

# JINDRAH IMAGES

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## JK Government constitutes committee to frame export policy for UT's agricultural commodities

Initiative to enhance annual agricultural exports from Rs 190 cr to Rs 3000 cr in next 5 years

JAMMU: In its endeavours to boost agricultural export from the UT, the Jammu and Kashmir government has constituted an expert committee to formulate a comprehensive Export Promotion Policy for identified potential exportable agricultural commodities.

The primary assignment of the committee would be to develop commodity specific export promotion recommendations which inter alia shall include strategic and operational aspects of the export. Besides, it shall provide all necessary technical inputs to Agriculture Production Department within a set timeline of one month for finalization and implementation on ground.

The main objective of the Export Promotion Policy would be to increase annual agricultural exports from current 190 crore to 3000 crore over next 5 years. Besides, the policy would promote brand "J&K" for its pristine agro-climatic conditions, uniqueness and near organic quality. It would also diversify the UT export base and thereby empower farmers with adequate export opportunities. The policy would create

an ambient ecosystem for export agricultural commodities from J&K.

The policy would lay emphasis on bringing a paradigm shift in the approach from mere harvesting and selling of produce at local level to a demand driven supply activity with focussed attention on GI tagging, processing, stringent quality control, international certifications, traceability, branding and marketing of the produce. The diverse agro climatic conditions of J&K have resulted in development of niche crops offering approach of holistic adoption for promotion of agricultural exports. This shall help the growers in finding post-harvest solutions at better prices within or near the production belt.

Furthermore, the document inter alia shall also focus on market access initiative through assistance by Export Promotion Organizations, Trade Promotion Organizations, National Level Institutions, Research Institutions, Universities, Laboratories and Exporters etcetera for enhancing new markets or by increasing the share in the existing markets. Besides, assistance shall also be extended in establishing quality control setup, national/international certifications, GI, transport and marketing assistance and all other prerequisite shall be duly taken care of for identified Agricultural Products like apple, basmati rice, walnut, almond, cherry, saffron, vegetables including red chilli & garlic, honey, wool, silk, pulses, lavender, aromatic plants etcetera. Likewise, services of Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) shall also be utilized in achieving the envisaged goals.

Implementation of Export Promotion Policy shall accelerate the pace of achieving a vibrant and commercially viable agriculture through the competitive advantage of J&Ks geo-climatic diversity to the fullest. Besides, this will monetize agriculture through export promotion and shall add a new dimension to the agricultural economy of J&K.

## Lieutenant Governor Meets Union Power Minister

NEW DELHI: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha had a meeting today with Union Minister of Power and NRE Shri R.K. Singh at Delhi.

Power Secretary, Shri Alok Kumar and other senior officials of the Ministry of Power and New & Renewable Energy were also present. Various measures required to ensure uninterrupted power supply and improve power infrastructure in the Union Territory of J&K were discussed.

The Lt Governor requested higher power allocation to J&K. Union

Minister of Power and NRE Shri R.K. Singh assured to examine the request and take early action.

The Lt Governor also shared the efforts of the UT Government toward building up transmission and distribution infrastructure and steps taken to reduce the AT&C losses and improving the quality and reliability of power supply to the people. Union Minister of Power assured that the ministry will extend all possible assistance to ensure adequate availability of resources.



## FAKE ORDERS CASE CBK produces challan against 2 persons

SRINAGAR: The Economic Offence Wing of Crime Branch Kashmir produced a challan against two persons in a case related to issuing fake and forged orders of licence for establishment of Fair Price shops.

As per a statement issued to the news agency, a spokesman said that a challan has been produced in a case under FIR number 31 of 2022 under section 420, 467, 468, 471, 120-B RPC of Police Station Crime Branch Kashmir Now Economic Offence Wing before the Court of Special Mobile Magistrate Budgam against Aijaz Ahmad Lone S/O Farooq Ahmad Lone R/O Sumar Bandipora and Jamshed Ahmad Dar S/O Ghulam Rasool Dar R/O Tilanpora Budgam.

"The instant case had been registered upon a written communication received from the Assistant Director Food Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs (FCS & CA) Budgam, wherein it was alleged that the fake and forged orders of license for establishment of Fair Price Shop at Jawalpora and Chayera-Gune Budgam are circulating and attributed to have been issued from the office of Assistant Director FCS & CA Budgam," the statement said.

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## CS launches SWAGATAM to give hassle free entry to visitors coming to Civil Secretariat



SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta today launched the online Visitor Management System called SWAGATAM at Srinaragar Civil Secretariat in presence of Administrative Secretaries to ensure easy and hassle free entry of visitors to both Secretariats at Jammu and Srinaragar. The system shall enable a person to schedule a meeting

in advance for redressal of his genuine grievances. On the occasion, the Chief Secretary observed that the system was overdue and was one of several initiatives of furtherance of digital J&K. He complimented the whole team of GAD, for developing the management system in consultation with IT, Estates and Police Departments. He

underscored the need for maximizing the satisfaction level of visitors by ensuring quality outcome of their visits.

Dr Mehta also impressed upon the officers to evaluate the requests of applicants as per laid down norms for efficient use of time and resource. He enjoined upon them to give hearing to all the

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## CBK files chargesheet against 6 persons including 4 deceased

SRINAGAR: The Economic Offence Wing of Crime Branch Kashmir on Thursday filed a chargesheet against six persons including four deceased persons in a case related to encroachment of land in Baramulla district.

According to a statement issued to the news agency, the Economic Offence Wing of CBK produced a chargesheet in a case under FIR number 04/2015 under section 420, 467, 468, 120-B, 447-A RPC S/O PC Act of P/S Crime Branch Kashmir (Now Economic Offence Wing) before the Court of Anti-Corruption Baramulla against Ghulam Haider Mir S/O Munshi Atta Mohammad Mir R/O Kantwal Bahar Baramulla then Patwari Heaven Sheeri Baramulla (Retired), Jaswant Singh S/O Ujjagar Singh R/O Shrawkhar Baramulla A/P Kunjawanji Bandurakhi Gangayal Jammu then Naib Tehsildar Baramulla Now retired ACR Udham-

pur), Abdul Rashid Khan S/O Hussa-u-din Khan R/O Gantmulla Bala Baramulla then Girdawar Circle Heaven (Deceased), Mohamed Ashraf Lone S/O Mohamed Yousof Lone R/O Budden Saripora Rafiabud then Patwari Heaven Sheeri Baramulla (Deceased), Firdous Sultan Raina S/O Ghulam Hassan Raina R/O Usmanabad Kupwara (then Tehsildar Baramulla retired ACR Kupwara) (Deceased) and Mohamed S/O Ramzan R/O Jogiyar Sheeri Baramulla beneficiary (Deceased).

The spokesman further stated that the instant case had been registered upon a written communication received from the then State Vigilance Commission wherein it was alleged that erstwhile Government had notified/acquired land measuring 98.16 Kanals at Narwax Shareenabad Sheeri Baramulla for Irrigation Department in the year 1968 and compensation thereof was

paid to the beneficiaries. The instant land was encroached by local residents with the help of concerned revenue authorities, accordingly a Case FIR No. 04/2015 of P/S Crime Branch Kashmir (Now Economic Offence Wing) was registered and investigation set into the motion.

During the course of investigation, it established that the accused person mentioned above in connivance with each other have prepared false fabricated revenue documents in the name of various beneficiaries in the year 1982 and thereby illegally transferred the land in the name of said beneficiary by virtue of fake mutation with S 488 of Agrarian Reforms Act.

The evidence both oral as well as documentary collected has established that accused No. 01 to 05 have by abuse of their official position & in furtherance of a

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## Progressing J&K With RKVY support, Fish farming emerging as lucrative means of livelihood for youth across J&K

SRINAGAR: Fish farming is emerging as a lucrative means of livelihood for young entrepreneurs across Jammu and Kashmir with the support of Central Government's Rashtriya Kissan Vikas Yojna (RKVY).

The department of fisheries is propagating fish culture to give job opportunities to educated youth, besides the development of recreational fisheries as a method of income for those interested in pursuing aquarium fishing as a profession.

In Anantnag, three brothers have started fish farming business after getting help from Department of Fisheries. Ashiq Hussain, owner of a trout fish farm said that they received a lot of help from the department in terms of construction, feed and equipment. "My brothers and I completed our studies but were still unable to find jobs. We approached the department of fisheries and they taught us how to cultivate fish. We received subsidies under the Centre's Rashtriya Kissan

Vikas Yojna (RKVY) for construction, feed, and equipment", Ashiq said whose unit employs six workers besides generating indirect employment for several others as well. The avenue is particularly useful for those who already have a good water supply and a small piece of land for the farm. The department has started this initiative to help people prosper in this industry and scheme is most useful for people who have good water

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## J&K Bank Board appoints GM Sudhir Gupta as Executive Director for 3 years



SRINAGAR: In a significant development, J&K Bank's Board has appointed General Manager Sudhir Gupta as Executive Director (ED) for a period of three years. The Bank's board announced the decision in their meeting held yesterday soon after receiving the approval from Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

Commenting upon the development, MD & CEO Baldev Prakash said, "I welcome the decision and congratulate Mr. Gupta on joining the Bank's board. While augmenting the presence of Bank's management in the board with his knowledge and experience, I think his induction will surely strengthen the relationship between the board and the management."

Expressing gratitude to MD & CEO, Baldev Prakash for his kind words on the occasion, Sudhir Gupta said, "While feeling happy for the honour, I feel equally humbled by the trust that Bank's board, leadership and other important stakeholders have placed upon me. And I assure all the stakeholders

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## Rana lauds role of Sant Samaj in cultural renaissance, promoting harmony



JAMMU: Senior BJP leader Mr Devender Singh Rana today lauded the huge role of saints and seers in cultural renaissance in the spirit of Sanatan Dharma, saying this has been a contributing factor towards the harmonious growth of the society.

"The concept of Vasudeva Kuttumbakam holds key for the world peace and eschewing the tendencies of trans border conflicts and tensions", Mr Rana said while seeking the blessings of Sant Samaj, a delegation of which met him here this afternoon. Maha Mahant P.T. Rameshwar Dass, Mahant

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# Alok Kumar reviews implementation of schemes in Samba

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SAMBA, DECEMBER 15: Principal Secretary, Education, Alok Kumar, who is also Mentor Secretary for Samba, today visited the district and reviewed implementation of various government sponsored schemes during a meeting held with the district officers.

Deputy Commissioner, Samba, Anuradha Gupta, SSP Samba, Abhishek Mahajan, ADC, Rakesh Dubey, ACR, Manu Hansa, CPO, Sukhleen Kour and other district officers were present in the meeting.

Deputy Commissioner gave a PowerPoint presentation on the achievements and progress recorded under different Government Sponsored Schemes besides presenting status of various iconic/development projects being executed by different departments and agencies in the district.

The Deputy informed that some of the projects undertaken in the district under various CSSs have been completed while others are in differ-

ent stages of completion. She provided comprehensive details on a number of rural development programmes including IWMP, PMAY-G, SBM-II, MGNREGA, SAGY, Amrit Sarovar, urban development programmes, roads and buildings, PMGSY, Ayushman Bharat, Jal Jeevan Mission, Power Development schemes, Social Security Schemes, PM Kisan, Financial inclusion schemes like PMJDY, Mudra Yojana, PMJJBY, Atal Pension Yojana besides other schemes. Principal Secretary, while reviewing achievements under different schemes, directed the officers to adhere to timelines set for achieving allocated targets. He exhorted upon agriculture officers to promote sowing of non conventional crops with longer cropping season crops in border belt areas. Alok Kumar directed the officers to periodically review the status of beneficiaries being covered under government sponsored schemes so that eligible beneficiaries are not left out. He also

directed the education department to ensure registration of all schools in Pariksha Pal Charcha portal within the time frame besides implementation of cluster system.

Principal Secretary laid emphasis on grassroot impact assessment of public services deliverables. He also stressed on using modern technology in dissemination of information for creating awareness among public and ensuring saturation of all government services.

Later, Alok Kumar also visited panchayat Bagla Jakh as Prabhari Officer. He held a review/ follow-up meeting that was attended by PRI members including Sarpanch, Ramesh Kumar and representatives of line departments.

He reviewed progress made during the last month with special focus on the assigned deliverables like Golden Health Cards, land pass-books, KCC, Soil Health Cards, Self-Employment Schemes, identification of youth for skill training under Himayat etc.

# Process of Organic Certification of Agricultural Produce made easier for Valley s' farmers: Atal Dulloo

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, DECEMBER 15: Directorate of Agriculture, Kashmir, has been authorized as the Regional Council for PGS India Program which will help the farmers to get their organic produce certified ensuring them good marketing opportunities outside Jammu and Kashmir.

Speaking about this authorization, Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Agriculture Production Department, Atal Dulloo, said that this is a welcome development and its interventions would pave the way for Organic Certification of Agricultural Produce of the farmers. This would play a key role in effec-

tive implementation of projects related to organic certification enabling holistic development of Agriculture sector in J&K.

The National Centre for Natural and Organic Farming in its meeting of the National Executive Committee of PGS India has authorized the Directorate of Agriculture, Kashmir as the Regional Council for PGS India Program.

Pertinent to mention, Regional Council (RC) is ideally floated by State agencies, existing NGOs, Organic Certification service providers of Central and State Governments or any other agency (producers, consumers, retailers, traders and Societies / Gram pan-

chayats/ farmer etc.). Regional Council is an agency authorized by PGS-NAC to coordinate, monitor and approve certification decisions of Local Group under PGS-India organic Guarantee programme.

Regional Council will impart necessary training and support to existing and new local groups in procedures and paper work necessary for each farmer organic guarantee. It would also translate and print PGS paper work in local language. It would also register local groups and issue user ID and password for data uploading on PGS India website. Facilitation of local groups in data uploading on PGS website.

# DC Poonch chaired District TB Forum Meeting

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
POONCH, DECEMBER 15: Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Inder Jeet today chaired the meeting of District TB Forum to review the implementation of National Tuberculosis Elimination programme (NTEP) here in the conference hall of DC office Poonch.

Welcome address was presented by the Chief Medical Officer Poonch Dr. Shamim-un-Nissa. District Tuberculosis Officer Poonch, Dr. Fahmida Bandey gave a comprehensive brief of the National TB Elimination Programme through Power Point presentation.

The members of the District TB Forum deliberated on the modalities of National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme- a Public Health initiative of the Government of India. It functions as a flagship component of the National Health Mission and provides technical and managerial leadership to anti-tuberculosis activities in the country.

The meeting was informed that TB

is a priority disease which has been targeted for elimination from India by 2025 and community led participation is an essential component to achieve the target within stipulated time frame.

A detailed discussion was held on the composition, objectives and working of the Forum.

The meeting was also apprised about the achievements made under the program in the district. Varied services being provided by the Government to the masses under the National Tuberculosis Elimination programme were also highlighted at the meeting.

The DDC said that Tuberculosis is a leading infectious disease that impacts lives, economy and the future of a nation and the need of the hour is to work in tandem to ensure the effective and successful implementation of NTEP in the district. He asked for putting in extraordinary efforts for timely detection and testing of patients for timely elimination of the disease from the

district.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the concerned authorities to constitute village level surveillance teams in this regard.

He further asked the BMOs to ensure proper monitoring of the activities being carried out for the elimination of Tuberculosis in the areas of their jurisdiction. He also directed the concerned to generate massive awareness among the public regarding the programme so that they can come forward to avail the benefits of the various kinds of services being provided under it.

Among others present in the meeting were Medical Superintendent, Dr. Zulafkar Chowdhary; District Tuberculosis Officer, Dr. Fahmida Bandey; BMO Mendhar, Dr. Parviat Khan; BMO Mandi, Dr. Nussrat Bhatti; Incharge BMO Surankote, Dr. Tariq, Physician DH Poonch, Dr. Balvinder, Dr. Ashan, besides members of the District TB Forum and representatives of various NGOs and societies.

# DC Srinagar inspects the construction site for Migrant Transit Accommodation at Zewan; work to commence shortly

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, DECEMBER 15: The Deputy Commissioner (DC), Srinagar, Mohammad Ajiaz Asad Thursday undertook a visit to Zewan area in Pantha Chowk Tehsil of District for onsite inspection of the works being taken up for construction of Migrant Transit Accommodations.

Chief Planning Officer, Mohammad Yaseen Lone, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Raees Ahmad, Tehsildar PanthaChowk, Rakib Ahmad, DYSSO, Balbir Singh and other concerned.

While inspecting the construction site for Migrant Transit Accommodation at Zewan, the Deputy Commissioner took a detailed round of the site where Migrant Transit Accommodations of 936 flats comprising 39 blocks is to be executed at an estimated cost of Rs 124 crore in the District.

On the occasion, the DC said that additional 20 kanals of land adjacent to 93 kanals of land already

allotted for the Migrant Transit Accommodation Zewan has been allocated for development of parking spaces and other utilities.

The DC also directed the concerned executing agency to immediately start physical work on the project. The agency committed to start work by/ before December 20, 2022 positively.

During the visit, the Deputy Commissioner also asked the concerned revenue authorities to identify a suitable patch of land for development of a playground at Pandrethan. While, for expansion of Industrial Estate, Khonmoh, the DC asked the Tehsildar Panthachowk to furnish revenue papers for the identified 110 kanals of land to Industries and Commerce Department.

Meanwhile, the DC accompanied by the Officers also visited the proposed site for IIM off campus at Athwajan.

**DLSA Kathua organises awareness programme on PCSO & JJ Act**

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
KATHUA, DECEMBER 15: District Legal Services Authority Kathua, under the supervision and guidance of Pr. Director and Sessions Judge Kathua, Jaffer Hussain Beg, who is also the DLSA Chairman, on Thursday organised an awareness program on 'Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012(PCSO)' & 'The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of

Children) Act, 2015' here at Govt. Middle School, Dhanna of Zone Lakhanpur.

