up with the Chinese side at the diplomatic level," Singh further said.

Seeking the support from the House, Rajnath Singh said that the Indian forces are fully committed to safeguarding the country's territorial integrity, and are always ready to prevent any attempt against it. I am sure this House will unanimously support the valor and courage of our forces, the minister added.

Mercury dips in Kashmir again

SRINAGAR: Kashmir valley experiencing sub zero temperature again due to clear sky while ski resort of Gulmarg was the coldest place with minus 5.5 degree Celsius on Tuesday.

The Meteorological Department forecast of partly cloudy and dry weather is expected till December 21 in Jammu and Kashmir.

Pleasant weather conditions prevailed with bright sun appearing in Srinagar and other parts of the Kashmir valley on Tuesday even people seen basking under it at many places.



Srinagar had a low of minus 2.2 degree Celsius on Tuesday while the maximum temperature was 13.0 degree Celsius which was 3.5 degree Celsius above normal

during this time of the year. The ski resort of Gulmarg was the coldest place in Kashmir valley on Tuesday with minimum

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Major success achieved in war against drugs in Poonch-Rajouri Range: Police

RAJOURI: Jammu and Kashmir Police in Rajouri-Poonch Range claimed to have achieved a major success against the drug menace and said that seven drug peddlers have been booked under PITNDPS Act in the ongoing year 2022.

Deputy Inspector General (DIG) of Police, Rajouri Poonch Range, Dr. Haseeb Mughal said that war against drugs will continue with full might and police

have taken stern actions against people involved in the crime.

Mughal while addressing a press conference at District Police Lines (DPL) Rajouri, accompanied by Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Rajouri Mohammad Aslam and other officers, said that continuing the mission of war against drugs in Rajouri Poonch Range, J&K Police has achieved a

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DC Jammu reviews performance of Revenue Department

JAMMU: Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Avny Lavasa today reviewed the functioning of Revenue Department besides various revenue related matters in the district here at a meeting held in the DC Office Complex.



ADC (ADM), Sandeep Seonetra, JACR, Piyush Dhotra; SDMs, Tehsildars along with senior officers from Revenue department were present in the meeting.

The Deputy Commissioner took a detailed review regarding writing of Jamabandis and their digitization, writing of Khasra Girdawari Registers, Attes-

tation of Mutations, Demarcation of state land, eviction of encroachment from state land, status of disposal of court cases, scanning of revenue documents etc.

While reviewing the progress on writing of Jamabandis and its digitization,

attestation of mutations and writing of Girdawari, the DC directed the Tehsildars to complete the same at the earliest.

She set timelines for speedy submission of details of mutations and updation of Jamabandis/Girdawari.

J&K Admin rejuvenating agriculture sector with multi-pronged approach

SRINAGAR: J&K Administration took several measures to rejuvenate Agriculture and allied sector by filling credit gaps, diversification, high-density plantation, building storage capacity, market linkages and extension services.

The continuous deliberations among eminent agricultural scientists, policy planners, policy makers, academia and farmers led to the formulation of a futur-

istic roadmap for rapid growth in agriculture and allied sector. Dairy, Livestock, Poultry and Fisheries are becoming engines of high growth, and Government is doing massive efforts for creating awareness amongst the farmers to tap its tremendous potential and benefit.

In the last two years, government has come out with a viable strategy to achieve the historic task of ensuring higher incomes



to farmers.

J&K Government is taking steps to exploit untapped opportunities offered by horticulture and ensuring end-to-end approach from plantation to post-harvest management and processing to marketing in order to increase the quality production and exports.

Transformation in the agriculture sector is not just about productivity but also about

food security, empowerment of farmers and prosperity of small farming families. The Government is determined to translate the benefits of growth into the financial security of farmers.

UT Government is providing many benefits to the agriculture sector as available to those in the manufacturing sector, like, easy access to credit, infrastructure, and post harvest facilities, covering risks & uncertainties

and various interventions and schemes for the benefit of farmers.

Notably, the UT of J&K is now among the top five States/UTs in terms of farm income with a monthly income of Rs 18,918 per farmer. A renewed thrust is also being given to organic farming to bring about a paradigm shift in agrarian policy, rural prosperity and improving the incomes and the quality of life of the farmers.

Digital Door Number (Smart Address) provides a smart solution for improving governance in Jammu: JSCL

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DECEMBER 13: Following the mapping of residential and commercial properties, the citizens in Jammu city will be able to avail maximum benefits of civic services as well as governance.

The Jammu Smart City Ltd (JSCL) in coordination with Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) is expeditiously working on the Project Geographical Information System (GIS) wherein all the residential and commercial properties falling in the JMC limits would be Geo-tagged and a Unique Digital Door Number (DDN) would be assigned to each property.

Apart from this, the project includes mapping of all the natural and manmade assets such as Streams, Rivers, Elevations, Drainage network, Road network, Utility Poles etc. on to the Digital Ward Map of Jammu. Such captured data would also equip the administration for conducting "spatial" planning for various projects pertaining to infrastructure development in the Municipal Wards of Jammu. The technology can further be leveraged to strengthen the existing Grievance Redressal System.

"The project will not only provide the digital addresses of property but also revamp the delivery and monitoring of all civic services being provided by government," an official of Jammu Smart City Limited said adding that the project will play a vital role by reducing manual interventions which will further plug the leakages in the systems and thereby promoting transparency.

He informed that the QR code based Digital Door Number (Smart Address) will be allotted and subsequently a DDN Plate will be fixed outside each property. For this purpose,

the Survey team duly authenticated by Jammu Municipal Corporation is capturing the data against few property attributes such as Owner details, property measurements like plot area and built-up area, Electric/Water connection details and other relevant information. The data thus captured would be linked to the DDNs which will bring in several benefits like availability of digitized data for promoting online services, ease of address navigation for the citizen on digital Map, Garbage Collection Monitoring as the QR Code will be used by the garbage collector to scan and mark the completion of garbage collection task based upon which a notification will be sent to the concerned DDN owner on Mobile App for the appropriate feedback.

Further, the registration on the Mobile App against a particular DDN will enable the respective citizen to make timely payment of the rents/usage charges owing towards JMC assets and therefore ensuring revenue realization.

The GIS technology can be exploited up to such extent wherein the dimensions (length & width) captured against road and drainage network across the city would act as one of the deciding factors for critical vehicular movements such as Fire Brigades, Ambulances etc.

The property attributes like no. of people residing, built-up/plot area along with the associating lanes and drains would enable the authorities to study the density and hence forecast the waste generation and effluent outflow in a particular ward and would also help the administration understand the deployment of the sanitation staff.

"The change detection technology" along with photographs of

property would help administration with enforcing Building bye laws by keeping an eye on the building construction violations happening across the city. Furthermore to this, the Online Building Permission System will be integrated with the GIS application to record the permissible measurements of the upcoming and ongoing constructions which will help in vigilance and therefore preventing encroachments. Moreover, the availability of the public utilities data like PHE pipelines, electric poles etc. in the vicinity of a particular property would automate the process of issuing the required NOCs for building permissions.

"The formation of an accurate database of all the properties and assets linked with GIS applications portal will help administration to take proactive measures and informed decisions to improve delivery of civic governance through better resource management," he said adding that the holistic monitoring would be done through the Integrated Command and Control Centre (ICCC) which is being established in the Townhall Complex, JMC.

Jammu Municipal Corporation appeals all the residents and property owners to cooperate whole heartedly and share the requisite information with the survey teams. The survey team shall be carrying valid Identification Cards issued by Jammu Municipal Corporation. The residents/property owners must validate the authenticity of the team visiting their premises before sharing any information with them. The authenticity of the team members can also be ascertained through the website of Jammu Municipal Corporation and Jammu Smart City Limited.

DC Doda interacts with Specially Aabled persons

Asks stakeholder departments to formulate livelihood plan for all types of PwDs

JJ NEWS SERVICE
DODA, DECEMBER 13: Deputy Commissioner Doda Vishesh Paul Mahajan today interacted with Specially Aabled persons here at Community hall Doda in an event organised by 'Humanity Aid' NGO. More than 100 specially aabled persons attended the program and gave their feedback on various government schemes being implemented for the welfare of Divyangs (Specially aabled persons). They also projected their issues and demands before the DC.

Some issues like providing Wheelchairs, Hearing aids etc were immediately addressed by DC by giving directions to DSWO for issuing the same after receiving the required formalities from them.

He urged the educated and skilled PwDs to opt for self employment, avail the subsidised loans and expertise being provided by different departments.

He asked them to send their concerns and feedback to the district administration through public representatives, Field functionaries and helpline numbers, for immediate and timely response.

He asked the NGO (Humanity Aid) to create their whatsapp groups and clubs where they can discuss their issues and grievances.

The DSWO was asked to establish fully equipped Physiotherapy Clinic under DDRCC in the District.

The DC reiterated the Government directions to set up Ramps in all the government

offices and directed the officers who don't have Ramps established in their offices to come down or out of their offices to listen to the Divyangs.

While addressing their livelihood concerns, the DC asked RDD and SWD to see how MGNREGA can help them in getting rozgar in their respective areas.

The DSWO was asked to coordinate with Horticulture, Handloom, Handicrafts and Agriculture and come up with a feasible livelihood plan for all types of specially aabled persons.

DC was accompanied by DIO DIPR Doda Mohd Ashraf Wani, DSWO Doda Tariq Qazi and Chairman Humanity Aid NGO Er. Swarn Veer Singh.

DDC Chairperson Ramban launches work on Dhalwa -Mahakund road, listens to people's issues

JJ NEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN, DECEMBER 13: Chairperson District Development Council (DDC) Ramban, Dr. Shamshad Shan today kick-started construction work on Rs 8.17 crore Dhalwa -Mahakund road project being constructed under Prime Minister's Gram Sadak Yojna (PMGSY).

DDC Member Sangaldan, Naveda Begum; Officers of PMGSY, Sarpanches, Panches and prominent citizens, locals were also present on the occasion.

Addressing the locals, Dr. Shan informed that the road from Dalwa to Mahakund via Mongoli was an up-gradation scheme of PMGSY Phase-3 and it would provide surface connectivity to a population of 5000 souls of 5 major villages namely Dalwa, Mahakund, Sheerkund, Bolnitop and Mangoli having 5000 households.

She said that the government was committed to meet the genuine demands of the people and the PRIs should bring public demands and issues in the notice of the adminis-



tration for their timely redressal.

Meanwhile, the Executive Engineer PMGSY, Arvind Langhe said that the road was an up-gradation scheme wherein the department will use new technology for road construction by using waste plastic for laying bitumen.

While interacting with the people the Chairperson informed about the initiatives taken by the District Development Council and the government departments especially for the development of the rural and

far-flung areas of the district.

After listening to issues and demands highlighted by the locals, the Chairperson directed the concerned officers to resolve all genuine issues especially pertaining to the basic amenities. The Chairperson also inspected various developmental projects being executed under different sectors in the area, besides taking review of the implementation of developmental and flagship schemes meant for the welfare of weaker sections of the society.

Udhampur: DIPR organises symposium under Nasha Mukh Bharat campaign



JJ NEWS SERVICE
UDHAMPUR, DECEMBER 13: The Cultural Unit of Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR) Jammu today organised a symposium on the topic Nasha Mukh Bharat here at Government

Girls Middle School Shakti Nagar. As many as 6 students participated in the event. Divyanshi Singh bagged first position, while Sonu and Praylata secured second and third positions, respectively. All the winners and participants were felic-

itated with prizes and certificates. The competition was judged by Rachna and Sheenu.

Speaking on the occasion, the Head of the school Gharo Devi shared her views on the topic and also appreciated the Cultural Unit of Department of Information and Public Relations for organizing such a meaningful program to aware the future of the nation.

Among others staff members, officials of Information Department, Mohinder Kumar and Suresh Kumar Cultural Assistants and a large number of audiences witnessed the program. Program was coordinated by Seema Sharma of the host school.

The whole program was conducted under the supervision of Cultural Officer Parul Khajuria.

DC Doda interacts with Students, staff at GHSS (Girls) as School Prabhari

JJ NEWS SERVICE
DODA, DECEMBER 13: District Administration Doda has taken up a unique initiative of adopting government schools by District level officers as School Prabhari in the district.

The School Prabhari has to visit the concerned school on regular intervals or connect through Virtual means to listen and resolve the issues, grievances, demands and aspirations of the students. The Prabhari Officer shall act as bridge between the school and the administra-

tion and also guide the students in choosing their goals and helping them to reach their life destinations.

Deputy Commissioner Vishesh Paul Mahajan today visited his adopted institution- the Government Higher Secondary School Girls as the School Prabhari.

During the visit, he inspected the building of the institution, interacted with students and staff. The School has a strength of 783 students studying in different streams.

The DC asked students

to focus on their studies and goals. He asked them to think differently on every issue faced by humanity, come up with out of box solutions and discuss them with their teachers, parents and Mentors. He urged them to set their targets for winter vacations. Teachers were asked to give them projects and remain in touch with the students during vacations also.

He had a special interaction with athletes and players of GHSS Girls Doda. He urged them to work hard and bring lau-

rels to the district by getting first positions in the national and international events.

He said that administration shall be holding Mock tests for competitive exams after winter vacations. He informed that virtual classes shall be started during this winter so that students remain in touch with their students.

DC was accompanied by CEO Doda Prahalad Bhagat, DIO DIPR Doda Mohd Ashraf Wani and Principal GHSS Girls Doda Madam Nazia.

encing facilities to the departments.

He also said that the video conference studio has been equipped with a modern audio and visual system. He said in the present age of technology the digital media has become an important medium for smooth conduct of public business.

DFCO team conducts inspection of medical stores in Ramban district

JJ NEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN, DECEMBER 13: The Drug and Food Control Organization carried-out inspection of various medical stores in far-flung areas of the district Ramban to check the registration, authorization and record of availability and sale of medicines, besides checking standard parameters of medicines, available in the chemists' shops.

On the directions of Deputy Commissioner Ramban, Musarrat Islam, the Drug Control Officer (DCO), Imtiyaz Ahmed today inspected various medical stores including Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janashadhi Kendra in Sub-Gool.

During the inspections, the inspection team



sealed 2 medical stores for not maintaining sales records under the Drugs & Cosmetic Act 1940. Besides, 02 drug samples were also lifted from medical stores for determining their quality and purity. The chemists were warned of severe action under extant rules in case the mentioned deficien-

cies are not removed within a stipulated period of time. They were instructed to install CCTV cameras and ensure that the sale of Drugs is made only on a valid and proper prescription.

The department also requested the general public to keep a vigil on persons involved in the trade of Narcotics & Psychotropic drugs and inform the authorities if they found any violation of rules.

The team also advised the people to desist from taking medicines and health services from any unregistered medical stores and medicos.

ADDC Kathua reviews progress of District Capex works



JJ NEWS SERVICE
KATHUA, DECEMBER 13: Additional District development Commissioner Kathua, Ankur

Mahajan today chaired a meeting of officers at conference Hall of the DC Office Complex to review the progress and status of works under

District Capex budget 2022-23. During the meeting, the ADDC took sector wise review and progress of works in Irrigation, RDD, IPJCL, PDD, Irrigation, Health, Agriculture, Horticulture, PHE, Ground Water, Tourism, Fisheries and other sectors.

A detailed review of allotment of works, works started on ground, works completed, tendering and other related issues was conducted during the meeting.

The ADDC directed the officers to achieve the completion targets of the works and ensure expenditure of funds released. She asked them to personally monitor the quality and progress of all allotted works.

The meeting was attended by CPO, Chief Medical Officer, Executive Engineers from R&B, Jal Shakti, PDD and Irrigation, AD FC&CA besides other officers also attended the meeting.

DC Ramban inaugurates newly established Video Conference Room

JJ NEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN, DECEMBER 13: Deputy Commissioner, Ramban Musarrat Islam today inaugurated an additional Video Conference Room in District Administrative Complex established with the technical support of National Informatic Centre

(NIC) at Ramban. Chief Planning Officer, Dr. Kasturi Lal, district officers and NIC officials were present on the occasion. Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner said that the creation of modern IT infrastructure will help in providing video confer-

IIM Jammu organises IPR Workshop for students, teaching fraternity

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DECEMBER 13: IIM Jammu's Foundation for Entrepreneurship Innovation and Skill Development on Tuesday organized an IPR (Patent) workshop for the benefit of the student, and teaching fraternity at its Canal Road Campus. The session was organized by IIM Jammu in association with National Intellectual Property Awareness Mission (NIPAM) and under the guidance and able leadership of the Director Prof. B.S. Sahay. The session was conducted by Divyendu Jha, a resource person from NIPAM, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of



India. The welcome note was delivered by Dr. Prateek Jain, Chairperson, Centre for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, IIM Jammu.

