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Youth engagement in villages and towns through youth clubs building a robust social system: LG Sinha

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha addressed the people of the UT through the 21st edition of monthly radio programme 'Awaam Ki Awaaz', today. The Lt Governor termed India's presidency of G-20 as a unique opportunity to showcase the potential of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat'.



of 'Awaam Ki Awaaz' for the G-20 events to be conducted in J&K. Sharing his thoughts on recently concluded 'My Town My Pride' campaign, the Lt Governor said that the urban consent movement was celebrated as a festival of vibrant urban local self-governance.

tion, the Lt Governor said. Awakening of people's power in the direction of inclusive development is the first step. We have to make our contribution to bring a positive change in the expansion of infrastructure facilities, cleanliness campaigns, environmental protection, economic activities and green space, lake, river & heritage conservation, he added.

Northeast gateway to security, prosperity: Modi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said that the Northeast is a gateway to security and prosperity instead of just a border area at the frontier. Addressing a public gathering at Polo grounds here after inaugurating and laid foundation of several projects in Meghalaya worth over Rs.2,450 crore, the Prime Minister lamented that due to the fear of benefiting the enemy, the border areas did not witness the spread of connectivity.



"Due to this notion of the previous governments, the connectivity in the northeast and other border areas of the country was not developed," Modi said. He however said that the BJP-led NDA government had launched Vibrant Village scheme under which border villages are being provided with better facilities. "It's an important scheme called the Vibrant Village scheme. Under this scheme villages in the border areas would get better facilities and this would benefit the northeast," the Prime Minister said.

country, but "gateways to development and prosperity." Modi added that for any nation "trade and commerce" originates in these border areas and so the central government is concentrating hard on developing these areas fast. Stating that these areas would be developed at the same pace as any other part of the country, the PM said, "Once these areas are developed it would boost tourism and also stop rural migration to the cities."

Police Rebut Rumours of Acid Attack in Srinagar

The police said that there is an unverified news doing rounds about an acid attack, it is clarified that around 4 pm at Nawa Bazar a minor girl (name withheld) who was accompanied by her aunt in the market area, felt a burning sensation in her hand prima facie due to some liquid, and accordingly she was taken to the hospital from where she was discharged after first aid as the doctors diagnosed her with only minor superficial rashes & blisters only on the hand.

Freezing cold, dry weather continues in Kashmir

Freezing cold coupled with dry weather and drop in night temperature continues in Kashmir valley on Sunday. Pahalgam in south Kashmir remained the coldest place in the Kashmir valley with temperature plummeting to minus 4.5 degree Celsius on Sunday. The Meteorological Department forecast dry weather to continue in Jammu and Kashmir during the next 24 hours. Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, had a low of minus 3.2 degree Celsius against the previous night's minus 2.4 degree Celsius. It was minus 1.7 degree Celsius below normal during this period of the season.



Tourist hot spot of Pahalgam in south Kashmir recorded a low of minus 4.5 degree Celsius on Sunday against the minus 4.9 degree Celsius recorded a day ago. It was 0.1 degree Celsius below normal for the valley of shepherds during this time of the season. Gulmarg in north Kashmir had a low of minus 1.5 degree Celsius against the previous night, interestingly it was 3.8 degree Celsius above normal for the valley of meadow for this period of the season. Qazigund on Srinagar-Jammu national highway recorded a low of minus 2.8 degree Celsius while Kukernag recorded a low of minus 0.7 degree Celsius. The Frontier Kashmir district of Kupwara had a low of minus 3.7 degree Celsius against minus 3.8 degree Celsius recorded the previous night which was minus 1.3 degree Celsius below normal for the place in north Kashmir, the MeT office said.

J&K welcomes proposal to increase privileges of elected representatives of local bodies

In an important step to empower the basic institutions of democracy in Jammu and Kashmir and to ensure that they are provided with all the required facilities, the Centre has decided to increase the privileges provided to the elected representatives of the local bodies, i.e., municipal councils and committees.

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs has recommended in the Demands for Grants report for the year 2022-23 that in view of the security situation in Jammu and Kashmir, adequate security and accommodation should be provided to all elected councillors. Further, it was recommended that the elected representatives of the municipal councils/committees be provided vehicles with fuel costs as soon as possible. In the action report, the MHA has recommended that the security wing of the Jammu and Kashmir Police is providing security to an individual based on the security classification/threat perception report of the intelligence agencies (CID/IB).

Jammu woman Sargam Koushal bags Mrs World 2022 title in USA event

Jammu woman Sargam Koushal, representing India, was on Sunday crowned the Mrs World at a gala event in Las Vegas, USA. Mrs Koushal trumped contestants from 63 countries to bring the title back to India after 21 years. As per news agency, sharing the news on Instagram, the managing organisation of the Mrs India pageant said, "The long wait is over, it's after 21 years we have the CROWN back!"



the newly-crowned Mrs World said. Daughter of a retired Chief Manager, Bank of India, Sargam Koushal did her schooling from President's Convent Senior Secondary School, Gandhi Nagar Jammu and graduated from Women College, Gandhi Nagar Jammu. Thereafter, she did her Masters in English Literature from Jammu University and B Ed from Government B Ed College Jammu. She has previously worked as a teacher in Vizag.

BJP District Jammu conducts office bearers' meet

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), District Jammu conducted its office bearers' meet under the leadership of its President Parmod Kapahi at Eden Garden, Jammu. The meeting was formally inaugurated and addressed by J&K BJP Seh-In-Charge Ashish Sood, MP(Lok Sabha) Jugal Kishore Sharma, former BJP President & former Minister Sat Sharma, J&K BJP Vice-President Yuvdir Sethi, former Minister Priya Sethi, Secretary Yenu Khanna, Prabhari District Jammu Rajeev Charak, District President Parmod Kapahi, Vibhaan Organizing Secretary Indrjeet Khajuria and other senior leaders. Meeting was attended by the



that as the meeting is the first of its type for the newly constituted District team, there will be many new learning things for all the party activists who are given crucial responsibility. He said that this responsibility must

Centre to set up 12,500 Ayush Health & Wellness centres across Country by 2023-24'

The Central Government is working to establish 12,500 Ayush Health & Wellness Centres across the country by 2023-24 to make this Ayurvedic medicine accessible to the people of the country, said Union Tourism Minister G. Kishan Reddy here on Sunday. Ayurveda has had a unique identity in the Indian system of medicine since ancient times. It is no exaggeration that the Narendra Modi government after forming the Government has given a huge impetus to traditional Indian knowledge systems, Kishan said in a statement here.

Pak's narco-terror push drives rampant drug abuse in Kashmir

Along with sponsoring terrorism, Pakistan has also been pushing drugs smuggling into Kashmir. The security agencies have red-flagged the neighbouring country recalcitrating its hybrid war tactics in Jammu and Kashmir in which narco-terrorism is increasingly becoming a vital weapon.

ince late 1980s, when terrorism took roots in Kashmir, Pakistan's proxy war was driven primarily by infiltration of trained terrorists into the Valley. Local youth were lured to PoK where they were trained to indulge in terror activities. Pakistan was able to provide money through a network of separatists and religious lead-

ers. However, with demonetisation followed by abrogation of Article 370 and the crackdown on separatists, the money trail has been totally curbed. In order to keep the funding alive for the terror outfits, Pakistan has now moved on to drugs smuggling. Narco-terrorism implies the nexus between drug syndicates and terrorists that facilitate and fund terrorist activities.



In Kashmir, the nexus is vital for Pakistan to keep the place troubled. It has been pushing in drugs through the land route -- across the Line of Control and the International Border in Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab -- and through drones. The BSF, Army and the J&K Police have busted several Pakistan-sponsored narco-terror modules and arrested several

people. Many of these are the over-ground workers of terror outfits like the Lashkar-e-Taiba and Hizbul Mujahideen. In August 2022, the Border Security Force (BSF) recovered eight packets of heroin worth Rs 8 crore in the Samba district after a wounded terrorist fled back to Pakistan. In September, the J&K Police arrested a couple from Punjab

with 7 kg heroin in Udhampur district. Additional DGP Mukesh Singh had said the couple were from Ram Tirath Road in Amritsar and were carrying the drugs in their car. The couple was inter-state drug smugglers. In October, 21.5 kg heroin was seized in Udhampur from a Punjab-bound truck. The truck driver was in touch

Aadhaar seeding of beneficiaries of welfare schemes reviewed at Rajouri

JJ NEWS SERVICE RAJOURI, DECEMBER 16: Aadhaar seeding of beneficiaries of different welfare schemes was today reviewed by Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal here at a meeting of officers of the concerned departments.

During the meeting, the DC took a detailed review of the Aadhaar generations and seeding of accounts of beneficiaries covered under National Social Assistance program (NSAP), ISSS, ICDS beneficiaries,

MGNREGA etc. Reviewing the Department wise progress, the meeting was informed that DIC and KVIB have achieved 100 percent Aadhaar seeding, while the ICDS Department has completed 97 percent Aadhaar seeding.

It was also informed that 87 percent Aadhaar seeding has been achieved under MGNREGA. Progress under Aadhaar seeding of the Pension cases was also discussed in the meeting.

The DC emphasized on universal coverage under Aadhaar generation and seeding in the district. He said linkage of the bank accounts of all the beneficiaries with their Aadhaar number is imperative for the effective and transparent implementation of the schemes. The Deputy Commissioner asked the concerned officers to put in place requisite machinery and manpower to achieve 100% Aadhaar seeding and enrollment.

The School Education department was directed to organize special camps in government and private schools for enrollment under Aadhaar.

Among present in the meeting were PO ICDS, Shoket Mehmood Malik; SPO, Mohammad Khurshid; GM DIC, Ashwini Sharma; DDE, Qadeer Ul Rehman; CHO, Madan Kal; CEO Education, Shailash Kumar; DSWO, Wakeel Ahmed Bhatt; AD Fisheries, Munesh Sharma and other concerned officers.

DC Kathua reviews progress of BRO projects

JJ NEWS SERVICE KATHUA, DECEMBER 16: Deputy Commissioner Kathua, Rahul Pandey today chaired a meeting to review the progress of projects being executed by Border Road Organisation in the district.

While reviewing the ongoing work of Dayalachak-Challan, Rankote road, the DC directed BRO authorities to furnish the funds in lieu of utility shifting to the concerned departments to facilitate speedy construction works.

The DC also took a detailed review of Rajbagh-Haria Chack road. It was informed that land acquisition and shifting of utilities has already been taken up. He directed XENS of PWD, PDD, and PHIE to conduct a joint survey so as to ascertain the cost of utility shifting of their respective assets.

It was also given out in the meeting that the process of land acquisition for Tarnah-III and approach road to Bagh Bridge on Parole-

Korepannu-Rajoura has already been carried out and the shifting of utilities was also being taken up with concerned departments.

The DC further directed BRO authorities to conduct monthly meetings at Sub Division level with stakeholder departments to resolve issues right at the initial stage.

The meeting was attended by CPO, DFO and Engineers of PWD Div Kathua, Basohli, ACD, and other concerned officers.

DDC Rajouri reviews progress on JPDCL Projects

Asks for timeline completion

JJ NEWS SERVICE RAJOURI, DECEMBER 16: District Development Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal, today reviewed the progress on the JPDCL Projects being executed by the project wing in different parts of the district.

The DDC took a detailed review of each JPDCL project and the concerned Executive Engineer apprised about to date status.

The meeting was briefed about the physical and financial status of the projects, including upcoming Receiving Stations and installation of transformers under various schemes like IPPS, PMPD Urban, DDUGJY and PMPD Rural in the district.

Speaking at the meeting, the District Development Commissioner asked the concerned officers to speed up the work on the projects to provide necessary benefit to the common masses upon completion of these projects.

Discussing the issues impeding the execution of works, he asked to maintain interdepartmental coordination to resolve the same in time to avoid delay in the execution on ground for larger public interest.

The DDC also directed the officers to work in coordination and with added zeal to ensure early completion of all projects of the power sector across the district.

Officers who attended the meeting were Chief Planning Officer, Mohammad Khurshid, Executive Engineer, Project Wing, Afah Hussain and other concerned officers.

Fostering students' artistic acumen is vital for their holistic development: Alok Kumar

3 day Kala Utsav concludes under Samagra Shiksha; 20 students qualified for National Level competition

JAMMU, DECEMBER 16: Amid blistering performances, the three day UT level Kala Utsav 2022 concluded today at Teacher Bhawan, Gandhi Nagar, with Principal Secretary, Education, Alok Kumar, chairing the valedictory ceremony.

The function was attended by students and teachers of different educational institutes from across J&K. Addressing a glittering award ceremony of the event, organised by Directorate of Samagra Shiksha J&K, Alok Kumar emphasized the need for promoting art in education at all levels. "We need to recognise the importance of aesthetics and artistic experiences for our students which play a major role in creating awareness on rich cultural heritage and vibrant diversity of our UT and the country" he maintained.

While underlining the need of organising such programmes on regular basis at school level, Principal Secretary said that the aim of Education is not only to preserve and transmit our diverse cultural integrities to coming generation but its transformation is far more significant. He maintained that the Union Ministry of Education has been implementing various schemes for providing better platforms to children for showcasing their talent in

different fields. He asked for raising awareness among the masses especially the parents to avail maximum benefit of these initiatives, so that no child remains un-educated and unattended.

Principal Secretary expressed gratitude to all the participating students for displaying their scintillating performances. He reiterated that Kala Utsav aims to promote art by nurturing and showcasing artistic talent of the students, which is envisaged in the NEP and now we are moving from co-curricular activities to curriculum in form or art as per NEP. Such programmes provide platform for our budding youth to judge their aptitude in comparison with the students of other parts of country" he added.

While highlighting the significance of art in present era, Alok Kumar stressed on launching a comprehensive talent hunt so that the aptitude of the nation doesn't go unexplored. He also praised the efforts of teachers for their tireless work and Samagra Shiksha team for making Kala Utsav-2022 a grand success.

Project Director, Samagra Shiksha, Deep Raj, in his address, said that efforts are being made to encourage students to participate in different co-curricular activities in addition to their regular education so that they become a source of inspiration for others.

He said that more than 26350 students from various schools from across the UT participated in this year's Kala-Utsav competitions, of

which, 40 students were selected at UT level and among them 20 have been selected for National level today. "The access of each and every student to quality education is our priority and Samagra Shiksha is committed to mobilise all its resources to attain this cherished goal under the dynamic leadership of Principal Secretary", he added.

Director School Education, Dr. Ravi Shanker, extended gratitude to participating students, teachers, CEOs, cultural wings at district and divisional level for their relentless efforts in making this year's event a grand success.

Romalo Group of Ramnagar presented mesmerizing performance, which also involved audience in the Dogra Culture.

Later, awards were distributed among the participants and winning students in art forms including, Vocal Music-Classical, Instrumental Music- Classical, Vocal Music-Traditional Folk, Instrumental Music- Traditional Folk, Dance-Classical, Dance-Folk, Visual Art-2D, Visual Art-3D besides the Indigenous Toy making and games. The awards and citations were also presented to the Jury members, senior officers.

Among others present during the event included Manisha Sareen, Secretary JK BOSE, J K Padha, Coordinator, Ajeet Sharma, Vijay Sharma, Prem Nath, Ashwani Sharma, CEO Jammu Rathore, Virender manhas, DEPO, Ashok Dy. CEO and other officials of School Education Department.