The programme was organised in collaboration with Legal Cum Probationary Officer, Juvenile Justice Board Surbi Abrol, Deputy Legal Aid Defence Counsel Adv. Purnei Kumari and Panel Advocate Jyoti Dividevi, who were also the resource persons.

The objective of the program was to spread awareness about the issues related to Sexual Exploitation of the children and the Constitutional Rights and other Legal Protections available to the Children.

The Resource Persons deliberated upon the core issues of the subject and sensitized participants about 'Good Touch and Bad Touch' in a simple manner.

They were also briefed about the

# New land policy draconian, inhuman, says Altaf Bukhari

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, DEC 15: Apni Party president Altaf Bukhari Thursday described Jammu and Kashmir government's new land policy as "draconian" and "totally inhuman", saying it will not be allowed to be implemented.

Recently, the J&K administration has notified that all the outgoing lessees, except in the case of subsisting/expired leases for residential purposes, shall immediately hand over the possession of the land taken on lease to the government, failing which the outgoing lessee shall be evicted. On Wednesday, Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has defended the new land lease laws, saying that necessary changes were being made in land laws to benefit the common man as earlier legislations were "very regres-



sive". "These land laws are draconian. No where in the world are people removed from possession," Bukhari told reporters here.

He said the lease holders mainly have commercial establishments and if their leases have expired and have not been extended, then it is not their mistake. "These laws cannot be implemented, it cannot stand the scrutiny of law. It is totally inhuman... The Apni Party will not allow these draconian laws to be implemented," he said.

The former minister said his party did not want to politicise the issue and that is why had not said anything over it. "But, because the politicians here are like vultures, they need issues. They want to create storm in a tea cup. Had it been left to Altaf Bukhari and the Apni Party, we could have resolved it without making it an issue," he said.

Political parties including the National Conference (NC), the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) and Peoples Conference have also criticised the government's move. Meanwhile, Bukhari welcomed NC vice presi-

dent Omar Abdullah's remarks that if the party was voted to power, it will revoke the Public Safety Act (PSA).

"It is very good if he (Abdullah) wants to do it. I will not go into this that his grandfather enacted it or why he did it, but, it is good if he wants to do it. Why should we criticise something good or someone who was wrong yesterday, but wants to take the right path today," he said.

Bukhari said if Abdullah was feeling remorse, then it is fine and the Apni Party welcomes it. "I think no one should be pained over this, or say how many people were slapped with the PSA. We also have been a part of some governments. Why did these people not rake this up when they were a part of the government?" he said, apparently referring to Abdullah's criticism by Sajad Lone-led Peoples Conference.

# MVD Rajouri hosts awareness program on revised Contract Carriage Permit Rules

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, DEC 15: Assistant Regional Transport Officer, Rajouri, Shammi Kumar today organized an awareness program at DIET ground Kheora to educate the transporters, drivers/conductors and general public about the recent amendments made in J&K Motor Vehicle Rules, 1991 regarding "Contract Carriage Permit". During the programme, ARTO Rajouri briefed about the whole procedure of obtaining permits for the (Contract Carriages) which have been simplified as after revision of rules there is no need to apply for 'Letter of Authority' which was earlier mandatory before applying for registration of Contract Carriage Vehicles.

Further, the contract carriage permit shall be granted to a new vehicle which is compliant with BS-IV or the latest norms as laid down by Bharat Stage Emission standards of Government of India.

However, it shall not be applicable to any vehicle for which LA has already been issued prior to the date of issuance of the notification and any vehicle for which "All India Tourist Permit" has been issued and permit holder applies for its conversion to local permit after a period of 12 years he disclosed.



The ARTO Rajouri further informed that any person who intends to purchase a fresh vehicle under all J&K Contract Carriage Permit have to submit an application along with Domicile Certificate, RC of the vehicle for which the route permit is sought, present address proof, Character Certificate to be issued by the concerned Police Station, copy of the Driving License of the applicant or driver, declaration in an affidavit regarding the number of transport vehicles already owned by the applicant either registered in the name of applicant or in the name of firm/company and availability or arrangement of parking space either public or private for existing and for the new vehicle for which the applicant desires to obtain a route permit.

# Kishtwar gears up for Revision of Panchayat Electoral Rolls-2023

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
KISHTWAR, DECEMBER 15: District Panchayat Election Officer (DPEO), Kishtwar Dr Devansh Yadav, today chaired a meeting to review the preparedness besides discussed modalities for Revision of Panchayat Electoral Rolls 2023 which will start from December 21, 2022, with January 1, 2023 as the qualifying date.

The meeting was attended by ADC (in charge) Indrajit Singh Parihar, Deputy District Election Officer, Nareesh Kumar, DPO Kishtwar Sunil Bhutyal, SDM Marwah Dr Mohsin Raza, Assistant Electoral Registration Officers, Panchayat (BDOs), PEBOs and election officials.

The meeting discussed in detail the preparation for publication of draft Electoral Roll at Polling Station on the prescribed date. The latest and lastly updated Panchayat Electoral Roll will serve as the base

for the Revised Roll.

The meeting also discussed availability of the recently updated electoral rolls and Panchayat electoral rolls, besides role and responsibilities of EROs, AEROs and PEBOs during the Panchayat Electoral Roll Revision were also discussed threadbare.

During the meeting, Deputy Panchayat Election Officer Kishtwar was asked to furnish the details of EROs, AEROs and Panchayat Election Booth Officers on district website for the convenience of the general public. The meeting further deliberated upon the schedule of revision, publication of draft roll on website and in the offices of EROs/AEROs/PEBOs (VILWS) for the information of the concerned. The DPEO urged the government functionaries and other stakeholders to actively participate in the Panchayat Electoral Roll revision exercise to ensure enrollment of all

eligible voters in the Electoral Roll.

Earlier, the Dy. DEO informed that six special camps shall be organized during the revision period and the panchayat Booth Level Officers (PBLs) shall remain available at respective booths with requisite Forms and draft electoral rolls for the guidance of the electors.

He informed that as per schedule six (06) Special Camps shall be organized at all the polling station locations across the District on 31.12.2022 (Saturday), 01.01.2023 (Sunday), 07.01.2023 (Saturday), 08.01.2023 (Sunday), 14.01.2023 (Saturday) and 15.01.2023 (Sunday).

Moreover, the concerned AERO (Block Development Officer) will collect all the details of claims and objections received on the day of Special Camps as per the prescribed format and will submit to ERO concerned who will further submit to the District Panchayat Election Officer (Deputy Commissioner).

working of Juvenile Justice Board, Child Welfare Committee etc, and a dedicated Child Helpline No: 1098.

Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Kathua Rekha Kapoor Nischal, while interacting with the students of Govt. Middle School, Dhanna called for spreading awareness on PCSO and Juvenile Justice Act for wider dissemination.

The proceedings of the Program were conducted by Panel Advocate

Upasana Gupta whereas welcome address and vote of thanks was presented by Kamal Khajuria, (Teacher and also Counsellor, Guidance and Counselling Cell of Govt. Middle School, Dhanna).

The program was attended by faculty members, students of GMS Dhanna, parents, panchs, sarpanchs, and Para Legal Volunteers of District Legal Services Authority Kathua.

## DC presides over Youth Conference, Encourages youth to prepare for competitive Exams

Highlights job oriented government schemes



JJ NEWS SERVICE

**RAMBAN, DEC 15:** District Administration Ramban today organized a one-day Youth Conference under the initiative 'Prashasan Gaon Ki Aur' to promote the e-Governance system, besides increasing the penetration of youth entrepreneurs on the e-Suvidha App in the district. Deputy Commissioner, Musarrat Islam presided over the Youth Conference attended by the trainees of Polytechnic Ramban, ITI Ramban, Gool and Banihal and Government

Degree Colleges of the district and youth working in different fields. Chief Planning Officer, Dr. Kasturi Lal; Principal, Polytechnic, Sulket Gupta; AD Employment, Sushant Mahajan; Deputy Registrar Cooperatives, Priyanka Sharma; Councillors of MC Ramban, Gopal Krishan Raina, Khalid Wani, Superintendent of ITIs, representatives of Beopar Mandal Ramban have participated in the programme. Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner informed the

participants about initiatives taken by the District Administration and the government schemes including MUMKIN, Tejswani, PMEGP and others to enable youth to start their own units.

The DC advised the college students to focus on cracking civil service exams, besides other state and national level competitive exams to serve the society. He also advised the youth to go for startups to earn a decent livelihood and generate job opportunities for others.

The DC highlighted the area wise potential trades like tourism, production and sale of agro-based products and innovations to scale up the traditional trades which would provide benefits to a maximum number of people. During the interaction session, students of different blocks of the district raised various queries pertaining to e-Governance, career options, issues hindering their progress in education, hand-holding and coaching for aspirants of civil services and other local issues. The officers of line departments cleared the doubts of students besides sensitizing them about schemes and programmes of their respective departments under Mission Youth Jammu and Kashmir.

## Prashasan Gaon ki Aur : ADDC inaugurates Skill Development Programme at Inderwal, reviews Online Revenue Services

JJ NEWS SERVICE

**KISHTWAR, DEC 15:** As a part of Good Governance initiative of UT Government of J&K under the aegis of 'Prashasan Gaon Ki Aur'- a Nation-wide campaign for Redressal of Public Grievances and Improving Service Delivery in the rural areas; Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Kishtwar Sham Lal today visited Sub Division Chhatroo to redress the grievances of people and to review the Service Delivery mechanism of Govt departments.

During the visit at Block headquarter Inderwal, the ADDC, in presence of Director RSETI Sumit Gupta; BDO Chhatroo, Taseem Javaid Wani; SDAO Marwah, Manzoor Ahmed and local PRIs inaugurated a 10 day Skill Development Programme on Project Unnati for Skilling of MGN-REGA Workers/farmer Trainees organised by SBI RSETI in Collaboration with RDD at BDO Office Inderwal (Chatroo). Speaking on the occasion, he stressed the RSETI office to lay focus on harnessing and upgrading the skills of the farmer



trainees about the usage of latest agriculture techniques to enhance their income. Earlier, the ADDC inspected Tehsil Office Chhatroo and reviewed the Online Revenue Services provided for the ease of people. He also enquired from the visitors about the Public Delivery services being provided by the Tehsildar's office. The people expressed satisfaction over the

functioning of the offices in the Sub Division Chhatroo. Meanwhile, the ADDC listened to the issues of locals and PRIs along with Mentor for Panchayat/CDPO Inderwal Kuldeep Kumar, BDO Inderwal, PRIs. Several grievances of people were resolved on the spot at Panchayat Chhatroo Lower A under the initiative Prashasan Gaon Ki Aur.

## DC, SSP lay foundation stone for remodeling of GGHSS Baderwah; Inaugurate Open Gym & Toilet complex

School destined to become centre of excellence Quality education & merit: DC



JJ NEWS SERVICE

**DODA, DEC 15:** Deputy Commissioner Doda, Vishes Paul Mahajan along with SSP, Abdul Qayoom laid foundation stone for remodeling of

Government Girls Higher Secondary School Baderwah, the other day. MC Baderwah Shahid Mughal and CEO Doda Prahalad Bhagat were also present at

Baderwah and CEO Doda along with others also inaugurated an Open Gym in the school established by the School education department, under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav and Samagra Shiksha. The DC emphasized that teachers and students must concord in achieving the highest place in every field, be it any profession or any kind of sports. He also instructed the staff to make best use of the Gym and other resources to achieve exemplary results. With new facilities being created under the remodeling project, the School is destined to become a centre of excellence, quality and merit in education and co-curricular activities, the DC said.

## Div Com reviews execution of management plan for felling of Khair trees

JJ NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU, DECEMBER 15:** Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar today chaired a meeting of Deputy Commissioners and Officers of Forest Department to review the management plan for felling of Khair trees (Acacia Catechu) grown on non-Forest land in Jammu division.

The meeting was attended in person by Chief Conservator of Forest, B M Sharma; Assistant Commissioner Central, Pritam Lal; DFO Jammu, Anoop Soni, while the Deputy Commissioners of Jammu division along with DFOs and Assistant Commissioners Revenue participated through video conferencing.

The meeting had threadbare discussion on the issues pertaining to the Management Plan, Status of Khair growing on non-Forest lands/private land in the division and issues pertaining to the felling of Khair trees etc. The meeting was informed that numerous applications have been received and forwarded to revenue authorities for title verification. Reviewing the cases of permissions for felling Khair trees, the Div Com took note of the pending permissions in the districts. He directed the Deputy Commissioners to facilitate speedy permissions by expediting the title verification and other procedures to ensure early submission of the same to the Chief Conservator of Forest. Pertinently, several delegations of PRIs approached the Divisional Commissioner office with the demand to get title verifications

done expeditiously by the revenue officers.

Khair, found in subtropical areas of Jammu region of UT, is an important cash crop for the farmers, especially in Kandi zones. It comes up profusely in non irrigated lands and thus plays an important role in compensating the farmers for their less productive land.

Khair exists in the nine territorial divisions viz; Reasi, Mahore, Udhampur, Rannagar, Rajouri, Nowshera, Jammu, Kathua and Billawar spread over six districts viz Reasi, Rajouri, Jammu, Samba, Kathua and Udhampur.

The Div Com said that the roster is defined in SRO 111 of 2016 for grant of approvals to the permissions of felling of Khair Trees. As per SRO no Khair tree shall be felled or converted for any purpose without permission granted under the extant rules.

"No Khair tree/wood shall be used for any purpose except in accordance with the provisions prescribed in the SRO," he added. It was informed that several applications are pending with the DFOs and Tehsilidar concerned for grant of approval.

The Divisional Commissioner emphasized on close coordination between Revenue and Forest officials for expeditious clearance of permissions. He directed the DCs and DFOs to process all the pending cases and simultaneously conduct the demarcation. The Revenue heads of Districts were instructed to expedite the title verification process and other revenue recommenda-

tions and send all the cases to the Chief Conservator of Forest for grant of final approvals. The Div Com also asked the DCs to reject cases where state land is involved.

Meanwhile, the Div Com reviewed the dispensation of online revenue services and took stock of district wise disposal percentage.

The Div Com exhorted the revenue officers to work with zeal and dedication to provide the best services to the public and lessen the hardships of the common masses. He asked the DCs to ensure prompt disposal of online applications. He also stressed the importance of conducting regular monthly meetings with Tehsilidars to discuss the issues and progress made under the online services. He also directed the revenue officers to educate the public about the online services of their department and motivate them to avail the benefits of the same.

The Div Com also reviewed the progress on land acquisition process for Delhi Katra Express Highway and instructed the concerned DCs to expedite the land acquisition and disbursement of land compensation. He also asked the DCs to resolve issues if any for smooth execution of work on the prestigious project.

While reviewing the progress of delineation of land recorded as Gair Mumkin Khad, Nullah, Dariya etc, the Divisional Commissioner asked the concerned Deputy Commissioners to expedite the process and send weekly segregation reports to the divisional level Committee for further action in this regard.

## VC SKUAST, DDC Gbl preside over workshop on promotion of PM-FME

JJ NEWS SERVICE

**GANDERBAL, DEC 15:** A day long workshop cum awareness camp was organized today on the promotion of Prime Minister's Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PM-FME), One District One Product (ODOOP) walnut in District Ganderbal at KVK SKUAST (K) Shuhama. Vice Chancellor SKUAST (K), Dr. Syed Nazir Ahmad Ganie and District Development Commissioner (DDC), Ganderbal Shyambr presided over the camp. The workshop was attended by Scientists from different Departments, Officers and

Staff from Developmental Departments, Farmers from Walnut industry and Students. At the outset, Dr. Salman Rauoof Chalkoo, Assistant Director Fisheries and District Nodal Officer, PM-FME welcomed all the participants and briefed the audience about the scheme guidelines. Vice Chancellor, SKUAST Kashmir, Dr. Nazir Ahmad Ganai emphasized the need for cluster based approach between the Departments and University to achieve much needed success in the field of walnut industry. He stressed for multiplication of exotic varieties of walnut to further increase

productivity. DDC while speaking on the occasion stressed on the need of labelling all value added products for its acceptability at national and international markets and urged the committee framed to facilitate the growers. He also praised the efforts of PM-FME associated officers and promised farmers/industrialists for all possible help and technical guidance from DNO PMFME and all the officers associated with the scheme. During the program the performance under PM-FME was highlighted and the audiences were briefed about the scope of the walnut industry in District Ganderbal. Dr. Ishfaq Abidi, Head KVK Ganderbal briefed the audience about the morphological features of various walnuts, efforts done by the KVK for technological intervention. Dr. Syed Zameer, Head Food Technology SKUAST Kashmir, presented an elaborate presentation on the walnut processing line innovated by SKUAST Kashmir and the measures to manage and process walnut from time to time. Later, appreciation certificates were also presented by the DDC to the team members in order to encourage and appreciate their efforts.

## Atal Dulloo reviews implementation of PM KISAN in J&K

JJ NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU, DECEMBER 15:** Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Agriculture Production Department (APD), Atal Dulloo today chaired a meeting to review the implementation of PM Kisan in Jammu and Kashmir in view of the disbursement of 13th installment under PM KISAN.

Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Secretary in APD, Special Secretary APD, several District Development Commissioners (district level chairman PM KISAN), Regional Director Survey & Land records Jammu (Nodal Officer), District Nodal Officers, Director Agriculture Kashmir/Jammu, Assistant Commissioners Revenue, Chief Agriculture Officers, representatives of J&K Bank Ltd and other concerned attended the meeting. Kashmir based officers, DDCs, ADDCs, ACRs, CAOs, & district users of PM KISAN attended the

meeting through video conferencing.