The Resource Person spoke about the various aspects of the IPR with special reference to Patenting and Geographical Indications. During his interaction, he put forward the simple and hassle-free process of making Applications to the Patent office at a very low fee. He motivated the participants to make their own applications and participate in the innovation mission of Govt. of India (GoI).

The session was also attended by faculty members from other degree colleges of Jammu. The vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. Vivek Sharma, Chief Innovation Officer, IIM Jammu.

DC Samba reviews delivery of revenue services, functioning of department

JJ NEWS SERVICE
SAMBA, DECEMBER 13: Deputy Commissioner Samba, Ms. Anuradha Gupta on Tuesday reviewed the functioning of Revenue Department and the status & progress of the delivery of different public services in the district, here at a meeting held in DC Office Complex.

The meeting was attended by ACR, Manu Hansa; SDM Ghagwal, Ramkesh Sharma; SDM Vijaypur, Vinay Kumar; Tehsildars and Naib Tehsildars besides other officials.

Assistant Commissioner Revenue gave a detailed powerpoint presentation on status of updating and digitization of jamabandis, digitization of cadastral maps, delineation of land records, generation of land passbooks, status of eviction of Roshni land, land acquisition cases, change of land use cases, status of RCCMS portal and other issues.

During the meeting, it was informed that digitization of jamabandis for 373 villages has been completed while the process for 7 villages is on

and that of 2 villages is yet to be started. He further informed 1142 Kanal 08 Marla roshni land has been evicted during anti encroachment drives conducted across the district in the past couple of weeks. Similarly, pendency of inheritance mutations of 574 cases has been observed against a total 1211 cases.

The Deputy Commissioner directed to expedite the generation of Land Passbooks and Digitization of land records in the district. She also laid emphasis on daily progress reports for

regular monitoring of department's functioning and directed the Tehsildars to ensure completion of assigned tasks within stipulated time frame.

While discussing the progress made under delineation, the Deputy Commissioner asked the Tehsildars to conduct spot visits before preparing any file under delineation. The Deputy Commissioner also reviewed the status of court cases pending in the district and directed the Tehsildars to expedite the disposal of the cases in a time bound manner.

Power shutdown

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DECEMBER 13: Chief Engineer (Distribution) JPDC Jammu has informed that the power supply to Areas feed from R/Station Bani & Duggan and adjoining areas shall remain affected on December 14 from 10 am to 3.30 pm.

Similarly, the power supply to

Treva, Mandal, Purmandel, Sandhi, Gurha, Utterbehni and adjoining areas shall remain affected on December 14 from 9 am to 2 pm.

Meanwhile, Superintending Engineer (Distribution), O&M Circle, Jammu, JPDC has informed that the power supply to Patoli, Toph, Subash Nagar, Ext-I & II and their adjoining areas shall remain

affected on December 14 from 8 am to 11 am. Similarly, the power supply to Tanda, Krail and its adjoining areas shall remain affected on December 14 and 15 from 1pm to 5 pm. Likewise, the power supply to Sainik Colony and its adjoining areas shall remain affected on December 14, 16 and 18 from 8.30 am to 12.30 pm.

DC Srinagar reviews status of ongoing National Highway Projects in the district

JJ NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, DECEMBER 13: The Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mohammad Ajaz Asad today convened a meeting of officers to review the progress of work on Ring Road Srinagar, Grade Separator at Lasjan, Flyovers at Bemina, Nowgam & Sanatnagar, Circular Road, other major roads having issues with revenue department besides impediments faced by agencies while executing the works.

DC while reviewing physical and financial status of the NH projects, it was informed that work on the projects including culverts and foundations is going on smoothly.

Regarding Grade Separator at Lasjan, Deputy Commissioner was apprised that more than 80 percent work has been completed and after NHAI placed indent recently few structure falling in the alignment are under evaluation and compensation to the own-



ers will be given shortly. Further, DC also reviewed the present position of ongoing work of flyovers and dateline for completion.

On the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner was briefed about the ongoing work on flyovers wherein it was informed that more than 30% of work has been

completed on both Nowgam and Bemina Flyover projects.

Besides, it is informed that the project of Sanatnagar Flyover has been already sanctioned while the design of the project is awaiting final approval.

The meeting was informed that the completion date of Bemina

Flyover has been fixed for March, 2023 while the dateline for Nowgam is scheduled for January, 2023. However, it was apprised that due to delay in shifting of utilities at Nowgam the completion date may extend.

Regarding the Circular Road Srinagar, Deputy Commissioner was apprised by a concerned officer that due to non availability of funds for compensation several cases are pending for settlement.

Reacting to the issue, DC asked concerned officers of Circular road to ascertain source of funding of such works whether the source of funding is currently active or not besides to ascertain whether the work has been started on any such projects or not.

Among others, the meeting was attended by officers of NHIDCL, NHAI, PWD, SE R&B circular, R&B, CRP, O&M, revenue and District administration.

DC Poonch interacts with Bal Ashram Children

Distributes warmers, inners among 55 inmates

JJ NEWS SERVICE
POONCH, DECEMBER 13: District Development Commissioner Poonch Inder Jeet today visited Bal Ashram Poonch and distributed Warmers, Inners among the inmates under Red Cross.

During the visit, the Deputy Commissioner also checked the rooms, kitchen, overall arrangements and expressed satisfaction over the hygienic conditions maintained in the Bal Ashram.

He advised the District Social Welfare Officer to keep it up, provide good facilities and good nutrition to save the children from mal-nutrition.

The Deputy Commissioner interacted with the children and inspired



them to work hard and get the benefits of Govt schemes and facilities.

The Deputy Commissioner also directed to provide a special power line to Bal Ashram Poonch so that the children do not face any prob-

lem. District Social Welfare Officer, Mohinder Paul, Tehsil Social Welfare Officer, Mohd. Azam Rather and other staff members were present on the occasion.

Advocate General condoles demise of Senior Advocate, Kulbhushan Gupta

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DECEMBER 13: A condolence meeting was held here today to condole the demise of Senior Advocate, Kulbhushan Gupta, father of Sanjeev Gupta, Registrar General of High Court of J&K and Ladakh.

The meeting was presided by Advocate General, D C Raina and attended by Law Officers and

Government Counsels (Senior Additional Advocate Generals, Additional Advocate Generals, Deputy Advocate Generals, Government Advocates), officers and employees. Meanwhile, a condolence meet was also organized by the Law Officers and Government Counsels at Srinagar Office.

Advocate General expressed profound grief over the demise of

Senior Advocate Kulbhushan Gupta saying that he was a veteran and noble personality.

Other participants also express grief over the demise of father of Registrar General and extended sympathy to the bereaved family.

During the meeting, a two-minute silence was observed to pray for eternal peace to the departed soul.

JKEDI organizes day-long 'Entrepreneurship Awareness Programme' for school students

Students & teachers from GGHSS, Nishat participate in the program

JJ NEWS SERVICE
PULWAMA, DECEMBER 13: A one-day Entrepreneurship Awareness Programme (EAP) was today organized by the Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI) for the students of the Government Girls Higher Secondary School (GGHSS) Nishat at its Pampore Campus.

This Awareness Programme was organized by JKEDI as part of its efforts to create mass awareness among the educated youth of J&K about the realities of the labour market in the Union Territory and the scope for entrepreneurship and self-employment across various sectors.

Senior faculty members of JKEDI coordinated the event and spoke about

various activities and initiatives of the Institute. Dr. Nyla Khanday, In Charge, Centre for Women Entrepreneurship, gave a detailed presentation about the Institute and its role in creating a sustainable entrepreneurial ecosystem in the Union Territory of J&K. She enumerated different opportunities available to the youth and also spoke about the importance of women entrepreneurship and its challenges. Various other initiatives were also discussed. Imtiyaz Ahad Malla, Associate Project Manager, JKEDI discussed opportunities available under the J&K Startup Policy. In an elaborate presentation, he spoke about the help provided by the Government for aspiring entrepreneurs who are contemplating to start a

business. Faculty members of JKEDI, Dr. Sameer Jan and Agha Wahid also spoke on the occasion and apprised the students about the challenges and charms of entrepreneurship. They provided an insight into the world of entrepreneurship to the participating students and acknowledged the fact that there is a need to mould young minds towards entrepreneurship and that schools are the best places to induce a positive mindset towards choosing entrepreneurship as a viable career option. Later in the day, the students also visited the incubation centre at the Institute and were apprised about benefits to the startups registered under the J&K Startup Policy. The students were accompanied by the teachers of the school.

07 Day STRY commences at KVK-Anantnag

JJ NEWS SERVICE
ANANTNAG, DECEMBER 13: A seven days Skill Training for Rural Youth (STRY) on "Skilling of Youth in Advanced Walnut and Apple Cultivation for Entrepreneurship Opportunities" started at KVK-Anantnag.

The programme is being organized in collaboration with SAMETI-Kashmir, Directorate of Extension, SKUAST-Kashmir and sponsored by MANAGE

Hyderabad. STRY training programmes are aimed at imparting skill based training to Rural youth on Agro and allied based vocational areas to promote employment of rural youth and for creation of skilled manpower to perform farm and non-farm operations. In the training programme, 28 rural youth (male/female) in the age group of 18-40 years from across the district are participating who shall be given hands on training on different aspects

of advancement in walnut and apple cultivation which shall serve as an opportunity for taking walnut/ apple cultivation as an enterprise. Prof. Farooq Ahmad Shaikh, Head, MCES Sagarin SKUAST-K, who was the special guest on the occasion spoke about the importance of conducting such skill development programmes and urged the participants to take full advantage of resources/ technological support from the Kendra.

DC Srinagar conducts late night inspection of City Hospitals; oversees patient-care facilities

JJ NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, DECEMBER 13: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Ajaz Asad conducted late night inspection of various City hospitals during the intervening night of 12th and 13th December to oversee the healthcare facilities being extended to the patients.

The DC paid surprise visits to SMHS, JLNH, CHC Gousia Khanyar and other Hospitals and checked night duty roster of Medical & Paramedical staff, heating arrangements, availability of drugs/ medicines at pharmacies and functioning of laboratories/diagnostic units. Meanwhile simultaneous inspection of SDH Hazratbal and PHC Zadibal was also done on the directions of Deputy Commissioner by SDM East and SDM West respectively.

During the night inspection, the DC made a thorough round of various Units of the Hospitals including Emergency Block, Surgical Wards,

Cardiology Wards, Operation Theatre, Dialysis Unit, Orthopaedic Unit, Ayushman Bharat Help Desk etc. He also oversaw the operationalisation of Jan Aushadhi stores aimed at providing generic drugs to the patients.

On the occasion, the DC interacted with the patients, attendants, Doctors and the Para Medical staff on duty. He also took direct feedback from the patients regarding the available patient care facilities, besides provision of medicines, meals and other medical facilities to the patients and their attendants.

While interacting with the Doctors and Para-Medical staff on duty, the DC advised them to perform their duties with added zeal and passion to serve the public. He asked them to ensure availability of Medical and Para-Medical staff strictly as per the devised roster so that patients do not face any difficulty.

The DC advised the Medical

Superintendents and concerned CMOs to display duty roster conspicuously on the Hospital Information Board. He stressed on adopting a caring and compassionate attitude towards the patients.

He also appreciated the Medical staff at various hospitals for working with dedication especially during night hours of the winter. He also told few 24*7 Hospitals to utilise their full capacity and avoid unnecessary referrals which puts a burden on the Tertiary care Health System.

The DC also passed instructions to the Hospital Administrators to maintain complete cleanliness and hygiene in and around the Hospital, besides proper heating and lighting facilities in the hospital.

During the inspection, the DC stressed on ensuring round the clock presence of doctors to ensure seamless medical care is provided to the patients.

DC Gbl inspects progress of work on Transit Accommodation at Wandhama

JJ NEWS SERVICE
GANDERBAL, DECEMBER 13: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shyambr today visited the site of Transit Camp Accommodation at Wandhama to have first-hand appraisal regarding the progress of works there.

The DC was briefed by all the concerned officers of various departments regarding the progress of works pertaining to their departments including electrification, Water supply and other additional works.

The DC directed all the concerned departments and implementing agencies including police and revenue to

work in synergy and ensure installation of utilities at the locations to be decided in consultation with each other in a time-bound manner.

The R&B was directed to execute the works strictly as per the provisions of sanctioned DPR and ensure provision for car parking, pathways, lighting, proper drainage without compromising with quality and quantity parameters.

All the line departments were directed to ensure the completion of all the formalities for the activities proposed and expedite the work so that the prestigious project gets completed on time. The DC exhorted the concerned

departments to expedite the progress of work by engaging more men and machinery so that the projects get completed within the stipulated time frame without compromising the quality of work.

Meanwhile, the DC visited the site of Wayil bridge and inspected the work progress on the bridge and also discussed the status of the approaching road.

During the visit, the DC was accompanied by Additional Deputy Commissioner, Mehraj-ud-Din Shah, CEO, Tehsildar Lar and other concerned officers from various departments.

District Development Council meet held in Rajouri

Chairman calls for timely completion of development works

JJ NEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI, DECEMBER 13: Chairman District Development Council Rajouri, Chowdhary Naseem Lyaqat today called for maintaining close collaboration between PRIs and departments to achieve the desired results under Government schemes and timely completion of developmental projects.

He was speaking at the meeting of the District Development Council, which was convened to review the progress of different departments under various schemes and programs.

The meeting was attended by DDC Member Darhal, Iqbal Malik; DDC Member Sunderbani, Rajinder Sharma; DDC Member Dhangri, Rameshwar Singh; DDC Member Rajouri, Sai Abdul Rashid and DDC Member Budhal Old-A, Shazia Kouser; DDC Rajouri, Darbar Chowdhary; DDC Qila Darhal, Khalid Firdoz; DDC Siot, Bal Krishan; DDC Budhal Old-A, Javed Iqbal Chowdhary; DDC Moughla, Surekha Kotewal; DDC Doongi, Raiz Chowdhury; DDC Nowshera, Bodh Raj; DDC Seri, Neena Sharma; DDC Budhal New, Shamim Akhter; DDC Plangarh, Parveen Akhter also attended the meeting.

From the administration side, the meeting attended by DDC Rajouri, Vikas Kundal; SSP, Mohammad Aslam; ADDC, Pawan Kumar; ADC Sunderbani, Vinod Kumar Behnal, ADC Kalakote, Krishan Lal, ADC Nowshera, Kartar Singh, ADC Koreranka, Surinder Mohan Sharma; PO ICDS, Shoket Mehmood Malik, CFO, Mohammad Khurshid, ACR, Imran Rashid Kataria; SDM Thanamandi, Vikas Dhar, GM DIC, Ashwini Sharma, PO IWMP, Sheraz Chowhan; SE Hydraulics, JP Singh; SE PDD, Kamal Kishore, CMO, Dr Abdul Hamid Zargar, and other officers. At the outset, the meeting was informed about the physical and financial progress on the development projects taken up by different departments in the district. The

meeting was also informed about several welfare schemes and programs that are being implemented in the district to benefit the general public.

The Chairman took a detailed review of physical and financial progress of each work under District Capex plan and asked the officers to expedite the progress and ensure timely completion.

Taking a review of JJM projects, the meeting was informed that out of 110 schemes in Nowshera Subdivision, the tenders for 103 schemes have been allotted, while in Rajouri subdivision out of 183 schemes, the work on 44 schemes has been allotted. It was further informed that the work on 52 schemes has been started.

Taking note of the RDSS scheme of the PDD sector, the concerned officer apprised that scheme aims to provide financial assistance to DISCOMs for modernization and strengthening of distribution infrastructure, aiming at improvement of the reliability and quality of supply to end consumers. While noting the unscheduled power outages, the Chairman asked that the curtailment schedules be made public for the convenience of consumers.

Discussing the progress under the PMGSY sector, the meeting was informed that out of 194 schemes in Rajouri subdivision, the work on 184 schemes is complete while 11 schemes are in progress. Similarly, in Budhal subdivision, it was informed that out of 124 schemes, the work on 111 schemes is complete and 13 are in progress.

Regarding the progress under MGNREGA, it was informed that 11504 works were taken up out of which 313 works have been completed and 13.62 lacs mandays have been generated. Threadbare discussion was also held on a number of issues including shortage of electricity poles, scarcity of water, material payment under MGNREGA, playground at upper stik, JK Bank Branch at Qila Darhal, paucity of

staff in educational institutions, disbursement of cases under Mission Youth etc.