Ramban: Prabhari Officer inspects ongoing developmental works in Ganote Panchayat

JJ NEWS SERVICE RAMBAN, DECEMBER 16: Deputy District Election Officer, Udhampur, Gurdev Kumar, the Prabhari officer of Panchayat Ganote of District Ramban today inspected the ongoing developmental works in the Panchayat. During the visit, he also

interacted with the PRI members and local people and got feedback about the ongoing developmental works. The Prabhari Officer chaired a meeting with PRIs and general public of the area and listened to their issues and demands. He apprised the public that "Prashasan Gaon Ki Aur" is a campaign launched by the UT government for Redressal of public issues and to provide services at their doorsteps. He urged the public for active participation in these programmes and to avail the maximum benefits of different government schemes and programmes.

Principal of the School, Ajay Vashist welcomed the presiding officer and resource persons Dr. Jasmeet Kour Assistant Professor, Department of Biotechnology and Asma Javid Assistant Professor, Department of Botany from GDC

Criminal Court cannot reject the application for production warrant simply on the ground that no case is pending before it:DB

JNF NEWS SERVICE JAMMU, DECEMBER 16: A Division Bench of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakha High Court comprising Justice Sanjeev Kumar and Justice Mohan Lal in a significant judgment holds that Criminal Court within whose jurisdiction the crime is committed and in respect whereof a production warrant is sought, cannot reject the application for production warrant simply on the ground that no case is pending before it.

This order has been passed in an appeal filed by National Investigation Agency against the order of NIA Court whereby Chief Investigating Officer of National Investigating Agency (NIA) Sanjay Nagpal along-with public prosecutor filed an application under Section 267 of CrPc before the Court of Special Judge U/S 11 of the NIA Act (3rd Additional Sessions Judge) [the trial court* for short] seeking production warrant against one Abdul Jabbar @ Jabbar S/o Abdul Habib R/o H. No. 3919 Urdu Bazar near Jagat Cinema Chandi Chowk Delhi lodged in judicial custody in District Jail Bialapur in FIR No. 288/2017.

The case relates to large scale transfer of funds from Pakistan to India through the import of California almonds and other items via cross LoC trade facilitation centres located at Salamabad, Uri, and Chakkan-da-Bagh, Poonch, for their purported use for fomenting terrorism in J&K. It was claimed by the appellant herein in his application that during investigation, Mr. Abdul Jabbar has been found to be involved in the said LoC trade and is aware of several incriminating facts relating to the mechanism adopted by the accused to facilitate transfer of funds illegitimately for fomenting terrorism in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. It was also averred in the application that during his examination in the jail, Mr. Abdul Jabbar had expressed his willingness to make his statement under Section 164 CrPc with regard to his acquaintance with the facts and circumstances of the case under investigation. It was thus pleaded that the statement of Abdul Jabbar was required to be recorded under Section 164 CrPc for taking the investigation further. The application was considered by the trial court and the same was rejected solely on the ground that the Court was not competent to issue production warrant under Section 267 CrPc during investigation and when no case is pending adjudication before the Court against the person against whom warrants have been sought to be issued. The trial court vide its order dated 6th May 2022 passed on the application of the appellant herein rejected the prayer of the appellant for issuing production warrants against Abdul Jabbar for recording his statement under Section 164 CrPc before the competent Magistrate in connection with case RC-17/2016/NIA/DLI. It is this order of the trial court which is appealed against before us under Section 21 of the National Investigation Agency Act, 2008 [NIA Act]. The appellant also prays, in the alternative, to invoke the inherent jurisdiction of the court vested by Section 482 of the CrPc 1973 for setting aside and quashing the order dated 6th May 2022 passed by the trial court.

DB after hearing Deputy Solicitor General of India Vishal Sharma for the NIA, observed that Section 267(1), clearly transpires that a Criminal Court, in the course of an enquiry, trial or other proceedings under the Code of Criminal Procedure, can direct a person confined or detained in a prison to be produced before the Court for answering to a charge of an offence or for the purpose of any proceedings against him. The criminal Court is further empowered to direct the officer in-charge of the

prison to produce any person who is required to be examined as a witness for the purpose of giving evidence. The word "proceedings" used in Section 267 is of paramount importance and, therefore, before we proceed further, it is necessary to analyse its meaning, ambit and scope. Section 2(h) of the Cr.Pc clearly provides that the word "investigation" includes all proceedings under this Code for the collection of evidence conducted by a police officer or by any person (other than Magistrate) who is authorized by a Magistrate in this behalf. The Bombay High Court in the case of State of Maharashtra vs. Yadav Kohachade, 2000 Cri.LJ 959 and the Allahabad High Court in the case of Ranjeet Singh vs. State of U.P. 1995 Cri.LJ 3505 have taken the view that the word "proceedings" used in Section 267(1)(a) would mean and include an action or prosecution and sometimes as meaning a step in an action and, therefore, would include arrest, remand, interrogation and the investigation.

DB further observed that "other proceedings" which occurs in Section 267 CrPc includes investigation and, therefore, a Criminal Court within whose jurisdiction the crime is committed and in respect whereof a production warrant is sought, cannot reject the application for production warrant simply on the ground that no case is pending before it. The order of the trial Court, therefore, is not sustainable in law. The order impugned passed by the trial Court, as held above, cannot be termed as mere interlocutory and, therefore, we hold the appeal under Section 21 of the NIA Act maintainable against the impugned order. With these observations, Division Bench allowed the appeal and quashed the order passed by the Trial Court and directed the trial Court shall consider the application of the appellant afresh and pass appropriate orders that may be warranted in law. JNF

Kishtwar admin provides free subscription of BYJU'S classes to local students

HOIs, Teachers acquainted with technical knowhow to facilitate pupils

JJ NEWS SERVICE KISHITWAR, DECEMBER 16: In an innovative and novel initiative rolled out by District Administration Kishtwar under the mentorship of Deputy Commissioner, Dr. Devansh Yadav, all students of class 4 to 10 of the district are being provided free 15 month online subscription of BYJU'S classes and study material.

The subscription links have already been shared with the schools/students of the district Kishtwar and till date 5000 students have been registered and subscribed to the BYJU'S courses under the supervision of the Education Department.

In this regard, District Administration, in collaboration with the Department of school Education, on Friday hosted a training program for the Master Trainers including HOIs, Principals, Headmasters, Teachers of the district to acquaint them about the technical knowhow of the online courses and the ways the subscribed students could benefit from these online courses.



About 400 Master trainers were imparted training by the resource persons from BYJUS here at conference Hall DC Office Complex Kishtwar through Virtual mode. Deputy Commissioner, Dr. Devansh Yadav; ADDC, Sham Lal and Chief Education Officer Sudarshan Kumar Sharma were also present on the occasion.

The master trainers were equipped with the knowledge of accessing the user friendly BYJUS App and its online courses. The resource persons also cleared the queries of the participants.

The master trainers will further share the knowhow with the student subscribers and teach them how to best utilise the online courses provided to them.

Besides, they will also help the students to learn about the technical fundamentals of online teaching offered by BYJUS.

Speaking at the training programme, the Deputy Commissioner gave an insight on the significance of the online courses and urged the students to make best use of the opportunity. He asked teachers to facilitate the students to get due benefit from the faculty members of India's largest learning App.

He hoped that this initiative will help the students of far flung areas of district Kishtwar to bridge the learning gaps. This initiative will also help students to update their learning material at par with the present competitive world, he added.

DC Kathua reviews progress of BRO projects

Udhampur. Dr. Jasmeet Kour, through a Power Point Presentation, educated the students about the Biotechnology and its application in

everyday life. "The technology involves the use of living organisms to develop products for benefit of mankind," she said.

Doda Admin removes encroachment along Doda-Ghat road

JJ NEWS SERVICE DODA, DECEMBER 16: In continuation to the anti-encroachment drive, Revenue department Doda, under the overall supervision of Deputy Commissioner, Vishesh Paul Mahajan, today removed encroachment here along the Doda-Ghat Road.

The anti-encroachment drive was carried out under the supervision of Tehsildar, Shabir Ahmad Malik. The enforcement team was led by Naib Tehsildar and other Revenue Officials along with a team of police. The team demolished illegal structures and cleared the footpath. The people were asked to refrain from trespassing and voluntarily lift encroachments to avoid legal action. The team said that the drive will continue till all illegal encroachments are removed.

Chief Secretary chairs meeting to review outcomes of MTMP 2.0

J1 NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, DECEMBER 16: Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta today chaired a meeting to review the outcomes achieved under 2nd iteration of the programme, 'My Town My Pride 2.0' across all the urban areas of J&K. The meeting was attended by the Principal Secretary, H&UDD, Secretary, Culture, Secretary Tourism, Secretary IT, and Officers of the Finance, PDMD, RDD& H&UDD.

The meeting was informed that the recently concluded MTMP 2.0 was a resounding success where a record number of 7.16 lac people participated in the programme across the UT, from 28th November 2022 to 6th December 2022. Special awareness camps were arranged by various Departments involved in delivering public services like issuance of domicile certificates, widow/ old-age/ disability pensions, Aadhaar, water and

Compliments H&UDD, Deputy Commissioners and all connected with the programme in making it a resounding success

Calling it yet another milestone in achieving the objective of strong and vibrant urban local self-governance in J&K a reality, exhorts all Prabhari officers to handhold the ULBs in their journey towards becoming Aspirational Towns

power connections, issuance of birth and death certificates, land revenue extracts, sewage and cleanliness services, etc at the venue of the programme itself and through a weeklong "Shahri Jan Abhiyan".

During MTMP 2.0, 2,740 Street vendor licenses, 1144 Kisan Credit Cards, 6251 Soil Health Cards, 38973 Golden cards, 40482 e-challans, 3402 e-Shram Cards, 53923 Passbooks, 4680 Disability Cards have been issued by the concerned Departments during MTMP 2.0. In addition, 2843 awareness camp were held for saturation of various schemes viz PMAY(U), DAY-NULM

(Deen Dayal Antodaya Yozana), Self Employment Programme (SEP), PM SVANIDHI (Atam Nirbhar Bharat) AMRUT 2.0 and Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (SBI-U), 1,33,524 Households covered under door-to-door awareness drive under ban on single-use plastic, 1,362 beneficiaries covered under Grah Pravesh (PMAY-Urban), Sports activities were carried out in 80 towns during Jan Abhiyan and 140763 sports persons were participated, 5002 individuals covered under self employment drive in the ULBs. 248 CSC camps organized in Corporation and ULBs, 2649 inheritance mutation done, 1743

Ladli Beti and 36556 Anganwadi beneficiaries seeded with Adhaar during Jan Abhiyan, 96 Divyang Camps held during Jan Abhiyan, 560 Senior Citizens clubs were got formed in various ULBs.

Besides 837 works completed during 2021-22 under District/UT Capex physically verified by the senior Officers of Planning Department and uploaded on Physical Verification Portal. Chief Secretary complimented all the Departments/ Divisional Commissioners, Deputy Commissioners, Chairman/Presidents of the ULBs for their efforts in the successful conduct of MTMP 2.0 across all the ULBs of J&K UT and achieving the desired outcomes for various activities. He further laid emphasis for rapid transformation of all the Towns to be led by the respective visiting officers, designated as "Prabhari Officers".

He also applauded the H&UDD for organizing the interactive sessions on

Finance, including urban reforms incentive fund (URIF) by inviting public representatives, trade associations, Residents Welfare Associations, NGOs involved in municipal and allied fields, besides, other City Specific Issues viz; City Livelihood, City Smart Vending, Green City, City Tourism & Culture, City Beautiful and Encroachment Free City for all 78 Urban Local Bodies to enable towns and cities embark upon the journey of becoming Aspirational Towns.

It may be recalled that two years back, in a first of its kind initiative, the Government of Jammu and Kashmir embarked on an ambitious and extensive programme of reaching out to the people at the grassroots level. The landmark initiative in urban areas, called 'My Town My Pride', with a focus on - Public outreach in towns, Service Delivery at doorsteps, and Strengthening Grassroot Democracy, was a huge

success in its first version conducted in October 2020. People participated in large numbers in the "My Town My Pride" programmes, and it gave the Government a much better insight on various issues considered important by the people in urban areas.

To meet the expectations of the urban populace, it was decided to launch the 2nd iteration of the programme, 'My Town My Pride 2.0' across all the urban areas of J&K. This programme involved the people of J&K and government officials in a joint effort to deliver the mission of equitable development in urban areas. The programme was aimed at energizing Urban Local Bodies and directing development efforts in urban areas through community participation. As part of this programme, more than 170 senior officers of the Government reached out to Urban Local Bodies in J&K, where they interacted and obtained feedback

from the grassroots, so as to tailor the government efforts in improving delivery of services specific to that area.

Simultaneously, routine issues related to delivery of services were also resolved at the special camps arranged by departments at the venue of the programme itself and through a weeklong "Shahri Jan Abhiyan".

Apart from this, a major focus in the second iteration of the My Town My Pride Programme was the Municipal Finances and preparation of City Specific Plans to enable our towns and cities embark upon the journey of becoming Aspirational Towns. As in the case of the 'Back to Village' programme, this programme was also conceived with the objective of ensuring that developmental initiatives are built on the feedback and cooperation of the people, thus being more result oriented, with greater probability of success than those which are top down. The pro-

gramme revolves around the concept that while the official machinery must guide and assist, the primary responsibility to improve local conditions rests with the people themselves. Therefore, they must be encouraged to own a programme so that benefits are maximized. Therefore, the essence of this programme is to emphasize the importance of ensuring people's participation, not merely as an agent in the execution of the development works but as owners of the entire programme.

While the two days 'My Town My Pride 2.0', preceded by the weeklong "Shahri Jan Abhiyan" culminated on 6th December 2022, the journey of our towns for rapid transformation will continue, led by the respective visiting officers, designated as "Prabhari Officers".

This initiative is yet another milestone in achieving long term objective of strong and vibrant urban local self-governance in J&K a reality.

IIM Jammu conducts Cloth Donation Drive 2.0 to help underprivileged Section of Society

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DECEMBER 16: Kartavya - The Social Responsibility Club of Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu, under the able guidance of Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu, on Friday conducted a Cloth Donation Drive 2.0 for the underprivileged section of society.

The cloth donation drive which commenced on 4th November 2022 came to a successful close with the distribution of the clothes to the needy. The Faculty, Staff, and Students actively contributed to the Cloth Donation Drive 2.0.

The entire activity was coordinated by the Student Affairs office in association with Kartavya-The



Social Responsibility Club of IIM Jammu.

Atal Dulloo chairs SLEC meet of MIDH

'Directs officers to remain proactive for needs of farmers, youth'

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DECEMBER 16: Additional Chief Secretary, Agriculture Production Department (APD), Atal Dulloo today the State Level Executive Committee (SLEC) of the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) at Civil Secretariat here.

The meeting was attended by Commissioner Secretary Forests, Sanjeev Verma; Director Horticulture Kashmir and Mission Director, MIDH, G.R.Mir; Director Horticulture Jammu, Director Agriculture Jammu/Kashmir, Director Horticulture, Planning and Marketing, representative of MIDH, Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, representatives of Industries and Commerce department, Rural Development Department,

Cooperative department, Planning Development and Monitoring department, SKUAST Jammu/Kashmir and other concerned officers both in person and through video conferencing.

During the meeting, various issues related to holistic development of horticulture sector across J&K were discussed in detail besides various measures taken for skill development and creating employment generation opportunities for youth were also deliberated in the meeting.