The ACS in detail discussed the targets, achievements, pendency and recoveries, seeding of bank accounts with Aadhaar of the beneficiaries, their linking with revenue records and e-KYC from every district with regard to PM KISAN.

The meeting was also informed about the targets, achievements and pendency in both Record of Rights (RoR) and e-KYC uploads etc. The meeting also discussed the weeding out of ineligible beneficiaries, income tax payables, and government employees wherein PM-KISAN installments have been disbursed. The meeting also discussed the bulk uploading of revenue records of PM-KISAN, e-KYC pendency and to be cleared in a mission mode. He directed the lead bank to saturate bank accounts of PM-KISAN beneficiaries with their Aadhaar and

NPCI (for DBT) and asked for breakup of pendency from each district.

He also asked the concerned officers, and Lead Bank Managers to coordinate to sort out issues, if any, to clear all the pendency.

He also had an exclusive interaction with the Lead Bank Officers regarding updation of beneficiary data on the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) platform of Government of India. He directed them to ensure collection of mandates and maximum data updation.

He further asked Directors of Agriculture Kashmir and Jammu to ensure clearing all eKYC pendency as the next PM-KISAN installment is due.

He also directed the concerned officers to identify and register any left out eligible beneficiaries so that the benefits would trickle down to the deserving lot.

## Registration of Births, Deaths on CRS Portal

JJ NEWS SERVICE

**KATHUA, DECEMBER 15:** Deputy Commissioner Kathua, Rahul Pandey today presided over a one day training programme organised to acquaint the functionaries of District Kathua & Samba about Registration of Births & Deaths on Civil Registration System (CRS) Portal here at Conference hall of DC office.

The training was organized by District Registrar/Additional District Registrar of Births & Deaths Kathua & Samba, in collaboration with District Administration Kathua, Directorate of Economics & Statistics, J&K and Directorate of Census Operations, J&K.

The training programme was attended by Chief Medical Officers Kathua/Samba, District Statistics & Evaluation Officers Kathua/Samba,

Medical Superintendents DH Kathua/Samba, BMOs, BDOs, CEOs/EOS of District Kathua & Samba and other concerned officers.

At the outset of the training programme, the Deputy Commissioner Kathua highlighted the importance of the CRS portal and role and responsibilities of newly notified registrars.

He further impressed upon the registrar to create mass awareness among the general public about the new online system of registration of births & deaths. He also called upon trainees to learn all the nitty-gritty of the new registration system and quell their doubts, if any.

During the training programme, resource persons from Census Department, Manmeet Singh Loomba, Assistant Director Census Operations, Himanshu Koul SIG-II

gave a detailed powerpoint presentation on Civil Registration System (CRS).

They briefed the participants about the duties and responsibilities of functionaries involved in the Civil Registration System with special focus on the role of local Registrars for the issuance of Birth & Death certificates in the areas falling within their jurisdictions. They urged the Registrars (BDOs & EOs) to put in dedicated efforts for the implementation of the Civil Registration System through an online designated portal in letter & spirit in their respective areas.

Pertinently under Jammu and Kashmir Registration of Births & Deaths Rules, 2022, Block Development Officers have been designated as Registrars for Births & deaths in rural areas.

# Parliamentary panel asks Centre to set timeline for construction of transit accommodations in Kashmir Valley

SRINAGAR: A parliamentary panel has recommended to the Union Home Ministry to set a timeline for the completion of construction of the remaining transit accommodations for migrants in Kashmir Valley and ensure that the deadlines are adhered to.

recommends that the MHA should set a timeline for the completion of construction of transit accommodations and ensure that the deadlines are adhered to, reads the panel after the government's submission report on its earlier observations.

# Amid dry spell, Agri expert stresses on need for contingency plan for farmers

Prevalent weather conditions will have no impact on agri land, says Dir Agriculture; MeT predicts dry weather till Dec 25

SRINAGAR: As the dry spell continued in most parts of the Valley, the Agricultural experts on Thursday stressed on the need to come up with a contingency plan for the farmers while the government stated that there will be no impact on the Agricultural land.

He further said that the present dry spell is impacting the Kharib crops. However, he said that amid dry weather situation, there is a need for a contingency plan having a diversified system so that the farmers would be able to make decisions about the crops according to the weather conditions.

# FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

## Div Com reviews...

note of the pending permissions in the districts. He directed the Deputy Commissioners to facilitate speedy permissions by expediting the title verification and other procedures to ensure early submission of the same to the Chief Conservator of Forest.

## CS launches...

visitors who are provided online passes and devise a proper mechanism regarding the same. He told them to look for places inside Secretariats where these visitors would be heard comfortably by one officer or other. He also advised them to look into making virtual visits possible so as to save time and energy.

The Div Com also reviewed the progress on land acquisition process for Delhi Katra Express Highway and instructed the concerned DCs to expedite the land acquisition and disbursement of land compensation.

Later on the Chief Secretary inaugurated the multi-lingual website of GAD whose interface would now be available in both Hindi and Urdu languages. It was said to be the first official website of the UT to have the contents available in all the three languages of English, Hindi and Urdu.

Meanwhile, the Div Com reviewed the dispensation of online revenue services and took stock of district wise disposal percentage. The Div Com exhorted the revenue officers to work with zeal and dedication to provide the best services to the public and lessen the hardships of the common masses.

The Chief Secretary including all the Administrative Secretaries appreciated the GAD for both these initiatives and gave their inputs for making these better in the times ahead.

The Div Com also reviewed the progress on land acquisition process for Delhi Katra Express Highway and instructed the concerned DCs to expedite the land acquisition and disbursement of land compensation.

## CBK files chargesheet...

criminal conspiracy hatched between them with accused No. 06 have managed the illegal mutations in respect of land already notified/acquired and compensated by the government in the year 1968.

## CBK produces...

Accordingly, preliminary verification was conducted at Economic Offence Wing of Crime Branch Kashmir which culminated in the registration of the Case FIR No. 31 of 2022 of Police Station Crime Branch Kashmir Now Economic Offences Wing.

## With RKVY support...

supply and feasibility. Jammu & Kashmir Government is also promoting fisheries culture by using modern technologies of fish farming such as composite fish culture of Indian major carps and exotic carps.

The Div Com also reviewed the progress on land acquisition process for Delhi Katra Express Highway and instructed the concerned DCs to expedite the land acquisition and disbursement of land compensation.

of Bank that I will try to meet their expectations to the best of my abilities while discharging my duties with due diligence, integrity and professionalism.

# Sopore tragedy: Destitute mother appeals for help after daughter jumps to death in Jhelum

SOPORE: A 17-year-old girl (name withheld) who ended her life by jumping into the river Jhelum in Sopore on Monday this week was suffering from depression, as the family was financially weak, her widowed mother the only one earning food for her children by working day and night.

The teenager's body is still untraceable, with the administration making all efforts to retrieve it from the river Jhelum. The search operation entered the fourth day on Thursday with teams of SDRF and WUCMA pressed into service, besides local fishermen.

# KCCI holds meeting trade associations, hoteliers, others

SRINAGAR: The Kashmir Chamber of Commerce & Industry (Inc) held an interactive meeting with various trade associations, hoteliers, restaurant owners and other stakeholders on their request regarding the recent order NO. S.O 688 Dated 9th December, 2022 issued by the Government of Jammu & Kashmir, Revenue Department was discussed in detail.

# Land Grant Rules -2022 Sajad Lone says could start dark chapter of blatantly othering Kashmiris

SRINAGAR: Peoples Conference chairman Sajad Gani Lone on Thursday said the Jammu & Kashmir Land Grant Rules -2022 unveiled by the administration may "start the dark chapter of blatantly othering the Kashmiris".

# Biker dies after hit by vehicle in Baramulla, driver arrested

BARAMULLA: A 40-year-old man died after being hit by a vehicle near Stadium colony in Baramulla district on Thursday evening even as the driver has been arrested.

# 5 residential houses damaged, minor boy injured in Bemina blaze

SRINAGAR: At least five residential houses were damaged, while a minor boy suffered burn injuries in a fire incident in Bemina area of Srinagar on Thursday.

# Drug peddler arrested in Bandipora: Police

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir police on Friday claimed to have arrested a drug peddler in Bandipora and recovered contraband substance from his possession.

A police spokesman in a statement issued to the news agency said that acting on a specific information received by Police Post Alosa that one person named Abdul Sattar Seer Gojer son of Jamma Seer Gojer resident of Malangan has indulged in drug peddling and hoarded a huge quantity of narcotic substance in his cowshed near his residential house.

Accordingly, police said that a case under FIR number 187/2022 under relevant sections of law stands registered in Police Station Bandipora and further investigation set into motion.

During the preliminary investigation, it came to surface that the said accused person is a notorious drug dealer of the area and is making the youth of Alosa area drug addicts by selling the said contraband substances," police said.

# Defunct Street lights in Gulmarg trouble people

GULMARG: Tourism stakeholders in Gulmarg are facing a tough time due to defunct street lights saying it is difficult to move out or walk in the dark.

# Winter vacation 2022-23 No employee of School Edu Dept to leave station without leave permission

SRINAGAR: The School Education Department has said that it will not permit its employees to leave the station during winter vacations 2022-23 without the leave permission from the competent authority.

Executive Director Sudhir Gupta has been serving the Bank for over three decades across operations covering in different leadership positions ranging from leading the branches to heading three different Zones of Bank.

His areas of expertise include Credit, Finance, Corporate & Retail Banking, Customer Service, Trade Finance, Business Continuity Planning etc.

# Rana lauds role...

Dutt Giri, Manhantr Rameshwar Giri, Mahant Mohan Giri, Mahant Anirudhya Dass, Mahant Shanti Giri, Mahant Shivnand Giri, Vijay Krishan Prashar, Shyam Sundar Giri, Mahant Mantri, besides Mahant Rajesh Bito, Sangathan Mantri & J&K Shat Darshan Sadhu Samaj were present.

Rana said it is incumbent upon every segment of the Indian society to unite and work for strengthening the bonds of brotherhood, the cornerstone of Indian ethos and glorious heritage. He said the spiritual land of India has emanated the message of peace and harmony to the world and guided humanity to peace, prosperity and spiritual bliss.

Rana referred to the huge strides made during the recent years towards world peace and said the efforts of the Prime Minister have to be taken to the next level by strengthening his hands.

# Teenage girl held...

security forces and said that more recovery is expected in this case. KNO

# Thrasing of journalist...

The journalist later approached the concerned police station and filed a complaint there following which a case under FIR number 64/2022 was registered at Rajbagh Police Station.

A police official when contacted said that a case has already been registered while the accused persons have been arrested. "The chargesheet in the case would be filed tomorrow," he said. KNO

## CS inaugurates 'Nation First Winter Sports Festival'



Distributes sports gear among the athletes

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, DEC 15: Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta today inaugurated NATION FIRST WINTER SPORTS FESTIVAL, 2022 today at Synthetic Turf Football Stadium, TRC ground.

The Chief Guest was accompanied by Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir; Secretary, Y&S and Secretary J&K Sports Council and other officers from the police and civil administration were also present on the occasion.

Dr Mehta on the occasion interacted with the people and football

clubs/teams/Academies and with the registered trainees of sports council football academy and distributed the sports kits among them.

On the occasion the Chief Secretary remarked that the government has created world class infrastructure in the UT during the last couple of years. He further said that Sports is the priority of the government and a lot of resources have been earmarked for uplifting the sports in J&K.

Dr Mehta enjoined upon the Council to organise such activities in other parts of J&K. He told them

to engage youth in every part in different sporting activities so that they are able to continue the extracurricular activities in winter also. He advised them to utilize the facilities created recently fully for the benefit of youth of J&K.

He further stated that winter sports provide opportunities to youth to continue showcasing their talent during these months also. He made out that the LG administration is going to provide every sort of infrastructure and facility to the sports lovers so that they do not have to stagnate themselves during

any part of the year. He encouraged the youth to excel in sports by taking full advantage of these facilities.

Dr Mehta observed that the administration this year gave opportunity to some 50 lakh youth to demonstrate their sporting skills across the length and breadth of J&K. He declared that it has been made a reality to have a playfield in every panchayat and at least an Indoor Stadium in each district.

He stated that youth outside the twin cities of Jammu and Srinagar can also play games till late hours at stadium provided with flood lights in each district. He stated that a culture of sports and cultural activities is taking roots in J&K. He said that every person young or old is encouraged to take up either sports or culture to channelize his/her energy towards better and healthy activities.

Later a football match was played under flood lights in the ground as an inaugural opening match of the sports festival for sports lovers of valley.

## VC SKUAST, DDC Gbl preside over workshop on promotion of PM-FME

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
GANDERBAL, DEC 15: A day long workshop cum awareness camp was organized today on the promotion of Prime Minister's Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PM-FME), One District One Product (ODOP) walnut in District Ganderbal at KVK SKUAST (K) Shuhama.

Vice Chancellor SKUAST (K), Dr. Syed Nazir Ahmad Ganai and District Development Commissioner (DDC), Ganderbal Shiyambir presided over the camp.

The workshop was attended by Scientists from different Departments, Officers and Staff from Developmental Departments, Farmers from Walnut industry and Students. At the outset, Dr. Salman Rauoof Chalkoo, Assistant Director Fisheries and District Nodal Officer, PM-FME welcomed all the



participants and briefed the audience about the scheme guidelines.

The Vice Chancellor, SKUAST Kashmir, Dr. Nazir Ahmad Ganai emphasized the need for cluster based approach between the Departments and University to achieve much needed success in the field of walnut industry. He stressed for multiplication of exotic varieties of walnut to further increase

productivity.

DDC while speaking on the occasion stressed on the need of labelling all value added products for its acceptability at national and international markets and urged the committee framed to facilitate the growers. He also praised the efforts of PM-FME associated officers and promised farmers/industrialists for all possible help and technical guidance

from DNO PMFME and all the officers associated with the scheme.

During the program the performance under PM-FME was highlighted and the audiences were briefed about the scope of the walnut industry in District Ganderbal. Dr. Ishaq Abidi, Head KVK Ganderbal briefed the audience about the morphological features of various walnuts, efforts done by the KVK for technological intervention. Dr. Syed Zameer, Head Food Technology, SKUAST Kashmir, presented an elaborate presentation on the walnut processing line innovated by SKUAST Kashmir and the measures to manage and process walnut from time to time. Later, appreciation certificates were also presented by the DDC to the team members in order to encourage and appreciate their efforts.

## BGSBU celebrates 19th Foundation Day

JAMMU, Dec 12: Baba Gulshan Shah Badshah University, Rajouri celebrates its 19th Foundation Day on December, 15, 2022. The event was graced with the presence of the Vice Chancellor of the University Prof. Akbar Masood and the First Lady of the University Dr. Seema Akbar. Prof. Qayyum Husain, Vice Chancellor, Cluster University of Srinagar was the Chief Guest on the occasion.

In his address, Prof. Akbar Masood said that the BGSBU, despite its relatively young age, in terms of its establishment has been making significant strides in the field of academics, infrastructural developments, and other extra-curricular activities so much so that it has reckoned its presence as one of the premier institutions of Jammu and Kashmir. Prof. Akbar said that over the years, BGSBU University has emerged as a popular academic destination for the students of J&K and created its distinctive niche for academic pursuits in this hinterland. After achieving many milestones in recent years, it now looks forward to sustained future development to occupy the coveted position amongst the national and international institutions of excellence. The VC said.

Congratulations to the BGSBU Fraternity on 19th Foundation Day, Prof. Akbar mentioned that many student-centric and employee-friendly initiatives have been taken up recently which are yielding unbelievable results in terms of the performance of students, staff, and faculty members of the



University. Prof. Akbar said that as we have completed 19 years of our remarkable journey, we pledge to continue to strive for excellence, for which the foundation was laid on this very day, 19 years.

Prof. Qayyum Husain in his address applauded the BGSBU fraternity for making path-breaking initiatives and thereby developing BGSBU University as a center of excellence in academics and research. He said that in the last two years under the magnanimous leadership of Prof. Akbar Masood, BGSBU University has been creating a niche in the academic forums not only in India but abroad as well. Congratulating the students for their power-packed performances, Prof. Qayyum advised students to imbibe a positive attitude and self-belief and work towards the betterment of the country.

On the occasion the Vice Chancellor felicitated Jb, Khurshid Bismil, who has written the Tarana of the University. The Vice-Chancellor also felicitated six recently retired employees of the University including Mr. Rashid Chowdhary and Dr. Mushtaq Ahmed Wani. On the occasion, the Vice Chancellor felicitated an

alumnus of the university Mr. Zahoor Ahmed as well. As a recognition of outstanding performance in research, the Vice Chancellor awarded Dr. A.A. Shah, Dr. Asghar Mughal, Dr. Raja Amir, Dr. Tanveer Hasan, Dr. Saleem Rishi, and Dr. Ahmed Rayaz. The Vice-Chancellor felicitated the faculty, officers, and staff of the University for their remarkable contribution to the corporate life of the University. Those who were felicitated included, Dr. Shams Kamal Anjum, Dr. A. A. Shah, Dr. Tete Xavier, Dr. Parvez Abdilla, Dr. Danish Iqbal Raina, Dr. Parvaiz Alam, Dr. Majid Bashir Malik, Dr. Zakir Malik Bhalessi, Dr. Rafiq Anjum, Dr. Farkhanda Ana, Dr. Saima Aslam, Dr. Ahmed Rayaz, Mr. Suneet Gupta, Mr. Qasim Kholi, Mrs. Shabina Nazir, Mrs. Nobila Nazneen, Mr. Shakeel Ahmed, Mr. Sunny Gupta, Dr. Iftikhar Hussain Shah, Dr. Gourav Sehgal, Mr. Mujeeb ur Rehman, Dr. Manmeet Singh, Mr. Mubashir Malik, Mr. Sahil Hameed, and Mr. Shiv Kumar.