Among the other issues raised during the meeting were construction of GDC Building at Doongi, construction of road from Nagoon to Pallulan, shortage of staff at PHC Chaytar, ambulance facility for PHC Nadyala, forest clearance, completion of work on smart classrooms, compensation for road from Kandti to Kha, shortage of staff at PHC Fatehpur etc.

The District Development Commissioner asked the officers to put in dedicated efforts to provide prompt and hassle free services to the general public and redress their grievances.

The District Development Commissioner assured that the genuine concerns of the public raised in the meeting shall be redressed in a time bound manner with the intervention of the concerned departments.

The DDC Chairman also urged the officers to work in tandem and put in sincere efforts to advance the district's development and yield better results on the ground.

He asked the officers to mobilize their men and machinery to complete the projects in stipulated time frame with productive and appropriate utilization of the available resources.

The Chairman also advised the DDC Members and BDC Chairpersons to formulate the developmental plans keeping in view the needs of their areas.

Regarding the dilapidated condition of the school buildings, he asked to conduct a survey and submit the list of the school buildings which are unsafe so that necessary measures can be taken in this regard. He also urged them to step up their efforts and work toward full implementation of welfare schemes and programs, noting that these schemes and programs have been launched for raising the socio-economic condition of the public.

JKTPO sponsors over 30 exhibitors at Punjab International Trade Expo Amritsar

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, DECEMBER 13: Jammu and Kashmir Trade Promotion Organization (JKTPO) participated in 16th edition of Punjab International Trade Expo (PITEX), held from 8th to 12th of December 2022 at Amritsar, Punjab, a flagship B2B and B2C event.

Pavilion setup by JKTPO showcasing the UT's Culture, Heritage, Handloom and Handicraft besides Agricultural products was one of the biggest attractions at the PITEX which received huge rush of visitors. PITEX, which brought together industry, trade and business from all over the country and abroad as well, worked as a catalyst of economic growth in the country. The J&K exhibitors displayed and promoted the uniqueness and strength of J&K among the National and International visitors.

More than 30 exhibitors including women entrepreneurs from Hausla, NGOs and Societies along with departments and corporations of J&K government exhibited unique and wide range of products during the event. The products exhibited

included Pashmina shawl from Kashmir, Kani shawls, Sozni work, Handicrafts from Jammu and Kashmir region, Walnut, Kishtwari and Kashmiri Saffron, Honey and Rajmash from Doda and Kishtwar, modern textiles, toys and accessories.

Special feature of JKTPO pavilion was presence of women entrepreneurs and societies comprising specially-abled.

Media interaction with Hausla Women Entrepreneurs of J&K was organized in which women entrepreneur of J&K shared their experience with media. Hausla women also shared their entrepreneurial journey, their experiences and briefed about the support which they are getting from the present government of UT of J&K to make their business more progressive and sustainable.

The event has provided an excellent platform to the budding and established entrepreneurs of J&K in terms of improved product visibility, retail sales, opportunity for synergistic collaborations through fruitful meets conducted with national

and international visitors/buyers, market and competitor knowledge and insights into best practices of business. Huge response in terms of business leads was generated which when converted into orders will result into a good business for them in future.

MD, JKTPO, Khalid Jahangir, observed that showcasing of unique products of Jammu and Kashmir in such kind of events helps to improve overall business ecosystem of J&K. He stressed on importance of promoting authentic quality products from J&K at national and international level events ensuring forward market linkages.

He informed that JKTPO under the aegis of Department of Industries and Commerce is providing both physical and e-commerce marketing platform to entrepreneurs of J&K. Initiatives like participation in MSME Expo, GI Fair, India International Trade Fair, IHGF Fair, Agrotech Fair, on boarding drives on ONDC platform, walmart vriddhi, flipkart and proposed on boarding drives on GeM are few to mention.

DIC Ramban invites MSME unit holders to participate in Vendor Development Programme cum- PISME EXPO-2022

JJ NEWS SERVICE

RAMBAN, DECEMBER 13: District Industries Centre Ramban today invited MSME unit holders and Industrial Associations of the District to take part in the Vendor Development Programme cum-PISME EXPO-2022 being held in Jammu Haat, Near Exhibition Ground from December 21 to Dec

31, 2022. As per General Manager, DIC Ramban, a two day seminar from December 21 to 22, 2022, would also be organized by CPSPUs to give a presentation on their requirement of products and services and describe the procedure of procurement and vendor registration as per public procurement policy. Booking a stall for exhibition and

for participation in Seminar is free of cost. For participation in Seminar and exhibition the Unit Holders can visit on a given Google link. <http://forms.gle/GZz5fonFQwv8E3c8>.

For any further assistance they can contact Nodal Officer Assistant Director, D.K Tyagi on Mobile phone No 9609615555.

Secretary Health reviews action plan for strengthening of District Hospitals as per IPHS 2022

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU DECEMBER 13: Secretary, Health and Medical Education, Bhupinder Kumar, today chaired a meeting to review and discuss the action plan for strengthening of District Hospitals as per Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS), 2022.

Pertinently, IPHS is a set of standards that provide a uniform benchmark to assess the quality and functionality of public health facilities. It was first framed in 2007 and then revised in 2012 followed by another revision in 2022. These standards provide guidance on the infrastructure, human resource, drugs, diagnostics, equipment, quality and governance requirements for delivering quality health services to all the citizens with dignity. In an effort to improve the quality of services, National Health Mission J&K in collaboration with Norway India Partnership Initiative (NIPI) has taken the initiative to conduct rapid baseline assessment of all DHs and CHCs as per IPHS 2022.

During the meeting, Secretary had a detailed review regarding findings of baseline assessment of District Hospitals and action plan for their strengthening. He sought inputs on the subject and discussed various interventions with the stakeholders for filling the identified gaps in different areas at the earliest so as to make these hospitals IPHS compliant. Secretary asked the Directors of Health Services, Jammu and Kashmir to cross check the findings of the assessment with respect to Human Resource, Equipment/ Instruments, Drugs and Diagnostics, Infrastructure and other areas and submit the proposals for the next financial year as per the actual gaps in District Hospitals.

In addition, Secretary laid emphasis on implementation of Quality Assurance program and directed the concerned to conduct quarterly internal assessments, identify gaps and prepare time bound facility wise action plans for filling the gaps. This will ensure that all the remaining District Hospitals are prepared

for achieving various quality certifications like NQAS, LaQshya, MusQan and Kayakalp in a time bound manner so as to improve the quality of service delivery.

In order to further strengthen the District Hospitals in terms of Human Resource and equipment, the Directors and Chief Medical Officers besides Medical Superintendents have been asked to apply for DNB courses at all the eligible District Hospitals. The meeting was attended in person by Mission Director NHM J&K, Director Finance, H&ME Department, Director Health Services Jammu, Managing Director JKMSCL, Additional Secretary, H&ME Department and Joint Director Planning H&ME Department while Director Health Services Kashmir, Director Coordination, New Medical Colleges, J&K; concerned Chief Medical Officers & Medical Superintendents; State Program Manager NIPI J&K and Program Managers, NHM J&K participated online.

Over 10.38 lakh Aadhaar cards issued in Srinagar

Special Aadhar Enrolment Camps to be held in all Wards of the District to register uncovered population
DC Srinagar reviews progress on Aadhaar saturation and Aadhaar seeding under beneficiary oriented schemes

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR DECEMBER 13:- With a view to achieve saturation under Aadhaar enrolment process, a meeting of all concerned Officers was held under the Chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC), Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad here on Tuesday at Meeting Hall of DC Office Complex.

Besides Additional Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Syed Shabir Ahmad, Chief Planning Officer and Mohammad Yaseen Lone, the meeting was attended by all District Officers of concerned Departments.

At the outset, the DC took department wise review of the Aadhaar seeding with regard to Government sponsored beneficiary oriented schemes and stressed on 100% Aadhaar coverage in District Srinagar within a specific time

frame. He asked the concerned to pace up the speed of the process and mobilize its men and machinery to achieve the left out target.

On the occasion, the DC asked for holding special Aadhaar Enrolment camps in all Wards of the District over next two weeks to register the uncovered population.

The DC said that Aadhaar is a unique identity of every citizen by which they are able to avail any Government service in hassle free manner. He directed all the Officers to take up Aadhaar saturation in mission mode so that effective and efficient public services are provided to the people.

The DC enjoined upon the Officers to formulate a concrete plan for optimum utilisation of Aadhaar centres in order to achieve the 100% saturation. He also stressed on mass

mobilization to designated Aadhaar centres through awareness campaigns by involving local representatives.

The DC was informed that a population of over 10.38 lakh have been covered under the ambit of Aadhaar enrolment in Srinagar so far and process of registration of remaining population is being carried out across the District.

The DC was also apprised that most of the Departments providing beneficiary oriented schemes have already achieved 100 percent Aadhaar seeding including FCS&CA, Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries, Cooperatives, KVIB, KVIC, Labour, Social welfare and RDD through different beneficiary oriented schemes like PM-Kisan, KCC, IDDS, IPDP, FD, Soil cards etc.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, TLMDOV, JKPTCL, AMBEDKAR CHOWK JAMMU (J&K)

email id: xengcdjmu@gmail.com

NO: TLMD/V/J/2048-49

DATE: 08-12-2022

CANCELLATION OF TENDER

Due to some technical problem in uploading of the BOQ of the floated e-NIT no: TLMD/V/1/04 of 2022 dated: 01/12/2022 "Replacement of Old Electro-Mechanical Relays with Numerical Relays including Replacement of Energy meters and Battery charger at 320MVA, 220/132/66KV Grid station Hiranagar" stands cancelled. The fresh dates for the tender will be notified separately.

DIP/J-4287-P/22

SD/
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
TLMD-V, JKPTCL
JAMMU

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

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

JINDRAH IMAGES

Gujarat victory to have direct bearing on 2024 elections

The landslide victory of the BJP in the Gujarat Assembly election has put the saffron party in jubilation as it came as a surprise for its high command. The party was expecting victory but the way it defeated its rivals proves beyond doubt that the voters have reposed faith in the leadership of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who remained the state's chief minister for 13 years. Modi's mass appeal across the state continues to work for the BJP, irrespective of who is occupying the chief minister's chair. The Prime Minister, in his victory address, has rightly said that the people of Gujarat have broken all records while casting their votes in favour of the party. During the past eight years after Prime Minister Modi shifted from Gandhinagar to New Delhi, Gujarat has had three CMs--Anandiben Patel, Vijay Rupani and Bhupendrabhai Patel. There is no doubt that Gujarat has received special attention from the Centre in terms of welfare schemes, development projects and bringing industrial investments. As expected, the ruling party left no stone unturned to ensure that the poll battle was reduced to a one-horse race yet again. At the same time, the party has lost the electoral battle in the hill state of Himachal Pradesh where the people of Himachal Pradesh have stuck to its tradition of not giving a second term to the party in power. Congress wrested power in the state and it has every reason to celebrate. The win is a big achievement for a state unit that is prone to infighting among competing factions, and went to the polls minus a chief ministerial face. The BJP had to face the anti-incumbency sentiment and its state leadership under Jai Ram Thakur had virtually left it to Prime Minister Modi to work his magic. His popularity and emotional appeal to the voters worked as well and it could be the reasons that the party managed respectable numbers in the 68-member House. It was a warning signal for the BJP as well. The party state unit needs to go for introspection. Aam Aadmi Party also made its presence felt in Gujarat where the AAP made things even worse for the beleaguered Congress, which came a distant second with a drastically reduced vote share. The absence of a credible alternative in Gujarat also worked in the BJP's favour. The electorate voted emphatically for continuity as there was no pressing reason to opt for change. The thumping victory of the BJP in Gujarat elections is expected to give a fillip to the BJP's prospects in the Assembly elections scheduled to be held in Karnataka, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh next year. The reversal in Himachal Pradesh might have hurt it, but the party would prefer to quickly learn a lesson and gear up for the bigger battles ahead. The BJP would also try to replicate its Gujarat growth model across the country especially in various party-ruled states because the outcome of such efforts will have a bearing on its bid to retain power at the Centre in 2024. It would be a big challenge for Congress as well to keep its flock together and work on a strategy to put up a decisive battle against the BJP.

AFTER GUJARAT, CAN BJP BEAT LAW OF DIMINISHING RETURNS?

SHIKHA MUKERJEE

In Gujarat and in Himachal Pradesh, Mr Modi made no bones about how the voters should weigh their choices.

It was an outstanding and unprecedented triumph for Prime Minister Narendra Modi; the results of the state Assembly elections in Gujarat, read alone, reaffirm the popularity and invincibility of the BJP's superstar. The Gujarat results may, however, be an outlier.

In Gujarat, Mr Modi is a son of the soil. In the two other places that also voted in the last round of elections in 2022, not only did Mr Modi's appeal fail to galvanise voters, but in Himachal Pradesh voters actually disdainfully rejected the BJP's appeal to change their habit of booting out the party in power and voting in the Opposition. In the Delhi MCD elections, the BJP lost, even though its top leaders had rushed around making noisy appeals to unimpressed voters.

In Gujarat and in Himachal Pradesh, Mr Modi made no bones about how the voters should weigh their choices. "You need not remember the BJP candidate, only remember the symbol of 'lotus'," he declared to his audiences in meeting after meeting. He also made an unequivocal appeal for voters in both places to vote for him, personally; he said the "lotus" means "it is the BJP and that Modi ji has come to you".

The vote against Mr Modi and the BJP in Himachal Pradesh and Delhi is a signal that people are willing to choose an alternative. The pundits who are analysing the election results, based on the Gujarat outcome, have come up with the idea that voters trust Mr Modi. It is, therefore, equally true that elsewhere voters distrust Mr Modi.

The mixed message of the elections is that Mr Modi's appeal and perhaps that of the BJP appears to have reached the point of diminishing returns. The chances of Mr Modi and the BJP replicating the results it has achieved in Gujarat in the future are dicey. This time the BJP's vote share was over 52 per cent, which is exceptional given that for the first time in decades there was a three-cornered contest, with the Aam Aadmi Party presenting itself as the challenger to both the Congress and the BJP. In future elections in Gujarat, it will be very difficult for the BJP to



improve on its performance, regardless of its deep roots in the state, the appeal of toxic, majoritarian, divisive identity politics and its arrogance in nominating Payal Kukrani, the daughter of the BJP's convicted leader responsible for the massacre in 2002 in Naroda Patiya.

Hubris has a way of catching out the narcissist. The arrogance that paid off in Gujarat did not go down well with voters in Himachal Pradesh. The difference in vote share between the Congress and the BJP in Himachal Pradesh may be infinitesimal, but the gap is a definitive. The discontent of people coping with unemployment, the economic slowdown that is resulting in ever shrinking opportunities for work, lollipops like the "Agnipath" scheme, contractual employment in the armed forces with no prospects, have had an effect. That effect has outweighed the appeal of "Modi ji".

Unlike Gujarat, which is as rich as a middle-income economy like China or Argentina, Himachal Pradesh is poorer and has a backward economy, which makes it more representative of most parts of India. Voters in Himachal Pradesh are not happy with the way things are. They are unhappy about the Narendra Modi government's failure to address their day-to-day problems than they are about the Congress. It is this difference that is crucial for what happens in 2023 and 2024, when the Modi government and the cult of the larger-than-life leader will be at

stake.

Between now and 2024, when the Lok Sabha elections are due, there will be more than nine states that will test Mr Modi's popularity, given that he has opted to make himself the only alternative. That power in the BJP has been concentrated in the persona of Mr Modi and his mastermind Amit Shah for several years is not news. What is new and significant is the convergence of person with party along the lines of "the epitome of absurdity that was reflected in the infamous statement that India is Indra and Indra is India" in his pitch to voters in Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh.

If this is the template that Mr Modi and his mastermind have designed for the Hindutva conquest of India, where the "lessons" of 2002 have been learnt by the Muslim minority and "Akhand Shanti", or uninterrupted peace, prevails, then it is a gamble driven by the dangerously seductive but entirely deceptive idea that the Congress and the Opposition have been effectively neutralised. The Bharat Jodo Yatra of the Congress is the resurrection, not of the party, but of the idea of India that Mr Modi and his associates in the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh despise and are committed to defeating.