Addressing the officers, Atal Dulloo, who is also the Chairman of SLEC highlighted that the MIDH is a very significant scheme of Central Government to promote holistic growth of horticulture sector in the UT. He impressed upon the officers to maintain coordination and synergy among themselves so that the desired

objectives of the scheme are achieved. The ACS directed the officers to remain proactive to the needs of the farming community as well as youth who approach the department for any kind of assistance for establishment of units. He asked them to create awareness among the Youth as well farming community about the various benefits of the scheme. Remarkably, the SLEC approved the five CA stage projects to various unit holders for their onward submission to Central Government. The meeting also approved assistance in favour of various unit holders for establishment of Food Processing Units.

More so, the SLEC also approved assistance for establishment of Banana Ripening Chamber as well assistance for procurement of Reefer vans to various individuals.

DC Srinagar reviews sector wise progress of works under District Capex Plan 2022-23

Sets target of achieving 70 percent allotted physical/ financial target by December 31

J1 NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, DECEMBER 16: In order to take first hand appraisal about physical and financial status of the works taken up under District Capex Plan 2022-23 in the District, a meeting of all Sectoral/ District Officers was today held under the Chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Ajaz Asad at Meeting Hall of DC Office Complex, here.

At the outset, the DC took a detailed review of funds released and expenditure incurred under R&B, PHE, Education, Health, RDD, NRI, ICDS and other sectors, besides progress of works taken up under DDC, BDC and PRI Grants were also discussed in threeable.

The DC after taking sector wise review of all works directed the officers to ensure 100 percent expenditure

in the set time line by accelerating the pace of the works scheduled for completion during the current year.

The DC stressed on achieving 70 percent physical/ financial target of total allocated funds/ works taken up for current fiscal by December 31.

He directed the officers to work in coordinated manner with line Departments to achieve development goals well in time keeping in view the limited working season.

The DC asked all the line departments to ensure timely submission of works bills to concerned Treasurers.

On the occasion, the DC was apprised that under District Capex, total 682 works were taken up of which nearly 400 works have been completed while rest of works are going on. It was informed that against the approved budget an expen-

diture of 48% percent has been made for year 2022-23.

The meeting was further informed that under NRI, 100 percent, ICDS/Mid-day meals over 98% and JIM, 95%, target has been achieved in the District so far.

While reviewing the Health sector, the DC asked the CMO Srinagar to expedite the process of face lifting and infrastructure upgradation of Health Centres in Srinagar including PHC, Zeewun, PHC Muigund. He also asked him to take up works for making the ground floor of the new building of PHC S R Guni operational so that the present makeshift health centre is shifted to that new building.

The DC also asked the PWD Engineers to evolve a mechanism to avoid resurfacing of roads during macadamization.

Tourism Department organises Bird Watching, Photography Competition at Gharana Wetland

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DECEMBER 16: The Directorate of Tourism, Jammu under the active guidance of Sarmad Hafeez, Secretary, Tourism Department, on Friday organized a Bird Watching and photography Competition at Gharana Wetland.

A group of over 100 participants was flagged off by Sunaina Sharma, Joint Director Tourism, Jammu in presence of Abdul Jabbar, Deputy Director Tourism, Publicity and Neha Mahajan, Deputy Director Tourism, Planning from TRC, Jammu.

The Joint Director Tourism, while flagging off the group of participants, briefed that the motive of organizing Bird Watching and photography Competition was to promote the Gharana Wetland which is home to more than 150 species of birds like bar-headed geese, gadwalls, common teals etc and is also an eco tourism paradise among potential travel markets.

It was also disclosed that many more promotional events are in pipeline, especially in border destinations like the Nowshera Folk Festival, Frozen Fiesta in Patnuch, Winter Carnival Sanasar/ Poimoch etc in coming days.

During the visit, Gul dev Raj, Head M/S. Himalayan Avian and several other experts from Wildlife department & other institutions explained the participants regarding the time of arrival/ departure of the migratory birds, Food habits, suitable climatic conditions and their role in maintaining the ecological balance. The participants of the Bird Watching and Photography



Competition included Wildlife experts, Researchers of wildlife, Photographers, bloggers/Vloggers and other stakeholders of Travel Trade.

Abdul Jabbar, DDT Jammu, informed the participants that there was a dire need to conserve the migratory birds' habitats in the interest of biodiversity. "While we enjoy the pleasant sight of various species of migratory bird from Central Asia, the event shall also encourage tourism activities in the region," said Dheeraj, a participant.

Later in the evening, a musical evening was held at Octroi Post, Suchetgarh. The chief Guest of the

function was Vivek Srivastava, Commandant, 165 BN, BSF, Octroi Post Suchetgarh.

The vibrant performances of the musical bonanza included local dance forms like jagarna, Geetru. The whole ambiance was festive and patriotic as both the Jawans as well as visiting tourists danced to the beats of Bollywood songs.

Also present on the occasion were Sheena Sahni, Assistant Director, Tourism Jammu, Pradeep Sharma, Assistant Commandant, BSF, Suchetgarh Octroi Post, besides other stakeholders of the Tourism Department and prominent citizens of the area

NTEP: DC reviews implementation in Anantnag

J1 NEWS SERVICE
ANANTNAG, DECEMBER 16: A meeting was chaired today by Deputy Commissioner (DC) Anantnag, Dr Basharat Qayoom to review the implementation of National Tuberculosis Elimination Program (NTEP) at DC Office Complex, here.

Presenting the various steps being taken for elimination of TB in the district, the chair was informed by District Tuberculosis Officer, Dr Syed Faeem Adani that the program is aimed to decrease mortality and morbidity due to TB and cut transmission of infection.

The DTO said that the district has a 1000 strong force of TB mitras. He said that a two-pronged strategy consisting of awareness regarding the diseases and ensuring necessary follow ups of active patients is being employed to make the district TB free. He said the patients are being provided nutritional support and medical guidance.

Briefing the chair about various programs in place for TB elimination, the DTO said that Har Char Dastak, Nikshay Poshan Yojna, PMPTI, PM TB Mukht Bharat Abhiyaan and TB

Harega Desh Jeetega are being implemented in the district in letter and spirit. He said the programs ensure exhaustive measures are in place for catering to active patients and reducing the burden of TB in the population through active community support, coordinated treatment programs, DBT for nutritional needs, Door to Door surveillance and spreading awareness among masses. Sharing the achievement of DTC in eliminating TB, the chair was informed that 90% of the cases have been notified, 99% are being covered under Nikshay Poshan Yojana, an amount of approx. Rs 10 lacs has been disbursed and treatment success rate has been 90% in the district. He said that 100% of the patients have been tested for co-morbidities. More than 81% patients have undergone Universal Drug Susceptibility Testing against a target of 70%.

Speaking on the occasion, DC said that the district has performed remarkably well towards the elimination of the disease. He said the district was ranked among the top ones in the country for its efforts towards TB elim-

ination in the list of Sub-National Certification of progress towards TB free status and said that the fight against TB must continue with the same momentum.

He directed the DTO to ensure that continued efforts are made with the same vigour to ensure that the district is free from TB. He said focus must be on spreading awareness among the community regarding the disease, symptoms, health care access points and debunking any myths.

The DTO also briefed the chair regarding IEC camps organized in the district throughout the year in schools, colleges, health institutions, public places etc. Other issues like registration of Nikshay Poshan Mitras and involvement of PRIs for wider dissemination were also discussed during the meeting. The meeting was attended by CMO Anantnag Dr MY Zagoo, CMO Kulgam Dr Rafiq, BMOs of Anantnag and Kulgam, representatives from WHO, District Nodal Officer, NACPI, District Nodal Officer, NTCP, representatives from NGOs, prominent journalists and others were.

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

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

JINDRAH IMAGES

Ensure no laxity in biometric attendance

Jammu and Kashmir government has finally decided to put its foot down to ensure accountability in the day-to-day functioning of the administration. For this, Chief Secretary Arun Kumar Mehta has issued fresh directions for strict compliance to the orders on biometric attendance of employees particularly in field offices. The directions have come following the low record of employees' biometric attendance across Jammu and Kashmir. It is quite unfortunate that employees working in various government offices seldom maintain discipline and reach their respective offices in time. It hampers the public delivery system badly, besides it gives a wrong notion that authorities at the helm of affairs are inefficient to bring accountability in the system. If media reports are to be believed, there is a cumulative achievement of 42 percent of employees' biometric attendance mainly attributed to the field offices. This is notwithstanding the fact that authorities have issued strict warnings to the employees for taking biometric attendance casually. Moreover, warnings have been issued for those employees who are carelessly taking directives regarding Employees Performance Monitoring portal carelessly. In June this year, instructions were issued to all government offices, PSUs, institutions and corporations across Jammu and Kashmir to switch over to biometric system with immediate effect and all employees were directed to necessarily mark their attendance both at arrival and departure as per the notified office hours of various offices. All administrative secretaries, heads and managing directors of PSUs, corporations and institutions were also directed to ensure installation of biometric attendance systems and equipment in all offices and institutions under their administrative control. All DDOs were also directed to draw salaries of employees only on the basis of satisfactory biometric attendance. It is an open fact that the people take government jobs casually with a commonly prevalent perception that they are not to be penalized. What is the need of the hour is to explore and work out a way out to have attendance of all employees in the field recorded biometrically without any laxity. To some extent, the government has achieved the strict compliance to the biometric attendance system in urban areas to great extent but it has remained a major challenge for authorities to ensure accountability in rural pockets where it has been observed that those employees who stay in the nearby vicinity leave the office premises either with the consent of controlling officers or without their knowledge in the middle of working hours and due to this office work suffers immensely. Authorities should evolve a suitable mechanism to check this tendency. The government should intensify surprise checks in the field offices to have on-spot assessment over the compliance of the directives regarding eight hours duty in the government offices. All measures need to be put in place to regulate attendance of employees to ensure an effective public delivery system.

CHINESE INTRUSION IN TAWANG A REPLAY OF GALWAN

The Yangtse clash does not augur well for the restoration of peace and tranquillity on the disturbed border. When, not if, the Chinese open a second front, the centre of gravity will be Yangtse and Tawang. The Chinese have indicated willingness to escalate, and open a new front.

MAJ GEN ASHOK K MEHTA (RETI)

The Tawang clash on December 9 has inspired different versions of the Chinese People's Liberation Army's (PLA) attempt to 'gain' access to commanding heights of Yangtse, which virtually dominates the heavily defended Tawang bowl. Its strategic value was identified by a former Chief of the Army Staff, Gen Krishnaswamy Sundarji, following the Sumdorong Chu intrusion in 1986 by the PLA which led to India's second effort at Forward Posture in Arunachal Pradesh.

One account says the PLA's stealth operation tried to dislodge Indian troops occupying Yangtse. Another description suggests the PLA was only establishing its claim by presence, leaving the usual telltale signs in the area. The unofficial ground version is different.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh informed Parliament that Chinese troops attempted to transgress the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the Yangtse sector and unilaterally change the status quo. This was contested by our troops, resulting in a scuffle that led to injuries on both sides and compelled the PLA to return to their posts. A bald and bland statement, avoiding details of the encounter. In their version, the Chinese were even more sparse: troops on regular patrol on the Chinese side of the LAC at Dongzhang were blocked by the Indian personnel, who illegally crossed the LAC. Note, there is no mention of a scuffle or casualties. Because India invariably evades the description of a clash, journalists rely on secondary material or simply conjure up facts.

Commanders in the chain of command in 4 Corps responsible for Arunachal Pradesh say that Yangtse is a disputed area in "reverse occupation of India" – a vital ground the Chinese claim, but under Indian occupation. Every year for the last six years, between September and December, the PLA asserts its right to access the Yangtse area, crossing an Indian-erected wall and momentarily celebrating the transgression.

On December 9, the strength



and modus operandi was more provocative than in the past. Around 300 PLA troops (number usually is 50 to 100) were involved. They were carrying weapons, muzzle down and slung on the back, with additional hardware like clubs and sticks. Indian troops were forewarned. There was no question of the PLA doing a 'Kailash', as the Special Frontier Force (SFF) did two years ago in Ladakh or dislodging the occupied post. The scuffles have escalated to assaults with medieval artefacts to break bones and smash skulls, whereas previously, it was only shove, push and jostle.

This is a replay of Galwan, with the PLA getting more aggressive and can one day escalate to undo Indian occupation of Yangtse.

The government has promulgated an official gag in Parliament on Ladakh and the China border since the PLA intrusions in 2020. China was virtually exonerated for transgressions by Prime Minister Narendra Modi when he said: "No one has entered Indian territory, nor has anyone occupied it." On Tuesday, in Parliament, Home Minister Amit Shah claimed: "No one can capture an inch of Indian land till Modi is in power."

A debate in Parliament is disallowed on the plea that it is a sensitive border issue and will ques-

tion the valour of our soldiers. Instead, the government harks back to the Nehru era or Chinese donations to the Rajiv Gandhi Foundation to mask intelligence and operational failures in 2022 and the strategic folly of vacating the Kailash heights. Tawang has for long been coveted by China as it fortifies Tibet's claim to Arunachal Pradesh (which it calls south Tibet) as the sixth Dalai Lama was born here. This, in turn, strengthens their authority and right to select the next Dalai Lama, a highly emotive issue in Tibet and Dharamsala. One of the sticking points during the talks on political parameters and guiding principles for border issues was for Tawang to be included under 'concessions' in a proposed deal: "concessions in the west for concessions in the east."

Talks were destined to fail due to a clause on 'national sentiment' that trumped the one on 'settled populations to not be disturbed', referring to Tawang. The truth is: China will never solve the border row or identify the LAC as it facilitates coercive diplomacy through land grab.

The Yangtse clash does not augur well for the restoration of peace and tranquillity on the disturbed border. When, not if, the Chinese open a second front, the centre of gravity will be Yangtse and Tawang. The construction of new roads and infrastructure

along with the development of moderately prosperous dual-use Chinese villages opposite Arunachal Pradesh will enhance the PLA military capacities and operational logistics.

This is the area the Chinese had captured in 1962, but withdrew 20 km behind it. During the SCO summit at Samarkand in September, China issued an official map in which Arunachal Pradesh and Ladakh were incorporated with the names of places in Mandarin.

The clash at Yangtse, according to commanders on the ground, though the most serious transgression since 2016, has been over-hyped.

The Chinese have indicated willingness to escalate, and open a new front. Any military or diplomatic breakthrough despite Modi's handshake last month with President Xi at Bali should be ruled out. Already under pressure for losing patrolling rights and grazing grounds and accepting DMZs (demilitarised zones) from Depsang to Demchok, Chinese forays across the McMahon Line are like rubbing salt in the wound.

For the Modi government to go into the 2024 General Election with scars of Ladakh and attempted salami slicing in Arunachal Pradesh is embarrassing even under the glow of the G20 presidency.

Key scientific innovations & misses of 2022

DINESH C. SHARMA

During the active phase of the Covid-19 pandemic, the focus of scientific research globally was on finding new vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and management to address the challenge the novel coronavirus posed to the world. The interest in pandemic-related research continued in 2022 as well, but several other significant scientific developments made headlines in the past 12 months.

Discovery of the biggest single-cell bacteria, recreation of the ancient ecosystem from the two million-year-old environmental DNA recovered from frozen depths in Greenland, unveiling of highly disruptive AI tools and a new malaria vaccine were among the top scientific advancements of this year. In India, the development of an intra-nasal vaccine for SARS-CoV-2 was a key advancement. However, in the field of environmental conservation, the going is not good as more Indian plant and animal species were added to the list of those under threat.