The Vice-Chancellor also felicitated five departments for their outstanding performance namely the Department of Zoology, Department of Botany,

Department of Biotechnology, College of Nursing, and Centre for Hospitality and Tourism. Earlier Dean of Academic Affairs Prof Iqbal Parwez delivered the welcome address and highlighted the various achievements made by the University in national and international forums under the leadership of Prof. Akbar Masood. In his address, Prof. Iqbal Parwez acknowledged the contribution of former Vice-Chancellors of the University in institutional building. A glittering cultural program showcasing the cultural diversity of J&K was also presented on the occasion by the students of various departments including the Centre for Hospitality and Tourism, Environmental Sciences, Department of Urdu, and Department of English and Management.

On the occasion, The Vice Chancellor also released the 3rd edition of the quarterly magazine of the University's Campus Buzz'. Mr. Mohd. Ishaq, Registrar of the University proposed the vote of thanks. Those who were present on the occasion included Dean SOET Prof. Asif Hussain, Associate Deans, Heads of various departments, faculty members, officers and officials, students, and research scholars of the University. Ms. Mahlegua Batool, a student of the English Department conducted the proceedings of the event.

Department of Biotechnology, College of Nursing, and Centre for Hospitality and Tourism.

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**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, DEC 15: Hinduist BJP leader Mr. Raju Chandel and National President of Namro Singh Manoj Singh Tomar ji and well-known religious leader of Bharatiya Sanatan Dharma Guru Maa Mata Mamta ji jointly talking to journalists today.

Sadhvi Maa Mamta ji strongly opposed the Bollywood film Pathan and said that the way the film address is shown naked in saffron clothes in this film, Sanatan Dharma has been completely insulted. And the child of India will not tolerate

Where did the Hinduist BJP leader Mr. Raju Chandel say on this occasion? In this way Khan Pathan director filmmaker are playing with the faith of saffron clothes and Hindu faith Hindu Sanatan Dharma by putting such scenes in the films.

Talking to journalists, National President of Namro Singh Manoj Tomar ji said that today our organiza-



tion will try its best to stop the screening of this film and will work to uproot its banners etc. Pathans will not let the movie run on cinema halls, this film is a conspiracy of Islamic countries with Hindu faith, which Khan Pathan, the progeny of Mughals, is trying to defame by playing with our Hindu faith.

Sadhvi Guru Maa Mamta Ji said

that soon India will be a Hindu nation and such unrighteous people like Khan Pathan will be driven out of this country. Sadhvi Maa said that all the Sanatan Dharma lovers of the country, the people of Hindu Sanatan Dharma should collectively cut off this film Pathan and hand over the bowl to this Khan Pathan and drive them out of the country.

## DDC Vice Chairperson presides over public Darbar at Nagain Majalta

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
UDHAMPUR, DEC 15: Vice Chairperson District Development Council Udhampur Jubi Manhas Pathania along with DDC Mandli Neeru Bala chaired the public darbar at Nagain, Chore Panjan Block Khoon.

This village is situated on the flank of Udhampur and Kathua districts and people of both areas have been clamouring for Road connectivity from Martian (Kathua) to Nagain (Udhampur).

Both of them called for redressal of problems being faced by the locals of the respective areas. The camp was attended by different departments and district/ block heads of the Education Department, Rural Development, Power Development Department (PDD), Public Health Engineering (PHE), PMCSY, Social Welfare, Forest, Health and other departments were also present.

Pathania called for greater coordination between general public



and officials of various departments for speedy development of the area and redressal of the public issues.

Earlier, she listened to problems of the people of the area and issued directions for on spot redressal of the problems projected by the people which included the road from Martian to Nagain for which she called upon forest authorities for clearance from their departments so that work for this road can

be taken up.

For staff shortage in schools and demand for a sheep husbandry centre was taken up with concerned authorities. On the occasion, Pathania vouched for availability of basic living facilities like water supply, electricity, road connectivity for all. She called for expediting work in JMM for actualizing 'Har Ghar ko Jal' resolve of central government. While interacting with the people, she said that the

whole exercise is in accordance with the party principle of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas objective'. Rather it is a sincere attempt to have direct interaction with the masses and provide best possible solutions to their day to day administrative and development issues.

She called it a sincere attempt to lessen the gap between administration and people. We should ensure that genuine issues of people are redressed in an efficacious way.

Neeru Bala, DDC Mandli (Kathua) also spoke on the occasion and spelled out various development policies and programmes launched by PM Narendra Modi.

Prominent among those who were present included Surinder Singh Sarpanch C/Panjan, Mohan Lal Mandal Pardan Khoon, Vishal Singh Mandal Pardan Mandli, Vipin Sharma Mandal Pardan Ramkot, Kamla Devi Sarpanch Babey Ram Das Naib Sarpanch C-Panjan and other PRI members of the area.

## DPEO Rajouri reviews preparedness for revision of Panchayat Electoral Rolls

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
RAJOURI, DECEMBER 15: District Panchayat Election Officer (DPEO), Rajouri, Vikas Kundal, on Thursday chaired a meeting to review the preparedness for the revision of the panchayat electoral rolls with January 1, 2023 as the qualifying date.

Officers present in the meeting were ADC Sunderbani, Vinod

Kumar Behnal; ADC Nowshera, Kartar Singh; CPO, Mohammad Khurshid; ACR, Inram Rasheed Kataria; SDM Thanamandi; Vikas Dhar; ADC, Vijay Kumar; DIO, Babu Ram Tandani; DIO NIC, Muzaffar Mir; BDOs; and ENT, Surjit Singh.

At the outset, Dr DEO, Babu Ram Tandani, informed attendees about

the uses of forms, including Forms PER 2A, PER 2B, PER 2C, and PER 2D, during the revision process.

He also informed them that six special camps would be organised during the revision period, and the Panchayat Officers would remain available at their respective booths with the req-

uisite forms and draft electoral rolls for the guidance of the electors.

The meeting discussed in detail the preparation for the publication of the draught electoral roll at the polling station on the prescribed date.

The latest and lastly updated Panchayat Electoral Roll will serve as the base for the revised Roll.

## Ramban: ADC chairs meeting to revise stamp duties rates

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
RAMBAN, DEC 15: Additional Deputy Commissioner Ramban, Harbans Lal Sharma today convened a meeting of Revenue officers to revise stamp duty rates for the year 2023. The meeting was attended by Assistant Commissioner Revenue Gias-Ul-Haq, SDM Gool, Tanveer-Ul-Majid, GM DIC, CEO, CMO,

DDOs, Tehsildars, and other concerned officers. The Revenue Officials apprised the ADC that the stamp duty rates have been analysed and informed about the area-wise percentage of hike in the land rates in their respective areas of jurisdictions. They also apprised the ADC of the reasons for the hike in stamp duty rates. The meeting discussed the

stamp duty rates of Irrigated and unirrigated land in rural areas and residential and commercial land in urban areas besides notified industrial land in the district. He also directed the concerned to ensure that the new rates shall be responsive to the generation of government revenue and place a balance and check in sale purchase deeds.

## THOUGHT OF THE DAY

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

## JINDRAH IMAGES

## KPs living in constant fear

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

## HOW TO CUT IMPORT DEPENDENCE ON CHINA

Trade relations with China became a cause for concern when protests against the zero-Covid policy rocked Beijing. China plunging into political turmoil would have meant serious disruption of economic activity and uncertainty over continued imports, which play a key role in enabling Indian economy to go forward.

SUBIR ROY

INDIA faces a dilemma in its trade with China. For security reasons and the need to become self-sufficient, India needs to cut down imports from China. But the two-way trade has continued to grow vigorously. With it has burgeoned the trade balance in favour of China amid border tensions in recent years.

Trade between India and China rose to \$115.83 billion in the 2021-22 financial year, according to the Commerce Ministry, with India's trade deficit soaring to around \$74 billion. Trade between the two nations this financial year (April to October) has been to the tune of \$69.04 billion.

A look at the key imported items gives us an idea as to why Indian demand for Chinese goods is so robust. They stretch across the board — from capital goods to intermediates to raw material used in industries like electronics, organic and inorganic chemicals, medical and pharmaceutical products, fertilisers, and materials used by the leather industry.

Interestingly, the rise in these imports is not necessarily a negative development. As the government has explained, the rise in the import of electronic components, computer hardware and peripherals and components for phones is resulting from India's attempt to become a digitally empowered society with a burgeoning knowledge economy.

Ironically, the rise in imports is the result of India's attempt to boost its manufacturing economy. It also seeks to play host to global companies following a policy of 'China Plus One' through which they wish to de-risk themselves by relocating some of their manufacturing units out of China to Southeast Asia and South Asia. India and Vietnam in particular are on the radar of these global tech companies. Foxconn plans to more than double its production capacity for iPhones in India from the current level by next year. It further plans to eventually source half of its production from out of India compared to the present 4 per cent.

If India succeeds in playing host to some of the factories being relocated out of China then that will be



mostly assembly plants which create the maximum number of jobs. Most of the intermediate goods that will go into these finished products will likely have to be imported out of China. This will raise the import bill further. A similar story relates to pharmaceuticals. India has emerged as a global supplier of generic formulations. The drug intermediates and bulk drugs that go into these formulations are mostly imported from China. Both in the case of electronics and pharmaceuticals, reducing import dependence on China can only be done in the medium or long run and has to be part of an overall policy. The nation's policymakers have to decide if it wants to remain an integral part of the global economy, sans China, or go in for a major course correction in order to become as self-reliant as possible.

The current thinking of the government is indicated by the fact that the commerce department has asked other formations in the government to take steps to reduce the import of non-essentials from China by raising the domestic capacity. There is some sign of the share of consumer goods imports from China going down, but these are early days. In non-essentials, the government has met with some success in curbing the import of toys. Now, it seeks to turn its attention to electric fans and smart meters. It is using a somewhat novel tool to do this — by issuing quality-control orders. Presumably, this will raise barriers in the way of import of low-

value consumer goods. China is today, to an extent, on the same stage as Japan was in the 1960s when it succeeded in raising its export on the basis of price rather than quality. Trade relations with China became a cause for immediate concern when China was hit by protests against the restrictions imposed by the government while pursuing the zero-Covid policy. China plunging into political turmoil would have meant serious disruption of economic activity and uncertainty over continued imports, which play a key role in enabling Indian economy to go forward.

Fortunately, the Chinese government has backed down and the protests are off, but the nation needs to have a plan to live with serious disruption in the India-China trade. So how can India square the circle? Use imports from China to go forward as a manufacturing power even while trying to curb such imports? Relatedly, how can India avoid seeking to micromanage a critical part of its foreign trade so as not to go back to the practices which were ended with the economic liberalisation that began in the 90s under the guidance of former PM Manmohan Singh?

A research project undertaken by the Indian Institute of Management, Indore, and the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, at the behest of the NITI Aayog, has thrown up some ideas. A key one is for India to play a more active role on multilateral economic platforms

such as ASEAN (Southeast Asian countries), MERCOSUR (trade bloc of South American nations) and NAFTA (free trade agreement between North American countries). The essence of regional economic agreements is that member countries agree to lower trade barriers between themselves. The simple point is — lower trade barriers, don't raise them.

The study suggests the following process. First, the government departments should do their own strategy planning in consultation with industry bodies and the NITI Aayog and the PMO should formulate country-level inputs. Then these need to be put together in the overall country-level plan which should be made up of department-level plans. The study has also divided 900 products imported from China into four categories. These are high-tech products, electronics, commodity technical products and commodities. The first two categories of products, whose manufacturing requires advanced efforts that take time to shape up, can be imported from alternative global suppliers for three years. The next two categories which incorporate basic technology and are traded on the basis of price differentiation can be imported only for six months. As to how the government should change its way of working, the report suggests something that is so well known that it is axiomatic — the government departments should stop working in silos.

## Decoding the strategic clash at Yangtze

LT GEN PRADEEP BALI (RETD)

The face-off leading to a clash between the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) and personnel of the Indian Army in the Yangtze area of Tawang in western Arunachal Pradesh on December 9 was a conflict waiting to happen, with a sense of unease prevailing along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China. An important marker as a run-up to this fight was the strong protests by the Chinese Government over the joint military exercises between Indian and US armies in the central sector of Uttarakhand, about 100 km from the LAC. The clash at Yangtze has taken place over two years after the last bout of jostling in eastern Ladakh. This kind of violent pushing and shoving has been occurring since long, especially in disputed areas of Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim.

However, in view of the fatalities in the Galwan valley clash of June 2020, any such confrontation draws immediate and heightened attention. The PLA seems to be perfecting its street-gang style of fighting along the LAC and has equipped its border troops with spiked clubs and tasers to pulverise the opponent in a conflict which precludes the use of firearms. The Galwan clash and the resultant casualties highlighted the lethality of such improvisations for physical

fighters. However, this time the Indian troops were well prepared both in terms of pre-empting the enemy build-up by reinforcing their own threatened position and being armed with the right type of equipment. The efficacy of tasers against enemy personnel in moisture-affected winter clothing at these heights can be fatal. While the focus is on harnessing technology for indigenisation of big-ticket defence equipment and weapon systems, efforts also have to be made for equipping the soldiers on these icy heights with riot-control gear. This kind of inventory becomes important when faced with an adversary who will unscrupulously attempt bullying tactics and fistfights in scuffles for seizing control of areas. It may appear incongruous that the military of a nuclear wannabe superpower indulges in such scuffles on its borders. However, these brawls are, in fact, a 'strategic' signalling of intent! They are a clear pointer to a more aggressive and assertive communist leadership of China. The 20th Congress of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) in October saw not only the emergence and endorsement of the paramount leader, but also was a clear pointer to how China will conduct its business on the global stage. Chinese President Xi Jinping's strident stance at the G20 summit in Indonesia was not only a reflection on



his perceived dominance as a powerful leader, but also how China now views the world. At the CCP Congress, the official line was very clear about the approach to local (neighbourhood) conflicts and how China intends dealing with them. These are mainly regarding Taiwan, disputes in the South China Sea, island territories with Japan and the trans-Himalayan conflict on the LAC with India. While Taiwan and other maritime disputes can well be managed by a combination of deft brinkmanship, coercion and economic influence, a major concern will remain the plethora of issues with India. The unsettled land border, stretching for 3,488 km along the LAC, has well-identified disputed

and sensitive areas. This border, which is contested all along due to the ambitiously manufactured Chinese claim lines, has become live or rather lively due to their testing the waters in eastern Ladakh with indifferent results. The presence of the Dalai Lama and the Central Tibetan Administration-in-exile on Indian soil has always been a sore point in bilateral relations. Besides, China sees India as the sole challenger to its regional domination in Asia, which it aspires for as a prelude to global superpower status. Resolving these irritants with India on its terms would therefore gain priority for the CCP leadership in the days ahead.

The border standoff in eastern Ladakh with the PLA, which began in

*It may appear incongruous that the military of a nuclear wannabe superpower indulges in such scuffles on its borders. However, these brawls are, in fact, a 'strategic' signalling of intent! They are a clear pointer to a more aggressive and assertive communist leadership of China.*

mid-2020, has entered a stalemate phase, with the latest round of talks achieving little progress and the Indian Army formations committed in the bleak and hostile terrain for the long haul. The only time these talks were followed up in right earnest was when Indian troops occupied the important features on the Kailash range, south of Pangong Tso, which effectively dominated forward posts of the PLA. The Chinese were quick to concede on a quid-pro-quo basis and even dismantled habitations and other structures while pulling back along the north bank of Pangong Tso. This was a clear indicator that China respects and listens when spoken from a position of strength. The rapid PLA withdrawal after the clash at Yangtze appears to be in the same vein. The fact of the matter is this unease will continue along the LAC and we have to live with it as the PLA will endeavour for a more aggressive approach in gaining positions of advantage anywhere along our north-

ern borders. At the same time, China will continue to stress on delinking border scuffles from overall bilateral relations, while India will emphasise on a holistic approach with peace on the borders as a prerequisite. The on-ground implication for the Indian Army is increased year-round deployment in hostile terrain and weather. China, apart from maintaining a belligerent military posture, would amply harness the media and look for every opportunity to keep India in a reactive mode, while dragging on with dispute resolution mechanisms. Being prepared on all counts, be it militarily or diplomatically and which includes pre-emption when required, is the only way to tackle this threat to national security. We need a proactive mindset to deter China for the Chinese communists are firmly committed to maximising their power in the world and we happen to be their formidable neighbours, with a turbulent relationship between us.

# Devoleena Bhattacharjee plays 'fishing the ring' game with her husband Shanwaz Shaikh

Actor Devoleena Bhattacharjee who is popularly known as Gopi bahu from Saath Nibhaana Saathiya, got married to her fitness trainer Shanwaz Shaikh on Wednesday. After the rituals, the actor enjoyed post wedding rituals with her husband. She played a fun round of games with him.

Devoleena played fishing the ring game with Shanwaz. Both of them sat on a sofa. A container was kept in front of them. It was filled with rose petals, milk and water. Devoleena found the ring first from the container and won the game against her husband. Their family members were cheering for Devoleena and said, "Devo, Devo."

Devoleena laughed as she held the ring in her hand. For post wedding rituals, Devoleena wore a grey shimmering saree with decorative blouse. Her hands were decorated with henna. She wore golden bangles and kept her hair tied. She wore a matching necklace, earrings and mangalsutra around her neck.

Her husband, Shanwaz wore brown casual suit with a white shirt. He opted for brown shoes with his suit. On Wednesday, she posted dreamy pictures



with Shanwaz after their wedding ceremony and wrote, "And yes proudly I can

say I am taken & yes shonu" on Instagram. Many fans, friends and close ones dropped congratulatory messages in the comments section.