Step by step, Mr Modi has moved to fulfil the promises of remaking India as per the master plan of Hindutva. Topping the list is the construction of a loud and large temple complex at Ayodhya

for the glory of the BJP and its devotion to Lord Ram, followed by the abrogation of Article 370, effectively cancelling Kashmir's special status in Hindu-majority India, followed by cancelling Kashmir's special status in Hindu-majority India, followed by triple talaq for Muslim women and create a discriminatory route for religious migrants facing persecution in neighbouring countries. What the Modi government has not been able to do, as yet, despite its threats to get it done, is implement the Citizenship Amendment Act and the National Register of Citizens in a bid to disenfranchise sizeable numbers of Muslims in border states, legislate on a Uniform Civil Code and so change the social-political dynamics to fit the pattern card drawn by the founders of the obsolete idea of Hindutva, as the most glorious manifestation of a peculiar political ideology. In Gujarat, the Hindu majority may be convinced that they have voted to strengthen an ideology of discrimination that trashes the founding values of India's Constitution. In Himachal, voters rejected that design, as they did in the Delhi municipal election. The next set of elections, from Meghalaya to Telangana, will offer voters multiple opportunities to decide who they wish to be as Indians, as citizens, as a people. The elections will also offer Mr Modi a chance to reinvent himself if he thinks that will help him beat the inexorable law of diminishing returns.

(The writer is a senior journalist in Kolkata.)

Islamabad's deadly game of guns

NISHITHA KAUSHIKI AND NIKHIL SHARMA

The Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) is an Afghanistan-Pakistan-based branch of the Taliban with a Deobandi-Wahabi sectarian orientation. The origins of TTP trace back to the Jihadist elements based in Afghanistan. These groups returned to the tribal areas of Pakistan as a consequence of the post-9/11 American war on terror and began coalescing. The official formation of TTP took place in 2007, and in 2014, the appearance of Daesh or the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) in West Asia in the Afghanistan-Pakistan region complicated the situation further. The deadliness of the TTP can be recalled from the December 2014 Peshawar school attack. Consequently, Operation Zarb-e-Azb, a government anti-militant offensive in North Waziristan, and the excesses of these operations led to further alienation among the tribal militants. The two groups jointly demanded establishing an 'Islamic Caliphate' in the Afghanistan-Pakistan region and beyond.

The development left Pakistan with only two hard choices. First, to cooperate with the US and finish off the entire umbrella of terror, and second, to go against the US and completely Talibanise the society by accepting

Sharia law and an Islamic Caliphate for itself. The establishment at Rawalpindi agreed to none as either of the decisions would have entailed compromising its 'authority' and 'power' in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Simultaneously, the US was increasingly seen as a 'burden' for Pakistan; thus, getting the region freed from its clutches became essential. Pakistan adopted a two-pronged approach, the core at which lies the distinction between 'good' and 'bad' Taliban. The strategy first comprised letting the US finish off the terror modules based in Afghanistan, while encouraging, some factions, such as the Haqqani network. This was done to use terror as an active foreign and security policy tool, especially regarding Afghanistan and India. The Haqqani network also served as crucial interlocutors between Rawalpindi and anti-Pakistan groups, such as the TTP.

Second, coax the US to the negotiating table with the Taliban and provide some 'breather' for the acceptable groups. In addition, Islamabad also complicated the talks and made the Taliban a central stakeholder from a 'terrorist module', legitimising its safety for a planned US exit. In 2013 and 2014, the Taliban opened its office in Doha and Khorasan-e-Razavi (Iran) with the stated objectives of 'peace and reconciliation', giving it a political and diplomatic space. Taliban thus



got a stronghold, and Pakistan emerged as the most important player in Afghanistan. As the developments unfolded, the US was forced to exit the region in 2021. However, during the momentum of the 'grand chessboard' game, i.e., between 2018 and 2021, Pakistan was so motivated to throw the US out of the region that it made some glaring mistakes. First, the conciliatory approach during the ceasefire agreement backfired as it allowed the TTP to regroup and led to the proliferation of its bases in the hilly regions. The political establishment negotiated a ceasefire agreement starting in November 2021 which was extended indefinitely in May 2022 as a process building towards conciliation. On the other hand, the military leadership under Qamar Javed Bajwa did

not hesitate to carry out military counter-offensives during the same period, thereby jeopardising the peace process. It resulted in the extra-judicial extermination of many militant cadres during the process of engagement with the government. The TTP saw this as a direct contravention of the ceasefire agreement. Thus, the TTP undertook what it branded as "Defensive targeted attacks" against the Pakistani establishments to counter the Army's offensives. Second, Pakistan also ignored the role of Noor Wali Mehsud in shifting the Jihadist narrative from a regional to a local one. The Afghan Taliban and the TTP joined hands on the grounds of commonality. As Pakistan had betrayed both during its heyday of the US proximity, the objective of avenging the

killings of its leaders brought the two groups into a firm embrace. Nevertheless, in 2020, the TTP stated that it had no regional or global agenda and that its sole focus was Pakistan. Consequently, hardcore militants started expressing loyalty to the TTP and its other affiliate or splinter groups, rapidly spreading to Punjab, Sindh, and Balochistan. Further, to deepen its outreach, TTP had started providing guerrilla war training to the Baloch freedom fighters apart from successfully creating tactical crossovers with different affiliates of Al Qaeda and ISIS.

Third, given Rawalpindi's control over the use of force and violence, it naturally expected the TTP to continue supporting the Afghan Taliban, respect the Durand Line, and keep itself involved in Afghanistan. However, as the Taliban became devoid of any strategic challenge, it became relatively free to think beyond the Afghan borders. It set out to deconstruct the image of Afghanistan as a 'strategic backyard of Pakistan' and hence perceived itself as an independent player. The developments allow Washington to regain its strategic foothold in the region. Although the United States has pledged to support the Pakistani establishment against TTP, the matter might take an interesting turn if the US, too, decides to avenge its 'betrayal' in Afghanistan. The aforesaid scenario presents a new

set of challenges to Pakistan Army chief Gen Asim Muneer, who is considered a hardliner on security issues. The ouster of Lt Gen Hameed as head of ISI, who had an 'accommodative' posturing towards the TTP, further strengthens the hawkish stance of current military leadership. Pakistan has adopted a two-prong approach wherein it has heightened the military counter-offensives against the militants and made parallel overtures to the Afghan Taliban to rein in TTP. Pakistan's call for a 'reorientation in its strategy', apart from Hina Rabbani Khar calling on the Taliban to check the footsteps of the TTP in Pakistan, speaks volumes of its double approach. However, the situation might escalate if Al-Qaeda, the TTP, and the ISKP open a joint terror front against the Pakistani State while engaging in parallel targeted attacks.

The Indian security agencies must prepare for cross-border provocations in the form of increased infiltrations, terror strikes on security establishments, disturbances in Kashmir, and minor skirmishes along the borders. Pakistan might resort to this tactic to divert attention from its internal disturbances. The agencies must enhance manual and drone surveillance and use drone jamming technology extensively apart from the completion of the Comprehensive Integrated Border Management System (CIBMS) installation.

Kartik Aaryan says he would want to do 'rooted' films like Kantara: 'Mera khoon pura desi hai'

Actor Kartik Aaryan has responded to a question on if he would want to do a film 'as rooted as' Kantara. In a new interview, Kartik called himself 'desi' and revealed that he would love to do such films. Kartik also said that he loves watching movies like Kantara. (Also Read | Kamal Haasan, Prithviraj Sukumaran call Kantara 'the film that blew their mind in 2022')

Helmed by Rishab Shetty, Kantara got a massive response from the audience for its storyline and amazing visuals. The story is set in coastal Karnataka and it merges local beliefs in Daivas with concepts of man vs nature and land politics. Kantara follows the character of Shiva (Rishab), a Kambala champion who has a faceoff with an upright Forest officer.

In an interview with Zoom, Kartik said, "I would love to do rooted films, grounded films. Main khoon pura desi hoon yaar. Mera khoon pura desi hai."



Mujhe aesi filmein dekhne bhi mazaa aata hai aur karne ka bbbhi shaq hai (I am completely native.)

My blood is completely native I love watching such films and would love to do such films as

well). Kuch headlines dekhta hoon (I come across some headlines), ke 'the era of Kartik Aaryan has begun', I get happy with my success and I hope good film chalti rahe (keep on happening) and I keep on getting good

films." Kantara released in Kannada on September 30 in theatres. Good box office response even outside Karnataka led to the dubbed versions being released two weeks later. Recently, the

film had its digital release on Prime Video in Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, and Kannada and on Netflix in Hindi. Produced by Hombale Films, Kantara stars Rishab Pramod Shetty, Achyuth Kumar, Saphami Gowda, and Kishore.

Kartik was recently seen in Freddy along with Alaya F. An Ekta Kapoor production Freddy was released on Disney+ Hotstar on December 2. Helmed by Shashanka Ghosh, the film is a romantic thriller that showcases Kartik in a never seen avatar.

The actor has several projects in the pipeline such as the family entertainer film Shehzada opposite Kriti Sanon. Kartik will also be part of the musical romantic drama film Satyaprem Ki Katha opposite Kiara Advani. The film is all set to hit the theatres on June 29, 2023. Apart from these, Kartik also has Aashiqui 3, director Hansal Mehta's Captain India and director Kabir Khan's next untitled project in the pipeline.

Ranbir Kapoor says Bombay Velvet wasn't a good film, deserved its fate



Ranbir Kapoor says Bombay Velvet wasn't a good film, deserved its fate. Ranbir Kapoor recently opened up about his performances over the years, as he completed 15 years as an actor in the Hindi film industry. The actor who made appearance at the Red Sea International Film Festival in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, spoke candidly about his films that turned out to be box office failures. He admitted that Bombay Velvet "wasn't a good film" and "deserved the fate" at the box office. (Also read: Ranbir Kapoor talks about biggest mistake he made on Shamsheera)

During the interview, Ranbir openly talked about his films over the years, and how some of them did not work well at the box office.

As he called his film Bombay Velvet a 'big disaster of Indian cinema', he was interrupted by a fan in the audience who said that it was because of Karan Johar. Ranbir laughed and said that would be unfair to pin it down on the producer-director who starred as the antagonist in the Anurag Kashyap directorial.

In a video shared by Brut India, Ranbir said, "While working on the film I thought like, 'Wow, this is amazing,' you know. Like, Anurag Kashyap was directing. We had great of actors, you know. See, once you start a film you lose perspective because you surrender to the process. You surrender to the filmmaking, you surrender to the character... So Bombay Velvet was something which... it deserved the fate that it had because it wasn't a good film."

Ranbir also talked about his other projects, but specially Jagga Jasoos, as "the only film of my career whose failure hurt me because that was a passion project."

Christopher Nolan says nuclear explosion in Oppenheimer was done without CGI

Director Christopher Nolan's next Oppenheimer is one of the most anticipated films of next year. The director has now shared that the production for the film recreated the first nuclear weapon detonation without taking the help of any additional CGI effects. (Also read: Oppenheimer teaser: Christopher Nolan's next on 'father of atomic bomb' looks explosive and horrifying. Watch)

The filmmaker behind acclaimed films like Inception and Interstellar is known for mind-bending thrillers combined with thrilling visual effects. Talking about Oppenheimer, Christopher said that recreating the Trinity test [the first nuclear weapon detonation, in New Mexico] without the use of CGI was an extreme decision to pull off.

In the discussion with Total Film Magazine, as reported by Variety, the director added, "Andrew Jackson -- my visual effects supervisor, I got him on board early on -- was looking at how we could do a lot of the visual elements of the film practically, from representing quantum dynamics and quantum physics to the Trinity test itself, to recreating, with my team, Los Alamos up on a mesa in New Mexico in extraordinary weather, a lot of which was needed for the film, in terms of the very harsh conditions out there -- there were huge practical challenges."

The filmmaker called Oppenheimer the most challenging film of his career so far. He further commented on the scope of doing justice to the story.

"There were big, logistical challenges, big practical challenges. But I had an extraordinary crew, and they really stepped up."

It will be a while before we're finished. But certainly, as I watch the results come in, and as I'm putting the film together, I'm thrilled with what my team has been able to achieve," said the director.

Oppenheimer stars Cillian Murphy as J. Robert Oppenheimer, who was a leading figure in the Manhattan Project and enabled the process of creating the atomic bomb during World War II. The film also stars Emily Blunt, Robert Downey Jr, Matt Damon, Florence Pugh, Rami Malek, Benny Safdie, Josh Hartnett, Dane DeHaan, Jack Quaid, Matthew Modine, Alden Ehrenreich, David Krumholtz, Michael Angarano and Kenneth Branagh.

ZURI REED AND LYNDON SMITH TALK NATIONAL TREASURE AND AGREE AGENT ROSS IS PLUCKY

Actors Zuri Reed and Lyndon Smith, who play Tasha and Agent Ross in Disney+ Hotstar's National Treasure: Edge of History, spoke to Hindustan Times about their characters, how they bonded over that one pivotal scene that comes late in the show. Also, why Agent Ross could be described as plucky!

I am curious to know what you took

back from your own characters from the series, and how was the filming process.

Lyndon Smith:

Well this was an interesting role for me in that I got to do a lot more stunts than what I am used to do in shows.

So, yeah, being able to have that gift of...doing so much physicality in a role that is something I will be taking with me... into other roles, because I haven't

done a lot of things that are action-heavy and this is a action-heavy show.

Zuri Reed: Same, really. This is my first action project as well.

I play someone who knows that she is a genius when it comes to technology... and hacking... and she is so smart with that and I am not! (laughs) so spending some time with her was kinda cool!

Lyndon: I am curious... did you like, read things in the script and then research what that was?

Zuri: Absolutely! So many times, yes! (smiles)

Lyndon: I have always wondered because like usually there's always a tech person in a lot of shows and I am like...they are also learning all of these things too!

Suga may not enlist as active-duty soldier for South Korean military service, BTS agency issues clarification on reports

BTS member Suga might not enlist as an active-duty soldier for South Korea's mandatory military service. As per several reports, due to his left shoulder surgery in 2020 Suga will be assigned as a public service worker. Now, BTS agency BigHit Music has reacted to the reports. (Also Read | Jin gets farewell from RM, Suga, J-Hope, Jimin, V, Jungkook as he begins military service; leaves note for BTS ARMY)

As per news agency Yonhap, Suga 'will carry out his military service as a social service agent'. It added that the rapper was assigned to be a social service agent instead of an active-duty soldier but details regarding his enlistment are not yet known.

On Tuesday, Soompi quoted BigHit Music as saying, "BTS members plan to serve in the military sequentially according to their own plans. It is difficult to confirm the artist's personal information." Talking about Suga's surgery, BigHit Music



had earlier released an official statement, "Suga also felt that it was important for him to restore himself to good health to prepare for his mandatory military service as well as his post-service

musical career. After extensive discussion with the company, the decision was made to undergo the surgical procedure." As per Korea Herald, in South Korea serving as a social

service agent is an alternative form of military service. It can be done by those who are unable to serve in a military base as soldiers due to factors including health, and family situations. It

added that social service agents 'serve in one of the government agencies and welfare institutes--schools, government buildings, local parking lots, nursing homes and subway stations'. The service is three months longer than the Korean Army--21 months, including three weeks of basic military training.

Suga, born in 1993, will turn 30 in March 2023. He debuted with BTS members Jin, RM, J-Hope, Jimin, V, and Jungkook in 2013. In 2016, he released his first solo mixtape, Agust D. In 2020, he released his second solo mixtape, D-2. After his surgery in November 2020, Suga took a break. He resumed activities in January 2021, beginning with a performance at the 35th Golden Disc Awards.

BTS members have already started with mandatory military service. Jin, the eldest member of the group, joined the South Korean military on Tuesday.

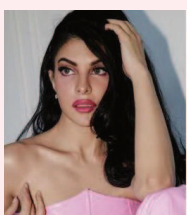
His group members posed for pictures with him before he entered his boot camp.

Jacqueline Fernandez is ready to fight aggressively against Nora Fatehi's defamation suit, says her lawyer

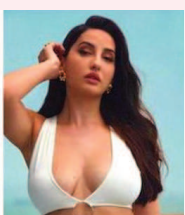
Actor Nora Fatehi has filed a defamation suit against her fellow colleague Jacqueline Fernandez, along with 15 media houses, in connection with the 7200 crore extortion case involving conman Sukesh Chandrashekar. And Fernandez is in no mood to let it go easily. In fact, Fernandez's lawyer, Prashant Patil reveals that they are ready to fight it out aggressively in court, and even plan to file a counter suit. According to reports, Fatehi has filed the case over a written plea before the PMLA (Prevention of Money

Laundering Act, 2002) court where Fernandez stated that she was "falsely being implicated by the ED while celebs such as Nora Fatehi, who had also received gifts from conman Sukesh Chandrashekar, had been made witnesses."