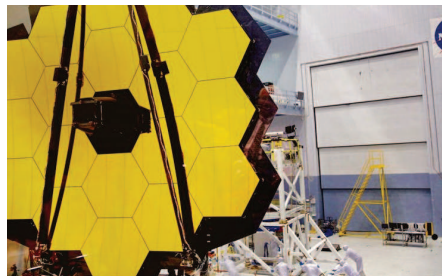
Among the topmost scientific breakthroughs was the final deployment of the James Webb Space Telescope, which has provided an unprecedented glimpse of our universe using its infrared eye. The space telescope has captured the light emit-

ted by the very first stars and galaxies, and scientists hope to decipher the atmosphere of exoplanets located hundreds of light-years away from the earth.

Among other top scientific advancements of this year are – the discovery of the biggest single-cell bacteria (almost a centimetre long), recreation of the ancient ecosystem from the two million-year-old environmental DNA recovered from frozen depths in Greenland, identification of a virus linked with multiple sclerosis, unveiling of some highly disruptive artificial intelligence (AI) tools like Dall-E and ChatGPT, development of novel immunotherapy to cure colorectal cancer, a new malaria vaccine and an embryo grown in a laboratory without the use of a sperm, an egg or a womb.

In India, the development of an intra-nasal vaccine for SARS-CoV-2 was a key advancement. The vaccine, developed by Hyderabad-based Bharat Biotech, is said to be the first such vaccine in the world. It can be delivered through the nasal route and does not require any needle.

The second headline-grabbing development this year also came from Hyderabad – the first privately developed rocket which was launched from the spaceport at Sriharikota. Developed by Skyroot Aerospace, the rocket engine was 3D



printed and the new technologies tested during the demonstrator flight will be used in operational rockets in future.

A Chennai-based startup, AgniKul, unveiled India's first private rocket-launching facility and control room on the campus of the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota. These developments are indicative of the rapid growth of private players in the field of space technology.

In October, the government approved open-field trials of a genetically modified mustard variety – Dhara Mustard Hybrid-11. It will pave the way for the commercial cultivation of genetically modified (GM) mustard in future, making it the first

GM food crop in India. The decision has rekindled the debate about the need for GM food crops among scientists and civil society groups.

In the field of environmental conservation, the going is not good as more Indian plant and animal species were added to the list of those under threat. The International Union for Conservation of Nature recently placed the white-cheeked dancing frog, Andaman smoothhound shark and yellow Himalayan fritillary in its Red List unveiled.

While space-related developments, Covid vaccines and GM crops hit headlines, many contributions of Indian scientists went unnoticed. A remarkable study came from geneti-

cists at Banaras Hindu University and other centres, solving the mystery of unidentified human skeletons found at Ajnala in 2014. Ancient DNA extraction studies, combined with historical records, showed that these skeletons found in a deep well belonged to soldiers martyred during the Indian Rebellion of 1857.

The shortage of semiconductor chips has affected many industries such as automobile manufacturing. Scientists at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) in Bengaluru, along with an industry partner, have come up with a high-voltage automotive technology platform to design analogue chips for the automotive sector.

Another group at the IISc has developed a new analogue chipset named Aryabhata-I (Analog Reconfigurable Technology and Bias-scalable Hardware for AI tasks) for AI applications like speech recognition. Theranautics, a startup incubated at the IISc, came up with an interesting offering – a nano-sized robot that can dive deep into the dental root canal to kill bacteria.

Statins are among the most popular drugs used to lower cholesterol in patients with high blood cholesterol, but it is also known that these drugs have certain side effects among long-term users. Researchers at the CSIR-Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB) in Hyderabad fig-

ured out that statins could induce changes in the architecture of cells, which may lead to side effects.

Another group at the CCMB has identified eight genes that were not known earlier for their role in human male fertility. Scientists also identified mutations in these genes that lead to impaired sperm production – a consequence of which is male infertility.

The Indian institutes of technology (IITs) continued to be a powerhouse of research and innovation during the year. Among the new offerings from IIT-Delhi were a map to highlight rainfall-induced erosion in India, an EEG-based method for the timely detection of epilepsy and a mobile app to monitor waterlogging in urban areas during monsoons.

Research groups at IIT-Guwahati have developed a new method of targeted delivery of drugs to cancer cells, an AI-based model to predict the healing of bone fractures, while scientists from IIT-Madras joined hands with NASA to study microbial data collected from the three missions of the International Space Station to find how microbes behave in space.

To tackle the problem of dust accumulation on solar panels (which reduces efficiency), IIT-Jodhpur has found a solution – a transparent, self-cleaning coating that uses a superhydrophobic material.



Kiara Advani's hot red look in bralette and bodycon skirt sets temperatures soaring at Bigg Boss 16

The promotions for the film *Govinda Naam Mera*, which starts streaming online today, are going on in full swing, and the star cast, including Vicky Kaushal, Kiara Advani and Bhumi Pednekar, are often snapped in the city dressed in stylish fits. Last night, Kiara and Vicky visited the sets of *Bigg Boss 16*. The paparazzi clicked the actors on the sets of the reality television show and posted the snippets on social media. Kiara's ensemble for the night out won her several compliments online. She slipped into a hot red look featuring a bralette and bodycon skirt for the night out. Keep scrolling to know more details.

Kiara Advani's sizzling red ensemble for *Bigg Boss 16* On Thursday night, Kiara Advani stepped out in the city

to promote her film *Govinda Naam Mera* with Vicky Kaushal. The two stars visited the sets of the reality television show *Bigg Boss 16*. Kiara slipped into the hot red ensemble for the occasion and set the temperatures soaring with her sizzling avatar. She wore a bralette and a bodycon skirt, styled with minimal accessories and striking makeup picks. Her fans loved the look and flooded the comments section of the paparazzi video to shower her with compliments.

Check out Kiara's pictures and videos in the monotone outfit below.

Kiara's bright red-coloured bralette comes in a corseted silhouette with structured boning. It also features a plunging neckline accentuating her décolletage, cropped midriff-baring hem, broad strapped sleeves,

and a fitted bust.

Kiara wore the blouse with a matching red skirt featuring a high-rise waistline, gathered design on the front and back, back slit for ease of movement, asymmetric midi-length hem, and a figure-hugging fit highlighting Kiara's frame.

Lastly, Kiara styled the monotone ensemble with nude pointed high heels from Christian Louboutin, gold-toned stacked and textured bracelets, and matching hoop earrings.

For the glam picks, Kiara chose nude brown lip shade, sleek black winged eyeliner, mascara on the lashes, blushed cheeks, darkened brows, glowing skin, and a contoured face. She rounded it all off with side-parted and curly open tresses.

Meanwhile, *Govinda Naam Mera* started streaming on Disney + Hotstar today.

Raees director Rahul Dholakia asks film fraternity to support Shah Rukh Khan amid 'hate attack' online



Filmmaker Rahul Dholakia has responded to the trolls attacking Shah Rukh Khan and called them 'bigots with idiotic theories'. Shah Rukh is once again the target of online trolls ever since the first song of his upcoming film *Pathaan* came out.

Titled *Besharam Rang*, the song is being criticised online. A few politicians, including BJP minister Narottam Mishra, have called for a ban against the movie if changes are not made to the visuals of the song. The minister said the song reflected a "dirty mindset" and had "objectionable costumes".

Rahul tweeted Friday morning, "The hate attack (for years now) on @iamsrk should be condemned by one and all in the film industry. SRK has contributed more to our fraternity and India as an ambassador of entertainment & cinema ; than most people have. Please let these bigots with idiotic theories to Shut Up!"

Meanwhile, the Madhya Pradesh Ulema Board has also raised objections to the release of the movie in the state. President of MP Ulema Board, Syed Anas Ali, told ANI, "The sentiments of the Muslim community have been hurt by this film. We will not allow this film to be released, not just in Madhya Pradesh but across the country."

"The Pathans are one of the most respectable Muslim communities. Not just the Pathans but the entire Muslim community is being defamed in this film. The name of the film is *Pathaan* and women are seen performing obscene dances in it. Pathans are being portrayed wrongly in the film," he added.

Priyanka Chopra and Nick Jonas take daughter Malti to the aquarium, fans want a family like theirs

Priyanka Chopra has shared a precious picture of her daughter Malti on Instagram. The photo shows her and husband Nick Jonas took Malti to an aquarium recently for a family trip. Priyanka and Nick wore masks while the actor hid Malti's face with a heart emoji once again. It was still enough to notice that Malti was looking at her mum as someone clicked a picture of the full family. Nick carried her in his arms and Priyanka looked at a jellyfish in a tank next to them.

Sharing the photo, Priyanka wrote, "Family #aquarium #familyday #love." The image was 'liked' by Katrina Kaif and Bipasha Basu as well. "I want family like this mine," wrote a fan of the couple. "So adorable," wrote another.

Priyanka Chopra and Nick Jonas' love story began in 2016, when they met at a Vanity Fair event. They started dating shortly after and got engaged in July 2018. The couple got married in December of that year in a grand wedding ceremony that took place in both traditional Hindu and Western Christian styles. The wedding took place at the Umaid Bhawan Palace in Jodhpur, India, and was attended by close friends and family. After their wedding, the couple settled in Los Angeles, where they have been living since. Despite their busy schedules, they have managed to maintain a strong relationship and frequently share sweet moments on social media.

The actor is happy to play a Lucknowite in her ongoing show.

"For the first time, I got to play a girl from an economical weaker class in the daily soap *Rajjo* who is in transition from a young athlete to a mother. Earlier, I had just played either some goddess, queen or someone from an affluent class."

Uprari recently turned a year older. "Just the night before it was my birthday, so my team granted me a day off and I was able to celebrate the day with my friends."

Avatar 2 Box Office Day 1 Morning Occupancy: Takes A Good Start All Across The Country With South Showing Outstanding Response!

Avatar 2 has released all across the country and the response has been really good so far at the box office. There's clearly a division between northern parts and southern parts of India as the film is showing excellent response in the latter. Let's see how the film fared in morning occupancy on day 1!

Avatar: The Way Of Water is

a sequel to James Cameron's *Avatar* which was released way back in 2009. Considering the sequel factor and the tremendous goodwill of the first part, excitement is at its peak for part 2. And the hype is clearly getting translated into numbers. In the advance booking, the film even crossed the 20 crore mark.

Coming back to the morning shows, *Avatar 2* has registered

an average occupancy of 30-35% all across the country. It also includes reports from the 2D version, which is performing low.

On the other hand, 3D and higher versions are showing really good responses. Considering a huge screen count of 3800+, the occupancy is promising and the response will only get better post-afternoon.

Avatar 2 is showing an outstanding response in South India, while North India isn't performing as expected. Let's hope it gets better with positive reviews coming in.

Meanwhile, recently James Cameron made a shocking statement that the *Avatar* series won't continue if box office results are a disaster. "The market could be telling us we're

done in three months, or we might be semi-done, meaning: 'OK, let's complete the story within movie three, and not go on endlessly' if it's just not profitable," he told Total Film in an interview.

Note: Box office numbers are based on estimates and various sources. Numbers have not been independently verified by Koimoi.

Gungun Uprari: TV tends to typecast, it's important to learn to juggle

In a bid to avoid getting typecast, actor Gungun Uprari is trying hard to strike a right balance between sociodramas and mytho shows.

The Lucknowite has played Gautami in *Buddha*, Yashoda in *Paramavtaar Shri Krishna* while her last show was *Paapnashini Ganga* where she played mother of protagonist.

"I have been maintaining the policy of not repeating a genre one after the other. I have always done one mytho/historical followed by a social drama. It was only during pandemic, when everything went haywire, that I had to take up mythological shows in quick succession. The show *Ganga* was being made for a new channel but unfortunately it closed soon so next I had to take up a social drama," tells the Bandhan Saat Jananom Ka actor.

Uprari adds, "In our industry, you get typecast so I deliberately continue juggling. At my age, if anyone has to cast a young



mother then they do reach me. Personally, I want to take up characters for diverse genres. I am waiting to don a negative avatar but sadly no one offers

me one! That's one such role that tops my wish list for now."

Uprari agrees that in past few years the kind of shows coming her way have been more of

mytho and historical genre. "I have been part of mega shows so definitely they get noticed. Also, maybe it's because of my previous work or my command over

the language that I get such offers. However, I too love doing them - wearing heavy makeup, speaking long Hindi dialogues goes down well with me. Then they have good budgets as well (smiles). Disadvantage is sporting weighty costumes and jewellery, also the added responsibility is when you are playing someone from history so there is no room for mistakes."

The actor is happy to play a Lucknowite in her ongoing show.

"For the first time, I got to play a girl from an economical weaker class in the daily soap *Rajjo* who is in transition from a young athlete to a mother. Earlier, I had just played either some goddess, queen or someone from an affluent class."

Uprari recently turned a year older. "Just the night before it was my birthday, so my team granted me a day off and I was able to celebrate the day with my friends."

Dil Raju calls Vijay bigger star than Ajith in Tamil Nadu, Twitter says he's 'creating fan fights'

The Sankranti festival will witness one of the biggest box-office clashes ever as Vijay's *Varisu* and Ajith's *Thunivu* are gearing up for release on the same day. Ahead of the release, producer Dil Raju's comment about Vijay being a bigger star than Ajith in Tamil Nadu has not gone down too well with the fans of both the stars.

In an interview, *Varisu* producer Dil Raju opened up on the clash with *Thunivu*. Talking about the clash, he said that Vijay is a bigger star than Ajith in Tamil Nadu. Therefore, his film (*Varisu*) deserves to get more number of screens than *Thunivu*.

In the interview to Telugu channel NTV, Dil Raju said: "In Tamil Nadu, Ajith sir's film is releasing alongside my film. It is a known

fact that Vijay sir is the number 1 star in Tamil Nadu. The state has a total of 800 screens. Right now, both the films are getting equal number of screens. I'm literally begging for at least 50 additional screens for my film because Vijay sir is a bigger star than Ajith."

Fans took to the comment section to call out the needless remarks that'll unnecessarily instigate fan wars. One comment read: "Someone from another state creating fans fight between Vijay and Ajith. Please ignore this kind of talk going forward (sic)." Another comment read: "Why is he even comparing the stars? If Vijay is the bigger star, shouldn't his film automatically be given extra screens (sic)."



Both *Varisu* and *Thunivu* are releasing worldwide on January 12 next year. Directed



by Vamshi Paidipally and Rashmika Mandanna, *Varisu* co-starring will mark

Vijay's debut in Telugu industry as the movie has been simultaneously shot in Tamil and Telugu. Vijay's next project with director Lokesh Kanagaraj will go on the floors later this month.

Thunivu, on the other hand, is gearing up for release amid very high expectations. The project marks the third consecutive collaboration between Ajith, director H. Vinod and producer Boney Kapoor. The film also stars Manju Warrier in a key role. Ajith is next teaming up with Vignesh Shivan for the first time.

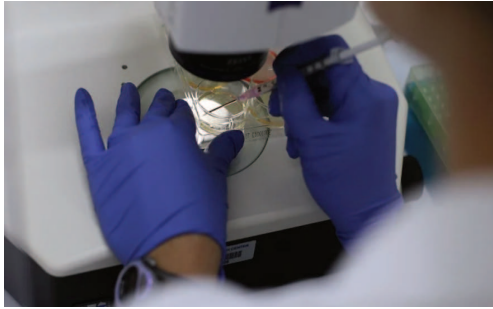
To be produced by Lyca Productions, the film will have music by Anirudh Ravichander. Nayanthara is expected to come on board as the co-star.

National Medical Commission prohibits use of stem cell therapy to treat patients with autism

The use of stem cell therapy in treating patients with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is not recommended and its promotion and advertisement will be considered professional misconduct, the National Medical Commission (NMC) has said.