She shared heartwarming pictures with Shanwaz on Instagram and wrote, "Chirag lekar bhi dhoondti toh tuji jaisa mahi milta (I couldn't have found someone better than him). You are the answer of my pain & prayers. I LOVE YOU SHONU Lots of love to you all. Keep us in your prayers & bless us. THE MYSTERIOUS MAN urff The Famous #SHONU AND TUM SAB K JIJA. (Here's presenting your brother-in-law)." She used 'taken', 'couple goals' and 'finally hooked' as the hashtags on the post.

Devoleena rose to fame after essaying the role of Gopi bahu in the soap opera Saath Nibhaana Saathiya from 2012-17. She has also starred on shows like Sawaare Sabke Sapne Preeto and Laal Ishq.

She has been a contestant on Salman Khan's reality show Bigg Boss for three successive seasons from 2019-22, finishing in 6th place in Bigg Boss 14. She was last seen in the web series First Second Chance in 2022.

## Bigg Boss 16: Priyanka Choudhary suffers an emotional breakdown post fights with Archana Gautam



Bigg Boss 16 has become the talk of the town. The contestants this season are fiery and have managed to develop a connect with the audiences. This week, Tina Datta, Sumbul Touqeer and Soundarya Sharma became the captains while Sajid Khan, Shiv Thakkar, Tina and Shalin Bhanot got nominated. However, the voting lines are shut and it is speculated that either evictions might not happen this week or the same may happen following some other process other than viewers' votes.

In tonight's episode, Priyanka and Archana had a major fight over kitchen duties. Archana called Priyanka with demeaning names while Priyanka gave it back to her. Their fight was a treat to other contestants like Shiv, Sumbul, Nimrit, Stan and others.

By the end of tonight's episode, Priyanka made up with Archana and they hugged it out and promised each other to not hurt each other in a fight. However, the same is going to repeat in the upcoming episode.

As per the new promo and precap, yet another fight is set to occur between Archana and Priyanka. Archana guides Priyanka while she cooks breakfast and her constant interference irked Priyanka. They had an argument which resulted in Priyanka having a meltdown. Until now, Priyanka was mostly seen shedding tears in the matters that involved Ankit and she has rarely cried because of the tensions in the house. It looks like Priyanka has reached a saturation point. She was seen hugging Ankit and venting out her emotions.

Will Priyanka and Archana yet again solve their issues? Only time will tell.

## Shah Rukh Khan avoids paparazzi, Rani Mukerji waves to paparazzi with a smile as they are spotted together at airport

Shah Rukh Khan and Rani Mukerji were spotted together around noon at the Kalina airport on Thursday. Shah Rukh was in black casuals and also wore a cap. Rani was in a black saree with her hair tied in a neat bun. While Shah Rukh avoided the paparazzi, Rani smiled at the photographers and also waved at them. The two will reportedly attend the Kolkata International Film Festival which begins on Thursday.

Shah Rukh and Rani Mukerji have worked in quite a few hit films such as Kuch Kuch Hota Hai, Kabhi Khushi Kabhie Gham and Veer Zaara. They are now gearing up for their respective releases next year. Shah Rukh's Pathaan will hit theatres on January 25 whereas Rani will be seen in Mrs Chatterjee Vs Norway. The film will release in theatres on March 3.

Shah Rukh has been trying to keep his current look hidden from cameras. He is working on Rajkumar Hirani's Dunki, which also stars Taapsee Pannu. He also has Atlee's Jawan, in which he would be seen in a bruised and battered look. The actor recently made his onscreen comeback with the song Besharam Rang from Pathaan. It features Deepika Padukone in a sultry avatar as she tries to woo Shah Rukh, who's seen in a pony with a few loose strands falling on his face. The song was an instant hit among the moviegoers and marks his comeback after the 2018 film Zero.

# Shehnaaz Gill says she ran away from home to fulfill her dreams: 'There are very few families..!'

In the upcoming episode of Indian Idol 13, Shehnaaz Gill will talk about how she ran away from home to fulfill her dreams. She will mark her presence on Senior Citizen Special episode of Indian Idol on Saturday at 8 pm on Sony Entertainment Television. While talking to contestant Debosmita Roy, she will be seen opening up about few families not being supportive of working women and how difficult it gets for women to achieve their goals.

Sony shared the promo of the upcoming episode on social media. In a conversation with Indian Idol contestant Debosmita Roy, Shehnaaz said, "There are very few families in our country who support working women. Mai apne sapon ko poora karne ke liye ghar se bhaag gayi thi (In order to fulfill my dreams, I ran



away from my home). Debosmita, you are very lucky to

have such supportive parents. Always stand by them and make them proud."

She continued further and said, "I recently took my mother on her first international trip to Dubai and the feeling was surreal. It always feels great to do something for your parents."

Her new song Ghani Sayani with MTV Hustle 2.0 winner MC Square was released on December 5, 2022. Fans praised their song, some even found it really addictive. Many also gave a shoutout to Shehnaaz's Haryanvi accent. Ghani Sayani was directed by Agam Mann and Azeem Mann. The song was sung by Shehnaaz Gill and MC Square.

Shehnaaz shot to fame with her participation on Bigg Boss 13. She was rumored to be in relationship with Sidharth Shukla

who went on to win the show but died of a cardiac arrest last year. Recently, she shared a few romantic pictures with Sidharth, on his birth anniversary with an emotional message. She wrote, "I will see you again (heart emotion and angel emoji) 12 12" on Instagram.

Shehnaaz recently launched her celebrity chat show, Desi Vibes With Shehnaaz Gill. Celebrities like Ayushmann Khurrana, Vicky Kaushal among others marked their presence on her show to promote their movies. She will soon make her Bollywood debut with Salman Khan's film Kisi Ka Bhai Kisi Ki Jaan. The film is directed by Farhad Samji, and also stars Venkatesh Daggubati, Palak Tiwari and Pooja Hedge. The film is slated to be released in 2023.

# Badshah feels stressed, like he is preparing for exam, as his Pagal Tour nears

Bollywood rapper, Badshah is all set to make the crowd go crazy with his first India music tour, starting on December 24. Talking about the preparations for his tour, Badshah told ANI, "The show will begin on December 24. Preparations are somewhat like preparing before the exam,

stressed, preparations are not completed but we are doing it." Rapper Badshah announced 'The Pagal Tour' in November 2022 with a special announcement video. Sharing his thought on why he chose to name his tour 'pagal', the rapper in conversation with ANI said, "I think every man is 'pagal' (mad) and the one who

follows his madness reaches somewhere. So this is like an invitation that any person who has a little bit of madness inside him should come and enjoy that madness with us. 'Pagalpan' is important to do something different in life." Starting from December 24 in Mumbai 'The Pagal Tour' will be held in Guwahati, Ahmedabad,

Hydera-bad, Kolkata, Gurugram, Pune and will end on March 18 in Bengaluru.

He also shared an incident from his schooling days and said, "When I was young, I said I want to be a rapper and during the maths period my teacher asked what is this? I said it's a poem, and the teacher said, are you mad?,

and that moment I realised if someone does this kind of work everyone considers him pagal. So I told the teacher that maybe yes I am pagal. So you are not defined by what the world says, you are what you are, if the world thinks you're pagal then okay you're pagal, but you should know what you're doing."

# Nora Fatehi shares cryptic post amid defamation row with Jacqueline Fernandez: 'My parents didn't raise me to.....'

Nora Fatehi has shared a cryptic note about her intentions and upbringing after she filed a defamation suit against Jacqueline Fernandez in connection with the 7200 crore extortion case. Both of them were questioned by the Enforcement Directorate over the last few months in connection with the extortion case connected to conman Suresh Chandrasekhar. Nora took to Instagram Stories and shared that her parents did not raise her to take advantage of others.

She wrote, "My parents didn't raise me to take advantage of people. My intentions will always be pure. We ain't the same." She also added a smiling face emoji with her post.

On December 12, Nora filed defamation suit against Jacqueline Fernandez connection with 7200 crore extortion in which 'conman'

Suresh Chandrasekhar is the main accused. Her suit is against Jacqueline and a few media organisations for allegedly 'trying to tarnish her reputation' and caused her loss of work in the industry. However, Jacqueline's lawyer has said that his client has never said anything in public about Nora Fatehi and hence, the question of defaming her should not arise.

In Nora's defamation suit filed on Monday in a Delhi court, she said, "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." Jacqueline is listed as 'accused 1' in the suit. In a conversation with advocate Prashant Patil said, "Jacqueline has not made any statement in front of any electronic



or print media against Nora or for that matter, any other person. She has consciously avoided talking

about the Enforcement Directorate proceedings. Till date she has maintained the sanctity of law and because the matter is sub-judice she has always avoided to speak in front of print and social media. Having said that, we have not received any official copy of the suit filed by Nora. Once we receive an official confirmation or an order of the Honourable Court, we will respond to it legally."

Nora was seen in Thank God in a cameo in the song Manike with Sidharth Malhotra. The film also starred Ajay Devgn. She also danced with Ayushmann Khurrana on Jehda Nasha remix song. The song was released on November 17 from Ayushmann's movie, An Action Hero. Nora has the film 100 Percent alongside John Abraham and Shehnaaz Gill as her upcoming project.

## Covid cases are rising again, should you skip gym?

After two long years of the new normal of life in a pandemic, Indians are eager to move on and return to life as we knew it. The masks, hand hygiene and social distancing measures have all but disappeared, and exist only in advisories rather than in real life. But the BA.5 version of covid-19 is triggering a new wave across the world and India is not unaffected.

In all probability, most of us have had at least one acquaintance from our immediate family or friends circle contract covid-19 in the recent past; this should serve as ample warning that the viral disease still poses a very real risk. According to the latest data from Johns Hopkins University's coronavirus tracker, India witnessed 548,580 cases of covid-19 and 1,255 deaths due to the disease in July 2022. That's warning enough that covid-19 is not yet a thing of the past and we should accept the fact that we might have to live with it.

In many ways, this is similar to us living with viral fever, malaria and other such ailments despite having vaccines. However, if you have tested positive for covid-19, you could still infect others and could even cause yourself significant damage if you carry on as if nothing's happened, especially if you are the active type.

Outdoor exercises are always a better idea than indoors ones. By



working out outdoors, you can also significantly reduce the chances of infection. There is more space, the air is clean, and the lower risk of contracting covid-19 brings mental relief, says Dr. Manoj Sharma, senior consultant for internal medicine at the Fortis Hospital in Vasant Kunj, Delhi.

"A closed environment like a gym is not suitable for working out during a spike in covid-19 cases as transmission becomes very easy because people tend to inhale and exhale with much

more force while exercising.

The spread of infection like covid-19 is a lot faster in (air-conditioned) gyms and fitness studios," says Dr. Sushila Kataria, senior director of internal medicine at Medanta Hospital, Gurugram. Both doctors also recommend exercising outdoors because there are no other people in your immediate vicinity, and this lowers the chances of infection.

However, if you are the kind who cannot do without going to a gym, you need to take precau-

tions. "Covid-19 has affected us and every place around us," says Sharma, adding, "Gyms and yoga centres are open but many are still sceptical about hitting the facilities. We all are well aware of the precautions we should take but it is better to remember a few steps: Carry your own gym kit and avoid sharing anything personal. Using a mask during exercise will be difficult but you could refrain from using the gym when it is crowded, which makes maintaining social distance norms difficult."

Sharma also says that you must keep your sanitizer handy and wipe the common grip areas of equipment you use. Kataria suggests wearing a mask when working out in a packed gym, but advises that people be careful as working out while wearing a mask could become uncomfortable and lead to breathlessness in many people.

Sharma also suggests that people carry their own towel or tissue paper to wipe the sweat off when they are exercising, and that people ought to set aside a dedicated pair of shoes for use in the gym. In case of any symptoms of covid-19 such as cold, cough and fever, both Sharma and Kataria urge people to be responsible and get tested. "If you are positive for covid-19, do not go to the gym," says Kataria.

If you come down with covid-19, don't fret. You should stay physically active while positive, says Sharma. "Standing up and walking whenever possible are important. Ideally, one should interrupt sitting or reclining every 30 minutes. Breathing exercises are highly recommended during covid-19 infection so that your mind and body are at peace," he says.

However, do not do any strenuous exercises. Kataria suggests those with covid should stop any activity that could lead to exertion.

## How air pollution hinders children's health



New research has shown the ill effects of pollution exposure among children. The study was published in the journal, *New Directions for Child and Adolescent Research*.

Blood samples show that children have elevated markers of inflammation, such as interleukin 6 if they were exposed to higher air pollution. Further, higher air pollution was linked to lower cardiac autonomic regulation in children, which impacts how fast the heart beats and how hard it pumps, according to the study.

Researchers looked at blood samples from more than 100 healthy children ages 9-11 in the Sacramento area where pollutants near their homes were recorded by the Environmental Protection Agency. The study was authored by Anna M. Parenteau, a doctoral student, and Camelia E. Hostinar, associate professor, both from the UC Davis Department of Psychology. The work took place at UC Davis. These findings are important because exposure to pollutants released during wildfires has been related to numerous negative health outcomes in children, who have smaller bodies and organ systems than adults, including asthma and decreased lung function, as well as neurodevelopmental outcomes like attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, autism, and deficits in school performance and memory, researchers said. Researchers looked at fine particulate matter data from the EPA (PM2.5) -- or the fine particles that can penetrate the lungs and pass into the bloodstream -- finding the children's blood contained markers of systemic inflammation. Additionally, PM2.5, which refers to particulate matter measuring 2.5 micrometres or smaller by the EPA, was linked to lower cardiac autonomic regulation assessed using an electrocardiogram. Specifically, researchers used data files maintained by the EPA, which have daily air quality summary information from each outdoor monitor in the country.

## Popping multivitamins mindlessly? Stop, it may be of no use

Are you among those who gulps down a multivitamin every morning, probably with a sip of water? It may be of no use, finds a study.

While multivitamins aren't helpful, at least they're not harmful. But the money people spend on them could be better spent on purchasing healthy foods, according to Dr. Pieter Cohen, an associate professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School.

Researchers analysed 84 studies involving nearly 700,000 people. Their review, published in *JAMA*, found little or no evidence that taking vitamin and mineral supplements helps prevent cancer and cardiovascular disease that can lead to heart attacks and stroke, nor do they help prevent an early death.

"Most people would be better off just drinking a full glass of water and skipping the vitamin," said Cohen, an expert in dietary supplement research and regulation.

"We have good evidence that for the vast majority of people, taking multivitamins won't help you," he added. There are some exceptions, however. Highly restrictive diets and gastrointestinal conditions, or certain weight-loss surgeries that cause poor nutrient absorption, are examples of reasons why a multivitamin or individual vitamins might be recommended.

A daily vitamin D supplement may be necessary when a person gets insufficient sun exposure. Your doctor may recommend an iron supplement if you have a low red blood cell count (anaemia).

Surveys suggest people take vitamins to stay healthy, feel more energetic, or gain peace of mind. These beliefs stem from a powerful narrative about vitamins being healthy and natural that dates back nearly a century.

"This narrative appeals to many groups in our population, including people who are progressive vegetarians and also to conservatives who are suspicious about science and think that doctors are up to no good," Cohen said.

## Researchers identify novel molecular pathway that suppresses the spread of glioblastoma

Southwestern researchers have identified a molecular pathway responsible for the spread of glioblastoma to surrounding tissue in the brain, as well as an existing drug that curbed tumor growth in animal models. The findings, published in *Nature Cell Biology*, have led to a clinical trial that could offer new hope to patients with glioblastoma, the most common form of brain cancer in adults that kills hundreds of thousands of people worldwide each year.

"Glioblastoma's invasive property is perhaps its most formidable barrier to treatment," said Ameen Habib, M.D., Associate Professor of Neurology, member of both the Harold C. Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center and Peter O'Donnell Jr. Brain Institute at UTSW, and a staff physician at the Dallas VA Medical Center.

We have identified a pathway that can suppress this cellular invasion, which could offer a new way to increase survival."

Ameen Habib, Associate Professor, Neurology, UT Southwestern Medical Center

Despite decades of research, the prognosis for most patients with glioblastoma remains dismal, with a median survival after diagnosis of just 15-18 months. Part of the challenge in treating this cancer is its invasive nature: Glioblastoma tumors invade sur-



rounding healthy brain tissue, sending tentacle-like extensions out from the primary tumor that are impossible to remove with surgery alone and difficult to reach with chemotherapy.

Researchers have long considered the epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR), a protein that sits on the surface of cells, as a driver of this cancer. Dr. Habib explained. In nearly half of

glioblastoma patients, the gene that codes for EGFR is amplified, causing glioblastoma cells to produce far more molecular signals spurred by this protein and causing tumor cells to proliferate. Consequently, Dr. Habib added, several clinical trials have focused on inhibiting EGFR -- but each has failed to improve the prognosis for glioblastoma.

EGFR on glioblastoma cells can

send these signals in two ways: either without prompting, a state known as constitutive signaling, or when stimulated with proteins called ligands. The differences between these two pathways have been considered inconsequential. Dr. Habib said. Thus, glioblastoma patients with amplified EGFR have been grouped together in clinical trials.

In the new study, Dr. Habib and colleagues in the Habib lab and elsewhere showed that when cells with amplified EGFR were stimulated with ligands, this receptor appeared to act as a tumor suppressor, preventing invasion into healthy tissue both in laboratory and animal models. Further experiments showed that a cytoskeletal protein called BIN3 appears to be responsible for inhibiting this invasion. When the researchers dosed animals with amplified EGFR glioblastoma tumors with an FDA-approved arthritis drug called tofacitinib that increases the amount of EGFR ligands and BIN3, tumors remained smaller and were less likely to invade healthy brain tissue. Additionally, these animals survived significantly longer than animals that didn't receive this drug.