"It has started to become evident that the aforementioned rivals being unable to compete with the Complainant fairly in the industry have started to try and tarnish her reputation which would cause her loss of work," Fatehi has claimed in the suit, adding, "It should be reiterated that these defamatory



remarks were made by the Accused No. 1 initially which was further carried forward and circulated by the other accused



persons, all of whom were acting in connivance with each other and a conspiracy by the Accused No. 1 to ensure the

financial, social, and personal downfall of the Complainant was batched, and enacted by the said actions."

Now, Fernandez's lawyer has reacted to the reports, revealing he is yet to get an official confirmation about the suit. "Right now, Jacqueline will not react to it as of now because the court has not taken cognizance of that suit yet. It is only Nora, or somebody, who has leaked the news into the media. Let the court take cognizance, if they do, we will definitely go for quashing it. And once Nora steps into the box, we will defi-

nately conduct cross examination," Patil tells us. According to him, the development of the defamation suit can be divided into three parts for understanding. "First, where did this come from? Fernandez has replied in the court to the higher authority where there was me, ED and the authority. And these proceedings are not made in the public domain. If that is not made in the public domain... During the course of arguments, whatever is said, cannot be raised to defamation and can't be put in public domain. If certain media

agencies have pulled out her responses and circulated, it is for the media agencies to answer," he says. Patil continues, "Can a public statement amount to defamation, the answer is no."

Third, Nora has to come to the court and step into the box, then she will be subjected to cross examination by me. She will also have to answer". However, he is waiting for legal communication to come his way, as he says, "I have not got any official copy out of the courtroom yet, whatever I've gotten is only from the media.

Russia rejects Zelenskyy call for troop pullout, saying Ukraine must accept 'realities'

LONDON: Russia on Tuesday dismissed a peace proposal from Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy that would involve a pull-out of Russian troops, saying Kyiv needed to accept new territorial "realities".

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said those realities included Russia's addition of four Ukrainian regions as its "new subjects" - annexations it proclaimed in September but which most countries of the United Nations have condemned as illegal.

He was responding to a request by Zelenskyy to leaders from Group of Seven powers on Monday for more military equipment, support for financial and energy stability, and backing for a peace solution that would start with Russia withdrawing troops from Ukraine, beginning this Christmas.

"These are three steps towards a continuation of hostilities," Peskov said.

"The Ukrainian side needs to take into account



the realities that have developed during this time," he added when asked about the proposed Russian troop withdrawal. "And these realities indicate that new subjects have appeared in the Russian Federation.

They appeared as a result of referendums that took place in these territories. Without taking these new realities into account, no kind of progress is possible."

There could be "no question" of Russia starting to pull out its troops by the

end of the year, he said. Ukraine and its Western allies have dismissed as illegal shams the "referendums" that Peskov referred to in four regions of south and eastern Ukraine that Russia partly occupies, saying they were conducted at gunpoint. Since the annexations, Russia has lost significant ground in the south and east of Ukraine and has spoken more frequently of its willingness to hold peace talks.

But it says it does not see Ukraine and the West, which is supplying Kyiv with weapons, as ready to negotiate. Moscow has rejected charges that its talk of diplomacy is an attempt to buy time to regroup after nearly 10 months of war and a series of defeats and retreats.

Ukraine says Russia must halt its attacks and withdraw from all territory it has occupied, and Zelenskyy urged G7 leaders on Monday to back his idea of convening a special Global Peace Summit.

The summit would be focused on the implementation of Kyiv's 10-point peace plan that insists on, among other things, Russia's withdrawal of all its troops from Ukraine and no territorial concessions on Kyiv's part. "No matter what the aggressor intends to do, when the world is truly united, it is then the world, not the aggressor that determines how events develop," Zelenskyy said in his nightly video address on Monday.

Ukraine battles Russian assault in east as Kyiv allies plan winter aid



KYIV: Russia and Ukraine pounded each other's forces in heavy fighting in the eastern region of Donetsk on Tuesday as Kyiv's allies met in Paris to provide urgent aid to help Ukrainians survive freezing winter temperatures.

Moscow is battling to take full control of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions, two of four territories the Kremlin claims to have annexed in votes rejected by most countries in September.

Moscow is also attacking Ukraine's energy infrastructure with waves of missile and drone strikes, at times cutting off electricity

for millions of civilians enduring Europe's deadliest conflict since World War Two.

"A little more than 50% of the territory of the Donetsk People's Republic has been liberated," Denis Pushilin, Russian-installed administrator of the portion controlled by Moscow, told Russian state-owned news agency RIA. Reuters was unable to independently verify the report. Fierce fighting in the region in recent weeks has left unclear which parts of Donetsk are under Russian and Ukrainian control. Three civilians were killed in the Donetsk region over past 24 hours, regional

Governor Pavlo Kyrylenko said on his Telegram channel, while in the southern Kherson region, regional governor Yaroslav Yanushevych reported

three people were killed and 15 wounded in Russian artillery attacks in the past day.

SUSTAINED SHELLING Russian troops shelled the part of the Kherson region under Ukrainian control 57 times, he said. Russia's sustained shelling of the frontline in Donetsk has completely destroyed the city of Bakhmut and heavily damaged the city of Avdiivka, which lies in the region's centre, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said

on Friday. On Monday, the general staff of Ukraine's armed forces said Russia kept concentrating its efforts to advance and capture both cities.

Reuters could not independently verify the latest battlefield accounts.

Belarus, a close ally of Russia, launched a snap inspection of its troops' combat readiness after an order from President Alexander Lukashenko, the defence ministry said on Tuesday.

It was the latest in a flurry of military actions, including a counter-terrorism exercise last week, that have raised fears Russia may mount an attack on Ukraine from Belarusian territory in coming months.

In Paris meanwhile about 70 countries and institutions will discuss what can be offered between now and March to maintain Ukraine's water, food, energy, health and transport.

A second meeting between France, Ukraine and some 500 companies will see what can be invested and done in the short to long term.

Attack on Chinese diplomats, executives in Afghanistan: ISIS claims responsibility

KABUL: An Islamic State offshoot took credit for an attack at a Kabul hotel popular with Chinese diplomats and businessmen, the first attack targeting citizens from one of the few countries with good ties with the Taliban since it came to power last year.

Two armed members of the Islamic State-Khorasan, a local affiliate of the militant group operating in the Middle East, detonated explosive devices inside the Kabul Longan Hotel in a posh district of the Afghan capital Monday. The group claimed the suicide attack killed or wounded at least 30 people, according to the SITE Intelligence Group.

A spokesman of Afghanistan's Taliban-led government, Zabihullah Mujahed, said two foreign nationals were injured while jumping from the hotel balcony and three assailants were killed after a gun battle with government forces.

China was "deeply shocked" by the attack,



foreign ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin said Tuesday at a regular press briefing in Beijing. Chinese diplomats in the South Asian nation made serious representations with Afghanistan about the incident, he said, adding that Beijing supported the nation in countering terrorism.

This is the group's third attack in the last few months hitting targets associated with nations that have friendly ties with the Taliban. Earlier this

month there was an attack on Pakistan's embassy in the country. In September, the group claimed an attack just outside the Russian embassy, which killed several people including a senior diplomat and a security guard.

The IS-K group is one of the Taliban's most serious security threats, carrying out large-scale attacks in densely populated areas. Even before the Taliban took over the militant group was fighting it in an attempt to impose their

even-harsher Islamic ideology and expand their influence in the region. The attacks highlight the difficulties the Taliban faces to break its international isolation and draw in foreign investments to the country's largely untapped mineral resources. The militant group has limited diplomatic links with only seven countries, including Russia and China, but even those countries have not formally recognized its government.

Bali's water crisis threatens local culture, UNESCO sites

JATILUWIH: Far from Bali's beaches and hotels, farmer I Ketut Jata stands on a mountainside, staring at terraced land that is too dry to grow the rice his family has long relied on for food and income.

"It is no longer possible to work in the fields as a farmer," he says.

Bali's water crisis is worsening from tourism development, population growth and water mismanagement, experts and environmental groups warn. Water shortages already are affecting UNESCO sites, wells, food production and Balinese culture and experts say the situation will deteriorate further if existing water control policies are not enforced across the island.

A tropical, volcanic island in the center of Indonesia's archipelago, Bali relies on water from three main sources: crater lakes, rivers and shallow groundwater. A unique traditional irrigation system, called the "subak," distributes water through a network of canals, dams and tunnels.

The subak, made a UNESCO site in 2012, is central to Balinese culture, representing the Balinese Hindu philosophy of "Tri Hita Karana" - harmony between people, nature



and the spiritual realm. "This is one of the very special cases of living landscapes in Asia," said Feng Jing, who works with UNESCO in Bangkok.

Pressures are severely straining the subak and other water resources, says Putu Bawa, project manager of the Bali Water Protection program, led by a Bali-based nongovernment organization, the IDEP Foundation.

The island's population jumped more than 70% from 1980 to 2020, to 4.3 million people, according to government census data. Tourism growth has been even more explosive: Less than 140,000 foreign visitors came to the island in 1980. By 2019, there were more than 6.2 million foreign and 10.5 million domestic tourists.

With the tourism boom,

Bali's economy has prospered - at a cost. Rice fields the subak once coursed through have been turned into golf courses and water parks, while forests that naturally collect water and are vital to the subak have been felled for new villas and hotels, Bawa said.

Stroma Cole of the University of Westminster, who has researched tourism's impact on Bali's water supplies, says another issue is that the water table is dropping because of Bali's residents and businesses rely on unregulated wells or boreholes for clean water, instead of government-owned piped supplies.

"At the moment, it is the cheapest source of water for people to use," Cole said. "So why wouldn't you use that?"

In less than a decade,

Bali's water table has sunk more than 50 meters (164 feet) in some areas, according to data provided by IDEP. Wells are running dry or have been fouled with salt water, particularly in the island's south.

Bali does have regulations - such as water licenses and taxes on water used - that are meant to manage the island's water supplies, but there's no enforcement, Cole said.

"The rules which exist are excellent rules, but they are not enforced," she said. Bali's municipal water agency and Bali's department of public works did not respond to requests for comment.

The dire impact of the water crisis can be seen in Jatiluwih, in northwestern Bali, where farmers tend to the island's largest rice terraces.

China protests shine light on limits of Uyghur solidarity

SHANGHAI: Their deaths in a fire triggered China's biggest protests in generations, but few people seemed to know the victims were Uyghur families torn apart by Beijing's crackdown in Xinjiang.

On November 24, 10 people died in the apartment block blaze in Urumqi, the northwestern region's capital, with many around China blaming a grinding Covid lockdown for scuppering rescue efforts. The news unleashed long-simmering resentment over Beijing's health curbs, setting off widespread demonstrations that helped tip the government into reversing its strict coronavirus measures. For the protesters, those who died in the fire were martyrs of zero-Covid. But AFP interviews with relatives of the victims show they felt the fire was only the latest tragedy to strike their community.

Abdulhafiz Maimaitimin, a Uyghur who left China in 2016 and now lives in Switzerland, lost his aunt Qememisha Abdurahman and four of her young children in the fire. Her husband and son, along with Maimaitimin's father, were arrested by Chinese authorities in 2016 and 2017. Maimaitimin and his family believe they were spirited into a sprawling network of detention centres where China has been accused of detaining more than one million Uyghurs and other mostly Muslim minorities.

"My aunt waited several years for



(her loved ones) to be released but died without seeing them again," 27-year-old Maimaitimin said.

After allegations by Washington and others of genocide, a United Nations report said in August that torture claims were credible and that the detentions may constitute crimes against humanity. Beijing says the facilities are voluntary vocational schools designed to eliminate extremist thought. The mainly Uyghur area of Urumqi where the deadly fire erupted appeared to have been under strict Covid curbs since August.

"Perhaps if my aunt's husband and son had been there, they could have used their strength to save them," Maimaitimin said. "But maybe not, since the door was locked from the outside." Other residents and relatives of the deceased have made similar claims and alleged that lockdown barricades slowed the emergency

response. Authorities have denied the accusations. Memmetli Abbas, a Uyghur living in Turkey, said his daughter and granddaughter only escaped by alerting a local official who let them out. But the pair were later "questioned with regard to the fire", he told AFP. "I don't know where they are."

Abbas said his family's grievances also predate the blaze. His oldest son has been in prison since 2017 after returning from a trip overseas, and his nephew was taken away to a camp the same year, he said. "I don't know why he's being held. But I believe he's there because he's Uyghur and he's Muslim," he said. The deaths ignited fury in Urumqi and inspired action in other cities. Notably, protesters in Shanghai gathered at Wulumuqi Road - named after Urumqi in Mandarin - as the wave of rallies peaked on the weekend of November 26 and 27.

Clarifications not allowed on sensitive issues: RS chairman to opposition on minister's LAC statement

NEW DELHI: Rajya Sabha deputy chairman Harivansh on Tuesday refused permission to opposition MPs to seek clarification on defence minister Rajnath Singh's statement on the clash between Indian and Chinese troops in Arunachal Pradesh, saying clarifications are not allowed on sensitive issues.

Opposition parties led by the Congress, which stalled proceedings in the first hour of the session and thereafter raised slogans demanding a discussion on the border clashes, wanted to seek a number of clarifications after Singh made a statement in both houses of Parliament.

Harivansh, however cited four precedents to say queries cannot be allowed on sensitive issues.



Opposition members, however, were not satisfied and continued to raise the issue for sometime, before the Congress led them to stage a walkout of the House. Rajya Sabha procedures allow MPs to seek clarifications on any statement by ministers.

The deputy chairman said the House will appreciate the valour and bravery of the Indian armed forces and their commitment to protect territorial integrity of the country. In his statement on the clash in both the houses of Parliament, Singh said the Indian Army bravely

thwarted an attempt by the Chinese PLA to "unilaterally" change the status quo in the Yangtze area of Arunachal Pradesh's Tawang sector on December 9.

There were no fatalities or serious injuries to Indian troops in the scuffle, he said.

Singh also said Indian troops confronted the attempt in a "firm and resolute manner", and Chinese personnel went back to their locations due to the timely intervention of Indian commanders. Singh's statement came a day after the Indian Army said troops from the two sides clashed along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the Tawang sector and the face-off led to "minor injuries to a few personnel from both sides".

Kavinder slams Rahul Gandhi for using derogatory language against Agniveers

Says Omar need not to give sermons on dialogue with Pak

JJ NEWS SERVICE JAMMU, DEC 13: Senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister Kavinder Gupta on Tuesday slammed Congress leader Rahul Gandhi for using derogatory language against Agniveers.



In a statement issued to media persons, the BJP stalwart leader said that Rahul Gandhi has lost mental balance because no sane person will insult the security forces in this way. He said that the way Rahul has been insulting the army

and other security forces it seems that the Congress Party is frustrated and desperate for being out of power.

Using strong words, Kavinder said that the Congress leader should come out with an unconditional apology for insulting

the army and other security forces.

Meanwhile, reacting over the latest stand-off between Indian army and Chinese PLA in Arunachal Pradesh, the senior BJP functionary said that China should not forget the stiff resistance which the Indian army has given to its soldiers in Gullwan Valley. He said that the army is capable enough to safeguard every inch of land belonging to India. He said that the people of the country should rest assured that the Indian army will give befit-

ting reply to China as and when it will try to carry out its expansionist plans.

Giving response to Omar Abdullah's stance of restoring dialogue with Pakistan, Kavinder said that the Centre is well versed with the situation across the borders and there is no need to give sermons on resuming talks with Pakistan. He said that the entire world knows about the credentials of the rogue nation Pakistan therefore Omar should not take sides of the nation which is brazenly supporting terrorism.

Zulfkar demands more J&K Bank branches in Remote areas of Rajouri

Simplify the difficult procedure of online pension scheme for pensioners under ISSS Scheme



JJ NEWS SERVICE RAJOURI, DEC 13: Apni Party Vice President, and Former Cabinet Minister, Choudhary Zulfkar Ali has appealed to the J&K Government to open more Bank branches in the rural and remote areas of District Rajouri to provide banking facilities to the villagers who have to travel over 50 kms to 100 kms to avail the banking facilities.