The NMC's ethics and medical registration board set up a committee to look into the prescription, recommendation, or administration of such treatment after doctors and parents complained about the mushrooming stem cell therapy centres and their advertisements promising cure for autism. The committee submitted its report on December 6 and it was uploaded on December 14. The medical fraternity has welcomed the order, saying, there is not scientific basis to this line of treatment for which patients have been shelling out for years.

Dr Samir Dalwai, developmental-behavioural paediatrician, Nanavati Max Hospital, Vile Parle, said, "Autism is a chronic condition and the results are slow. And there is a stigma attached to it. However, desperate parents fall for such promotional gimmicks as the therapy is



marketed well not just in the city but across the country." Every week, the hospital gets at least one patient in the 7-8 age group whose parents have tried stem cell therapy to treat autism, but in vain. "Because of the stigma or being told by doctors that there won't be much, or slow improvement in their child, parents fall for the stem cell

advertisements. Many a time, patients stopped the treatment midway and opted for the therapy hoping to see the miracle cure it promises," he said, adding each therapy reportedly costs ₹3-74 lakh.

The neuro-developmental paediatric chapter of Indian Academy of Paediatrics had also written to all government author-

ities to take action in this regard.

Parul Kumtha, trustee, Forum for Autism, said the therapy neither had enough proof of efficacy nor did it have the Food and Drug Administration's approval.

"Many parents have mortgaged their jewellery, property to bear the cost of treatment. If any medical centres are doing research on stem cell therapy, then they should not charge the patients. Also, as the NMC order says, there is no cure for autism and it is medically unethical to promise it as a cure," she said.

Dr Milan Balakrishnan, psychiatrist and member of Bombay Psychiatric Society, said it has been observed that after the therapy, there is a rise in irritability and aggression in the patient.

"Recently, a 15-year-old boy with autism was brought to us. He had a lot of anger, and he was beating up his parents too. We had to manage the outbursts with medication. It was during the course of treatment that the parents told us about stem cell therapy and the aggression their son developed as a new symptom after the procedure," he said.

Study: Incidence and mortality of cervical cancer remain much higher in most countries



There were over 600,000 new cases of cervical cancer and over 340,000 deaths worldwide in 2020, according to an observational study published in The Lancet Global Health journal.

Although cervical cancer has decreased in many world regions over the past three decades—notably in Latin America, Asia, western Europe and North America—the burden remains high in many low- and middle-income countries.

The development of effective HPV vaccination and screening programs have made cervical cancer a largely preventable disease. In 2020, the World Health Organisation (WHO) announced a target to accelerate the elimination of cervical cancer as a public health problem, aiming to reduce incidence below a threshold of four cases per 100,000 women per year in every country by 2030. This study tracks the progress on cervical cancer rates and identifies the countries and regions where efforts require scaling up to reach WHO targets.

HPV vaccination and screening technologies mean that cervical cancer is now largely preventable. Our study finds encouraging decreases in some high-income countries following successful implementation of HPV vaccination programs and screening; such as in Sweden, Australia, and the UK—but globally the burden remains high. All over the world, women should be free from the risk of preventable cancer, and with development of effective vaccines and screening over the past 20 years, we have the tools to make this a reality."

Dr Deependra Singh, International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) / WHO, France. The study used IARC's GLOBOCAN 2020 database to estimate the burden of cervical cancer incidence and mortality rates in 185 countries. Additionally, the study analyzed the relationship between cervical cancer cases and deaths in relation to national levels of socioeconomic development. Finally, the authors looked at data from 1988 to 2017 to identify increase and decrease trends.

In 2020, rates of cervical cancer cases were 13 per 100,000 women per year and there were seven deaths per 100,000 women per year. Incidence rates in 172 out of 185 countries, still exceeded the four cases per 100,000 women per year threshold for elimination set by WHO.

Rates varied significantly between countries, with a 40 times difference in cases and 50 times difference in deaths. Case rates ranged from two cases in Iraq to 84 cases in Eswatini per 100,000 women per year; while mortality rates ranged from one death in Switzerland to 56 deaths in Eswatini per 100,000 women per year.

There was substantial socioeconomic inequality in cervical cancer globally. There was a clear socioeconomic gradient in incidence and mortality, with higher rates observed in countries with lower socioeconomic development.

When looking at the trend data from 1988 to 2017, the authors observed major declines in cases in some Latin American countries, including Brazil, Colombia, and Costa Rica.

You May Need More EPA & DHA Fatty Acids Than You're Currently Getting

Omega-3 fatty acids EPA and DHA are incredibly important. They're what is called "conditionally essential," meaning the body is capable of converting them from ALA, but different factors like age and sex negatively affect that process— which, by the way, is about as efficient as me working from home curled up in a blanket on the couch. (That's level "yikes" on efficiency.) It's this inefficiency that makes it all the more necessary to stock up on EPA and DHA when considering your omega-3 intake.

What are EPA and DHA? Eicosahenoic acid (EPA) and docosahenoic acid (DHA) are long-chain polyunsaturated fatty acids (aka PUFAs). A mouthful to say, the two are "omega-3 fatty acids derived from marine sources," explains William Harris, Ph.D., FASN, FAHA, co-creator of the omega-3 index (a blood test that measures the amount of EPA and DHA in your red blood cell membranes).

EPA and DHA are produced by algae and consumed by a variety of fish, hence why fish oil and fish themselves are the richest sources of these fatty acids. They make up two of the three commonly talked about omega-3s—the third being alpha-linolenic acid (aka ALA), which is sourced from plants.

Our bodies can technically synthesize EPA and DHA from

the parent omega-3 fatty acid ALA, through a series of reactions, including desaturation (i.e., the addition of a double bond between two carbon atoms) and elongation (i.e., the addition of two carbon atoms). That, of course, assumes you're consuming a whole lot of the starter fat (ALA) every day, and even then, the conversion is sub-par.

That's because this synthesis process is affected by age, gender, and hormones—particularly the presence of estrogen. Research shows that only 8% of ALA is converted to EPA and 0 to 4% to DHA in healthy young cis-men, while 21% of ALA was converted to EPA and 9% to DHA in healthy young cis-women. Though the process is still not perfect, it appears women can convert ALA to be used in the body as EPA and DHA slightly more effectively than men.

The health benefits of EPA and DHA. As antioxidants and healthy fats with anti-inflammatory properties, EPA and DHA are critical for whole-body health but are particularly important for cardiovascular health, cognition, and pregnancy.*

Research has associated EPA and DHA supplementation with a number of benefits, including but not limited to:*

Improved cognitive performance
Anti-inflammatory properties
Improved cardiovascular

health Blood triglyceride regulation (aka healthy lipids)
Blood pressure and heart rate regulation

Improved cellular function
Healthy fetal development (including brain and retinal development)

Longer gestation periods (perinatal health)

Supplementation during pregnancy has also been associated with numerous benefits in the child's development after birth, including better hand-eye coordination and better problem-solving skills at 9 months old.*

How they are different from ALA. Although EPA, DHA, and ALA are all long-chain PUFAs, ALA is the shortest of the three. To get a bit more science-y, EPA has 20 carbons and double bonds, DHA has 22 carbons and six double bonds, and ALA has 18 carbons and three double bonds. As these chemical differences indicate, they are three unique fats with unique roles in our physiological health and wellness.

Another difference is availability. ALA is prevalent in our diets and found in plentiful amounts in many plants—including flaxseed, canola oil, olive oil, walnuts, and other tree nuts, according to Chip Lavie, M.D., FACC, FACP, FCCP, medical director of cardiac rehabilitation and prevention at Ochsner Health.

In contrast, EPA and DHA are not widely found in the food

supply, nor are these marine omega-3s widely consumed by Americans. And since only a small amount of ALA is converted to EPA and DHA, we're lacking these PUFAs MVPs that work overtime for our heart, brain, redox balance, and more.*

"Making EPA and DHA from ALA is possible but very inefficient, and achieving optimal omega-3 index levels is nearly impossible with only ALA," says Harris.

How to get more EPA and DHA.

The average American doesn't eat enough fish to rely exclusively on their diet for adequate amounts of omega-3s. This is particularly true for the levels of EPA and DHA tied to cardioprotective health benefits.* Unless you are willing to add oily fish to one of your meals each day (which can certainly challenge your wallet and/or heavy metal levels), supplementation is the best way to adequately supply your body with all of the EPA and DHA it needs in a reliable and pure way.*

Omega-3 and cardiovascular health expert Harris recommends 1,000 to 1,500 milligrams of EPA and DHA combined per day to achieve an optimal omega-3 index.* As it turns out, this range is spot-on with the American Heart Association's recommendation for consuming these marine omega-3s to maximize heart-health parameters.* And to be clear, that's strictly the

Impact Keto ACV Gummies Reviews: Worth It Or Cheap Apple Cider Vinegar Keto Gummy Scam

Over 1 million people worldwide are obese. The sad part is that this number is not declining anytime soon. While dieting and exercising can help, many people complain about diets because they do not seem to help as much as celebrities say they do.

Another thing is that our bodies are different, and not all exercises can work for everybody. Some find it easy to lose weight through exercise, while others struggle a lot and may give up easily.

So, what could be the best weight loss solution? Impact Keto Gummies are the most effective, natural way to burn unwanted fat. With this formula, you do not have to put yourself through the pain of not eating the whole day to lose weight. Read on to learn how Impact Keto works and why you should get it.

What is Impact Keto?

Impact Keto is a powerful fat-burning formula designed to trigger ketosis, allowing you to use fats stored in the body as fuel instead of carbohydrates. The formula uses 100% natural ingredients, meaning you will lose weight naturally with no side effects. With this formula, you will enjoy improved energy and achieve a slim body in a matter of time. Impact Keto has been scientifically tested and proven to help in weight loss by allowing one to achieve ketosis effortlessly. Ketosis is where your body burns fat for energy instead of carbohydrates. Do not hesitate to get yourself Impact Keto, as it will not only help you lose weight. It will also improve your mental focus and make you love yourself even more.

How Does Impact Keto Work? Impact Keto works by allowing you to achieve ketosis faster and effortlessly so you can start using

stored fat for energy. Achieving ketosis on your own can be very difficult, and it can take a long time, but with Impact Keto, you will feel motivated to keep going. The formula contains BHB ketones, which trigger ketosis, allowing your body to focus on the stored

fats. When in ketosis, here are some of the benefits you will enjoy:
No More Stored Fats in the Body: Losing weight, especially around the belly and arms, can be daunting.
Improves Energy: If you are always feeling low on energy, most probably your body is using carbs instead of fats for energy. Carbs are not the ideal source of body fuel. When used, it makes you feel exhausted and tired quickly. Thankfully, Impact Keto allows you to use fat for energy, leaving you feeling energized and motivated all day long.
Other benefits you will enjoy when using Impact Keto are mental clarity and focus. BHB ketones are usually absorbed in the body quickly and travel to trigger ketosis almost immediately. This then leads to instant results.
How to Use Impact Keto Gummies
Step 1: Take Your First Gummy

and Enjoy Instant Fat Burning
Impact Keto Gummy will be directly absorbed into the bloodstream once you consume it. The BHB ketones will trigger ketosis, releasing the stored fats in your body. The fats will then be used to provide the body with the energy it needs, and that is how the weight loss process will begin.
Step 2: Continue Using Impact Keto Gummies
According to the official site, it is advisable to use Impact keto for 3 to 5 months to maximize your weight loss journey. In the first week, you might lose 5 pounds, but as you continue, you can lose 20 pounds within one month.
Step 3: Transform Your Body
After achieving your weight loss goals, you can continue using Impact Keto to stabilize your appetite and maintain your slim body.



Altaf Bukhari pays glowing tributes to Dr Masud Choudhary

Entire leadership grieved over demise of Masud Sahab

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 16: Apni Party President Syed Mohammed Altaf Bukhari has paid glowing tributes to the Former ADGP J&K Police and Former Founder Vice Chancellor of Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University (BGSBU) Rajouri, Dr Masud Choudhary Sahab who passed away here in Jammu following prolonged illness. In his condolence message, Altaf Bukhari expressed shock over the demise of Dr Masud Choudhary Sahab and remembered his contribution towards the marginalized section of society.

He said that "His contribution to society is unforgettable especially in the field of education. He has shown the path to the people, especially the neglected section of society, to work hard to achieve social, economical, educational, and political upliftment." He recalled that his contribution has helped the Schedule Tribes to upgrade their living standard and promoted education among them with various means. "He helped in establishing educational institutions for eradication of illiteracy among the marginalized section of society in his entire life. He was also a Founding Patron of Gurjar Desh Charitable Trust on Bypass road in Jammu," he said.

"His passing away has left a void in the society which would be hard to fill," he said and prayed for the eternal peace of the departed soul and courage to the bereaved family members to bear this irreparable loss. In his condolence message, Apni Party Senior Vice President, Ghulam Hassan Mir has also consoled the demise. "The demise of Dr Masud Choudhary Sahab is a cause of serious concern for all of us. He made a rare contribution as a social reformer to society for the upgradation of the living standard of the marginalized section of society," Mir said.

Nitish Mahajan releases poster of devotional album 'Jitto Roye Mandi Par Teri'

Urges to encourage local artists



JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 16: Nitish Mahajan, Executive Member of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory today released a poster of devotional song album 'Jitto Roye Mandi Par Teri'

during a simple but impressive function here today. The devotional song (Bhajan) has produced by Pathan Dawar under the banner of Maa Bawe Wali Records, sung by Rajveer Manni, music composed by Ashh K., Lyrics by Sonu

Raipuria and video by KK Malhotra. The Starcast include Pandit Makhn Shastri, Maithily Sharma, Meenakshi Sharma. Special thanks to Sahil Mahajan. Speaking on the occasion, Nitish Mahajan said that in Jammu and Kashmir, the

devotional songs of Gods and Goddess are played everywhere during every religious ritual or function be it Jagrata, Langar Seva, Pooja or any other religious ritual. He appealed to the people of Jammu and Kashmir to support and encourage the local artists of the UT so that they can also grow and achieve new heights in their respective fields of art and will make every citizen of Jammu and Kashmir feel proud. Nitish further added that the youth of J&K should ensure substantial participation in the religious activities and rituals as it will guide them towards a brighter future and prevent them from getting deviated to the wrong track in life like drugs that ultimately ruin their lives.

Sham, Priya, Munish, Arvind listen to public grievances

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 16: J&K BJP Vice-President & former Minister Sham Choudhary, BJP NEM & former Minister Priya Sethi, BJP All Morcha Incharge Munish Sharma and Arvind Gupta, Coordinator Grievance Committee & Secretary listened to public grievances and took up same with concerned officials for early solutions at BJP headquarter, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu. Numerous individuals and deputations visited the BJP office to meet the party leaders and narrate their woes & problems. The issues presented by common masses before the senior party leaders were related to PHE, PWD,



Rural Development, Revenue, Irrigation & Flood Control, Education, Agriculture etc. BJP leaders took up the presented issues with the heads of concerned departments pressing for their early solutions. Sham Choudhary said that BJP is concerned to the common masses and their

issues. He said that all the senior functionaries of BJP are daily available at the party office to listen to the public grievances. Priya Sethi said that BJP leaders make every effort to solve the issues represented before at the earliest. She said that people reach the party office with a very positive mindset

that their issues would be resolved soon. Munish Sharma said that the BJP leaders have sincerely tried to start a communication bridge between masses and administration and general masses must avail its benefit. Arvind Gupta coordinated the grievance camp proceedings.