Dr. Habib noted that tofacitinib could offer a new way to extend life for patients with both amplified EGFR and a relatively high level of EGFR ligands, a strategy he and his colleagues will explore in a clinical trial launching in September.

For patients without high ligand numbers, he added, strategies previously explored to inhibit EGFR could potentially extend survival.

"These approaches could offer new tools in our arsenal to fight glioblastoma," Dr. Habib said.

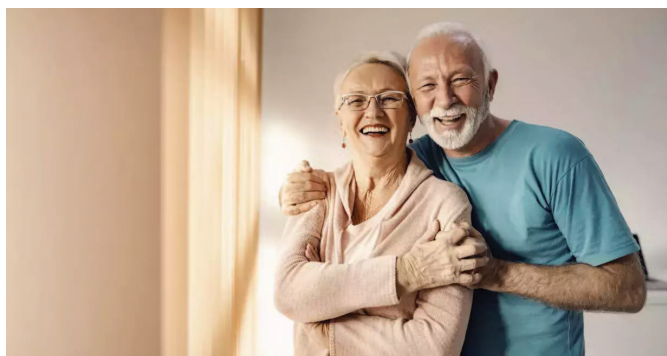
## Ageing neutralizes sex differences in the brain: Study

**LINKÖPING [SWEDEN]:** Fruit flies' brains become desexualized as they get older, both male and female. Both sexes experience age-related changes, but the male brain becomes more feminized to a larger extent than the female brain becomes masculinized. A study conducted by a research team at Linköping University came to this conclusion.

The research is published in the journal - *Proceedings of the Royal Society of London B*. Weaker individuals cannot afford to "invest" in sexual behaviours to the same degree as their healthier counterparts, which is a well-known fact. It is unclear, though, whether ageing, which weakens people, also causes a decrease in interest in sexual activities. Going "all in" on reproduction might seem like the best

option for people who are nearing the end of their lives in order to pass on their genes before it's too late. The brain controls sexual behaviour, so researchers looked at how the expression of specific genes changes with age in young males and females to learn what happens to sex differences in this tissue in fruit flies. According to Dr. Antonino Malacrino, one of the study's primary authors who is currently employed at the University of Reggio Calabria in Italy, "our results demonstrate that gene expression in male and female brains becomes more similar with age, and that both sexes contribute to this pattern."

The study demonstrates that a gene's expression is reduced in older females and increased in older males if the gene's expression is higher in the brains of young



females than in young males, and vice versa for genes with higher expression in young males.

According to Antonino Malacrino, "The results also demonstrate that the changes are more pronounced in males than in females."

Since there is presumably a weaker correlation between investment in sexual traits and reproductive success in females than in males, females age more slowly than males do. A female fruit fly only needs to choose how much energy she has available for reproduction, whereas a male fruit fly must out-compete other males in quickly finding females and persuading them to mate through a challenging dance performance. Age implies that there are fewer resources available for both sexes to invest in reproduction and other activities, but males face greater costs of increased investment due to male-to-male competition.



# Kavinder for action against culprits behind recruitment scams

## 'Cancellation of LAs, Jr LAs exam unfortunate'

**JI NEWS SERVICE JAMMU, DEC 15:** Senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister, Kavinder Gupta on Thursday sought strict penal action against the culprits behind the recruitment scams in the Union Territory while the government annulled the exam conducted for recruitment of Legal Assistants and Junior Legal Assistants held in November last year.



consecutive recruitment process which has been cancelled in recent time raising a big question mark on the ability to hold recruitment in the government sector by the government.

In a statement issued to media persons, the senior BJP leader termed the situation as unfortunate because it was the fourth

tion to probe the matter at the highest level and identify the culprits at the earliest because repeated disruptions in the recruitment processes is maligning the image of the government and also raising questions on the competence of those sitting at helm.

He said that those responsible for irregularities should be taken to task without any leniency or excuse because such incidents dent the image of the government as this is not the first case where irregularities have been surfaced and the government has to take the extreme step of annulling the exams to ensure fair deal to all.

Kavinder asked LG Manoj Sinha to intervene in the matter and take cognizance because such irregularities in the sensitive matter of recruitment will alienate youths and there is a possibility that they lose faith in the working of government.

He said that the matter is of immense significance and therefore top priority should be given to this whole gamut and things which have gone haywire should be rectified as soon as possible to regain the faith of the people.

# Mankotia calls on Union Minister Gen V.K. Singh

**JI NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, DEC. 15:** Former MLA & Bhartiya Janata Party leader Balwant Singh Mankotia today called on Sh. VK Singh, Hon'ble Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways and Civil Aviation and discussed issues of public importance of Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir here today.



Mankotia raised the issue of service road from Tikri to Jakhani on both sides of National Highways so that during traffic jams local public should not suffer. He also demanded construction of

National Highway from Udhampur to Sawalokote via Lander Panchari and also discuss slow pace work on Udhampur Ramban National highway and Chenail and Sudhmahadev. He said that stretch on Udhampur-Srinagar National Highway near Samroli and Ramban need flyovers as

shooting stones and unstable mountains are a security problem for the people travelling on these roads. Mankotia also demand t

MoS Road, Transport and Highways paid a patient hearing and assured to take up the issues raised by Mr. Mankotia with the concerned authorities. He also discussed the issue of widening Dhar road & Kamnagar Dudu basantgarh road. He said the development of Jammu and Kashmir is the top most priority of PM Narendra Modi led government and Naya Jammu Kashmir is in the making.

# Two Day workshop organized by School of Comp Science and Engineering , SMVDU

**JI NEWS SERVICE KATRA, DEC 15:** The School of Computer Science and Engineering, Sri Mata Vaishno Devi University inaugurated a Directorate of Quality Assurance, SMVDU sponsored Two days workshop on "Hybrid Learning integrating teaching Data Analytics and Business Intelligence". Vice Chancellor, Padam Sri Prof R.K Sinha graced the occasion and welcome the special guest speaker and all the participants and wished that the workshop would be a great learning platform.



Augustine's University, United States apprised participants about the various techniques related to Data analytics and Business Intelligence and their scope in various domains and research.

The Convener of the conference Dr. Ajay Kaul, emphasized on the importance of Data Analytics and Business Intelligence in today's era and future. The chief guest Prof. Anu A. Gokhale, Professor and Chair, Department of Computer Information system, Saint

lytical tools and Business Intelligence tools and benefits of this hands-on workshop and the workshop would be great platform to learn.

Dr. Pooja Sharma, Convener presented formal vote of thanks and expressed sincere thanks to the Vice Chancellor, Special Guest, participants and the committee members of this workshop.

The Head of Department, Dr. Bajinath Kaushik, School of Computer Science and Engineering motivated participants to learn ana-

# DGPC Jammu inaugurates Sikh Marriage Bureau & Data Compilation of Needy and Meritorious Sikh Students

**JI NEWS SERVICE JAMMU, DEC 15:** S Ranjit Singh, Teha President DGPC along with Vice President S Balvinder Singh S Surjit Singh Secretary, S Jagpal Singh Cashier DGPC inaugurated Sikh Marriage Bureau and compilation of data of needy and meritorious Sikh student at Sub office of DGPC Jammu at Gurudwara Baba Fateh Singh Gandhi Nagar Jammu.

Sikh boys and girls despite being highly educated and established in both govt as well as in Private sectors are facing difficulties in finding suitable matches.

So the DGPC Jammu after threadbare discussions felt the need of starting its own marriage bureau with nominal charges as compared to huge amount charged by other matrimonial services. It is also decided not to charge any fee from persons having BPL card.

While elaborating the details of above mentioned initiatives taken by DGPC Jammu S Balvinder Singh Vice President DGPC Jammu said that it has been observed that

shall enable DGPC to make direct contact with such needy and meritorious students and will make appeal to the Sikh donors to contribute for these students so that they can pursue their studies in different spheres.

DGPC has also constituted a panel of experts comprising S Manjit Singh, S Rajinder Singh Sudan, S Rajinder Singh Soodan Retd XEN, S Rajinder Singh retd ZE, S Janak Singh with vast experience to provide voluntarily services to provide motivational counseling on fixed days and time in the sub office of DGPC at Gurudwara Baba Fateh

Singh Jammu. DGPC further asked other Sikh Intellectuals to come forward for accomplishment of the above project voluntarily.

Beside above mentioned initiatives DGPC Jammu will also prepare a list of Blood donors from amongst the Sikh Community so that in case of requirement of blood they can be approached for this noble cause of saving precious lives. Other prominent persons who were present in the Press conference are S Gupreet Singh Flora, S Ajit Singh, S Dilbag Singh, S Jasvir Singh, S Sukhvinder Singh, S Bhupinder Singh etc.

# NC misleading people again on the name of PSA: Manjit Singh

## Says common people suffered when NC introduced PSA in J&K



**JI NEWS SERVICE SAMBA, DEC 15:** Apni Party Provincial President and Former Minister, S Manjit Singh today took on the National Conference for misleading the people of Jammu and Kashmir once again by claiming that they would revoke Public Safety Act (PSA) if they came to power.

He said that "As the Assembly polls are approaching Jammu and Kashmir, the National Conference has again started to rub salt on the wounds of the people by raking up the issue of PSA."

"The NC has used PSA and POTA as a tool to harass and impression the innocent people in J&K. As they have lost political ground, the NC has again started emotional blackmailing of the people to return to power. The people of J&K are aware of the divisive agenda of NC, Congress Party, PDP and BJP," he said.

"When the NC was in power and ruling the erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir, they put behind the bars the innocent people under PSA and did not care for them while enjoying the rule in Jammu and Kashmir," he said addressing a public meeting at Tanda Burj village in Samba.

He said that "It is unfortunate that the traditional

political parties have created a wedge with their slogans and false assurances among the people of two regions. The Apni Party is working hard to bring the people of two regions together for the sake of stability, peace and development."

He said that "The people have shown their overwhelming response to the Apni Party and its leadership Syed Mohammed Altaf Bukhari sahab. The people have faith in the party's agenda and policies with regard to equitable development, protection of natural resources, employment reservation for locals, implementation of the Social Security Scheme and

ending the disparity among the regions."

He also highlighted the poor developmental activities in Tanda Burj village of Samba and demanded proper construction of roads and link roads for the facility of the people.

He said that "Differences have developed among the LG administration and the people in Jammu and Kashmir. No work is being executed and the people feel neglected."

He demanded that the elections must end the feeling of alienation and restoration of Statehood will bring back the lost faith of the people in the Govt.

Prominent among those who attended the meeting include District President Samba, Raman Thappa, Ramgarh Assembly Candidate, and District President Legal Cell, Samba, Adv Sahil Bharti, Adv Lavli Mangol, Block President Capt Mohan Lal Sharma, Capt Mohan Lal Sharma, Block President Ramgarh, Bachan Choudhary, Sarpanch Vijaypur, Capt Joginder Lal, District President Youth, Mangat Ram and

**JI NEWS SERVICE JAMMU, DEC 15:** Today Sanskritvikosha (Sanskrit bank) was inaugurated at The citizen's co-operative Bank Ltd Administrative office Gandhinagar Jammu Jammu by the Dr uttam Chand shastri birth centenary committee collaboration with The citizen's co-operative Bank Ltd. The program was inaugurated by DIG Shakti Pathak Chief Trustee of Chudamani Sanskrit Sansthan, citizen's co-operative Bank Ltd Bank chairman Parveen Sharma, K. K. Sharma Agriculture Director Jammu, Director Central Sanskrit University Jammu campus Prof madan Mohan Jha and Shri Kailash jyotish avim Vedic Sanssthan trust President Mahant Rohit shastri and SSP Varinder Manhas.



Bank chairman Parveen Sharma said that this program is being organized under the birth centenary celebrations of late Dr. Uttamchand Shastri Pathak, scholar of Devvani Sanskrit with the joint efforts of the citizen's co-operative Bank Ltd, Chudamani Sanskrit Sansthan Basholi, Jammu Shrikalakh jyotish and Vedic Institute Trust Jammu Kashmir, Central Sanskrit University, Sri Ranbir Campus Jammu Kashmir and Sher-e-Kashmir University of

Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST), citizen's Cooperative bank became the World first ever bank to introduce Sanskrit in it. From next year onwards the bank will publish Sanskrit as well with English and Hindi. The bank adopted Withdrawal and deposition procedure in Sanskrit today.

Shakti Pathak said that on this occasion that he emphasized that the ancient language of India is Sanskrit, which is protecting our culture and it is necessary that Sanskrit should reach the masses so that the glorious culture of India can be spread further.

Director agriculture K K Sharma said that the culture which develops Sanskrit and gets cultured from Sanskrit awakes world peace and social development even in today's era. History is the

witness of that since ages past. He further added that India has never invaded the land of any other country. Such events will boost the morale of Sanskrit lovers. He said that late Dr. Uttam Chand Shastri Pathak ji and his family have made invaluable contribution in the promotion and development of Sanskrit language in India.

On this occasion, Prof. Madan Mohan Jha, Director, Central Sanskrit University, Sri Ranveer Campus, Jammu, said that this innovation has been done by the university for the acceptance of Sanskrit among the masses, in this the support of Parveen Sharma And staff members has been commendable and appreciable.

Mahant Rohit Shastri, President of Shri Kailash Jyotish avim Vedic Sanathan Trust, said that the script of Sanskrit lan-

guage is Devanagari script. This language was chosen by sages to compose mantras because the pronunciation of the words of this language generates proper vibrations in the brain and Vedas appeared in this language and Upanishads, Ramayana, Mahabharata and Puranas were composed in this holy language. Sanskrit literature is the richest and most complete in human history. The main reason for doing this program is to promote Devvani Sanskrit.

On this occasion sumant singh Bharat Bhushan, Ravi Kant, sanjeev lambha, vaid narayana, Ravi Bakshi, sukheeet singh, Rajinder Singh Jamwal, Trsem Gupta, Rakesh Aroda, Rajiv Jandial, Anil Modi, Sanjay Sharma, Ramna Sharma, Shambho Singh, Jatinder Sharma, Munish agrwa also present.

# GOOD GOVERNANCE WEEK: Dr Itoo visits Panchayat Halqa D. H. Pora (A); takes stock of developmental works

**JI NEWS SERVICE KULGAM, DECEMBER 15:** Under the preparatory phase of Good Governance week, Special Secretary JAI Shakti, Dr. G N Itoo who is also Prabhari Officer today visited Panchayat Halqa D.H.Pora (A) where he interacted with the PRIs and people. He was accompanied by SDM Noorabad Bashir UI Hassan, Executive Engineer Jal Shakti and other officers.

their grievances and issues of people and also interacted with all sub divisional level officers and frontline workers.

Speaking in a programme at GDC D.H.Pora, Itoo and SDM Noorabad informed the participants that "Prashasan Gaon Ki Aur" is a campaign for Redressal of Public issues and to provide services at their door steps.

from 19th of December. The officers urged the people to participate proactively in these programmes to avail benefits. Later, he inspected various developmental projects and took stock of progress of ongoing works.

The weeklong campaign of Good Governance week shall commence

# Modi Govt committed to bring in transparency, accountability: Parneesh

**JI NEWS SERVICE JAMMU, DEC 15:** BJP Government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi is committed to bring in more transparency and accountability in the governance model of J&K by way of introducing strict procedures.

This was said by Dr Parneesh Mahajan, Convener Department of Training, BJP J&K in a statement issued to media persons here on Monday.

The senior BJP leader said that there is dire need to make officers/officials of J&K government more accountable and there is a system put in place to make them

answerable for any kind of delay in providing timely services to the people. He said that during the successive regimes the officials in J&K used to deliberately delay the public works for encouraging corruption but under the Modi Government corruption has become a thing of the past but still there are certain elements in the offices in J&K which do indulge in lethargy and believe in dilly-dallying policy to generate scope for bribes and other modes of taking graft. He said that the government should ensure that all the ways that led to corruption be stopped henceforth and things should be made online

like in many cases done by the government. The senior BJP leader said that unlike the earlier regimes when the J&K used to secure slots in top corrupt states of the country, today the scenario is much better and J&K's name is coming in other good fields but not corruption. He however said that still there are some officers who bring bad name to the UT of J&K by continuing to indulge in corrupt practices and therefore it is necessary for the government to come up with an antidote for such delinquent officials to root out rampant corruption from the system as soon as possible.

## Deputy Mayor starts work of tube-well at Raipur Satwari



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, DEC 15: Baldev Singh Billawaria, Deputy Mayor Jammu today started work of tube well at Raipur Satwari along with BJP senior leader and Ex. MLC Vikram Randhawa. Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Mayor Jammu, Baldev Singh Billawaria said that the work of the tube well was pending in the area to improve the potable water crisis in the area. He said that he took up the matter with the concerned authorities and the work of this tube well has finally started. He said that the people of Raipur Satwari will no longer face the water crisis and thanked the Deputy Mayor Jammu for his support in getting the work started. Deputy Mayor Jammu Baldev Singh Billawaria said that he is happy that the work of the tube well has finally started and the people of Raipur Satwari will no longer face water crisis. The work of tube

wells will be taken up under Prime Minister's Jal Jivan Mission. He added that the focus of the Mission is on "Har Ghar Naal Se Jal" to ensure piped water supply to every rural household of the country. Deputy Mayor Jammu further stated that the project would be implemented in a phased manner and the project will be completed in a time bound manner. He also said that an aware of the general public regarding the importance of potable water. He concluded by saying that the project will ensure water supply to the marginalized sections of society and will help in improving the quality of life of the people. He said tubewell will cater to the needs of people of Raipur Satwari for the next thirty years. Baldev Singh Billawaria, Deputy Mayor Jammu said that people of jammu and Kashmir are thankful to Hon'ble Prime Minister Narinder Bhai Modi for according top pri-

ority to the development of Jammu and Kashmir. He said that the aim of Govt. is to make lives of people easy and to give effect to this motto, liberal financial aid being provided for a union territory Jammu and Kashmir. Baldev Singh Billawaria, Deputy Mayor Jammu also visited Govt. High School, Raipur Satwari along with Ex-MLC Vikram Randhawa. People put forth a demand for the upgradation of this school. Deputy Mayor Jammu assured the people of Raipur Satwari that he will take up the matter with the concerned authorities. Deputy Mayor Jammu also interacted with the teachers and students of the school. He lauded their efforts in providing quality education to the students of the area. He also promised to provide all the necessary assistance to the school in order to improve the educational facilities. He also promised to provide the required funds to the school so that they can improve their infrastructure and provide a better learning environment to the students.

area. Vikram Randhawa said that appreciable decisions are being taken for overall development of Jammu and caters to essential requirements of people. He said that scarcity of water will no longer be a problem for the public in general for Jammu. The others who were also present on the occasion Naib Sarpnath Avtar Singh, SE Civil Vivek Kohli, SE Bodh Raj XEN PHE Anil Gupta, XEN Ground Water Mr Dogra Ji & AEE's and other dignitaries Surjeet Singh Chib, Hans Raj, Ramesh Kumar, Amrekh Singh, Harpal Singh, Sunil Kumar.