Addressing a huge public meeting at Khawas area of District Rajouri, Choudhary Zulfkar Ali said the J&K Bank is a nodal bank of the Govt and it should expand its branches in the remote

areas of the district for the benefit of the people.

"The people have to travel for 50 kms to 100 kms to reach their nearest bank and it becomes difficult for the ailing and aged people to avail the benefit of the banking system," he said and added that the banking services are related to many issues like pension etc.

He said that the Govt has made the online pension schemes difficult and complex with formalities which are not possible for the elderly pensioners, widows and the destitutes to get the benefits.

"The pensioners under Integrated Social Security Schemes (ISSS) have to go to the court and then to the hospital to get the certificates from the respective institutions which makes the online pension system more complex and difficult for the people above the age of 60 who suffer from multiple health issues, handicapped, destitutes and widows etc," he said.

If the process is simplified, he said that the pensioner's problems can be reduced and they can be provided better facilities than keeping in view their health issues at the age when they are expected to take rest.

"The Govt should not put them in unnecessary hardships. Therefore, the process of online IT pension schemes should be simplified by acknowledging the self attestation of the certificates from the pensioners," he added.

He said that "The Govt should not force the pensioners to fulfill the tough procedure by moving from pillar to post. Instead help them by simplifying the procedure of the pension scheme."

He further highlighted the poor pace of developmental activities, shortage of teaching and non-teaching staff in schools and requirement of health related infrastructure.

Meanwhile, he also said that "The people are suffering in J&K in absence of an elected Govt. The present situation has alienated people from the LG administration."

Therefore holding an early assembly election is necessary to end the problems of the people and bring the two regions close to each other as it would win the confidence of the people as well." He also demanded restoration of Statehood to J&K.

Indian Army Interacted with Veterans at Kotli

JJ NEWS SERVICE RAJOURI, DEC 13: An interaction was organised by the Indian Army with Veterans at Kotli in Rajouri as a pre cursor to the "Veterans' Day 2023". Issues concerning medical facilities, pensions, pre-recruitment rallies and personal documentation were discussed during the interaction. The attendees were also informed about the latest government policies concerning their welfare and



options available for a second career based on age and qualifications. Such meetings are being held at different locations, to contact

Veterans to address their personal grievances and raise them with appropriate authorities for redressal, subsequently. The attendees

lauded the efforts made by the Indian Army in assisting the Veteran community in overcoming their individual grievances.

Encourage young artists to keep Dogra Culture & Heritage alive: Rakesh Mahajan

Release musical album 'Mera Preet'



JJ NEWS SERVICE JAMMU, DEC 13: Rakesh Mahajan, Convener All Cells Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Jammu and Kashmir has urged the people of Jammu to encourage the young artists from various fields in order to keep the rich Dogra heritage alive in all times to come.

Rakesh Mahajan stated this while addressing a gathering after releasing a music album 'Mera Preet' during a glittering function held at Press Club Jammu here today.

The album 'Mera Preet'

produced by Sahil Mahajan comprises melodious Dogri songs sung by Suresh Chouhan and mesmerizing music composed for it by Surinder Manhas. The captivating lyrics have been written by Bri Mahajan and the video of the album has been aptly handled by K.K. Malhotra.

The models namely Sahil Mahajan and Preeti Mahajan have displayed acting par excellence in the video and it would not be wrong to say that both have added gloss to this creative work to promote Dogri culture and lan-

guage. The video can be viewed on YouTube channel presenting 'Ma Bawe Wali Record'.

Rakesh Mahajan, while congratulating the entire team of Sahil Mahajan, said that youth are playing a significant role in keeping alive the cultural heritage of Dogras in their respective fields be it art, culture or language.

He asserted that it is the young generation artists on whose shoulders lies the responsibility of preserving the rich Dogra heritage for the progeny. Therefore it

becomes our duty to keep encouraging them so that they vigorously pursue the mission with utmost enthusiasm.

The senior BJP leader said the Dogra cultural heritage is the identity of the people of Jammu and we cannot afford to lose our identity. He appreciated the efforts of the team of artists for keeping the Dogra culture alive through their excellent performance.

Rakesh Mahajan asserted that the Sanskriti Cell of Bharatiya Janata Party is leaving no stone unturned in preserving Jammu's identity i.e. Dogra culture and heritage. Besides, J&K BJP President Ravinder Raina has given the status of native language to Dogri, he added.

Rakesh Mahajan also appealed to the government to endorse the local folk artists in the musical programmes being organized by the government from time to time in the Union Territory.

Hold probe into delay in completion of Jammu artificial lake project: Pratap

Says six deadlines missed, cost escalated but project nowhere on ground

JJ NEWS SERVICE JAMMU, DEC 13: Aam Aadmi Party's state spokesperson Pratap

Jamwal on Tuesday demanded a probe into delay in completion of Jammu artificial lake project raising serious concern on missing of six deadlines and rapid cost escalation even after which this prestigious project is nowhere on ground. In a press statement, Pratap Jamwal said that Jammu artificial lake and allied project is a prestigious project that was started more than a decade ago and BJP time and again took credit for expediting work on the project which however is yet to complete.

"If you go through the details of the project, than it will come to fore that deadline of the project has been missed for six times

which is a unique failure of successive governments and BJP in itself." Pratap said.

The project, which was launched in 2009 by the Congress-NC government, has been marred by delays, missing many deadlines, before work came to a standstill in 2018, he stated.

The state government has spent more than rupees 58 crore on the project in the past decade, after its foundation stone was laid by the then Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on December 5, 2009 and after missing the first target date, the contractor missed deadlines in 2012, 2013, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018 when the work stopped, he further mentioned.

He added that there is a rapid cost escalation in the project which further

shows that project is not being completed even after adequate funding concerns of Government which did cost escalation also.

Pratap hit hard at BJP on the issue and said that artificial lake project is a prestigious project for Jammu as it will give a new make-up to the city and will play important role in beautification and BJP made tall claims for completion of the project.

"BJP has been caught on wrong foot over this project and it failed to get the project completed even after the party was having government in Jammu and Kashmir state as well in centre and this shows that the slogans and statements of BJP leaders are merely based on theoretical system with no practicality," says Jamwal. Raising concern

on prolong delay in completion of the project, Jamwal demanded a probe into the matter to fix responsibilities on execution agency and contractor for delay in completion of project. He further hit hard at Jammu and Kashmir LG administration for paying no concern towards prestigious project of Jammu and merely sticking to fake slogans and claims and leaving projects on God's mercy.

Jamwal further said that Jammu and Kashmir LG administration believes in fake publicity and hoardings are placed everywhere on ground and sad state of affairs can be gauged from the fact that thousands of Government employees are on roads against Government

Aam Aadmi Party hold strong protest

JJ NEWS SERVICE VIJAYPUR, DEC 13: The workers of Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) District Samba held a strong protest demonstration at Main Chowk Vijaypur against unjustified prolonged curtailment of electric power, under the leadership of Mr. Rajesh Pargotra, Provincial Vice President-AAP, Jammu. The protesters were raising slogans against the BJP regime and they also burnt an effigy of LG Administration.

Interacting with the media persons Mr. Rajesh Pargotra demanded uninterrupted 24 hours supply of electric power so that the students and farmers may not suffer. Mr. Pargotra further demanded uninterrupted electric power for the small scale industrial units to boost the production to cater the needs of the public. "Recently the electric tariff has been increased and the supply has been decrease prolongedly which is never logistic" Mr. Pargotra



added. Pargotra clarified in unequivocal terms to the media persons that the working of BJP is quite arbitrary which will never be tolerated by the public just like emperor Henry 8th, of great Britain, who couldn't marry a damsel (13-18) of his choice against the wishes of the public as she was not belonging to regal lineage. He warned the BJP government to restore 24 hours electric

power in the interest of students, farmers, traders, industrialists and in general to mitigate the sufferings of the public and provide them solace and Succour. Others who participated in the protest included Yashpal Kundal (Ex-Minister and Chairman AAP J&K SC/ST Cell), Lablu Sambyal (District President Samba), Khajur Singh (rtd.Principal & Ex-Sarpanch), Shottley Lal (District Vice President

Samba), Karan Attrri (District Joint Secretary) Ramesh Lal Choudhary (Block President Bari Brahmana), Basharat Ali (Block President Purmandal), Kewal Rana (Block President Vijaypur), Amit Jamwal (Secretary), Sanit Sharma (Secretary), Shubam Singh (District Youth President Samba), Capt.(rtd) Karan Chand Sharma, Capt.(rtd) Sultan Singh, Reena Choudhary besides others.

Sarpanch Badrinath kick-starts cleaning of Keshav Nagar Nallah

JJ NEWS SERVICE JAMMU, DEC 13: Continuing his efforts to ensure complete cleanliness in Panchayat Kotli Shah Doula, Sarpanch Badrinath Sharma today kick-started the cleanliness of prominent Nallah of Keshav Nagar. Speaking on the occasion, Sharma said this Nallah during rainy days can cause damage and its cleaning is aimed to rid the people of problems whenever it rains. Sharma claimed that political leaders from different political parties used to indulge in political rhetoric in the past instead of actually working on the ground. These leaders he said were merely interested in photo sessions and did nothing for the cleanliness of Nallahs and solving other problems of the people.

He said on the persistent demand of people of Panchayat, the process of cleanliness of all Nallahs in Panchayat has been started in a phased manner and a lot of problems of people were taken up and solved. Sharma also said that during successive govts in Jammu and Kashmir, due to cheap politics of some of their leaders, the public issues were always given deaf ear by these so called political leaders.

He assured the people that this trend will continue in future also for



the better interests of the people. Sharma asserted that the much hyped 'Back to Village' programme is a mere eye wash by the BJP and its Govt at the Centre just to befool the people of the Union Territory.

He said that this stands proved beyond any doubt by the fact that there is totally no development on ground. He claimed that the Govt has deputed 4500 Gazetted Officers and 25000 Govt employees for Back to Village 4 (B2V4) programme but it's unfortunate that none of the officers have any power to sanction any development related projects raised

and demanded by the public representatives during their visit to the villages of their jurisdiction. He said what is the fun of deputing these officers when they are not empowered to take any decision? Moreover, only a few employees out of the 26 government departments roped in for 'Back to Village' programme pay official visits to the areas for taking stock of people's issues, he added. He said it seems that the UT Administration is in a holiday mood as conducting such programmes serves no purpose without fulfilling the aspirations and commitments made with people and PRI members.

Erratic power supply in rural Jammu cause of major losses to farmers: Sukhnandan

JI NEWS SERVICE JAMMU, DEC 13: Drawing attention of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory (UT) administration towards the plight of Jammu based farmers, the senior BJP leader and former minister Choudhary Sukhnandan Kumar sought LG's intervention for regular power supply to the rural areas otherwise the farmers will vacate the villages and rush towards cities.

In absence of electricity, the farmers are not able to irrigate their fields which led to major damage of Rabi crop. In absence of rainfall, the villagers are totally dependant on regular power to irrigate their fields. Moreover, shortly the students in villages have to appear in exams and how they will study in long hour electricity cuts, lamented the former minister Sukhnandan Kumar.

Besides the scheduled power cuts, the electricity remain off in rural areas for over ten to twelve hours. The newly installed receiving station near Udhaywala is meant for



City areas and was made operational in five days. But in Marh block, one receiving station at village Saharan near Lahori Chak is still not made operational while as the engineers had assured that it will start working soon. Even the officials have misinformed the LG J&K UT, said Sukhnandan Choudhary, adding, "Let J&K administration take action appropriate against such engineers, who lied to the government."

"Recently I alongwith a delegation of farmers met LG Manoj Sinha who

assured us that 200 MW additional power has been procured. Sinha Sb is trying his level best to provide us the uninterrupted power, the senior BJP leader said, adding that the department is making false statements and misguiding LG administration also, Sukhnandan said. "If this darkness in villages will continue, the families from villages in Jammu will migrate to cities areas flooding the urban areas causing more difficulties for the authorities to manage heavy and huge rush in City areas," Ch Sukhnandan

Kumar opined. "We seek relief for the villagers and appeal to the J&K LG Manoj Sinha to sort out the electricity shortage issue in rural Jammu at an earliest to make our UT prosperous especially the rural areas as per the vision of our Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the former minister said.

Others who joined Ch Sukhnandan Kumar in press briefing include Paramjeet Pammi, Sanjay Saraf, President MC Akhnoor and Surinder Kumar Ex-President Akhnoor.

Vijay Bakaya organizes interactive session of youth wing at Gandhi Nagar

B.L. Jalali speaks on current position of economy and the road forward

JI NEWS SERVICE JAMMU, DEC 13: Apni Party State General Secretary, Vijay Bakaya today organised an interactive session with the youth wing at the Party headquarter in Gandhi Nagar.

The interaction was held on the topic i.e., "The current position of the economy of the country and the road forward."

The speaker was Shri B.L. Jalali who explained the adverse impact of Covid19 on the growth of the economy and how the country had faced the challenge



and come out much better than other countries in its recovery. He also explained the basic concepts of economics and

how political governments had to balance the need for accelerated expenditure with the need for restraint to contain deficit and inflation.

The participants asked pointed questions and appreciated the informative interaction with Mr Jalali.

1-Day training programme on Registration of Births & Deaths held at Udhampur

JI NEWS SERVICE UDHAMPUR, DECEMBER 13: A one day training programme on Registration of Births and Deaths through CRS portal was today held for functionaries of Udhampur and Reasi District here under the supervision of Deputy Commissioner Kritika Jyotsna. The training was organised by Planning Department and Monitoring Department, J&K District Registrar/ Additional

Registrar of Births and Deaths Udhampur, in collaboration with District Administration Udhampur, Directorate of Economics & Statistics, J&K and Directorate of Census operations J&K. The training programme was attended by Assistant Commissioner Development, Ranjeet Kotwal; District Statistics and Evaluation Officer, Darshan Kumar; District Statistics and Evaluation Officer, Reasi Ashok Kumar; BDOS,

BMOs and other concerned officers. At the outset, Chief Medical Officer, Dr Vijay Basotra, who is also the District Registrar of Births & Deaths, welcomed all the participants. During the training programme, Resource persons from Census Department, Manmeet Singh Loomba, ADCO and Himanshu Koul, SIG-II gave a detailed powerpoint presentation on Civil Registration System (CRS).

NOPRUF appoints Rajesh Sharma as UT President, Sakoon Manir as Gen Secretary

JI NEWS SERVICE JAMMU, DEC 13: At a higher level meeting, National Old Pension Restoration United Front (NOPRUF) has appointed Rajesh Sharma as its UT President and Sakoon Manir as General Secretary for Jammu and Kashmir. They are appointed by National President Sh. B P Singh Rawat on the recom-

mendations of National Vice President Smt. Mrignayani Sathia and National Team. Rajesh Sharma and Sakoon Manir assured the NOPRUF unit that they will work with full dedication and will come up to the expectations of NPS employees of the Jammu and Kashmir UT.

Pertinently, National Old

Pension Restoration United Front (NOPRUF) is a national level banner of employees, who are still working under New Pension Scheme (NPS). NOPRUF, headed by its national President BP Singh Rawat, is demanding restoration of the old Pension Scheme (OPS) for NPS employees of the country.

Meanwhile National Vice President Female Wing Sh. Mrignayani Sathia, National Advisor NOPRUF Sh. Gulzabir Daing and UT JK NOPRUF have appealed all the NPS employees of Jammu and Kashmir to support the cause and join hands with them in order to strengthen the voice for restoration of Old Pension Scheme for employees.

Modi Govt brought revolution in developmental scenario of J&K: Bharat Bhushan

Lays foundation stone of Rs 3.61 cr bridge over Rathua Nallah



JI NEWS SERVICE JAMMU, DEC 13: The quantum of development which the Jammu and Kashmir witnessed under the Prime Minister Narendra Modi led BJP Government at the Centre is unprecedented and what is in offering is also unexpected in many ways.

This was stated by Bharat Bhushan Bodhi, Chairman of the District Development Council, Jammu district, after laying foundation stone of Concrete Bridge on Rathua Road over Rathua Nallah in Marh constituency with

an estimated cost of Rs 3.61 crore under NABARD. Ch Sukhnandan, senior BJP leader and former minister and DDC Marh Balbir Singh were also present. The DDC Chairman said that no previous government in the country took so much pain as the Modi Government, which changed the scenario as far as development profile is concerned and also the political course.