Govt Polytechnic Jammu organises seminar on "Innovation, commercialization and Technology transformation"

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 16: Electrical Engineering Department of Government Polytechnic Jammu today organised a seminar on the topic "Innovation, commercialization and Technology transformation". The seminar was inaugurated by Principal of College, Er. Arun Bangotra. Govt. Polytechnic Jammu who welcomed the guest speaker and highlighted the significance of the program and emphasized the need of innovation in the present scenario in his opening address. The Guest speaker was Er. Loveneesh Talwar, HOD, Department of Electrical Engg, Yogananda college of Engineering & Technology. He presented the topic in a very interesting manner



with real life examples. He delivered a talk on Innovation Development & Technology

Transformation, in which he explained the difference between Invention and Innovation, types of innovation, techniques and principles for successful innovation along with a case study about the story behind Nano. Further continuing his session he also explained Commercialization and factors Influence Commercialization. A large gathering of students of the final year of various departments attended the seminar. Ms Itika Sharma, Demonstrator, Electrical Engg conducted the proceedings of the program. HOD Electrical Engg Er. Manjeet Singh presented a vote of thanks. Er. Rajesh Gupta, HOD Automobile Engg, Er. PK Angral, Lecturer, Er. Vandana Chib, Er. Vicky Sharma, faculty of the college were also present on the occasion.

Support NC for your safe & prosperous future, Dr Vikas to youth

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 16: Zonal Secretary and Coordinator Jammu District (Urban) JK National Conference, Dr Vikas Sharma today met several youth and discussed with them the agenda of his party with special focus on students and youth.



The youth highlighted their grievances which included steep rise in unemployment, corruption in the recruitment system, ever-increasing fees in the educational institutes and no career avenues to highly educated youth.

Dr Vikas Sharma apprised the youth that NC govt in J&K under the leadership of Dr Farooq Abdullah and Janab Omar Abdullah offered thousands of job to youth and also kept the fees in educational institutes under check. National Conference has ensured equitable development of all regions and sections; and also watched the interest of youth but during the last seven years everything has changed in J&K, he said and added "youth is depressed and suppressed

and only popular govt can rescue them from this condition." Dr. Vikas flayed the present regime for compromising the interest of student community by making education so costly for an average income family. "Today there is no guarantee for free and fair recruitment system. There is no job in private sector and above all there is no accountability," he said. He asked the youth to wholeheartedly support NC in the forthcoming Assembly elections and elect a popular government for their safe and prosperous future.

Indian Army organised Medical Camp

JJ NEWS SERVICE
KISHITWAR, DEC 16: Indian Army has been constantly undertaking a variety of programme for welfare of Awaam in the region. As a goodwill gesture and in continuation to its commitment towards welfare of the general public, the Indian Army organised a medical camp for Awaam of the remote village of Shergwari. The aim of this camp was to deliver basic medical services at the doorsteps of the medically less privileged clientele residing in remote and far-flung villages of Shergwari region. The local populace were provided with medical care along with preliminary investigation and medicines for the commonly occurring ailments. The local populace appreciated this endeavour of the Indian Army to address their genuine requirements and aspirations.

Top cop's assertion of peaceful Assembly polls indicates end of terrorism soon: Sham Langer

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 16: Sham Langer, Convener Trade and Industries Cell Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Jammu and Kashmir has welcomed the assertion of Director General of Police Dilbag Singh that the overall security situation in Jammu and Kashmir is peaceful and that the next elections will be conducted in a peaceful atmosphere with hartals and stone-pelting having become a thing of the past. In a statement issued to media here today, the senior BJP leader said that the statement of the top cop is a clear indication that terrorism which is already on its last legs and



its total elimination will now be achieved very soon. Sham Langer while lauding the security forces for their valour and dedication said that it is because of the sacrifices of the security force personnel including those in Army, Police and Paramilitary forces that the people in Jammu and Kashmir which the worst phase of terror onslaught

for about three decades that we are able to live peacefully today. He said that the people of the nation have full confidence in their security forces who are involved 24X7 in removing the last traces of the terrorists in this sensitive Union Territory of the world's largest democracy. The senior Bharatiya Janata Party leader said that militancy in Jammu and Kashmir is at its lowest ebb and the Jammu region stands almost cleared of the menace due to the proactive approach of security agencies along with the cooperation of people. He said that the people of Jammu and Kashmir salute

the security forces especially the J&K Police for giving a befitting reply to the terrorists' plans to viliate peace in this region under the conspiracies formulated from across the border by Pakistan. Sham Langer said that by proactively frustrating the aforesaid terror conspiracies, the J&K Police has ensured that people of this UT live in peaceful environment. While the overall steep dip in terrorism is welcome news, at the same time the people of Jammu region are highly grateful to the police force for having totally eradicated the menace of terrorism from this province, he added.

Powers being decentralised in J&K

BJP keeping its promise of empowering common people: Raman Suri

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 16: "The decision of Lieutenant Governor (LG) Manoj Sinha's administration to empower Panchayats and other local self-governing institutions by granting them power to accord administrative approval for execution of works in their respective domains is aimed at decentralising powers and making common people at grassroot levels a part of the decision-making process in Jammu and Kashmir. This is what BJP had promised and is delivering now". This was stated by Bharatiya Janata Party

(BJP) J&K Executive Member Raman Suri, who added that with this order, the District Development Councils (DDCs), Block Development Councils (BDCs) and Gram Panchayats across J&K will be able to take their own decisions and their dependency for administrative approvals will be over. This will also enable local self-governing institutions to develop villages without any delay. Since the village institutions, depending upon their structure and financial powers, have been empowered to take decisions for works up to Rs 5

lakh by Gram Panchayats, Rs 20 lakh by BDCs and Rs one crore by DDCs, now the developmental workswon't get stalled at bureaucratic levels for long. Raman Suri said, this power of according administrative approval marks the beginning of a new era of progress and development in the UT of J&K. Raman Suri also took other political parties like NC, PDP and Congress head-on, stating that these parties had been stalling such popular decisions since days, which was why common people were feeling alienated and our villages were not able to

develop at par with other villages across the country. He added that now the scenario has changed and with the new powers, village Panchayats will begin to generate revenue of their own and become independent institutions. Raman Suri said that Gram Panchayats, Block Samitis and Zila Parishads in Jammu and Kashmir were never empowered rather elections to these institutions were hardly held. This was the reason powers were solely concentrated in civil secretariats and those in power used to confine everything to themselves only.

GDC Women Kathua organized Awareness Programme on 'E-Resources

JJ NEWS SERVICE
KATHUA, DEC 16: The Library Department of Government Degree College for Women Kathua organized Awareness Programme on 'E-Resources of the library' under "My College My Pride" and "Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav" on 16th December 2022. The Programme began with the welcome address by Anu Radha, Librarian. Dr. Sangita Nagari, worthy Principal of the college was the Chief Guest. She addressed the students

regarding the importance of E-Resources of the library and their uses. She encouraged the students to use E-Resources available on the library website. Ms. Anu Radha, Librarian shared the library website which was created for the students and faculty members to access various links of important sites like OPAC(Online Library Catalogue), NLIST, NDL(National Digital Library), Job Sites, Internet Archive, Open access resources, Old question papers, Syllabi etc. She also

guided the students how to login and access e-books and e-journals- available on the NLIST with which college is already registered. Through NLIST they can also download articles required by them directly from the publisher's website. A total of 87 students attended the programme. The occasion was also graced by the presence of staff members Prof. Ravinder Kour, Ms. Surekha Rani, Ms. Deepthi, Ms. Usha Kiran and all the library staff members.

Extend Term of existing Panchayats in J&K for two Years: AJKPC

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, DEC 16: Anil Sharma, President All Jammu and Kashmir Panchayat Conference (AJKPC) along with other senior functionaries of the organization today held a press conference wherein while addressing the media persons Sharma urged the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and Union government to extend the term of the existing Panchayats for at least two years and hold the elections only in January 2026.

While justifying argument and demand of extending term of Panchayats in J & K, Sharma said that the term of existing Panchayats shall be ending in Nov-Dec 2023 and there are rumours and hearsay that the government may dissolve the existing Panchayats even before the due date and this is not acceptable to the Panchayat members and they would oppose it.

He said, due to Covid Pandemic, for two years between year 2020 and 2021 and prior to that after the abrogation of Article 370 and 35_A from Jammu



and Kashmir in year August 2019, the entire Jammu and Kashmir remained inattentive and distracted for at least 6 months for a total period of 30 months the existing Panchayats members could not concentrate on developmental works therefore it is imperative justified that the term of existing Panchayats be extended for at least 2 years.

The AJKPC President also informed that under 73rd Amendment of the Constitution of India, all three tiers of the Panchayats should have co-terminus and as the term of the district development

councils shall end in 2025 therefore there is no logic to end the term of the Panchayats prior to that.

The AJKPC leaders demanded that elections for all the three tiers of the Panchayats should be conducted simultaneously and the all the PRI members are unanimous in this regard.

The media persons were also informed by the AJKPC leaders that soon their organization shall hold another meeting of executive body of the AJKPC and chalk out a new strategy in this regard including submitting memorandum to respective Deputy

Commissioners at district level and Divisional Commissioners of Kashmir and Jammu and also to meet senior leaders of different political parties and Parliamentarians in new Delhi. Besides Anil Sharma, President of the AJKPC other senior leader of AJKPC who addressed the media persons include.

Des Raj Bhagat, Ram saroop Sharma, Jatinder Singh, Pawan Slathia, S Ravinder Singh, Ramesh Lal, Parveen Chowdhary, S Girdhara Singh, Gulzar Ahmad Dar, Ramesh Lal, Manmohan Kumar, Ashwani Kumar, DayaPal, Tarsem Singh Charak.

Kathua Campus in collaboration with Fitistan - Ek Fit Bharat celebrates its maiden Vijay Diwas

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, DEC 16: To pay tribute to our Army, veterans and martyrs and to strengthen the bond between the Indian Army and youth, Kathua Campus, University of Jammu celebrated its maiden Vijay Diwas in collaboration with Fitistan - Ek Fit Bharat on December 16, 2022. More than 150 students from MCA, MBA, UIET and English departments of Kathua Campus, University of Jammu participated in the said event. The programme started with Vijay Run/Walk/Cycling from Railway Crossing, Janglote and culminated at Kathua Campus, University of Jammu with the National Anthem. The students also performed various patriotic activities including group song and dance, presentation, poem recita-

tion and a play.

Dr. Meenakshi Kilam, Captain of Vijay Run 2022 and Rector, Kathua Campus, University of Jammu flagged off Vijay Run 2022 expedition and emphasised on the aim of celebrating Vijay Diwas i.e. to pay honour to our gallant soldiers for making ultimate sacrifice in the line of their duty to serve the Nation. Dr. Kilam further said we feel ourselves as a part of the Indian Army as Kathua Campus, University of Jammu is surrounded by Indian Army. She reiterated that Kathua Campus is always ready to walk hand in hand with the Indian Army for societal development in general and for the welfare of youth in particular. She further said such events will go a long way towards ensuring the health, wellness and fitness of the

youth which in turn will help them to contribute to nation-building.

Dr. Sourabh Shastri, Ambassador of Vijay Run 2022 and Incharge Head, Computer Science, Kathua Campus, University of Jammu welcomed the participants and said the Kathua Campus, University of Jammu picked up the pace under the dynamic leadership of Dr. Meenakshi Kilam, Rector, Kathua Campus, University of Jammu.

Avtar Singh, Retired Junior Commissioned Officer (JCO) delivered an invited talk on the sacrifices of soldiers and also shared his own experiences with the participants. Ms. Sheetal Bhat (MCA) and Mr. Ritik Gupta (UIET) coordinated the whole programme. Mr. Rahul Sharma (MCA) gave a detailed talk on the 1971

war whereas Mr. Amit Kumar (MCA) recited a poem on Veer Jawan. Mr. Nishant Manhas (UIET) gave a detailed presentation on the Battle of Basantar 1971.

Pranav Ratta delivered vote of thanks. Dr. Vivek Sharma (Academic Coordinator), Mr. Gaurav Sharma, Ms. Kitika Goyal, Dr. Sunny Sharma, Dr. Zahin Ansari, Ms. Avni Sharma, Ms. Tiharika Nath, Ms. Kamakshi, Dr. Seema Jammwal, Mr. Sandeep Raj, Dr. Shivani Sharma, Ms. Komal Khadotra, Ms. Ritika Gupta, Mr. Sushant Gagal, Mr. Vishavjeet Singh, Ms. Amarjeet Chopra, Ms. Ruby Mahajan, Ms. Archana Salaria, Ms. Himani Khajuria, Ms. Ritu Sharma and other faculty members of Kathua Campus were also present during the programme.

J&K AAP leaders meet Party MP, Speaker, other leaders in Delhi



JJ NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, DEC 16: A team of J&K AAP leaders led by Mr. Harsh Dev Singh, Former Minister and Chairman AAP J&K State Co-ordination Committee and comprising senior Party leaders, Mr. Yashpaul Kundal (Ex-Minister), Mr. Raj Kapoor, Mr. Gagan Pratap Singh, Subash Sharma, Sham Choudhary and Sudesh Dogra today called on Delhi Legislative Assembly Speaker Hon'ble Sh. R.N. Goel, Hon'ble MP Sh. Sanjay Singh, In-charge of J&K Sh. Durgesh Pathak, J&K Organization Prabhari Sh. Munish Kaushik, Jammu Prabhari Sh. Gaurav Sharma besides other senior leaders of the Party and had detailed

deliberations over the present situation prevailing in J&K. The leaders discussed the present political scenario in J&K, the development related issues, the unemployment and under-employment problems, raging corruption besides the brazen circumvention of democratic norms and rule of law in the erstwhile state. Alleging subversion of democratic and constitutional rights of the people by the present proxy rulers in J&K, Mr. Harsh Dev Singh said that an environment of fear prevailed in the erstwhile state where the bureaucrats were behaving as unquestionable despots. In the absence of elected representatives, the officers were enjoying authority sans accountability

resulting in alienation amongst the masses. The culture of corruption was growing by leaps and bounds with none to take cognizance. Rather than addressing the issues of various aspirational groups, the BJP leaders were indulging in politics of division and hate mongering leading to tensions in various parts of the UT.

He said that restoration of statehood and early Assembly polls needed to be ensured in J&K so as to restore the confidence of the people in the system. He further threw light upon the plight of educated unemployed youth languishing on roads and the present corruption ridden system holding a kind of auction of govt jobs. The

Speaker Delhi Legislative Assembly presented a book "Rules of Procedure and conduct of business in LA Delhi" to Mr. Harsh Dev Singh.

Yashpaul Kundal talked about the dismal development scenario in the UT where people were suffering for want of basic amenities including power and drinking water. He said that despite several power generation projects functioning in J&K, the people were being charged heavily for electricity. And while the BJP leaders were enjoying the facility of free power, the poor people were being harassed and persecuted in the name of power theft and by serving inflated bills.

Gagan Pratap Singh and Raj Kapoor said that there were two separate sets of laws in J&K. One for BJP and another for opposition leaders and common masses. While the BJP leaders were being treated as state guests and free govt accommodation with huge security paraphernalia was provided to them at state expense, the opposition leaders especially of AAP were being subjected to most hostile discrimination by the helmsmen ruling the roost.

30 days certificate course on organic and natural farming concludes at SKUAST-J

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, DEC 16: Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu in collaboration with National Centre for Organic and Natural Farming, Ghaziabad organized 30 days certificate course for youth on Organic and Natural Farming. Prof. J.P. Sharma, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-Jammu was the Chief Guest of valedictory function on 16-12-2022. He discussed that natural farming offers a solution to various problems, such as food insecurity, farmers' distress, and health problems arising due to pesticide and fertilizer residue in food and water, global warming, climate change and natural calamities. It also has the potential to generate employment, thereby stemming the migration of rural youth. Natural Farming, as the name suggests, is the art, practice and, increasingly, the science of working with nature to achieve much more with less.