## Yudhvir listens to public grievances at Pt Prem Nath Dogra Bhawan

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, DEC 15: Yudhvir Sethi, J&K BJP Vice President today conducted a public grievances camp at Pt Prem Nath Dogra Bhawan, Kacchi Chawri here today.

Many deputations including individual persons visited the party office to discuss their issues with the senior BJP leaders. Deputations & common people discussed various issues related to the development of their respective areas and their other concerns. They also put forth various issues pertaining to basic amenities including drinking water, electricity, roads, etc. They sought immediate resolution of their pressing issues.

While giving patient hearing to the deputations, Yudhvir Sethi resolved most of the issues instantaneously by talking to the authorities concerned on phone. He assured to take up the rest of their issues with the concerned authorities and get the same



resolved at the earliest.

The senior BJP leader said that the Party is fully committed to address the day to day problems being faced by the people in general and that of Jammu City in particular. He stressed on the party's sincere attempt to have direct interaction with the masses and provide best possible solutions to their day to day administrative and development issues. He said that it is a sincere attempt to lessen the gap

between administration and people and ensure that genuine issues of people are redressed in an efficacious way.

Sethi said that the Modi government has initiated number of development projects in the last couple of years and very soon the results would start coming out changing the development profile of the region.

He said that the stakeholders in J&K are working relentlessly for achieving the goal of making the

Union Territory an example for its counterparts with up to the mark edifice and all round development.

Among those who were present in the camp include Suresh Salgotra, Parveen Kerni, Ajay Sharma, Raman Sharma, Abdul Hussain, Ishan Gupta, Vipin Sharma, Arun Sethi, Sunny Sharma, Sham Singh, Suresh Bharti, Attar Hussain, Bishan Singh, Kartar Singh, Ravi Singh and Partap Singh.

## Sanjita Dogra was felicitated for the Presidency for second term

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, DEC 15: J&K BJP senior leaders and Mahila Morcha team today congratulated Sanjita Dogra for assuming the presidency for second term.

BJP leaders felicitated her for her early tenure and wished her for her second term. Among the party members who graced the occasion were J&K BJP President Ravinder Raina, Former Minister Priya Sethi, National executive member Updesh Andotra, Seh-Prabbari Mahila Morcha Venu Khanna, General secretary Neha Mahajan, Mahila Morcha office bearer, District presidents along with their team members and few female members of Mahila Morcha from Srinagar have also participated.

Ravinder Raina said that she has leadership quality of collectively taking all Mahila Morcha teams into consideration and confidence. She is a diligent and



intelligent woman. He added that the BJP government under the leadership of PM Narendra Modi, paid special attention to such programmes and welfare schemes which particularly aimed at making women self-reliant, dignified life and contribute in nation building. Mahila Morcha is the integral part of the BJP, he added.

Former Minister Priya Sethi congratulated Sanjita Dogra for retaining the post of Presidentship for

the second term and appreciated her hardwork and dedication towards the party. She said that it is the moral duty of every BJP Mahila Morcha member to share information about the schemes initiated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi for welfare of the women and the policies of the party at grassroot level.

Sanjita Dogra has expressed her deepest gratitude to Ravinder Raina, General Secretary org. Ashok Koul, Priya Sethi

and all the other members for reposing trust in her for a second time and giving her an opportunity to provide her services as President Mahila Morcha. She said it is an honour for her to assume such a big responsibility. It has been an exhilarating journey so far and she will continue to serve the party and the people of the country with all her abilities. She said that she will try to live upto the expectations of the higher command.

## Medix Global & Mpower partner to further reduce stigma around mental health

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, DEC 15: Globally, the world is witnessing an ongoing rise in mental health issues, accelerated by the global pandemic. Medix, a global health management company, delivering impactful responses to health needs servicing millions of customers, with a team of over 300 in-house physicians, and a global quality accredited network of over 4,500 world-leading specialists, has entered into a strategic partnership with Mpower - an Initiative of Aditya Birla Education Trust and leader in the mental health space in India that brings together a strong force of over 600 experienced mental health professionals, offering world-class, scientifically proven intervention techniques impacting more than 121 million lives positively. As part of the collaboration, Mpower and Medix will offer integrated and advanced tech solutions for making mental health services more accessible in India. Commenting on the partnership, Dr. Neeraj Birla, Founder and Chairperson of Mpower said, "Mpower has always been a pioneer in the mental health space in India and this partner-



ship is yet again a step forward to consolidate our position as a change-maker in the space. Mental health problems are common in people with medical conditions, because of a complex interplay between psychological, physical and social factors; thus Mental and physical health are equally important components of overall health. The collaboration provides holistic solutions to patients who can now opt for physical and mental health services on one platform." We hope such collaborations mark a new chapter in the holistic healthcare management in India and provide equal importance to mental and physical health thus encouraging further research, engagement, accessibility and wipe of stigma associated with

mental health".

"We are proud to partner with Mpower, as we see strong alignment between the two brands, who greatly impact people's lives," said Ms. Sigal Atzman, President and CEO of Medix, "Mental health is a very broad group of conditions which have a serious impact on the way they think, feel and act. We are seeing the younger generation which is faced by increased pressures driven by various factors and often, they lack the tools to cope with these challenges in a positive way. We aim to dissociate the stigma with mental health and encourage conversations and discussions while providing tangible and actionable tools to overcome challenges."

Together, Mpower and

Medix will change the mental health dialogue in India while promoting new ways of getting help and support. The partnership brings a new, holistic approach to mental and emotional counselling and mentorship, specifically designed to reach the youth of the country.

As part of this strategic partnership, Medix India will bundle Mpower's mental health services into its various care programs, offering its customers and partners which include leading insurers, corporate employers and other stakeholders, access to Mpower clinics and virtual mental health services.

Through the partnership Mpower as a knowledge and service partner will bring in its expertise in the mental health space offering various proven mental health solutions and therapies to patients seeking mental health support, whereas Medix will bring forth its global expertise in quality assurance, goal-setting strategies, clinical pathways, digital mental and physical assessments and innovative tools for outcomes measurement and analytics etc , thus reshaping how mental care is perceived and accessed so far in India.

## Clean lanes and drains, true symbol of Smart City: Baru

**Baru started paver tiles work at Anand Vihar, Bohri**



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, DEC 15: Senior BJP Leader and JMC Councillor from Ward 41 Sanjay Kumar Baru inaugurated newly constructed deep drain and initiated paver tiles work at Anand Vihar Lane No-1 along with BJP Mandal President Talab Tillo Keshav Chopra, District vice-president Jaidev Singh Sambhal and SC Morcha district president Chaman Lal Bhagat.

Speaking on the occasion, Sanjay Kumar Baru said that it was indeed a

long pending demand of the inhabitants, which has been met today.

He said that the mission behind this was to provide a conducive and clean atmosphere to the society. He said that he took up repair and construction works of many lanes and Drains and now majority of them were constructed which has helped a lot in achieving the mission of Smart City.

Baru stated that efforts are still being made to provide every possible assis-

tance to the masses at their doorsteps for which he appealed to the inhabitants to contribute in keeping their surroundings neat and clean. He also stated that providing a neat and clean environment is the motive of Prime Minister Narendra Modi led Central Government and wherever required channelizing of deep drains will be done to provide best infra to the public.

Baru said clean and well-maintained lanes make basic building blocks for

making Jammu as Smart City. He said on the same lines, construction of drain in Anand Vihar lane no.1 has been completed and today work of paver tiles started in the lane. The Estimated cost of both the development works is 21 lakhs, he said.

Keshav Chopra appreciated the continuous development works being taken by the local Councillor and said that BJP believes in the policy of development for all.

Local Residents appreciated the pro-active approach of the local Councillor and extended gratitude to his continuous efforts taken to improve the ward amenities.

BJP leaders Jatinder Sethi, Rakesh Sharma, Bhubesh Sharma, Jatinder Khajuria, Vinod Wazir, K.L. Sharma, Lokesh Bhagat, Ashish Mangrola, Kewal Sharma, Rakesh Mattoo, Kulbhushan Gupta, Vijay Kumar Sharma and others were present.

## Indian Army conducted Youth Career Counseling at Gundna

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
DODA, DEC 15: The youth of our nation when nurtured and channelised effectively can become capable future leaders that build a bright and better future. Conforming to this adage, Organised a 'Youth Career Counseling' at Higher Secondary School, Gundna. The counseling camp was aimed at spreading awareness amongst youth from far-flung areas about opportunities available in

the Indian Armed Forces for enrolling as a soldier or commissioning as an Officer. The Armed Forces have always been at the forefront of nation-building, prioritising the guidance of youth from remote areas to being about tangible societal change. The event was attended by 12 boys and 27 girls and 06 teachers from all walks of life and religious denominations. The Army representative conducted an hour long session on the

enrollment options and avenues available, minimum qualifications required and related perks and privileges. The event was a noble undertaking by the Indian Army to empower the youth of our district, further strengthening the bond between the Army and the people. The participants had glowing reviews and feedback for the event with many hoping such an undertaking to be conducted regularly.

Memo submitted in PMO

## Harsh Dev urges PM to save the poor, marginalized sections from exploitation in J&K

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, DEC 15: Former Minister and senior AAP leader, Mr. Harsh Dev Singh submitted a memorandum in PMO, at New Delhi addressed to the Prime Minister alleging exploitation of poor, downtrodden and other marginalized sections in J&K and their total disregard and neglect at the hands of present regime. He expressed his concern over the delay and deny in clearing the work done claims of labourers who remained unpaid for the past several years while the rich and affluent contractors and govt suppliers were being given priority in release of payments for works done claims. He petitioned to Prime Minister to personally intervene for early clearance of liabilities of labour class under MGNREGA and Saubhagya scheme in J&K pending for over 4 years besides immediate payment of compensation to poor farmers whose lands and houses were

expropriated and acquired for construction of roads under PMGSY for the last 8-10 years. The memorandum stated that whereas the govt was making tall claims of initiating welfare measures for eradication of poverty, the poor and marginalized sections of society in J&K were the greatest victims of administrative apathy and a corruption ridden system. Mr. Singh pointed out in the memorandum that farmers in major parts of the UT and particularly in district Udhampur were left high and dry with no compensation having been released for the lands and structures acquired from them during the last 8-10 years. In several cases, he revealed, the compensation had been shown to have been disbursed amongst the land donors without the said amounts having been actually paid to the affected farmers. There were cases where the compensation for dismantled houses had been withdrawn by public func-

tionaries without the same having been actually disbursed to the rightful claimants. There were numerous cases of misappropriation and diversion of funds earmarked for compensation with none to take cognizance of grave irregularities in the functioning of concerned govt departments thus necessitating the due intervention of the GoI, asserted Mr. Singh. Harsh Dev Singh further pointed out the non payment of wages and other dues of labourers, mates and panchayat level workers who had executed the electrification works since 2018 under Saubhagya scheme of rural electrification. He regretted that while payments due to suppliers and big contractors had been made, the poor labourers and other work force engaged by the Power Dept was made to wait for the list around 4 years thereby triggering massive outrage amongst the affected workers. He said that with J&K govt

resorting to delay and deny over the last several years, the PM was expected to take a strong note of the highly apathetic and callous approach of the concerned functionaries of the UT. Likewise, Mr. Singh revealed that past liability under MGNREGA amounting to several hundred crores for the period of 2016-2019 amounting to several hundred crores had remained unpaid resulting in massive resentment in various panchayats of the UT. And despite the persistent representations and reminders, the govt had failed to act or to give any satisfactory response except giving vague assurances on the subject during the last 4-5 years. He said that he was constrained to knock on the doors of the Prime Minister in pursuit of justice in view of gross neglect of the poor and marginalized sections of society by a highly biased and prejudiced regime in J&K.

## Service, good governance, welfare of the poor key aspects of Modi government: Rekha



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, DEC 15: Taking forward the legacy of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Rekha Mahajan Jammu District President South chaired and organized the first introductory meeting of newly nominated BJP Jammu district south office bearers in the esteem presence of Ayodhya Gupta State Secretary and Prabhari Jammu district south, Seh-Prabhari Jammu district south Dev Raj Sharma, Ex Jammu district president and Seh-Prabhari Jammu north Vinay Gupta, Ashok Kumar Vistarak including district general secretaries Jammu south Pushpinder Charak and Akash Chopra here at party office, Kachi

Chawni Jammu. Wherein Rekha felicitates newly appointed Prabhari Jammu South Ayodhya Gupta, Seh-Prabhari Jammu south Dev Raj Sharma and Vinay Gupta Seh-Prabhari Jammu North. During the first introductory meeting Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu District South led by its leader Rekha also felicitates newly nominated District Jammu South office bearers including Mandal Presidents, Morcha Presidents, Mahila Morcha and Yuva Morcha. Rekha, while felicitating newly nominated office bearers admired and blessed them. Moreover, Rekha was also warmly

welcomed by the office bearers of Jammu district South. Rekha Mahajan chalk out the strategy for the upcoming party agendas and discuss the Jammu district south organizational layout along with senior party functionaries. She similarly participated in numerous topics taken up during the meeting, wherein threadbare fora were held to chalk out future programs. Rekha also spoke up that BJP is committed to the development and that people will see the dawn of development in upcoming years. She expressed hope from the newly appointed office bearers that in the coming time, they will do good work and strengthen

the organization further. She asked them to work for the welfare of all domains of society as a whole and assured their full cooperation in this endeavor.

Rekha Mahajan also asked the party cadres to reach out to the crores of beneficiaries of central government schemes like Ayushman Bharat, Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, Ujjwala Yojana, PM Awas, Saubhagya Yojana, PM Kisan Samman Nidhi, Swachh Bharat, and Har Ghar Jal, which she said have left a huge impact.

Ayodhya, Vinay and Dev Raj furthermore congratulated newly district office bearers and they shared their valuable experience with them. They communicated the Bharatiya Janata Party workers to become a "bridge of faith" between the party and the people and explained they must forge ties with the people based on the party's guiding values of "service, resolve, and sacrifice". Senior leaders again stated that the BJP cadre served the party with a mission and every worker must do his or her allotted work dedicatedly.

## DFSS lauds police for solving Gandhi nagar dacoity case in a short time



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, DEC 15: Unidentified gangsters struck in the house of businessman in Gandhi Nagar area on December 7 held the family at gunpoint and took away Rs 15 lakh cash. A group of eight to 10 armed people entered the house of businessman and forcibly after family opened the door at around 7 am. They pushed the family inside and locked the door. The family was kept at gunpoint and the gangsters

collected Rs 15 lakh cash from the house of businessman and decamped. "A number of people in the gang were holding weapons. However, they didn't fire. They took cash and left the workers of DOGRA FRONT & SHIV SENA under the leadership of President Mr ASHOK GUPTA took out a massive rally in Jammu city praising the Jammu police who solved the robbery case in 5 days but also said that the crime graph is increasing

as it should be stopped before hand. Out of 10 gangsters involved in the dacoity, 9 of them were from Punjab and they had come to the house of Aggarwal with the intention to call Choudhary Nagar Singh to his residence and kill him there (at the house of Aggarwal), but when they failed in their efforts. They carried out the dacoity and escaped with the cash. The police investigation pointed out the teaming of gangsters from

different states i.e., Punjab, and Jammu. One among the five arrested criminals namely Amit Rana alias Harpreet Singh was the mastermind of the murder of prominent transporter and former MLC Tarlochan Singh Wazir. Wazir was shot dead in Delhi. The party workers carried the posters of ADGP MUKESH SINGH, DIG VIVEK GUPTA, SSP CHANDAN KOHLI praise if them for their continued efforts which solved the case in 5 days. GUPTA stated that Jammu police is very competent and Tactical police force but the crimes are taking place and they need to be stopped before hand as the intelligence wing should ramp up these efforts and the people in the police stations should be aware of the movement of the fringe elements. The party people who were present at the time of rally were Prem, Bantu, Kalu, Naresh, Abbashek, Ramesh, Rampal and various others were present.

## President Mauritius bids farewell to Balwant Thakur

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
PORT LOUIS, DEC 15: The President of the Republic of Mauritius Mr. Prithviraj Singh Roopun bids farewell to Balwant Thakur at State House (President House) after his successful completion of tenure in Mauritius. As cultural Diplomat of India to Mauritius, Balwant Thakur headed world's biggest cultural centre i.e., Indira Gandhi Centre for Indian Culture, High Commission of India. In a short span Balwant Thakur created a history by holding 175 major events aimed at promoting the bilateral relations between India and Mauritius. Balwant Thakur's tenure in Mauritius will be remembered as the golden era of Indian cultural happenings in Mauritius. His most noteworthy contribution was the creation of inhouse events involving Mauritian artists.