He said that a lot more is in offering in J&K with development touching new pinnacles and people getting those things which they

have not even thought of getting in their dreams. Bharat Bhushan asserted that the Union Government is working on the agenda of overall development of every nook and corner of the nation with special focus on the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

He said that this government has the full capability and potential of fulfilling all the aspirations of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

The DDC Chairman said that the development in the rural sector has received

massive impetus under BJP regime which has resulted in tremendously bridging the gap between rural and urban life. He said that the BJP led Government in the Centre is fully sensitive towards the issues of the people and is taking comprehensive measures for redressal of the same at the earliest. Bharat Bhushan said it is the result of synchronized efforts of the Union Govt and the UT Administration that Jammu and Kashmir is today witnessing unprecedented number of developmental projects on ground and that too being carried out at unprecedented pace.

He said that there are a number of developmental projects in the pipeline and these will be translated on ground in the coming time as part of the ongoing era of exceptional development in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

He appealed to the people to further strengthen the hands of PM Modi for the overall development of Jammu and Kashmir and the nation.

Congress victory in Himachal will impact J&K Assembly polls: Hari Singh

Conducts door to door campaign in Jammu North Assembly segment

JI NEWS SERVICE JAMMU, DEC 13: Hari Singh Chib, President District Congress Committee Jammu Rural has asserted that the victory of Congress in Himachal Pradesh will definitely have a strong impact on the upcoming Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory and the people here are waiting for the moment to teach BJP a lesson. He said that it is a clear indication of the fact that the people of Himachal Pradesh have rejected the 'Jumla Party' i.e. Bharatiya Janata Party and renewed their trust and confidence in the grand old Congress party.

He expressed this while conducting a door to door campaign in the Jammu North Assembly segment



here today. The senior Congress leader stated that people of Himachal Pradesh were already fed up with the false promises of the Saffron party which were made prior to elections never to be fulfilled. Therefore waiting for the appropriate time these people in the Assembly elections punished BJP by ousting it from power in this State making use of the power of ballot.

He said that the position elsewhere in most of States and Union Territories including that of J&K is also the same and the people there too are waiting to punish BJP for its utter mis-governance as a result of which the common man continues to get crumble under the miseries. Asserting that the people in Jammu and Kashmir are also fed up with hollow policies of the BJP government at the Centre that is ruling Jammu and Kashmir through a proxy Govt led by Manoj Sinha as per their whims and fancies, he said that the absence of a representative government has multiplied the miseries of the people living in this sensitive region.

What could be worse

than the fact there are no takers to address the pressing problems of the people's problems, he added. Hari Singh Chib said that only Congress can ensure equitable development across the Jammu and Kashmir and provide succour to the people here. Asserting that Congress Govt in J&K is the only solution to end the woes of the people here, Hari Singh appealed to the people to extend full support to Congress in the upcoming Assembly elections whenever these are announced.

He said that the mood and pulse of the people against the BJP is clearly visible on ground and with people's support Congress will display excellent performance in the impending Assembly polls in J&K.

Grievance redressal goes off in full fling at BJP headquarter: Pathania, Vikas

JI NEWS SERVICE JAMMU, DEC 13: While conducting grievance redressal at BJP headquarters, Jammu, Ranbir Singh Pathania, former MLA & J&K BJP Spokesperson, called for a missionary approach while dealing with day to day issues of the people. Unlimited funds and developmental initiatives have been unleashed by Bharat Sarkar under dynamic leadership of PM Modi. We need to ensure that people and rather last man in last row gets best out of these schemes/initiatives. Deputations of selected Junior Statistical Assistants (JSA) who are being denied appointment orders called on seeking fast pedaling of their process of appointment.

Unemployed teachers trained for Special Education of Persons with Disabilities sought rolling out of a comprehensive



policy for their absorption which would facilitate education for 'Persons with Disabilities' in line with the national policy and law settled by Hon'ble Supreme Court. Reserved Category Employees called for formulation of a transfer policy and release of withheld salaries of these employees since the past five months. NYCs called for pay enhancement and time bound regularization. While supporting their

cause, Pathania called for effective steps to strike out a sense of uncertainty over here. As per law and practice prevailing in other parts of country, all youth related issues need to be redressed considerably. Their energies need to be channeled in the service of nation and society.

At the last, it was assured that all means and possibilities shall be explored to ensure that a final, workable solution in line with

the settled legal position is reached. Amongst other general issues pertaining to drinking water, building permissions, staff shortage, proper voltage electricity, NABARD roads were projected by a number of deputations who called on in the BJP office with references and telephone calls to concerned officials.

Vikas Choudhary, BJP Secretary, remained present and piloted proceedings.

Shiv Sena protest and burnt the effigy of China

Demand to teach a lesson and boycott of Chinese goods

JI NEWS SERVICE JAMMU, DEC 13: Taking strong note of the intrusion of Chinese troops into the Indian territory and the clash with Indian soldiers, the Shiv Sena (Uddhav Balasahab Thackeray) Jammu and Kashmir unit burnt the Chinese flag and Chinese goods and demand strict cognizance and to teach a lesson on the intrusion of Chinese soldiers into the Indian territory.

Party state chief Manish Sahni demanded the Prime Minister to teach a lesson on the rising impertinence of China and said that the antics of China are increasing continuously. Even in



2020, in Ladakh-Doklam, China intruded into the Indian border and had a violent clash with Indian soldiers and has now tried to act like Galvan in Tawang. Sahni has appealed to the central

government to put a complete end to all political, diplomatic and trade relations with China, to ban the import of Chinese goods, and to boycott Chinese goods. President Women's Wing Meenakshi Chhibber,

General Secretary Vikas Bakshi, President Kamghar Wing Raj Singh, Secretaries Geeta Lakhotra, Surendra Kumar, Shashpal, Mangu Ram, Naresh Kumar, Dimple etc were present on the occasion.

Youth can play vital role in curbing corruption, fighting drug menace: Tony

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 13: Taranjit Singh Tony Chairman Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Jammu and Kashmir for Administrative Engagement and Minority Affairs, and District Development Council (DDC) Member Suchetgarh said that youth can play vital role in curbing corruption and fighting drug menace as police alone cannot bring the desired changes in the society.



The AAP leader was addressing a meeting of the youths convened in the Government Degree College R S Pura on the burning issues of corruption and substance abuse. He said that containing aforesaid evils of the society needs a collective effort of each and every stakeholder as this war against corruption and drugs needs support of parents, youths, politicians and police

because the whole society feels the heat of these two scourges which have become prevalent in recent times. On the occasion, Ankush Bhagat, student leader along with Tavleen Singh and students of Degree College RS Pura also took pledge to wage a war against drugs and corruption. Tony said that since the J&K Police has declared a war against drugs and corruption, it's the duty of the public and

youth in particular to support the efforts of men in khaki. He said that people should play their role either big or small in containing these evils of society because every single step in eradicating these evils means a lot. Tony appealed to the DGP Dilbag Singh and ADGP Mukesh Singh to hold special sessions with the youths especially the college students on the issues of drugs and corrup-

tion. He assured that he would soon meet the aforesaid officers of the police department and urge them to convene sessions on the aforesaid issues to educate the young generation and find remedies to contain substance abuse and corruption in the society. Mandeep Choudhary, firebrand youth leader of AAP, appealed to the youths to get united and rise above politics to fight corruption and drugs.

Strengthen base of NC at grass roots level: Ajaz Jan to party cadre

JI NEWS SERVICE
MANJHAKOTE, DEC 13: Jammu and Kashmir is passing through a difficult phase and need of the time is to strengthen the hands of Dr Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah to steer it to peace, progress and development.

This was stated by Ajaz Jan, Provincial President Jammu and senior NC leader while addressing a meeting of the National Conference workers at Manjakhote area of district Rajouri today. The meeting was organized by Muzaffar Khan, Zonal Legal Advisor National Conference Manjakhote, Rajouri.

Addressing party workers, Jan said that the tall claims made by the ruling government at the Centre with regard to unprecedented development in Jammu and Kashmir after abrogation of Articles 370 and 35A has proved to be hoax but the reality is that the situation has gone from bad to worst. A common man in Jammu and Kashmir is suffering on account of wrong policies of the government, he added.

The senior NC leader castigated the BJP Govt at



the Centre and its proxy Govt in Jammu and Kashmir for plunging this state into instability by depriving the people of electing a representative Govt through a democratic process.

During the meeting Muzaffar Khan, Zonal Legal Advisor NC apprised the senior functionary about the problems being faced by the people of hilly areas of Rajouri and the issues were deliberated at length to address the same. Khan said that the utter misgovernance by the incumbent non-representative dispensation in the state has piled up the misery of the common people and there is nobody to listen to their woes. He said that remote areas which have been the worst victims of

the misgovernance where people's pressing issues are not being addressed. He accused the BJP Government of stalling all the pilot projects initiated by the National Conference in the hilly Rajouri region, not to talk of starting any new project in the region by the present govt.

Ajaz Jan asked the party workers to remain present among the people at the grass roots level and address their day to day problems. He asked them to make the people aware about the achievements of the party especially during the NC regime in the erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir. While impressing upon the people to vote for NC in the impending Assembly elections, Jan appealed to the govern-

ment for announcing elections at the earliest seeking end to the political instability.

Muzaffar Khan assured Ajaz Jan of taking the achievements and policy programmes of the party to the people at grass roots level.

Prominent among others present on the occasion were Aslam Khan, Block President Tassaduq Khan Sarpanch, Manzoor Malik Block President, Farooq Mughal Sarpanch, Shamim Mughal, Mukhtar Mirza, Anjum Shawl, Sarpanch Ayub Sarpanch Shamsher Khan, Sarpanch Rafiq Mughal, Mati Rehman District President Rajouri Youth, Nadeem District Secretary Youth Rajouri, Saddam Malik and Sarpanch Azam Sahab.

Aijaz Ahmed Khan reviews developmental works in Budhan

Chairs Apni Party meeting to review organizational structure, ground work



JI NEWS SERVICE
REASI, DEC 13: Apni Party Vice President and Former Minister, Aijaz Ahmed Khan has reviewed developmental scenarios in Budhan and other areas where he insisted on the speed up of the ongoing works.

Addressing a meeting which was also attended by BDC Chairman, Choudhary Makhsa Chauhan and other PRIs, prominent people and Apni

Party leaders in Budhan, Lancha, the Former Minister visited the ongoing developmental works in the areas which included CAFEX Budget works, community hall, PMGSY roads, Jal Jeeva Mission and other projects. During his visit, the officials of the respective departments were directed to complete the work in a time bound manner and the issue of land compensation to the land owners whose land

has been used for the road construction. The officials were asked to disburse the land compensation to the land owners as early as possible so that the matter is not delayed further.

He also reviewed the implementation of the Jal Jeeva Mission in the area and asked the officials to ensure the drinking water supply system be made functional and the people in every household get the benefit of the scheme. Meanwhile, he chaired a meeting of the Apni Party and reviewed the organizational structure and its activities while directing ground level workers to spread the message of the party among the people and aware them about the Social Security Scheme and developmental agenda. He said that Apni Party is committed for providing 4 cylinders per year under Ujjwala, enhancement of widow pension scheme up to Rs 5000, free supply of 500 units of electricity in Jammu during summers and during winters, 300 units of free electricity, protection to the natural resources, and jobs reservation for the locals.

J&K BJP nominates new Morcha State Presidents, Distt office bearers of Jammu North, Jammu South

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 13: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu & Kashmir nominated new Morcha State Presidents, District office bearers of Jammu North and District office bearers of Jammu South.

Ravinder Raina, President, J&K BJP after discussions with senior party leaders nominated new Presidents for 7 party Morchas. The new nominations are Sanjita Dogra has been nominated as President Mahila Morcha. Arun Dev Singh has been nominated as President Yuva Morcha. Neelam Langeh (Ex-MLA) has been nominated as President SC Morcha. Sunil Prajapati has been nominated as President OBC Morcha. Sarabjeet Singh Johal has been nominated as President Kissan Morcha. Ranjot Singh Nalwa has been nominated as President Minority Morcha. Choudhary Roshan Hussain has been nominated as President ST Morcha. Omi Khajuria, President District Jammu North in consultation J&K BJP President Ravinder Raina, J&K General Secretary Organization Ashok Koul and other senior leaders nominated new office bearers and BJP Morcha Presidents of BJP District Jammu North.

Rajinder Singh Katoch (Nagrota), Neelkanti Sharma (Mathwar), Ajay Manhas (Janipur), Davinder Singh (Kaka), Babu Kam Bhagat (Bhalwal), Sham Lal Sharma (Marh), Balbir Kumar (Marh) and Smt. Vandhana Kumari (Marh) are nominated as District Vice Presidents. Surinder Kumar (Marh) and Ajay Sharma (Bhalwal) are nominated as District General Secretaries. Robin Kripal (Janipur), Rakesh Gupta (Janipur), Smt. Rajni Devi (Sarpanch-Purkhoo), Smt. Rekha Langeh (Mathwar-Jandiwal), Anil Sharma (Jhri-Marh),

Capt. Kuldeep Singh (Marh), Satish Sharma (Dansal) and Deepak Pandey (Marh) are nominated as District Secretaries.

Bharat Bhushan (Marh) and Billu Angral (Marh) are nominated as District Office Secretaries. Deepak Sharma and Sushil Kumar are nominated as District Social Media Secretaries. Adv. Arjun Bharti (Nagrota) and Naresh Sudan (Nagrota) are nominated as District IT Incharge/ Press/ Print Media Secretaries. Balbir Singh Manhas (Barnai) and Mangal Singh (Purkhoo) are nominated as District Treasurer and Additional Treasurer.

Pawan Singh Slathia (Domana), Rohit Verma (Mishriwala), Swarn Singh Bhu (Barnai), Sunil Sharma Raka (Raipur), Mohd Yousaf and Anil Singh (Mandaal-Marh) are nominated as District Spokespersons. Anjali Sharma (Mathwar-Nagrota) is nominated as President, BJP Mahila Morcha, Jammu North. Rajat Singh Manhas is nominated as President, Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha, Jammu North. Manohar Lal (Amb Grotha) is nominated as President, BJP SC Morcha, Jammu North. Neetu Verma (Nagrota) is nominated as President, BJP OBC Morcha, Jammu North.

Raman Singh Chib (Patoli) is nominated as President, BJP Kissan Morcha, Jammu North. Harpreet Singh (Mishriwala) is nominated as President, BJP Minority Morcha, Jammu North. Axar Ali (Kangar) is nominated as President, BJP ST Morcha, Jammu North. Rekha Mahajan, President District Jammu South in consultation J&K BJP President Ravinder Raina, J&K General Secretary Organization Ashok Koul and other senior leaders nominated new office bearers and

BJP Morcha Presidents of BJP District Jammu South.

Vikram Sharma, S. Paramjeet Singh, Karuna Khetri, Ahuti Sharma, Mohd. Alam, Tarseen Sharma, Shalini Gupta and Nandini Gupta are nominated as District Vice Presidents. Akash Chopra and Pushpinder Charak are nominated as District General Secretaries. Vivek Patyal, Gurmeet Singh, Kamlesh Sharma, Sadiq Ahmad, Neeraj Dewan, Rohin Chandan, Abhinav Anand and Purni Choudhary are nominated as District Secretaries. K.K. Uppal and Arun Dutta are nominated as District Office Secretary. Pooja Chauhan nominated as District Social Media Secretary.

Naveen Bharti nominated as District IT Incharge/ Press/ Print Media Secretary. Rajesh Gupta and Er. Rajesh Kumar are nominated as District Treasurer and Additional Treasurer. Sandeep Gupta and Ranveek Singh are nominated as District Publicity Secretary and Additional Publicity Secretary. Vagesh Bharti, Parmodh Singh Chib, K.L. Sharma and Bhupinder Singh (Retd. SSP) are nominated as District Spokespersons. Divya Jain is nominated as President, BJP Mahila Morcha, Jammu South. Jitendra Monu Slathia is nominated as President, Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha, Jammu South. Umesh Kumar is nominated as President, BJP SC Morcha, Jammu South. Vijay Dogra is nominated as President, BJP OBC Morcha, Jammu South. Gurdeep Pakya is nominated as President, BJP Kissan Morcha, Jammu South. Salman Khan is nominated as President, BJP Minority Morcha, Jammu South. Mohammd Rafiq is nominated as President, BJP ST Morcha, Jammu South.

Balwant Thakur honored in Mauritius

PORT LOUIS, DEC 13: Balwant Thakur - The cultural Diplomat of India to Mauritius who is also heading world's biggest cultural Centre as director was honored here today for the successful holding of 'Jashn-E-Dosti' (Festival of Friendship) organized by High Commission of India in association with Ministry of Arts and Cultural Heritage Government of the Republic of Mauritius in commemoration with the celebrations of 75th anniversary of India-Mauritius diplomatic relations. It may be recalled that a 7 day biggest ever India and Mauritius festival of culture featuring over 500 hundred artists was held at Indira Gandhi Centre for Indian Culture, Phoenix, Mauritius which was conceptualized, designed and executed by Balwant Thakur. The most noteworthy feature of the festival was that the artists of Mauritius were trained in Indian performance traditions and for the first time each presentation in this 7 day festival witnessed hundreds of Mauritian artists. The festival was inaugurated by his Excellency the President of the Republic of Mauritius Mr.



Prithviraj Singh Roopun in the gracious presence of Mr. Avinash Teeluck Minister of Arts and Cultural Heritage and Her Excellency the High Commissioner of India to Mauritius Mrs. K. Nandini Singla.

The opening event featured 75 musicians showcasing instrumental music of three continents viz. Asia, Africa and Europe in a fusion symphony of musical feats. Presentation by 75 artists together was a compliment to the celebrations of both 75

years of India Independence and 75th anniversary of India-Mauritius diplomatic relations. History has never witnessed 75 instrumentalists being played together to the tunes of each other. Interestingly Balwant Thakur's highly acclaimed play 'Aap Humare Hain Kaun' also featured in French, Creole, English and Hindi in this International event. The other highlights of this unique festival featured 'Colors of India', 'Colors of Mauritius' and 'Colors of Bollywood'. On the day of culmination Acting Foreign Minister Hon. Mahen Sooruttun who is also the Minister of Financial Services and Good Governance honored Balwant Thakur for bringing two nations together through highly magnificent cultural initiatives.

Amidst thunderous applause and standing ovations, the entire festival received huge appreciations and accolades from Mauritian art lovers. People were heard saying that Mauritius has never witnessed such a kind of cultural bonanza featuring a diverse range of performers and performances.

DFSS hold protest rally against Chinese President Xi Jinping



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 13: Clashes broke out between the Indian and Chinese troops on December 9, 2022, in the border area of the Tangsang sector in Arunachal Pradesh. As per the report, the Chinese PLA came heavily prepared with spiked clubs with nails on them, monkey fists (a crude weapon made of iron that is worn on the wrist), and taser guns and sticks.

The PLA troop was challenged by a group of roughly 50 Indian soldiers who confronted them and stopped their advances in a location. The workers of

Dogra Front & Shiv Sena under the leadership of President Ashok Gupta took out a massive protest rally in Jammu city against the Chinese President Xi Jinping for its advancement of forces on the Tawang border. The party workers burned the Chinese flag along with an effigy of Chinese premier.

The party workers raised slogans of 'China Hai hai hai hai' Indian troops were not armed with taser guns, they had "everything and more than what the Chinese had" to be able to retaliate. According to sources, the PLA troops sustained more

injuries as a result of the Indian troops' ability to quickly outnumber the Chinese troops.

Ashok Gupta stated that China is just trying to divert the attention of its people towards Nationalism as the country is adhering very strict zero civic policy which has proven to be a failure. The Chinese government did the same thing in 2020 when coronavirus was at its peak and the Chinese liberation army tried to enter Galwan and received a very befitting reply in which they lost more than 100 soldiers. This time as well the they are trying to divert the

attention of its people by creating a border tension as the people in China are protesting against Xi Jinping.

China government is also baffled as few days back Indian & American troops conducted a joint military exercise in Uttarakhand and the Indian government is building a 2000 crore rupees parallel road along the LAC in Arunachal Pradesh. Party president further stated that the India tested a Surya missile two days back which has an explosive carrying range of 8000-10,000 kms which can cover entire China. Indian army has beaten the Chinese troops in Galwan and has again done the same thing in Tawang.

At last the party president stated that the opposition is playing politics on this issue and should refrain as this is a matter of national security and the entire nation should stand together behind the army. The party people who were present at the site of protest were Abhishek, Bantu, Prem, Naresh, Rampal, Ashish, Rakesh, Suresh and various others were present.

Lt Governor Chairs Review Meeting of Industries & Commerce Department

JJ NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, DECEMBER 13: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha chaired a high-level meeting to review the sectoral progress of the Industries & Commerce department here today.

Sh Prashant Goyal, Principal Secretary, Industries & Commerce Department gave a comprehensive overview of the present scenario of the infrastructure, execution of Incentive Policy, Land Bank, progress of work on Industrial Estates, collaboration with ONDC, export promotion initiatives for One District One Product and progress in handi-



craft sector etc. The Lt Governor exhorted the officers to give an active push to exports, marketing promotion programmes for handicrafts focusing global market, development of industrial estate connected to significant economic nodes to maintain the momentum of growth.

The Lt Governor also took note of progress made under 'Ease of Doing Business' initiative across various parameters. He asked the senior officials to review the implementation of reforms regularly to remove bottlenecks.

The Lt Governor directed the

revenue department to work in close coordination with Industries & Commerce department to expedite setting up of Industrial Estates and to resolve all pending issues within one month.

Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary; Sh. H. Rajesh Prasad, Principal Secretary, Power Development Department; Sh Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, Commissioner/Secretary to Government, Revenue Department; Sh Achal Sethi, Law Secretary; Ms. Smita Sethi, Secretary in the I&C department; HoDs; Managing Directors and other senior officers attended the meeting.

PMFME awareness camp organised at Arnas

JJ NEWS SERVICE
REASI, DECEMBER 13: In continuation to series of public outreach programs being held in the Reasi District, an awareness programme was today organised in Block Arnas to educate the farmers and youth of the area regarding benefits of PM Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME-ODOF) Scheme. The camp was inaugurated by Chief Agriculture Officer/District Nodal officer PMFME, Reasi, Harbans Singh. District Agriculture officer, Rajesh Verma; ASCO, Varinder Dogra; SDAO, Dharmari, Rupinder Singh Bedi; SMS, Vikas Sharma; AEO, Anil Thakur, Concerned JAEOS and field functionaries besides representatives of allied department, PRI members, SHG members, farmers including women & youth attended the program.

District Nodal officer discussed in detail all the facets of the scheme and enjoined upon the youth to set up micro food processing units of Mustard Chutney, Chili powder packing & marketing, spices

Chairman DDC Doda chairs Bio Diversity Management Committee meeting

JJ NEWS SERVICE
BHADERWAH, DECEMBER 13: Meeting of District Level Bio-Diversity Management Committee was held today under the chairmanship of Chairman District Development Council Doda, Dhanantar Singh Kotwal, here at Forest Information Centre Bhaderwah. The Committee members, vice Chairperson DDC Sangeeta Bhagat, Conservator Forest Chenab Circle, Dr Jatinder Singh; Secretary, Dr Sumit Kotwal and DFO Bhaderwah Chander Shekar attended the meeting. At the outset, Dr Sumit highlighted the salient features of the Biodiversity Act 2002 and also the functions of the District Level Biodiversity Management Committee.

Chairperson DDC, DC inaugurate JJM Scheme Kun Kanyala in block Panthal

Locals hail District Admin for completion of project in record time

JJ NEWS SERVICE
REASI, DECEMBER 13: Retrofitting and augmentation of water supply scheme under Jal Jeevan Mission Scheme was today inaugurated and dedicated to public

of Kun Kanyala by District Development Council Chairperson, Reasi Saraf Singh Nag in presence of Deputy Commissioner, Babla Rakhwal. Executive Engineer PHE apprised the chairperson that the scheme was approved at an estimated cost of Rs 252.69 lacs. He informed that under this scheme 5000 souls would benefit.

Chairperson DDC said that the Jal Jeevan

Mission is a centrally sponsored scheme launched by the government of India with the objective to provide tap water to all households across the nation. He stressed on tapping all sustainable water resources for the benefits of the community. Chairperson DDC further stressed that the PHE sector was the main priority sector and all officers/officials should work hard

to provide best services to the people. He called upon the people to come forward to avail the benefits of various government schemes and programmes. The DDC Chairperson stated that functional tap water connection for every household is the goal of the ambitious Jal Jeevan Mission as "Access to drinking water facilities is the basic right of every citizen."

Commissioner STD reviews status of issues popped up during B2V4



Directs stakeholders to expedite saturation of deliverables, resolve identified issues on priority

JJ NEWS SERVICE
KATHUA, DECEMBER 13: Commissioner, State Taxes Department (STD), Rashmi Singh, who is Prabhari Officer (Mentor) for Panchayat Billawar, today convened a meeting of concerned officers and PRIs to review progress on the issues flagged during her visit in the recently concluded B2V4 programme of the government.

Deputy Commissioner, Kathua, Rahul Pandey briefed the meeting about the focal points of deliberations and the action taken as a follow up to the flagged issues. Besides, discussion was also held on road map for the matters requiring intervention of higher authorities.

While taking comprehensive review of the popped up issues related to Panchayat Billawar, Commissioner enquired about the steps taken by stakeholders to resolve the issues besides extending support to the departments requiring assistance of the mentor.

During the meeting, detailed deliberations were held on the issues ranging from provision of piped drinking water supply, road connectivity, mobile connectivity, provision of toilets, opening of Fair Price Shop, Rural Hatt, Skill Development and Self employment, issues of drop outs/ out of school children, holding of disability camps and related matters.

The Prabhari Officer was apprised that piped drinking water supply will be ensured at the earliest besides the issue regarding provision of ICT Lab, school benches in GHS Sukral has been taken up with the School Education Department.

The department of Revenue, Health and Agriculture informed the meeting that Land Passbooks, Golden Health cards, KCC cards have been completely saturated in Panchayat Billawar.

During the meeting, directions were passed to DSWO and AD Employment, who is the

MCs seek suggestions, objections from public on ODF+ status

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DECEMBER 13: Several Municipal Committees of Jammu Division have self-declared as Open Defecation Free plus status after complying with all bye-laws and development done in Municipal limits as per the Swachh Bharat Mission norms. The Municipal Committees Vijaypur, Surankote, Jourian, Batote, Basohli and Ramgarh after proclaiming ODF Plus status have sought Feedback/ suggestions/ objections within 15 days to perform all neces-

sary action on the comments/suggestions/ objections received.

The Municipal Bodies have also declared Open Defecation, open urination, and unauthorized dumping of sewage in open areas, drains and water bodies as punishable offences. The Civic authorities of these Municipal areas have informed the public that a penalty of INR 200 would be imposed for open defecation, INR 100 for open urination and INR 500 for unauthorized dumping of sewage in open areas, drains and

water bodies. Meanwhile, Vijaypur and Ramgarh MCs have enjoined upon all concerned that a penalty will be imposed for violation of National Sanitation by laws related to open dumping/desludging of Faecal Sludge in Street/Nallas/Open Drain/Water bodies/open spaces within Municipal Jurisdiction. The violation of National Sanitation by laws by the Households would attract a fine of Rs. 2000 for 1st offence and Rs 3000 for 2nd offence. Similarly, Commercial establishments, Offices, Hotels and Private Desludging Operators would be charged Rs. 3000 fine for 1st offence and Rs 5000 for 2nd offence. Therefore, all individual households/commercial establishments, offices and hotels etc. are accordingly informed to approach Municipal Council Ramban for availing the services for desludging/ clearing of Faecal Sludge from their premises by paying the nominal charges fixed by the Municipality.

School Education Deptt Kishtwar hosts online orientation workshop on JK career portal "Manzilein"

JJ NEWS SERVICE
KISHTWAR, DECEMBER 13: An online orientation programme cum workshop on JK career portal "Manzilein" was today organised by District Guidance and Counselling Cell of School Education Department Kishtwar.

The programme was organised under the close supervision of Chief Education Officer (CEO) Sudarshan Kumar Sharma and under the guidance of District Counselling Coordinator Sandeep Kumar Rathore and District Counsellor Arvind Kumar Sen.

Faculty members of Directorate of School Education Jammu Dr. Alka Sharma, Bindu, Preeti and other members were special Guests on the occasion.

In this online meet/workshop, the Principals/Headmasters/Faculty counsellors/Teachers and students from the different Higher Secondary and High Schools participated with great enthusiasm and zeal.

The online orientation programme started with the welcome address which was followed by the lecture by Dr. Alka Sharma, who laid emphasis on exploring of the online career portal and insisted all the participants to register the Teachers and students regarding Pariksha Pe

Charcha 2022 by and before 30-12-2022.

Besides, the zonal counselling coordinators (ZCCs) of the 7 zones of the district namely, Babu Lal Sharma, ZCC Marwah; Abid Hussain ZCC warwan; Ram Rakesh ZCC Drabshalla; Ajay Thakur ZCC Kishtwar; Bilal Ahmed ZCC Inderwal; Rakesh Kumar ZCC Padder and Khaliq Hussain ZCC Nagseni also attended the online meet/workshop.

JK career portal was recently launched by Principal Secretary Education Department J&K Alok Kumar and Director School Education Jammu Ravi Kumar Sharma in collaboration with UNICEF at a function organized by the Head counselling cell Directorate of School Education Jammu.

District counselling coordinator Sandeep Kumar Rathore gave a demo on joining and exploring the portal by students as well as Teachers. The participants including HOIs were asked to help each and every student to take benefit of the portal.

They were also requested to cooperate with the Zonal Counseling Co-ordinators to achieve the target and intimate all the information to concerned ZCCs for compilation and onward submission to high-ups.

DC Kishtwar chairs District Road Safety Committee meeting

Directs for removal of encroachments, illegal hoardings from roadsides

of Crash barriers and safety measures along accident prone road stretches and at designated black spots.

Speaking in the meeting, the DC said that effective execution of the road safety plan was necessary for prevention and protection of road accidents. He called for strict enforcement of road safety rules and implementation of stringent safety measures by the enforcement departments.

Taking note of the illegal encroachment along the roadsides, the DC passed strict instructions to the concerned officers to remove the same at the earliest.

Regarding corrective measures, the NHIDCL and other concerned authorities were directed to rectify designated blind spots to prevent mishaps.

The meeting held detailed deliberations on the action plan regarding raising awareness about road safety, implementation of provision of Motor Vehicles Act, removal of illegal encroachments/hoardings, fixing of road safety signages, installation

AgriStack & Agri Mission to complement each other to revolutionize Agriculture: Dr Mehta

Says Geo-referencing of Land Records to be a reality soon

JJ NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, DECEMBER 13: Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta today maintained that the soon to be launched J&K Agriculture Mission and ongoing Government of India scheme Digital Agriculture Mission (AgriStack) will complement each other in revolutionizing the Agriculture sector in the UT.

He made these remarks while chairing the High Level Meeting to take stock of the implementation of the mission here.

Chief Knowledge Officer & Advisor, Ministry of Agriculture, GoI; Additional

Chief Secretary Agriculture Production Department, Commissioner Secretaries of Forest, Ecology & Environment, Revenue Department, Information Technology & Information Departments; Secretary in Agriculture Department; Director, Ecology, Environment & Remote Sensing; Director Agriculture Production & Farmers' Welfare Jammu/Kashmir and other concerned officers attended the meeting in person and through online mode.

The Chief Secretary observed that the AgriStack is



a technology based information system with huge potential for farming sector which is the future of J&K covering nearly 70% of our population directly or indirectly. He stated that Aapki Zamin Aapki Nigrani was an earnest step taken by the UT administration towards transparency and digitization of land records.

He made out that in coming months J&K would complete the digitization of cadastral maps and thereafter the Geo-referencing of the same for better implementation of AgriStack.

He also reiterated that the Agriculture Mission shall revolutionize the Agricultural GDP upwards by adding Rs 28000 Cr per annum. He further said that the field functionaries of the revenue department are going to be provided with IT gadgets for keeping the records updated and their digitization.

Dr Mehta stated that the

AgriStack will become a basic tool of introduction of modern practices and can give us extraordinary results in terms of both the quality and quantity of our agriculture produce. It shall provide unique ID to every farmer on one hand and information related to farm land on other.

The Chief Secretary emphasised that our endeavor should be to provide end to end digitization to farmers so that they do not have to look for different services and solutions at multiple places. He observed that different interventions like digitization of land records, availability of expert opinions, farm practices guided by modern technology and techniques besides use of high yielding varieties of agricultural inputs can fructify the dream of doubling the farmers income in near future.

The Chief Secretary further said that a dynamic database of all the farmers and their land holding, crop, soil and other relevant records will be part of this task. He remarked that such a provision can easily be achieved under AgriStack, thereby becoming major boon for the farmers. He asked for taking all the measures to make farming highly remunerative and gainful profession.