Dr. Manoj Kumar, Assistant Director, NCONF, Ghaziabad presented the over view of the course and thanked the University authorities for their help in organizing this course. Dr. Parshant Bakshi, course director also spoke on the occasion and said that the prime focus of our country is on natural farming that improves the soil health by increasing the microbial count in soil by formulations like Jeevamrit, Panchgavya from desi cow dung and urine. He also demonstrated the preparation of Jeevamrit to the participants. The lectures were delivered by eminent scientists like Dr. Gagnesh Sharma, Director NCONF, Ghaziabad, Dr. Rameshwar Kumar, Principal Scientist Organic Centre, CSK HPKV Palampur, Dr. Jag Paul Sharma, Ex-Director Research, Dr. S.K. Gupta, Dean, Faculty of Horticulture and Forestry, Dr. Vishal Raina, Trainer from MANAGE, Hyderabad and Dr. Gayatri Tandon. The exposure visits

were also arranged for the participants to RRSS, Raya, Sarveshwar Agro Products Pvt. Ltd., Vegetable production in River basin area and Vermicompost unit to provide first hand experience to them. The certificates and study material was distributed among the participants by the chief guest. Dr. S.K. Gupta, Director Extension, Dr. Pardeep Wali, Director Research, Dr. S.K. Gupta, Registrar and Dean, Faculty of Horticulture and Forestry, Dr. B.C. Sharma, Dean Agriculture and Coordinator, NAHEP-IDP, Dr. S.E.H. Rizvi, Dean, Faculty of Basic Science also attended the valedictory function. The Heads of the Divisions and Faculty members of Division of Fruit Science also attended the function.

The function was coordinated by Dr. A.P. Rai, Dr. Balbir Dhotra, Mohd. Sadiq, Reetika Sharma and Megha Patidhar. In the end, Dr. S.K. Singh presented the vote of thanks.

Charak pays tributes to martyrs on Vijay Diwas



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, DEC 16: Indian Army unfurled the flag of India by displaying valor in the 1971 Indo-Pak war at Balidan Shaurya Stambh Jammu, while paying tribute to the soldiers who were martyred during the

war, BJP leader Rajeev Charak said that today on December 16, 1971 celebrating India's victory over Pakistan in the war of Succeeded in surrendering to military commander Lt. Gen. Jagjit Singh Arora and liberated East Pakistan,

which is now known as Bangladesh. Charak said that this was proved historic for India and encouraging for every countryman.

Charak said that it is the country's misfortune that in the wars of 1948, 1962,

1965, 1971, we won on the battlefield with the indomitable courage and valor of the Indian Army, but due to weak leadership in the country, we lost on the table and were captured by Pakistan. Couldn't take back India's land, returned much won Pakistan territory along with war hostage soldiers.

Retired Capt. Motilal, President of Jammu Kashmir Gorkha Sabha, Smt. Karuna Chhetri, BJYM leader Sunny Sangotra, Darshan Kumar, BJP ward no. 48, President Ajay Sharma, Hardeesh Khokhar, Mukhtiyar Singh, Sumit Nagotra, Akshay Sagotra, Sajan Gupta, Pal, Surinder Patial, Hans Raj, Shamsher Kumar, Mohinder Singh paid floral tributes and tributes.

Sports inculcates mental endurance, positivity among youngsters: Yudhvir

Sports hold much significance in youths' life: Billawaria



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: Sports activities inculcate mental endurance, discipline and positivity among the youngsters besides keeping them away from drugs and other illicit habits.

This was said by Yudhvir Sethi, Vice President BJP J&K Unit and Chairman All J&K Sports and Cultural Welfare Association. The final of the tournament will be played on December 18, 2022. Addressing the gathering, Sethi asserted that

Football Club being played under the ongoing Christmas Gold Cup Tournament here at GGM Science College Ground on Friday.

The aforesaid tournament which commenced on December 5, 2022, is being organized under the aegis of All J&K Sports and Cultural Welfare Association. The final of the tournament will be played on December 18, 2022. Addressing the gathering, Sethi asserted that

significance of sports and fitness in one's life is invaluable as the same harnesses team spirit, develops strategic and analytical thinking, leadership skills, goal setting and risk taking. "A fit and healthy individual leads to an equally healthy society and strong nation", he added.

Baldev Singh Billawaria Deputy Mayor was the chief Guest on the occasion. He said that sports hold much significance in

youths' life as it instills confidence and leadership qualities. He said that in the last few years the country has made steady progress in the field of sports and that is the reason behind India shining at world stage with medals pouring in persistently. "It's time we inspire young talent, give them top-notch infrastructure and training of the highest level", he said adding that this is necessary for becoming a sports super power across the world. In today's match City Club Udhampur trounced Shaheen Football Club by 2-0.

Raj Kumar Tarkhan Chairman Public Health and Sanitation, JMC was the Guest of Honour. Hardeep Singh Mankotia Chairman Swachh Bharat Committee JMC and Ajay Gupta Chairman Social Justice Committee JMC were also present.

EPFO organises awareness, Outreach Program at DC Office Reasi, Narayana Hospital Katra

REASI, DECEMBER 16: Employees' Provident Fund Organisation, Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh today organised an "Outreach Programme" at DC Office, Reasi under the "Aspirational District and Border Area District Outreach Initiative." The programme was held in co-ordination with the District Administration, Reasi and various departments of Reasi, major

Contractors and sub-contractors under various Government Organizations, including, Irrigation, PHE, PDD, PWD (R&B), Rural Development, Tourism, Department of Education, NHAI, NHIDCL, Konkan Railway, IRCON, CPWD, Department of Education, PMGSY, other institutions engaged in infrastructure and construction works areas among other would be partici-

pating in the event.

Another awareness programme was also organized by EPFO under the guidance of Rizwan Uddin, Regional P F Commissioner at conference hall of Sri Mata Vaishno Devi Narayana Superspecialty Hospital, Katra with subscribers of hospitals, major Contractors and sub-contractors under health departments.

Awareness rally on road safety organized by MIER College



JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 16: A Public Awareness Rally for road safety was organized by the Extension Unit of MIER College of Education on the theme "Use of Helmet and Seat Belt." The rally was flagged-off by the HODs of

the UG & PG departments which students carried placards and banners appealing to the people to follow traffic rules, avoid accidents, wear helmets, avoid jumping signals and over speeding etc. The rally started from the college campus and pro-

ceeded towards Indra Chowk, passed through General Bus Stand, and concluded at the college.

The students made bystanders aware that wearing a seat belt in a car or putting on a helmet while driving a two-wheeler can save

lives in accidents and crashes.

A team of 24 students, along with the Incharge, Mrs. Suman Devi and member, Ms. Nandini Puri Extension Unit, conducted the rally. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Adit Gupta, Principal MIER College, said that the aim of organising the rally is to spread awareness about traffic rules and the importance of following rules in day-to-day lives. He urged students to act as ambassadors of road safety and help in creating awareness regarding strict adherence to road safety rules. He appreciated the efforts of the students and the unit for conducting the motivational rally for safe driving.

CCI signs landmark Healthcare MoU with 'Medanta The Medicity'



JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 16: In a landmark initiative the Chamber of Commerce and Industries (CCI) Jammu has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Medanta-The Medicity Medanta to ensure the best healthcare services to its members and their employees.

The MoU was signed by the respective representatives from both the sides during a simple yet impressive function here today. It is pertinent to mention here that Medanta-The Medicity Hospital had submitted a proposal for empanelment to the CCI and the Office bearers of the trade body

after due deliberation and discussion decided to give a go-ahead to the said proposal and consequently the MoU was signed by the parties. Arun Gupta President CCI Jammu along with his team of office bearers informed that as per the Memorandum signed today, the Chamber Members as well as their employees shall now be entitled to avail the benefit of indoor and outdoor treatment and health checkup at Medanta-The Medicity Hospital in Gurugram Haryana which provides a comprehensive care to patients from all over India and abroad and is well known for best quality medical care and

companionate hospitalization facilities. He said that it is one of India's largest projects in multi-super specialty institutes providing medical services to patients with care, compassion and commitment as per the extraordinary vision of eminent cardiac surgeon, Dr. Naresh Trehan who is its Chairman & Managing Director.

The Chamber President while expressing pleasure over the signing of this significant healthcare memorandum said that the Chamber Members and their employees shall be accorded Priority in admission; Marketing & Public Relations Department's assistance in

Emergencies; Admissions, Appointments, Registration, Billing etc. and for this purpose a suitable officer will soon be earmarked by Medanta.

Other facilities provided under the MoU include pickup and drop from point to point; (In case minimum 7 employees/members coming for health checks); Specially designed Health Check up Packages; Credit facility of 45 days only on Special request; Cash/ Cashless Hospitalization on request; 15%Medanta Tariff Rates on IPD services; 15% Discount on Medanta Health Check-up Packages; 15%Medanta Prevailing Rates on OPD Investigations (Lab & Radiology); Personal assistance in admissions and treatment; Health Education talks in the Organization premises; OHC (Occupational Health Centre), workplace medical assistance models can also be developed as per the requirements; Medical Camps Under Community Outreach Programme and last but not the least Free Ambulance in Emergency Cases from Airport/within Gurgaon.

Don't pressurize children for getting high percentages in exams: Ch Manmohan

Lauds SS International School, Hirinki, Delhi for providing quality education



JJ NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DEC 16: Ch Manmohan Singh, former Mayor and President All India Jati Maha Sabha (AIJMS) Jammu has advised the parents of school going children not to pressurize their wards for scoring top percentages in exams.

He asserted that students need a free mind devoid of any tension to excel in studies as per their capabilities on their own.

He expressed this while addressing a gathering at the Annual Day function of SS International School,

Hirinki in New Delhi here today. It is pertinent to mention here that Ch Manmohan Singh was the Chief Guest on the occasion and Yogesh Partap Singh ADM Education was the Guest of Honour besides local Corporator Janta Devi and PV Mehta, Maruti Head North being the Special Invitees.

Chairman of the School Vinod Ji along with Rajni Sharma Principal and Inder Singh Director of the School welcomed the Chief Guest Ch Manmohan Singh by presenting shawl,

bouquet and memento.

Speaking on the occasion Ch Manmohan Singh lauded the School Administration for having achieved the distinction of being among the top schools of Delhi and providing world class quality education to the students. He said that the quality education imparted in the school is evidenced by the par excellence performance of its students.

He said it is not only academics but in sports too the performance of the students is second to none. He said that this school is

the first of its kind having its own cricket academy that imparts training to students in sports sector.

While asking the students to work hard for their brighter future, Ch Manmohan Singh appealed to the parents not to pressurize their children for peak performances beyond their capacity or for scoring high percentages. He said that such pressure mostly results in frustration of the students and ultimately the students are not able to fare well in exams due to extreme tension and despair.

The students presented a mesmerizing dance performance displaying the cultural identity of the nation leaving the audience spellbound.

Later, Ch Manmohan Singh honored the meritorious students of the school in presence of the august gathering.

Chairman of the School Vinod Ji while presenting the vote of thanks expressed gratitude to Ch Manmohan for sparing his precious time and participating in the event.

Deputation of Bhatindi and Sunjwan meets Rekha Mahajan



JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 16: Deputation comprising members from Bhatindi and lower Sunjwan hailing from Jammu District South including prominent citizens led by Vice President Choudhary Alam, Sadiq Ahmed Secretary and others were amongst the prominent political and social leaders who comprised the deputation, today met Rekha Mahajan, Deputy BJP District South at his residence to felicitate and extend full support to her on being appointed as District President Jammu South.

Bhatindi and lower Sunjwan residents said that the people of their areas fully support the policies and principles of Modi Sarkaar and they stand wholeheartedly with the political dispensation that has the largest cadre in the world.

Rekha Mahajan patiently listen to the grievances of the deputation being faced by them and assured them to look into the matter personally and shall discuss it with the concerned authority. She communicated that Bhartiya Janta Party always helps citizens in enhancing their livelihood.

Rekha further asserted that it is only due to the strong leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah that they have witnessed such a gift granted to all sections of society in J&K. The team of deputation offered their full support to Rekha in her future endeavor to address the genuine grievances of the general population. Rekha also said that under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, various welfare schemes

have been launched and

Zulfkar condoles demise of Dr Masud Choudhary

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, DEC 16: Apni Party Vice President, and Former Cabinet Minister, Choudhary Zulfkar Ali has condoled the passing away of prominent reformer, educationist, and Ex- Additional DG Jammu and Kashmir Police, Dr Masud Choudhary. In his message, Choudhary Zulfkar Ali has said that they have lost a great thinker and reformer who worked for entire life to uplift the living standard of the marginalized section of society with the promotion of education. With this belief, he said Masud sahib became the founding Vice Chancellor of the University of Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University, Chief Patron of J&K Gurjar Desh Charitable Trust and KB School along the Bypass Jammu road. He said that his contribution especially in the field of education cannot be forgotten. He said that Masud sahib was the first IPS officer from the Gujjar Community who motivated the young generation to follow his path which leads to prosperity and equality. The Former Minister also visited the residence of the Ex-ADGP Dr Masud Choudhary and met the bereaved family members while praying for the eternal peace of the departed soul and courage to the bereaved family members to bear this irreparable loss.

Shiv Sena asks Govt to remove China-made electric meters, boycott all Chinese goods

Teach China a lesson by military, economic strikes: Sahni

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 16: Enraged by China's continuous intrusion into the Indian border and skirmishes with Indian jawans, Shiv Sainiks have appealed to the government to ban Chinese-made goods in government projects.

Shiv Sainiks holding placards with "Boycott Chinese Goods", "India will not depend on China", "Ban Chinese goods in government projects", "Teach China a lesson with the military and economic attack" protested at the party's central office in Jammu. Addressing the media persons, State chief Manish Sahni said that after the ever-increasing insolvency of China, all relations with China should be cut off and goods manufactured in China should be completely boycotted.

Sahni has demanded the central government to ban imports from China with immediate effect and issue instructions to ban goods made in China in government projects and public works. Objecting to the installation of China-made smart electricity meters in households and business establishments, Party J&K chief Manish Sahni has demanded an explanation from the government on the electricity smart meters being installed in Jammu and Kashmir and demanded the replacement of



Chinese meters from the country and J&K particularly forthwith.

Sahni said that the use of Chinese equipment in important departments like POWERGRID is playing with the security of the country.

Due to this, there is a possibility of danger of hacking and malware (cyber attack), he added. After the skirmish with China in Doklam in 2020,

the Power Corporation in UP decided not to use Chinese equipment and to uproot Chinese meters.

Sahni said that China should be taught a lesson at the military and economic levels, not just by statements and threats. On this occasion Gen secretary Vikas Bakshi, President Kangtar wing Raj Singh, vice president Shasthpal, and the President RSPura Sanjeev Soodan were present.

Javed Ahmed Rana bereaved; Farooq, Omar conveyed condolences

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 16: National Conference President Dr Farooq Abdullah and Vice President Mr Omar Abdullah today expressed grief over the passing away of Dr. Masud Choudhary former ADGP and founder VC BGSBU and conveyed condolences to the bereaved family. In their messages, Dr Farooq Abdullah and Mr Omar Abdullah prayed for peace to the departed soul and expressed solidarity with

Javed Ahmed Rana and other members of the family. In the condolence message, General Secretary Haji Ali Mohammed Sagar, Dr. Mirza Abdul Rashid, Brij Mohan Sagar, Babu Rambahal, Sajjad Ahmed Kichloo, Jagjeevan Lal, Abdul Gani Malik, Mohd Aslam Khan, Master Noor Hussain, Bushan Lal Bhat, Ajaz Jan, Bima Luthra, Dr. Mumtaz Bukhari, Satwant Kour Dogra, Depinder Kour, Dr. Chaman Lal Bhat, Pardeep Bali, Vipran Pal Sharma, Chh Nasesem Liaquat Ali DDC

who prayed for peace to the departed soul, include Ajay Kumar Sadhotra, Sheikh Bashir Ahmed, Mirza Abdul Rashid, Brij Mohan Sagar, Babu Rambahal, Sajjad Ahmed Kichloo, Jagjeevan Lal, Abdul Gani Malik, Mohd Aslam Khan, Master Noor Hussain, Bushan Lal Bhat, Ajaz Jan, Bima Luthra, Dr. Mumtaz Bukhari, Satwant Kour Dogra, Depinder Kour, Dr. Chaman Lal Bhat, Pardeep Bali, Vipran Pal Sharma, Chh Nasesem Liaquat Ali DDC

Chairman Rajouri, Th. Rameshwar Singh DDC, Smt Anita Thakur DDC, Shamim Akhter DDC, Ch. Rahim Daad, Ikhtal Khan, Vijay Lochan, Abdul Gani Teli, Laxmi Dutta, Dr. Gagan Bhagat, Zeeshan Rana, Th. YashVardhan Singh, Shafayat Ahmed Khan, Ashok Kumar Sharma, Muzaffar Ahmed Khan, Bagh Hussain Rathore, Ch. Mumtaz Bazed, Ch. Wali Daad, Th. Shamsher Singh, Parvez Mirza, Zamir Qureshi and others.

Rana expresses grief over demise of Masud Choudhary

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 16: Senior BJP leader Mr Devender Singh Rana today expressed profound grief and shock over the passing away of former Additional Director General of Jammu and Kashmir Police and Vice Chancellor BGSB University Mr Masud Choudhary, describing it a great loss to the Union Territory.

Devender Rana visited the residence of the deceased to convey condolences and express solidarity with the bereaved family at this hour of grief. Masud Choudhary was a brave police officer and an able administrator who served Jammu and Kashmir in various capacities and left an indelible mark of devoted and dedicated contribution over decades", Mr Rana said, adding that he will be

remembered for his qualities of head and heart. His selfless service to the people in general and the Gujjar Bakerwal community in particular has been high characteristics of the multifaceted personality of Mr Choudhary, he added. Devender Rana prayed for peace to the departed soul and strength to the family for bearing this irreplaceable loss.

Srinagar Admin launches massive anti-encroachment operations across District

Over 170 kanals of prime land retrieved from illegal possession in different parts of the city: DC Srinagar

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, DECEMBER 18: Continuing anti encroachment operations in Srinagar District to evict Government Land from the illegal occupants, the District Administration Srinagar today launched a massive Tehsil wise anti-encroachment drives and retrieved about 170 kanals of land from different parts of the City.



Kachharai land under survey no. 2521 was also evicted from land mafia in Estate Nowgam area under the supervision of Tehsildar Chhanpora, Saqib Saleem.

The anti encroachment drives were conducted on the directions of the Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad.

A team of Revenue and Police Officers/Officials headed by Tehsildar Eidgh, Ishtaq Ahmad Khan conducted an anti-encroachment drive and retrieved about 50 kanals of Government land from the land grabbers.

A Revenue Team headed by Tehsildar South, Moean Azhar also in an anti-encroachment drive retrieved over 5 kanals of land under survey no. 1155 from the encroachers at Estate K P Bagh. In Chhanpora Tehsil around 35 kanals of

Similarly, in Shalteng Tehsil about 20 kanals of land was evicted.

While a major anti-encroachment was

launched at Lasjan highway under the supervision of Tehsildar Pantha Chowk, Rakib Ahmad in collaboration of NHAI and SDO Panthachowk during which 44 kanals of Kacharie/Shamlat land was retrieved and several roadside encroachments were also removed.

In addition, 15 kanals of State land

worth crores was also evicted from land mafia.

Similarly, 16 marlas of State land under survey no.1473 was also evicted in min estate Brarinambal area of Khanyar Tehsil under the supervision of Tehsildar Aailya Tabasum. Speaking about the anti-encroachment drive undertaken to preserve Government land, the DC Srinagar said anti-encroachment drives will continue in all the parts of the district to retrieve entire State and Kachharai land encroached by the land grabbers. He said involvement in land encroachment will be dealt with sternly as per the law.

The DC sought cooperation of the general public in its action against encroachments and also warned of action under CrPc in matters of encroachment on State/kachharie lands. The DC also lauded the efforts of the concerned Tehsildars and their teams and asked them to continue the anti-encroachment drives in their respective jurisdictions with added zeal and dedication so that all State/Kachharie land is retrieved.

DC takes stock of Developmental projects in Kulgam, listens issues of people

JI NEWS SERVICE
KULGAM, DECEMBER 18: The Deputy Commissioner Dr. Bilal-Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat took stock of developmental projects in Kulgam and also listened to the issues & demands projected by the people.

He also inspected the progress of ongoing work on the Aadigen Bridge, Kulgam. On the occasion, he directed concerned agency to expedite the work and complete the project in a time bound manner.

It was informed that estimated project cost the bridge is Rs.18 crore and will be opened for the public commutation very soon.

Later, DC also took stock of development of park, foothpath and roof top of Kapayani Temple at Pombay Kakran.

During his visit, Deputy Commissioner also met locals and listened to their issues and grievances, which he assured shall be addressed at the earliest.

Deputy Commissioner was accompanied by ACR, SDM, ACD, Tehsildar and other officers during the visit.

Family Adoption Program initiated in GMC Doda



JI NEWS SERVICE
DODA, DECEMBER 18: As per norms of National Medical Commission, Family Adoption Program was initiated for the first time in Government Medical College Doda from December 17. The flagship Programme has been undertaken by Department of Community Medicine.

Family adoption program aims to provide an experiential learning opportunity to Indian Medical graduates to wards community-based health care and thereby enhance equity in health.

The Objectives of the Program is to Orient the learner towards primary healthcare, create health related awareness within the community, to function as a first point of contact for any health issues within the community and allotted family, generate and analyze related data for improving health outcomes and Evidence based clinical practices and understanding long-term follow up of chronic morbidity and prevention and control of such diseases in allotted family.

MVD Samba holds training session for dealers, CSC Operators for implementation of amendments in Contract Carriage Permit

JI NEWS SERVICE
SAMBHA, DECEMBER 18: Motor Vehicle department Samba today organised an orientation program for dealers and CSC operators to educate them about various initiatives taken by the transport department to provide department related services to citizens in a faceless manner offering dispensing with minimum requirement of physical visit to any RTO/ARTO. Presenting demonstrations, the ARTO Samba Rehana Tabassam credited CSC Operators and dealers about the recent evolutionary amendments in ALL J&K Contract Carriage Route Permits as these are first responder to citizens while availing faceless services. She said that in order to provide convenient, faceless and hassle-free services, the transport department, under the guidance of Secretary Transport Department Ramaswamy Prassana, was making all out efforts to

make citizens aware of the such pro people steps as these are very beneficial to public and it will also lead to thinning of crowds at RTOs. Giving further details, she informed that several services besides contract carriage permits are already provided by department in faceless manner e.g. other focal services which can be availed by citizens by the comfort of their homes includes issuance and renewal of Learner's licence, Renewal of driving licence for which test of competence to drive is not required, Duplicate driving licence, Change of address in driving licence, Removal /Addition of bank endorsement from Certificate of Registration, Transfer of ownership of non commercial vehicles, Surrender of class of vehicle from licence, renewal of Route permit, change of address in DL or RC will also be accessible in a contactless manner.

Automated Milk Collection center inaugurated by UMEED at Keshwa Chitragam, Shopian

JI NEWS SERVICE
SHOPIAN, DECEMBER 18: An Automated Milk Collection center (AMCC) was inaugurated today by Jammu & Kashmir Rural Livelihoods Mission (UMEEED) at Keshwa Chitragam Shopian as Women Dairy Cooperative. The inauguration was done in presence of Branch Head JK Bank Chitragam Umar, Sajad Ahmed, JKMPCL, District Programme Managers from NRLM Irfan Basheer & Uzma Mehraj in a centralized ceremony carried by Cluster Level Federation NRLM Chitragam.

On the occasion, Branch Head, JK Bank Chitragam applauded the efforts made by JKRLM and JKMPCL for establishing such kind of rural livelihoods ventures which are women centric and youth focused.

Sajad Ahmed, intimated that more AMCCs will be established in collaboration with JKRLM in Shopian. During the inaugural Ceremony, Irfan Basheer DPM FI

NRLM Shopian shared that UMEED has long term association with JKMPCL since 2016 when the AMCC concept was introduced in limited blocks of Kashmir which included Kupwara and Pulwama but with the passage of time the intervention of Milk Collection through AMCCs expanded in maximum districts of the UT and same kind of interventions has been made in Keshwa Chitragam.

It is pertinent to mention that in Chitragam Cluster, more than 150 SHGs are being operated with 1300 women members registered.

By establishment of this center, Milk collection will be done at door step to increase the efficiency and accuracy of fat testing in milk as well as to test for other constituents of milk like SNF%, Water % etc and it will lead in gaining confidence of milk producers through transparent systems and thereby increasing the milk procurement.

Dir Info, DIPR employees condole sad demise of K.L Dhar

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DECEMBER 18: Director Information and Public Relations, Akshay Labroo has condole the sad demise of K.L Dhar, former Director Information who passed away today morning at Mumbai. In his condolence message, the Director said that K.L Dhar was an astute administrator who contributed widely in different spheres of his life as well as during his tenure as Director Information. The Director also expressed his deepest condolences with the bereaved family and prayed for peace to the departed soul. Meanwhile, the employees of DIPR also condole the sad demise of former Director Information. The officers and employees offered their deepest condolences with the bereaved family and prayed for eternal peace to the departed soul and courage for the bereaved family to bear this irreparable loss.

Director Agriculture Kashmir reviews Implementation of Centrally sponsored scheme in Bandipora

Says dept committed to the socioeconomic transformation of farming community



JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, DECEMBER 18: To review the physical and financial progress on the implementation of centrally sponsored schemes and CAPIX budget in district Bandipora, Director Agriculture, Kashmir Chowdhury Mohammad Iqbal today chaired a meeting of senior officers at Bandipora. While addressing the meeting Director highlighted the importance of affective and timely utilization of funds for the welfare and wellbeing of farming community.

He asked the officers to maintain highest levels of

accountability and transparency during all the levels of expenditures and submit the utilization certificate immediately on all the schemes. While talking about the different initiatives by the department, he impressed upon the officers to put in all the efforts for the successful implementation of farmers friendly schemes. He asked the officers to evolve new concepts and innovations by adopting new cropping systems in the potential areas so that the productivity could be enhanced. Chowdhury asked the officers to reach out to the farmers of the far flung areas and make them aware about the latest farmers centric technologies related to the development of Agriculture sector. Director Agriculture

marked the role of Panchayat Raj institutions and asked the officers to work in close coordination with the representatives of PRIs, block development councils and district development councils so that different Centrally sponsored schemes (CSS) and flagship programmes could reach the grass root level in a more effective manner and contribute to the transformation of rural economy. Earlier Director Agriculture was apprised of the expenditures and progress on the implementation of different centrally sponsored schemes at grass root level. Chief Agriculture officer, Bandipora, Mujtaba Yahya, District Agriculture officers, Sub divisional and Zonal officer were among others present in the meeting.

Winners of Zonal level Kala Utsav 2022, Talent Hunt-II, mentor Teachers felicitated



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UDHAMPUR DECEMBER 18: To encourage students towards co-curricular activities, a ZONAL Level Prize Distribution function was held here in the premises of GHS DEOT. The program was organised by the Education department under the Guidance of Chief Education Officer Udhampur Arvin Kumar Koul and Supervision of ZEO BABEY.

On the occasion Zonal Education officer Babey Pucher Ram was the Chief Guest, while Amar Paul, Vice-Principal GHS KHOOON & Sutinder Gupta, Sr. Lect. GHS THIAL were the Guest of Honour. Keynote address was presented by Hushiar Singh ZICC Babey & Proceedings of the program was conducted by Parveen Singh Teacher GMS UPPER SUNDLA. In his address ZEO BABEY motivated the teachers to encourage students towards cultural activities. He

also appreciated the tireless efforts of all the members of the Educational and Cultural cell of the Zone and congratulated winners of Kala Utsav & Talent Hunt-II at Zonal level. The Vice-Principal GHS Khoon Amar Paul, in his address, also encouraged the students to take part in cultural activities. A colourful cultural program was also presented by the students. The Winners of Kala Utsav & Talent Hunt-II who got certificate of appreciation were Kamal Singh class IX, Udhay Ganesh Singh, Prity Devi all students of GHS Babey; Ashu Devi Class IX, Menakshi Devi Class IX and other were also present. At the end of the program special lunch was also served to all the students and Teachers present in the program. Whole program was coordinated & hosted by Hushiar Singh ZICC BABEY & Parveen Singh Teacher GMS UPPER SUNDLA. Vote of Thanks also presented by ZICC BABEY.

DC Kishtwar holds Public Grievance Redressal Camp at Panchayat Sranwan

JI NEWS SERVICE
KISHTWAR, DECEMBER 18: In continuation to the public outreach program of the district administration, Deputy Commissioner, Kishtwar, Dr. Devansh Yadav on Saturday presided over a Grievance Redressal Camp at Panchayat Sranwan of block Thakraie.

The camp was organised and managed by the Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj in collaboration with GHS Sranwan.

Among others, the camp was attended by DSWO Zubair Ahmed; Tehsildar Kishtwar Umar Muneeb; BDO Inderwal/Thakraie Tasleem

Javaid Wani, Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Chandar Prakash; CAHO, Dr Sanjay Kumar; Ex-En PMGSY Kishtwar, Mohinder Singh; Ex-En PDD, Altaf Hussain, Headmaster and staff of GHS Sranwan besides other District and sectoral officers and field functionaries of line departments.

Scores of local people and from adjoining areas, led by representatives of Panchayat Raj Institutions, put forth their issues and demands regarding basic amenities and different services.

The PRIs highlighted the grievances related to the water shortage at Sranwan and



adjoining villages, sought maintenance of local road, replacement of wooden electrical poles, meeting shortage of staff in GHS Sranwan and HWC Sranwan, payment of pending

compensation for land acquired for Shiv Nagar road and installation of Solar lights etc.

They also demanded ration cards for separated households, link road from Sirgari to

Sheikhpora, Govt Primary School for Ward Number 7 Sheikhpora, up-gradation of GHS Sranwan to GHS, conduct of old age pension camps and awareness camps by

Agriculture and Animal Husbandry Departments and Construction of Panchayat Char.

Responding to the demands and grievances raised by people, the DC assured that all the issues shall be resolved in a time bound manner.

He also resolved many grievances on the spot with the intervention of the concerned officers of line departments.

Responding to demand for sanction of old age pension in favour of left out eligible persons, the DC urged them to go for online registration.

While addressing the demand regarding new ration

cards, he said that the government has notified the census 2011 as the basis for inclusion of households in the new ration card and until new guidelines are issued the same shall be followed.

Deputy Commissioner also informed that Jal Jeevan Mission, is envisioned to provide safe and adequate drinking water through individual household tap connections by 2024 to all households in rural India and that Water Supply Scheme for Sranwan has also been tendered out and soon the work shall be started to ensure water connectivity for village.

The DC appreciated the peo-