He strongly believed in the fact that the best way to lay a strong foundation of Indian culture is to train the local artists in Indian forms and then showcase them in a series of events. During his stay in Mauritius being a top professional of India, he introduced many new programmes and initiatives and made a new beginning of professional handling of culture. He introduced new concept of mega events showcasing culture on big canvas spectacles like 'Nriya Samagam', 'Sangeet Sangam', 'Anhad', 'Tabla Samagam', 'Bhartiya Rang Utsav', 'Colors of India' 'Sangeet-Nriya Utsav', 'Nriya Ki

Jugalbandi 'Natyapa Parva', 'Sahitya Sangam', 'Rang Samvad' and many more featuring more than 100 artists in each event. Fact remains that this world's biggest cultural centre was defunct for many years and Balwant Thakur was handpicked by the Ministry of External Affairs Government of India to revive this amazing cultural space. He not only upgraded its infrastructure but vibrated it with a series of events and today one can say with pride that Indian culture centre is the ultimate destination of art lovers and Balwant Thakur turned this into the ultimate cultural attraction buzzing with magnificent events. In connection with the celebrations of 75 years of India's independence in Mauritius, he organised a historic Art Conclave-2022 featuring 75 Mauritian artists who creat-

ed exclusive artworks portraying their vision of India. Never ever in the history of Mauritius 75 artists came under one roof to display their ultimate artistic creations. This historic art show is going to be remembered for decades to come. Both Balwant Thakur and his wife Deepika B. Thakur were felicitated by His Excellency the President of Mauritius and first lady of Mauritius Mrs. Sayukta Roopun at the State House. Wishing Balwant Thakur all good luck for his future endeavours, the President of the Republic of Mauritius appreciated his immense contribution in strengthening the cultural ties between two friendly nations and hoped that he will continue to contribute his creativity for the larger cultural welfare of both the nations.

## 161st birth anniversary of Pt M M Malviya ji

## National Art Workshop on 'Vidya Daan Maha Daan' begins in Jammu

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, DEC 15: To mark the 161st birth anniversary of Bharat Ratna Pt Madan Mohan Malviya ji, a week-long National Art Workshop was organised by Master Sansar Chand Baru Memorial Charitable Trust in collaboration with North Zone Cultural Centre, Patiala, Punjab, Ministry of Culture at K L Sehgal Hall Jammu on theme 'Vidya Daan Maha Daan'. On the occasion, Anuradha Rishi, Trustee, Master Sansar Chand Baru Memorial Charitable Trust said that her Trust has been organizing workshops and painting competitions across India showcasing and promoting promising artists.



impetus to the genre of art and also to encourage the younger artists to explore their hidden talent. Anuradha Rishi, who herself is an artist and the daughter of Pt. Sansar Chand Baru, the Master of Arts in Pahari Paintings who originally belonged to J&K and was founder and first curator of Dogra Art

Museum Jammu, J&K and a painter of Maharaja Hari Singh's Court, said that Baru Trust is working for the promotion and all round awareness of Art and Culture. She said that the Trust is working to bring back the youth of J&K to mainstream life by making them aware of the vanishing Art & Culture of

Tribals of J&K. "The Trust's first and foremost aim is to sensitize the community and provide a platform to the young lot to excel in the field of arts, and become meaningful partners of the society to steer the J&K UT to new heights of fame across the country and even abroad", she added.

## Airtel partners Tech Mahindra to deploy captive private network at Mahindra's Chakan Facility

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, DEC 15: Bharti Airtel ('Airtel'), India's premier communications solutions provider and Tech Mahindra, a leading provider of digital transformation, consulting, and business re-engineering solutions, today announced a strategic partnership under which they have deployed '5G for Enterprise' solution at Mahindra's Chakan manufacturing facility, making it India's first 5G enabled Auto manufacturing unit. The '5G for Enterprise' solution has significantly enhanced Chakan's network connectivity that has resulted in improved speeds for software flashing, a critical operation for all vehicular dispatches. Blazing hi-speeds and ultra-low latency now allows managers to undertake multiple software flashing sessions in parallel, which has resulted in reduced turn-around time for an operation. Further, the computerized vision based inspection is now fully automated resulting in improved paint quality. Airtel is spearheading 5G deployment in

India. The company has been testing use cases and spectrum delivery with multiple partners and at several locations as a part of its #5GforBusiness offerings. Speaking about the partnership, Ajay Chitkara, Director and CEO, Airtel Business, said, "Our 5G solution for enterprise will transform manufacturing operations in the country. We are thrilled to partner Tech Mahindra and Mahindra Auto to demonstrate this transformation and have made the Chakan manufacturing facility India's first 5G enabled Auto Manufacturing Unit. As the industry 4.0 paradigm gathers momentum, reliable data networks will prove to be a key differentiator in factory & manufacturing performance. This is just the beginning, and I am certain we will showcase many more innovative use cases that will help redefine manufacturing in India."

Manish Vyas, President, Communications, Media and Entertainment Business, and CEO, Network Services, Tech Mahindra,

said, "5G roll-out has revolutionized the world of internet, ushering a new era of connectivity, communication, and collaboration. Our collaboration with Airtel is aimed at enhancing customer experience through digitally powered new-age platforms and solutions. We are confident that this partnership will help unlock opportunities across industries to improve productivity, drive intelligent network-led enterprise digitalization, and spur innovation." Airtel's industry-leading integrated connectivity portfolio of #5GforBusiness along with Tech Mahindra's industry knowledge to provide specialized services to customers, proven system integration capabilities, 5G enterprise solutions capabilities such as Factory.NXT, and its domain expertise in planning, designing, deployment, and management of private wireless networks for enterprises will benefit enterprise customers and accelerate the adoption of transformative network technologies like 5G in India.

# Secretary Mining directs for strict action against defaulters during site visits in Kashmir

**JJ NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, DECEMBER 15: In order to oversee ongoing mining operations across various districts of Kashmir valley, Secretary Mining, Amit Sharma, today conducted an extensive tour of Baramulla, Budgam, Srinagar and Bandipora districts. He was accompanied with concerned District Mineral Officers, Revenue and Police officers during these site visits. Secretary visited sites from where complaints keep pouring-in regarding illegal mining from time to time.



He took first hand account as well as an overview of ongoing mining activities in these districts besides assessing progress achieved by respective District Mining Officers especially with respect to enforcement and seizures of machinery related to alleged illegal mining.

Secretary directed that heavy penalties should be imposed upon the defaulters including lessees, crusher holders and other stakeholders who conduct this willful act of extracting excessive material in an illegal manner which result into environmental degradation as well.

Secretary also interacted with local inhabitants of the respective districts to understand their concerns which were noted down by the visiting team.

Secretary assured prompt action on all the legitimate issues raised by the public in this behalf. During the tour, Secretary

emphasized total synchronisation between Mining, Revenue and Police Departments while conducting joint inspections in all the vulnerable areas of Kashmir valley so that the impact becomes visible to the illegitimate operators. Amit Sharma further directed that surprise inspection squads led by Joint Director Mining of both Jammu and Kashmir divisions should make serious effort to check illegal mining. He said that there should be 100% usage of technology in this sector, especially after the introduction of e-Challan, e-Marketplace and e-Payment gateways in the Mining Department which is being availed through website of the Department "jkeologymining.jk.gov.in" which has been receiving an overwhelming response since it's launch few months back in the Union Territory of J&K.

## DC, SSP lay foundation stone for remodeling of GGHSS Baderwah; Inaugurate Open Gym & Toilet complex

School destined to become centre of excellence  
Quality education & merit: DC

**JJ NEWS SERVICE**  
DODA, DECEMBER 15: Deputy Commissioner Doda, Vishesh Paul Mahajan along with SSP, Abdul Qayoom laid foundation stone for remodeling of Government Girls' Higher Secondary School Baderwah, the other day.

President MC Baderwah Shahid Mughal and CEO Doda Prahlad Bhagat were also present at the foundation laying ceremony. The project work would be executed by PWD Jammu at an estimated cost of Rs 3.87 crore. DC, SSP, President MC Baderwah and CEO Doda along with others also inaugurated an Open Gym in the school established by the School education department, under the aegis of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav and Samagra Shiksha. The DC emphasized that teachers and students must concur in achieving the highest place in every field, be it any profession or any kind of sports.

## DPEO Doda discusses Summary Revision of Panchayat Electoral Roll 2023



**JJ NEWS SERVICE**  
DODA, DECEMBER 15: Election Authority has announced Summary Revision of Panchayat Electoral Roll 2023 under Jammu and Kashmir Panchayat Raj Act, 1989, from 21st of December 2022 to 18th of January 2023.

In this regard, District Panchayat Election Officer (DPEO) Doda Vishesh Paul Mahajan convened a meeting here in the confer-

ence hall of DC office complex to discuss the Roll out of Summary Revision in the district. The details of EROs, AEROs and Panchayat Election Booth Officers have been made available on the district website for the convenience of the general public.

It was informed that J&K State Election Commission (Election Authority) has decided to undertake the revision of the existing Panchayat

Electoral Roll in terms of the powers vested with the Election Authority under Section 38 of J&K Panchayati Raj Act, 1989. The Roll shall be revised with respect to January 1, 2023 as qualifying date. As per schedule, six Special Camps shall be organized at all the polling station locations across the District on Dec 31, 2022 (Saturday), January 1, 2023 (Sunday), January 7, 2023 (Saturday), January 8, 2023 (Sunday), January 14, 2023 (Saturday) and January 15, 2023 (Sunday).

## MVD Rajouri hosts awareness program on revised Contract Carriage Permit Rules

**JJ NEWS SERVICE**  
RAJOURI, DECEMBER 15: Assistant Regional Transport Officer, Rajouri, Shammi Kumar today organized an awareness program at DIET ground Kheera to educate the transporters, drivers/conductors and general public about the recent amendments made in J&K Motor Vehicle Rules, 1991 regarding "Contract Carriage Permit".

During the programme, ARTO Rajouri briefed about the whole procedure of obtaining permits for the (Contract Carriages) which have been simplified as after revision of rules there is no need to apply for "Letter of Authority" which was earlier mandatory before applying for

registration of Contract Carriage Vehicles. Further, the contract carriage permit shall be granted to a new vehicle which is compliant with BS-IV or the latest norms as laid down by Bharat Stage Emission standards of Government of India. However, it shall not be applicable to any vehicle for which LA has already been issued prior to the date of issuance of the notification and any vehicle for which "All India Tourist Permit" has been issued and permit holder applies for its conversion to local permit after a period of 12 years he disclosed. The ARTO Rajouri further informed that any person who intends to purchase a fresh vehicle under all J&K Contract Carriage Permit

have to submit an application along with Domicile Certificate, RC of the vehicle for which the route permit is sought, present address proof, Character Certificate to be issued by the concerned Police Station, copy of the Driving License of the applicant or driver, declaration regarding the number of transport vehicles already owned by the applicant either registered in the name of applicant or in the name of firm/company and availability or arrangement of parking space either public or private for existing and for the new vehicle for which the applicant desires to obtain a route permit.

## DIPR organises cultural program at SRLM Hr Sec School



**JJ NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, DECEMBER 15: Cultural Wing of Department of Information and Public Relations today organised a cultural program on - Drug De Addition at Government SRLM Higher Secondary School Jammu. Artists of the Cultural Wing of the Information Department participated in the event.

Speaking on the occasion, Principal of the school, Anjali Gupta 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 the Information Department and a large number of audience witnessed the program. The whole program was conducted under the supervision of Cultural Officer Jammu, Parul Khajuria.

## DC Rajouri reviews pendency of RDD court cases

**JJ NEWS SERVICE**  
RAJOURI, DECEMBER 15: Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal today chaired a meeting of the concerned officers to review the status of court cases of the Rural Development Department.

During the meeting, the DC inquired about the status of cases pending before the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir wherein the concerned officers briefed the meeting about the same. The meeting was informed that there were 99 cases of RDD pending before the High Court of which the replies for 55 cases have been filed. To avoid any delays, the DC directed the concerned officers to ensure that replies are filed on time.

## Nazim Zai visits Bandipora; Takes stock of development scenario of Surinder Panchayat

**JJ NEWS SERVICE**  
BANDIPORA, DECEMBER 15: Secretary, Department of Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction, Nazim Zai Khan, on Thursday visited Bandipora to take stock of development scenario of Surinder Panchayat. He was Prabhari Officer for Surinder Panchayat.



Secretary reviewed progress on various development works and programmes launched for welfare and development of public including distribution of land passbooks and status of PM kisan and

other ongoing development works. Secretary stressed on timely completion of ongoing projects by further expediting the pace of works with 100% expenditure. Nazim Zai also took

stock of progress on directions issued during fourth phase of 'Back to Village' program.

Secretary visited various spots and inspected ongoing work on footbridge, rural haat and other works.

During his visit, Secretary also held an interactive session with general public in which people raised various issues of public importance.

Secretary issued on spot directions for redressal of public issues. The general public expressed happiness and satisfaction for the officers visit to the panchayat and thanked administration for listening to public at their doorsteps.

ADC Bandipora, Waseem Raja and district officers of various departments were also present on the occasion.

## DC Srinagar reviews Action Plan for removal of encroachments on NHAI, BRO, PWD, SMC, PMGSY roads

**JJ NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR DECEMBER 15:- In order to ensure smooth ply of Traffic and pedestrian movement on roads of District, a meeting was held today under the Chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (Chairman RTA) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad here at Conference Hall of the DC Office Complex.



Besides, Additional Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Syed Shabir Ahmad, the meeting among others was attended by Assistant Commissioner Revenue, SDM East, SDM West all Tehsiladars and other concerned. At the outset, the DC took a detailed review of the plan being implemented with regard to removal of encroachments on

NHAI, BRO, PWD, PMGSY, SMC roads in Srinagar District. The DC asked the officers to follow the concerted strategy to remove all roadside encroachments in order to ensure smooth movement of transport and pedestrian movement as well and avoid

chance of road accidents. The DC asked the Revenue authorities to work in close coordination with other line Departments in this regard. The DC asked them to launch massive anti encroachment drive across the District and adopt zero

tolerance policy on encroachments of Government land as well.

The DC also passed directions for taking strict action under law against the unlawful occupants of the Government land.

He asked them to make local public representatives, general public and media part of the mass anti-encroachment operations to stop this trend in our society. The DC asked the Tehsiladars to monitor each chunk of land in their respective jurisdictions and activate their field staff to keep proper check and vigil on any kind of encroachments in respective jurisdiction. Meanwhile, the meeting also discussed the status of digitisation of maps and reconstruction of Massaviz (Lathas).

## Mega Youth Festival 2022 held at Doda

### DDC urges Youngsters to act as ambassadors of positive change in society

**JJ NEWS SERVICE**  
DODA, DECEMBER 15: To create Cultural consciousness, provide young talent a platform and make way for the best talent towards UT, National and International stages, a mega Youth Festival 2022 was today organised by the Department of Youth Services and Sports Doda here in the Sports Stadium.

District Development Commissioner, Doda Vishesh Paul Mahajan inaugurated the Festival in presence of Chief Education Officer, Prahlad Bhagat, DIO, Mohammad Ashraf Wani and DYSSO, Jaffar Haider Sheikh. A colourful and mesmerising cultural programme featuring folk local dance and music, Skits, Natak and other activities marked the set off the festival.

It was informed that the participants at the District level contest have come

through a tough process of selection at Panchayat and Zonal level. Today's event was an inter-zonal meet/ competition which shall decide the participants for the UT level event to be organised in the coming days.

The DC, while addressing the gathering, applauded the efforts of District Youth Services and Sports Department, Education Department and DIPR Doda for putting in tireless efforts to provide youth of the district, especially rural youth an opportunity to showcase their talent at UT and National level.

Speaking to the media persons, the DC expressed his satisfaction over channelising the energy of youth towards constructive and positive activities.

He said that youth must act as the ambassadors of change they want in the society.

## ADC reviews drug control measures at Udhampur

**JJ NEWS SERVICE**  
UDHAMPUR, DECEMBER 15: To discuss the issues regarding restructuring of the Narco Coordination centre (NCORD) mechanism in the district, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Udhampur Mohammad Syed Khan on Thursday chaired a meeting of the stakeholder departments here in the Mini Conference Hall DC Office Complex. Detailed discussion was held about the action taken on directions passed in previous meetings related to incidence of drug addiction, de-addiction-rehabilitation and mental health counselling, identification of the hot spots of drug abuse and cultivation of illicit poppy, cannabis in the district, besides other areas of concern.

## NORTHERN RAILWAY

### ESTENDER NOTICE

Sr.DEN-IVFZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on [www.reps.gov.in](http://www.reps.gov.in) with closing date-09.01.2023 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through only payment modes available on [www.reps.gov.in](http://www.reps.gov.in) portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft/Banker Cheque, Depository receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed. For more information logon to [www.reps.gov.in](http://www.reps.gov.in).

Tender Type	Tendering Section	Bidding System	
Open	Works	Single Bid System	
Date of Uploading Tenders	Bid Starting Date	Bid Closing Date / Time	
14.12.2022	26.12.2022	09.01.2023 / 15:00 Hrs.	
Sr. No.	Tender No.	Details of Tender	
1	325-2022-13-AT-DRM-FZR	Improvement and upgradation of RSO output Jammu Tawi on PTK-JAT section.	
Advertised Value (Rs.)	Earnest Money	Validity of Offer	Period of Completion
7166219.51/-	143300/-	60 Days	08 Months

Note 1.: Before bidding, bidders to check for any corrigendum issued against tender.

Tender Notice No.: 770-W/169/WAFZR/2022-23  
Date: 15.12.2022  
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE