



JINDRAH IMAGES



DAILY | JAMMU | VOL NO: 10 | ISSUE NO: 179 | PAGES: 12 | PRICE: Rs 2/- | RNI NO: JKENG/2013/49471 | POSTAL REGD. NO. JK-497/22-24 | dailyjindrahimages.com/Epaper.php | jindrahimages123@gmail.com

Double standards won't do; Terrorist has to be called a Terrorist

JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, AUG 03

Jammu and Kashmir's Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Thursday said that double standards won't do and that a terrorist has to be called a terrorist come what may. He also said time is ripe for holding Panchayat elections in J&K.

Addressing a gathering at HMT on the city outskirts after inaugurating a series of projects, the LG, as per news agency, said that terrorism has ruined J&K in the past. "Some people admit that terrorism, violence and separatism destroyed Kashmir's economy and left the common man handicapped. They still hesitate to call a terrorist a terrorist. These are the people who created



an atmosphere of terror in J&K," LG Sinha said. "Double standards won't do. A terrorist has to be called a terrorist come what may." The LG inaugurated various projects during his visit to Integrated Command and Control Centre at HMT, Zainakote. He said that those hesi-

tating in calling an "atan-qwadi a terrorist" are the people who would never want peace prevail in J&K. He said the peace has started to become a permanent feature in J&K after a long gap. "For the first time, 1.27 crore tourists have visited J&K in the first seven

Terrorist associate detained under PSA in Kishtwar

JNEWS SERVICE
KISHTWAR, AUG 03

In a significant move aimed at safeguarding public safety and national security, Kishtwar Police as a preventive measure detained a hardcore terrorist associate under the provisions of the Public Safety Act (PSA).

The detained person as per a statement issued to the news agency has been identified as Abdul Karim Butt, son of Mohd Anwar Butt of Badhat Saroor Tehsil Drabshalla District Kishtwar, who happens to be brother of hardcore HM A++ category terrorist namely Jahangir Saroori.

SSP Kishtwar, Khalil Poswal while divulging the details said that the detained terrorist associate was previously involved in anti national activities and accordingly was booked under provisions of UAPA Act who is facing trial in NIA court and his current activities are prejudicial to the security of the country and his free movements in the society also create circumstances to radicalise youth.

Accordingly, police said the subject has been detained under PSA and lodged at District Jail

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Article 370 Hearing 18 lawyers representing different parties to make oral arguments within 60 hours

JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, AUG 03

As the hearing on a batch of petitions challenging the scrapping of Article 370 commenced on Wednesday in the Supreme Court, 18 lawyers representing different parties are likely to conclude their oral arguments within 60 hours.

The synopsis received by the nodal counsel Advocate-on-Record Prasanna S, as per the news agency, states that a total of 18 counsel will be presenting arguments on behalf of various petitioners.

According to details, senior advocates Kapil Sibal and Gopal Subramaniam are anticipated to take 10 hours each to conclude their arguments.

While Sibal represents NC's Muhammad Akbar Lone, Subramaniam will argue on behalf of Muzaffar Iqbal Khan, a petitioner in the case.

Senior Advocates Shekhar Naphade and Zafar Shah are expected to speak for 8 hours



each. Shekhar Naphade represents former Kashmir interlocutor Radha Kumar, Zafar Shah is himself petitioner in the case.

Senior advocate PC Sen, who will also appear on behalf of Radha Kumar and others, will speak for three hours.

Senior Advocates Dushyant Dave and Chander Uday Singh are expected to present their arguments within four hours each.

Dave represents Rifat Ara Butt while CU Singh is appearing on behalf of Inderji Tikoo, Satish Jacob and MY Tarigami.

Additionally, senior advocates Dinesh Divedi (Manohar Lal Sharma & Prem Shanker Jha

petitioners), Gopal Sankaranarayanan (Soyaib Qureshi petitioner) are expected to require approximately three hours each for their respective arguments.

Senior Advocates Rajeev Dhavan, who is representing Peoples Conference, will take about 2 hours each for oral arguments and Sanjay Parkeh will also take equal time to conclude their arguments.

Parkeh represents Peoples Union for Civil Liberties (PUCI).

While the expected argument time indication of these counsel amounts to approximately 57 hours. The remaining three hours, as per the written

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'Tobacco-free youth' campaign: 2400 challans, Rs 1.5 lakh fine in last two years'

JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, AUG 03

Under the 'tobacco-free youth' campaign, around 2400 challans were produced while the revenue of over Rs 1.5 lakh was generated in Kashmir in the last two months, officials said.

Union Health Ministry launched a 60-day pan-India campaign on 'tobacco-free youth' on World No Tobacco Day, May 31, to prevent initiation of tobacco use among youngsters and assist the users to quit.

Talking to the news agency, Dr Mir Mushtaq, Nodal Officer (Kashmir Division), National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP) said the under Section 4 of the COTPA, 2209 challans were produced against the violators and a revenue of Rs 1,47,046 was generated. He said 73 challans

Slew of measures being taken to decrease percentage of tobacco consumption: Nodal Officer

"Under IEC activities, different notices, social media campaigns and awareness rallies were conducted and 420-gram sabha meetings under tobacco-free village monitoring and 184 miking and Nukad Natak programmes were held," he said.

The government has taken a slew of measures to decrease the percentage of tobacco consumption as over 20,000 challans have been produced, the Nodal Officer said, adding that over Rs 15 lakh was collected from violators for smoking in public places in the Kashmir division in the last four years.

Awareness programmes are being conducted to inform people about the ill effects of tobacco and if we are able to make people conscious, there won't need for enforcement, he added. Dr Mir said various awareness

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Union MoS reviews functioning of Agri, Horti depts, ICAR-CITH Sgr

JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, AUG 03

Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (AFW), Sushri Shobha Karandlaje Thursday chaired a meeting and reviewed the functioning of Agriculture, Horticulture departments and ICAR-CITH here.

Addressing the meeting, the Union Minister stressed on submission of projects on value addition of different horticulture and agriculture crops so that the socio-economic development of the farming community could be achieved.

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Ambassador Designate of India to Slovak Republic calls on LG



JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, AUGUST 3

Ms Apoorva Srivastava, Ambassador Designate of India to Slovak Republic called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan, today.

The meeting discussed a range of issues that covered various sectors of J&K UT including trade & investment and promotion of foreign tourism.

Lt Governor pays obeisance at Damdama Sahib Gurdwara

JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, AUG 03

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Thursday paid obeisance at Damdama Sahib Gurdwara and dedicated the newly rebuilt complex to the devotees.

The sacred Gurdwara was in dilapidated condition and it was undertaken for reconstruction by Srinagar Smart City Limited in consultation with the management committee.

"Reconstruction of this spiritual heritage place is a testimony of our resolve to ensure 'Virasat Bhi



Vikas Bhi, Heritage as well as Development," the Lt Governor said.

The Gurdwara building has been reconstructed; roof and interiors have been redone with improved diverse facilities

to the visitors.

The Lt Governor was accompanied by Junaid Azim Mattu, Mayor SMC; Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary and senior officers of police and UT administration. KNO

Favoritism or Fraud: Lesser deserving candidates to get SAARC medical scholarship over deserving ones

JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, AUG 03

There seems to be no let up in providing MBBS scholarship seats of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) quota to ineligible candidates of Jammu and Kashmir fraudulently.

Sources informed the news agency that the recently released merit list of the students, "nearly a dozen meritorious students from Jammu and Kashmir were dropped from the list."

"Many consultants of Jammu and Kashmir are fraudulently helping the ineligible students by taking a hefty

amount from them. There are many deserving students who have been dropped from the selection list released by Director General of Medical Education (DGME) Bangladesh," he said.

Several meritorious aspirants this year and previously have alleged that scores of ineligible students from Kashmir were given MBBS admission fraudulently in Bangladesh under SAARC quota and the deserving ones never got justice.

One of the deserving candidates, Ubair Fayaz said, "I belong to an average middle class family. I toiled hard to get 7th position in medical stream in class 12th

with 493 marks out of 500 (98.6%)."

Ubair said that he was dropped from the selection list and the ineligible candidates having lesser qualifications and pass percentage were given admissions for MBBS under SAARC quota.

Every year 23 meritorious students are selected for MBBS in Bangladesh under SAARC quota. The Selected candidate must have more than 98 per cent marks in aggregate in class 12th.

"I have scored exactly 98.6 percent in aggregate with 99 percent in Physics, Chemistry with 99 percent, and Biology with 98 percent respectively. However some of the selected candidates

have less marks than me and they manage to get admissions," Ubair said. He said that as per DGME Bangladesh, the first preferential subject for MBBS is Biology and then other subjects respectively.

"When Selection list was released, surprisingly the candidates who scored below me in aggregate and particularly in biology as well were selected," he said.

Chairman of JK consultancies, Suhail Khan said, "He has received several complaints of the students regarding the nepotism by constants. I have taken up the matter with the concerned authorities." KNO

PDP, NC misleading Gujjar Bakerwal on reservation: Rana

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, AUGUST 3

Dispelling apprehensions of Gujjar and Bakerwal community about losing their share in reservations in the wake of a legislation brought in the Lok Sabha for conferring Scheduled Tribe status to Pahari communities of Jammu and Kashmir, Senior BJP leader Mr Devender Singh Rana today said that after the assurance of Home Minister Mr Amit Shah to the Gujjar Bakerwal community that not an iota of their share of reservation in jobs and educational institutions will be touched, there should not be a shred of doubt in any body's mind.

"While the Gujjar leadership is convinced about the intentions of the BJP government, some rejected political parties are sinisterly attempting to mislead the youth



of the community", Mr Devender Rana said in an interaction with a high level deputation of Gujjar and Bakerwal Communities from various areas, who called on him here this afternoon.

Addressing the deputation, Mr. Rana lauded the central leadership for having designed the reservation for the Paharis acceding their long standing demand in such a pragmatic manner that while the Paharis get their due

and the Gujjar and Bakerwals do not lose even a bit of their share of reservation whether it is in the employment or it is in

admissions to educational institutions. He said since no change in the reservation quota of the Gujjar & Bakerwal community is happening due to the reservation being given to Paharis, the community should not get misled by elements who are stoking controversy where none exists just to make their political ends meet.

Rana said BJP believes in equitably empowering all in J&K irrespective of caste, creed religion, language and region and creating an inclusive J&K in which all get their due share and none is deprived of his share.

He cautioned the PDP and National Conference against misleading the communities and bringing them face to face for their vested interest. These parties have already caused a huge dent to the inclusiveness of Jammu and Kashmir by indulging in divisive and dubious politics over the years, as a consequence of which their base is reduced just to 2 or 3 per cent vote share. Their base is bound to further erode and their political castles are going to be grounded like Garondas of sand due to negative politics they believe in. He said the public standing of these parties will get exposed whenever elections are held. He wished good sense to prevail upon the PDP and the NC so that the traditions of amity and brotherhood remain intact in this part of the country. The Senior BJP

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Mayor assures to resolve Pension & Electricity issues

JMC Mayor conducts Public Darbar at BJP headquarter



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 03: Rajinder Sharma, Mayor, Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC), in presence of J&K BJP General Secretary & former Minister Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal, held a Janata Darbar at BJP Headquarter, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

In the Darbar, the Mayor attended to a large number of grievances put forth by the visiting deputations and individuals.

Various deputations and individuals from different wards of Jammu city presented their issues. A deputation from Tamal, Bohri, apprised Mayor that earlier their homes were flooded with the water in every rainy season, but after earli-

er representation, there was no flood water due to the increased depth of nallah and now they requested for the concrete rebuilding of the same nallah to provide them with a permanent solution. A school management requested to reduce the user charges due to low student intake. An NGO of youth appreciated the working of JMC & discussed maneuvers for further steps. Upon representation regarding street lights, Mayor called Principal Secretary to improve the system for repair of lights as thousands of street lights out of nearly 1 lakh need regular repair. Mayor assured a deputation from Greater Kailash that their demand for nallah will be in JMC's plan in next few

months. A deputation of Kashmiri Colony near Kangra Fort apprised that there compound walls have fell as way for water has been blocked by a house upon which Mayor called the UEED to immediately construct first temporary drain and then subsequently concrete drain.

Dr. Devinder Manyal, while speaking on the occasion, said that the party has initiated a weekly sitting of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor at party office to provide the people an easy way to approach for their different issues. He informed that the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor will alternatively attend to the public grievances every Wednesday at party headquarter, Trikuta Nagar, where the common

masses can approach with their genuine issues.

Rajinder Sharma, while attending to the grievances, also took up the pension issue and said that the department will seek information subsequently issuing the PHH cards and then the pension matters will be sorted out. He also told that the camps will be conducted in every Ward to sort out the PDD bill issues and their payments and to aware the masses on the processes. He said that the check meters will also be installed to check if any jump in meters. He added that a system will also be erected to provide the persons with printed bills who do not possess smart phones. He further said that soon a heavy bill policy will be floated to ease out the burden on the poor people. He said that the JMC's approach is focused on the solution. He appealed the public to throw any mis-campaign and asked them to be cooperative with the JMC in making the city better. He also said that any person can directly approach him on the mobile or visit him at JMC office to clear out any doubt or misinformation.

Ashok Leyland flags off 'Dream Drive' from Jammu to Pantnagar to mark 75th Anniversary Celebrations



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 03: Ashok Leyland, the Indian flagship of the Hinduja Group and country's leading commercial vehicle manufacturer commenced the fourth route in 'Dream Drive' from Jammu as part of its momentous 75th-year anniversary celebrations. The drive, which kicked off yesterday, is an expedition with the Boss 1215 vehicle to various cities and dealerships, culminating at the

company's manufacturing plant at Pantnagar. It will cover the cities of Bilsapur, Nalagarh, Ludhiana, Patiala, Karnal, Hisar, Panipat, Delhi, Ghaziabad, Agra, Kanpur, Varanasi, and Lucknow in this journey. The Dream Drive will have a total of 10 vehicles which will be traversing the length and breadth of the country on five different routes. Starting from Bengaluru, Mumbai, Jammu, Kolkata, and Dibrugarh, the drive will

travel through key locations around the country and culminate at the manufacturing plants of Ashok Leyland. The drive aims to celebrate the company's enduring relationship with the nation in many dimensions.

Along the way, Ashok Leyland will engage with its extensive network of dealerships, a direct connection with its valued customers and gather insights from the years of experience of the Commercial Vehicle

ecosystem.

Dheeraj Hinduja, Executive Chairman, Ashok Leyland said, "As we embark on the 'Dream Drive' to mark the momentous 75th Year Anniversary Celebrations of Ashok Leyland, we reflect upon the journey that has run parallel to the development of our Nation.

The 'Dream Drive' represents our renewed pledge to further shape the future of the CV Industry to support India's economic development for years to come."

Mr. Shenu Agarwal, MD and CEO, Ashok Leyland said, "As we commemorate our 75th anniversary, we are grateful to all of our customers, employees, and partners who have been an integral part of our journey. The 'Dream Drive' is a unique opportunity for us to connect with them personally, and express our gratitude for their unwavering support, and association for seven and a half decades of nation-building."

NIOL, to Support JU in Distance and Digital Learning Initiatives

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 03: Chairperson, National Institute of Open Learning (NIOL), Prof Saroj Sharma called on the Vice-Chancellor, University of Jammu, Prof Umesh Rai. Speaking on occasion, Prof Umesh Rai dwelt in detail about various innovative initiatives the University of Jammu has taken that include a four-year undergraduate degree program: Design your Degree and College on Wheels (Gyan Udhay Express).

Prof Rai further exhorted that the Design Your Degree program is unique as it embraces the spirit of NEP 2020.

The motto of this program is: Teach to Transform: Educate to Empower and Learn to Lead.

He further illustrated that in the recently held two-Days Akhil Bhartiya



Shiksha Samagam at IICC Pragati Maidan Delhi, UGC Chairman, Prof Mamidala Jagadesh Kumar and UGC Secretary, Prof Manish R Joshi visited the exhibition stall and appreciated the innovative initiative, - Design Your Degree Program, recently launched by the University of Jammu. UGC further amplified the University of Jammu's initiative by tweeting from its official Twitter handle encouraging learners to

visit the University of Jammu's stall at an education fair in New Delhi. Prof Rai further stated that University is soon starting the College on Wheels (Gyan Udhay Express) which shall be started in the month of November 2023.

In this program, University expects that approximately 1000 students and 100 mentors shall be participating. Prof. Saroj Sharma exhorted that in recent years, distance edu-

cation has witnessed a tremendous surge in popularity, primarily due to its ability to cater to a diverse range of learners, including working professionals, and to those who seek flexible learning options.

The Covid-19 pandemic further highlighted the importance of digital learning methodologies, and underscored the need for universities to adapt swiftly to the evolving educational landscape.

Uday, Rajni Bala protests against Govt's move on Smart Meters, Property Tax

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 03: Uday Bhanu chib along with Smt Rajni Bala corporator ward no 60 organized a protest today against the recent decision of the government to switch from Smart Electricity Meters to Prepaid Meters and imposition of property tax in Jammu.

In this regard, senior Congress leaders Hari Singh Chib, President DDC Rural, Yogesh Sawhney, President DCC Urban and former Minister, Uday Chib, President J&KPCY, Rajni Bala, Councillor Ward 60 and senior Congress leader along with workers and supporters assembled in Jammu North Assembly segment and staged vigorous Massive protest against the government.

Talking to reporters, Yogesh Sawhney, President of DDC Jammu Urban and former minister, expressed his disappointment with the BJP's failure to meet the aspirations of the J&K people. He highlighted the current state of dissatisfaction and distress among the citizens, stating that there is a hue and cry everywhere.

Hari Singh Chib highlighted the failure of the present government in fulfilling the aspirations of the J&K

people. He voiced his concerns about the government's actions, stating that they are working against the wishes and aspirations of the general public.

Hari Singh Chib criticized the Mayor of Jammu for misleading the people with false information regarding the government's purchase of power at Rs 9 per unit. Chib revealed that the actual price at which the government is purchasing power is Rs 3.75 per unit.

He emphasized the need for integrity in high-ranking officials, such as the Mayor, and urged him to refrain from making misleading statements. Rajni Bala, Councillor of Ward No 60 and senior Congress leader, criticized the government's decision to impose property tax on the people of Jammu. She pointed out that the government did not even bother to consult elected representatives before imposing this tax in the state. Bala emphasized the importance of inclusive decision-making and urged the government to consider the views of those who represent the people.

Uday Chib, President of J&K Pradesh Youth Congress, shed light on the challenges faced by the youth as a result of hollow policies implemented by the BJP government at the

Centre. He shared that nearly eight lakhs youth are unemployed in J&K alone, which is a matter of serious concern. Chib expressed his disappointment with the lack of comprehensive policies for the youth and urged the Congress party to strengthen the Congress party to rid themselves of the hollow policies of BJP misrule.

The protesting Congress leaders asked the government to reconsider its decisions and prioritize the welfare of the J&K people. They urged the general public to support and strengthen the Congress party by bringing about meaningful change and alleviate the challenges faced by the community.

Among those who joined the protest include Sh. Som Nath Sharma President BCC Pata Paloura, Om Parkash, Anuruddh Sawhney, Sh. Shahaj Khan, Sh. Dev Rajsh HS Baghi, Sh. Surinder Sh. Rishikumar, Sh. Pummy Manhas, Dr. Chandar Mohan sharma, Dr. Raj Pal Hansh Tara, Smt. Sh. Vinodendra Mehta, sh. shinda, smt. Parveen Akhtar, Smt Raj Bibi, Sh. Harjeet singh, cpt khushi Ram, Sh. Jung Bahadur singh, sh. kamal singh, mr. chopra, sh. Billa, Smt. veena devi, poli devi, Smt. Darshna devi, smt. Mamta Gupta, sh. Madan singh chib, sh. sonu, sh. Rahul Padha and others

Damaged X-ray machine, lack of staff hits patient care at Hajin hospital in District Ganderbal



JJ NEWS SERVICE

BANDIPORA, AUG 03: Patients at Hajin CHC Hospital in north Kashmir's Bandipora district have been facing trouble for nearly two months. The reason: Rats damaged the cable of the X-ray machine rendering it useless.

The hospital authorities have "failed" to repair or replace the machine despite repeated requests from the staff and the locals. The X-ray machine is a major source of revenue for the hospital, as per sources, earning over 1.5 lakhs per month. Now, it lies idle in a corner, collecting dust for almost twenty days, an insider said.

The locals said patients who need X-

ray tests have no choice but to travel to other hospitals or pay hefty fees at private clinics. This is especially hard for those who are poor and live in remote areas. They have to spend extra time, money, and energy to get the basic health care service.

The locals are angry and frustrated with the situation. They say that the hospital administration is negligent. "We are not against private lab owners for earning the revenue from patients, but it hurts when those who could hardly afford to live are being forced to run from pillar to post to avail the facility," a local said.

The hospital insiders said that they receive two to three impoverished patients who need X-ray tests every

day, but they have to turn them away with a "sorry face". "Unfortunately, the machine is lying unattended despite earning the hospital a monthly revenue of over 1.5 lakhs," A hospital official told.

The hospital is not only facing the issue of a broken X-ray machine. It also lacks night staff, technicians, a physician, an ophthalmologist, a gynecologist, and doctors for night shifts.

The locals say that they are forced to either visit Sumbal or other hospitals to seek treatment for their ailments. "Some doctors achieved supernumeration while a physician was transferred but no replacement has been made available," an insider said.

The community health center (CHC) Hajin, locals say, serves dozens of villages of Hajin and surrounding areas. Chief Medical Officer Bandipora, Dr. Rafi Ahmad Salati, acknowledged that the X-ray machine at CHC Hajin was dysfunctional.

He said the company has been approached and they are waiting for the machine's part to arrive from outside UT.

He said the part that needs to be replaced has been ordered. "The machine will be functional soon," he said. However, even after elapsing more than fifteen days since CMO assured its restoration, the machine remains dysfunctional, and locals are aghast.

Apni Party holds protest against installation of prepaid meters, excess electricity bills



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 03: pni Party today staged a protest demonstration at Shaheed Chok in Jammu against the installation of pre-paid meters, and excess electricity bills in Jammu and Kashmir. The protest was organized by Apni Trade Union J&K President Ajaz Kazmi with other party leaders, and workers. While shouting slogans against the installation of the smart meters in Jammu and Kashmir, the Apni Party leaders demanded its roll back and end to the harassment of the electricity consumers in Jammu and Kashmir. Addressing the protesters, Ajaz Kazmi said that it appears to be a scam in which the already working electricity poles mounted with meters worth Rs 5 lakhs in 1700 crore poles in Jammu City's 1, 2 and 3rd division under RAPDRP scheme in the last three years. Kazmi expressed surprise over why Rs 1000 crores are being spent to install 3 lakh smart meters despite knowing that earlier meters mounted on poles are working fine and all these have automatic reading features which do not require a meter reader. "The con-

tract of installing meters is being sub-let to other experienced contractors, and surprisingly, these smart meters are not being tested at the time of installation. It shows that transparency has not been adopted by the concerned agency," he said while questioning the PDD.

There is growing concern over the excess electricity bills being charged to the consumers. The PDD has adopted no transparency about units being consumed on hourly basis, he alleged.

He further stated that "Along with smart meters, the meters are being converted into prepaid mode without taking consumers into confidence. The consumers who are not defaulters

should pay in pre-paid mode. Hence, the PDD has not adopted any reason for the installation or charging of bills from the consumers. "The elderly are not using smart phones, so how will they recharge these meters," he said, highlighting the plight of the elderly people.

On the other-side, he said "The dismantled meters are lying rotting on roads and have not been utilized and its wastage of Govt exchequers."

Prominent among those who were present in the protest include Provincial Vice President, Sheikh Mohammad Shafi, State President SC Wing, Bodh Raj Bhagat, State President, OBC, Bhagat Ram, Spokesperson, Yasser Khan, Provincial President Jammu Youth Wing, Vipul Bali, Provincial President Women Wing Jammu, Pavneet Kour, Provincial President Transport Union, Tirath Singh, District Sanitair Vice President, Jammu Urban, Vaibhav Matoo, District General Secretary, Mohammed Asif, Provincial Secretary Youth Wing, Yaspal Choudhary, Rakesh Mahajan, Kurwarjeet alias Shivani Koul, Sheekha Bhardwaj, Dalbir Singh, Rahul Pal, Asaig Wazir, Rajja Amjad, Manzoor Khan, Rampal, Zabeer and others.

UIET, Kathua Campus (JU) organizes an Expert Talk under Expert Lecture Series



JJ NEWS SERVICE

KATHUA, AUG 03: Under the Expert Lecture Series, UIET, Kathua Campus (JU) organized an Expert Talk (6th in the series) on the topic "Bulk Heterojunction: A New Class of Solar Cells". The resource person was Dr. Dinesh Pathak from The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago. Dr. Pathak has also been awarded with Rising star award and International Union of crystallography award by Asian and Chinese crystallography society in Beijing City, China.

Dr. Pathak discussed that bulk heterojunction solar cells present a promising

avenue for advancing solar energy technology. He said that their unique structure, broad light absorption range, and potential for cost-effective production make them an exciting prospect for the future of renewable energy. He added that the solar cells are based on a unique concept of blending two different semiconductor materials including polymer and fullerene derivative.

He further highlighted that this blend forms a continuous network of electron-donor and electron-acceptor regions that provides an efficient pathway for charge separation and transport. Dr. Pathak also stressed that bulk heterojunction solar cells offer

several other notable benefits that makes them suitable for various applications including integration into flexible electronic devices and building-integrated photovoltaics.

Dr. Meenakshi Kilam, Rector, Kathua Campus (JU) in her message eulogized the resource person for sparing his time and interacting with the students of Kathua Campus. She urged everyone to support and contribute to the progress of bulk heterojunction solar cells and other renewable energy solutions. She said that by working together, it is possible to usher a brighter, cleaner, and more sustainable future for generations to come. She further highlighted that the

efficiency of bulk heterojunction solar cells has continued to rise and will show tremendous performance for the sustainable development.

Dr. Sourabh Shastri, I/c Coordinator, UIET, Kathua Campus (JU) welcomed and introduced the resource person. He said that solar energy has emerged as a crucial solution to address the growing global energy demand while mitigating the impacts of climate change, where bulk heterojunction solar cells offers a revolutionary approach in harnessing sunlight.

Dr. Shivani Sharma coordinated the whole programme and Er. Aroshii Gupta delivered vote of thanks.

Dr. Narinder Kumar, Er. Sushant Gagal, Er. Sandeep Raj, Dr. Seema Janwal, Er. Amarjeet Chopra, Er. Palvi Verma, Er. Komal Khadotra, Ms. Riitu Sharma, Dr. Nisha Choudhary, Er. Vishavjeet Singh, Er. Sourav Gupta, Mr. Gaurav Sharma, Dr. Zahin Ansari, Mr. Pranav Ratta, Ms. Ritika Goel, Ms. Tiharika Nath, Ms. Kamakshi and other teaching and non-teaching staff of the Campus participated in the talk.

From Rajghar to Kashmir: Aasha's solo cycling odyssey promotes women's safety

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, AUG 03: Aasha Malviya, a 24-year-old trailblazer hailing from the Rajghar district of Madhya Pradesh, has embarked on an unparalleled cycling expedition spanning 25,000 kilometers. Her remarkable journey serves as a resounding testament to women's empowerment and safety in the country. Over the past 10 months, Aasha has pedaled solo, symbolizing courage and determination.

An accomplished National level Mountaineer, Aasha embarked on her journey on the auspicious foundation day of Madhya Pradesh.

Recently, she achieved a milestone by reaching the picturesque landscapes of Kashmir, where she received accolades and commendation from the esteemed Northern Command of the Army stationed at Udhampur. Lieutenant General Upendra Dwivedi, along with all ranks of Dhruva Command, lauded Aasha's unwavering dedication and commitment to her cause.

Initiating her expedition on November 1st, 2022, from Bhopal, Aasha has her sights set on concluding her inspiring journey in New Delhi on the upcoming Independence Day. During her route towards Srinagar, she paid homage to the valiant heroes at the Dhruva War Memorial while engaging with The Army Commander at Udhampur.

"I have traversed around 27 states of



India so far. The primary objective of my journey is to cover 25,000 kilometers and champion women's safety and empowerment.

Throughout this extraordinary expedition, I have been fortunate to meet numerous distinguished officers from various states, including the army, who have offered unwavering support," Aasha conveyed. Notably, Aasha's remarkable feat has been accomplished without any sponsorship. Armed with a simple yet resilient bicycle, she has meticulously documented her progress from Bhopal, adeptly handling any technical glitches that come her way.

"The expedition stands as a testament to my unyielding spirit," she

emphasized. Having faced the early loss of her father, Aasha was raised single-handedly by her mother. Reflecting on her journey, she shared,

"Amidst the challenging terrains and scorching temperatures, the warm reception I received in Kashmir acted as a driving force to stay motivated and dedicated to my empowerment mission. As I venture into Jammu and Kashmir, often referred to as the crown jewel of India, I remain committed to inspiring others as I pedal forward toward my goal." Aasha believes that her resilience serves as a beacon of hope, inspiring women to embrace their inherent strength and challenge societal norms.

Wanchoo seeks appointment of Pediatrician, regular Ortho OPD services in SDH Jagti

BJP leader submits memo to Secy health & medical education, flags concerns over poor healthcare facilities at SDH Jagti, Nagrota TRI

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 03: The Vice-President of BJP Kashmir Displaced District Chetan Wanchoo called on the administrative secretary of health and medical education department, Bhupinder Kumar and submitted a memorandum to him, requesting for the revitalization of Sub-District Hospital (SDH) Jagti and the government dispensary in Nagrota TRI.

The BJP leader demanded that the government should immediately take steps address the problem of manpower shortage and non-availability of medicines in the hospital, besides upgrading the SDH Jagti to an accident hospital due to its strategic location near the national highway. During the meeting, Wanchoo said the post of Pediatrician has been lying vacant in the hospital, which caters thousands of families living in over 4,200 flats in Jagti township and other nearby hamlets.

"The absence of a child specialist within the medical team at the hospitals reflects a serious gap in healthcare provision. Ensuring access to specialized care for children is fundamental to the overall



well-being of the population," Mr Wanchoo said while demanding immediate posting of a child specialist in the hospital.

He also highlighted the issue of irregular Orthopedic Outpatient Department (OPD) services in the hospital and said the residents living in Jagti tenements, particularly aged and elderly people, have been facing unmet needs due to non-availability of Ortho OPD services for all the days of a week. "We demand that the health and medical department should immediately formulate a consistent and reliable schedule for specialized Ortho OPD services

to ensure Ortho OPD services on a daily basis," the BJP leader said.

He further raised the issue of staff shortage during night hours, saying "the scarcity of staff during night hours at SDH Jagti is a glaring issue that needs immediate attention. Timely medical care should not be limited by time constraints, and addressing this shortage would significantly enhance the facility's efficiency," Mr Wanchoo also demanded for permanent ambulance service at SDH Jagti and added that the gap for quick and reliable transportation of patients for emergency medical care should be

addressed urgently. Raising concern over poor healthcare facilities at the government dispensary in Nagrota TRI, the BJP leader said the ambulance services remained non-functional at this health facility.

"The non-operational ambulance service at the Government Dispensary in Nagrota TRI is a matter of grave concern and it severely hampers the timely transportation of patients in need, putting lives at risk," he said, adding the chronic shortage of essential medicines at the dispensary has also created a worrisome scenario for the local population.

"This shortage compromises the quality of healthcare services and undermines the well-being of the community," he said and further demanded that the dispensary should be made functional round-the-clock. The Secretary gave patient hearing to the BJP leader and put on-spot directions to the Director Health Services Jammu for immediate addressing the problem of medicine shortage in these medical facilities, effective ambulance services for patients and measures to meet staff shortage.

LG's Admin pushing BJP agenda at the cost of Public Exchequer: Rattan Lal

Keep property tax in abeyance until there's popular Govt



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 03: Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (JKNC) has expressed deep concerns regarding the alleged involvement of the I-C led administration in pushing the agenda of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) at the cost of the public exchequer in Jammu and Kashmir.

This was stated by Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President of JKNC Samba district, highlighted the hardships faced by the people of district Samba, including the lack of basic amenities such as regular water and electricity supply.

Addressing the party workers, Rattan Lal Gupta expressed dissatisfaction over the administration's apparent disregard for elected representatives while making decisions on public issues, citing the

concerns, which they believe are serving the interests of the BJP rather than prioritizing the welfare of the public. He raised questions about the usage of public funds and the potential implications it may have on the overall development and well-being of the region.

At the outset of the meeting, Sudagar Gupta, District President of JKNC Samba district, highlighted the hardships faced by the people of district Samba, including the lack of basic amenities such as regular water and electricity supply.

Addressing the party workers, Rattan Lal Gupta expressed dissatisfaction over the administration's apparent disregard for elected representatives while making decisions on public issues, citing the

imposition of property tax in J&K as an example where elected representatives of Municipal Corporations, Municipal Councils and Municipalities were sidelined. He stressed that the implementation of the illegally imposed property tax should be kept in abeyance until a democratically elected government is in place in Jammu and Kashmir.

The senior NC leader also raised serious concerns about the effectiveness of the Back to Villages program, stating that it has failed to address the issues raised during its implementation. He termed it as futile attempt in wasting the hard earned money of public while carrying out such wasteful exercises which serves no purposes.

Sheikh Bashir Ahmed, the Provincial Secretary of JKNC Jammu, urged party

workers to gear up for the upcoming ULB polls and ensure the victory of the National Conference.

Mrs Satwant Kour Dogra Provincial President Women Wing Jammu Province asserted that the National Conference stands firm in its commitment to safeguard the interests of the people of Jammu and Kashmir and pledged to work tirelessly to address the grievances faced by the general public.

Among those who were present include: Master Noor Hussain Ex-MLC, Fardeep Bali Provincial Secretary, Vijay Lochan P.P SC Cell, Surjit Singh Manhas Joint Secretary Jammu Province, Mohinder Singh Sr. Vice President Central Zone, Chander Udhay Singh, Ashok Kumar Attri, Nar Singh P.P Labour Wing, Joginder Kumar Block President Vijaypur, Sat Paul Block President Ramgarh, Swaran Singh Block President Bari Brahmana, Bua Ditta Block President Samba, Bharat Bhusan, Rajeshwer Singh, Rahul Sharma, Prabh Dayal, Rahul Attri, Ajay Sharma, Mohinder Kumar, Kewal Kumar, Krishan Dutt, Darshan, Bahadur Singh, Yashpal, Ravinder Singh, Ram Lal Verma and others.

Farooq's autonomy, talk with Pak demands absurd, out of context: Kavinder Gupta

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 03: Senior BJP leader and former deputy chief minister Kavinder Gupta on Thursday poo-pooed the demands raised by NC leader Dr Farooq Abdullah seeking autonomy and talks with Pakistan claiming that both these issues have become redundant and have no meaning under the present context as far as J&K is concerned.

In a statement issued to media, the BJP stalwart leader said that Farooq is still living in fool's paradise as the situation on ground is fully changing with the steps taken by PM Narendra Modi in the last three-four years as Pakistan has no relevance in context with the present scenario in J&K because today there is one point agenda of the Modi Government and that is



carrying out seamless development and providing avenues to the people to prosper and become well off as centre has shown them the path to live a life full of dignity and pride, and shun

the violence and other anti-national tendencies which acted for decades as the barriers of their progress.

He asked the NC leadership and for that matter other Kashmir-based parties to stop day-dreaming as PM Modi will never let their anti-India stances become a reality.

He said that Farooq should have understood by now that India is in no mood to listen to his sermons of resuming talks with rogue Pakistan because this demand of NC leader doesn't fall even in the last row of the things which India will be doing in the next few years. He asked Farooq Abdullah to come to terms and forget about the past because it is not advisable to live in the past when the future carved out by PM Modi is full of opportunities and a promising life for one and all in J&K.

Over 40% posts lying vacant in medical block Zainapora, lacks MRI, CT scan



JJ NEWS SERVICE

SHOPIAN, AUG, 03: Around 40 per cent of sanctioned posts in health block Zainapora in South Kashmir's Shopian district are lying vacant, thereby affecting the patient care in the block.

An official reveals that out of 95 sanctioned posts in health block Zainapora, only 56 posts are filled while 39 are lying vacant for years.

He said five gazetted posts are lying vacant in the block including one consultant and four medical officers, which include two deputation reserved posts of medical officers.

The official added that 28 non-gazetted posts are lying vacant in the block including one head pharmacist, one senior pharmacist, four lab technicians, one junior dental technician, one x-ray technician, one theatre technician, six staff nurses, two community

health officers, two H.E, one physio-therapist, four assistants, two BHW, one driver and one electrician.

Six class-IV posts are lying vacant in the block including three nursing orderly and one post of Dhoobi, Aya and chowkidar is also lying vacant, he said. Officials told that no doctor or paramedical staff is attached to other hospitals in this medical block.

They said that there are no MRI, CT scan facilities anywhere in the block while X-Ray and USG facilities are available in CHC Zainapora only and no such facilities are available at PHC level in the block, besides a gynaecologist is available at CHC level only.

Officials said that they have been trying to manage things well in the block despite having 40 percent posts vacant in the block.

They said that the vacancy issue has been brought into the notice of higher ups several times and they are hopeful that these posts will be filled soon so as to enhance health care facilities in the block.

Amid huge rush at Bungus, scattered waste poses serious threat to environment

J1 NEWS SERVICE
KUPWARA, AUG 03

With the increasing footfall of tourists, the delinquency of some visitors is putting the famous Bungus valley at a greater threat due to littering in the open without showing concern toward natural beauty and meadows it offers.

Bungus valley, nestled in the shamsbari mountain ranges in north Kashmir's kupwara district is a tourist destination that started to receive visitors for the last two years. This place before 2021, March was a no go zone for civilians. Visitors in numbers are visiting this beautiful place offering a lot to them.

Talking to news agency

those living in the makeshift houses there during summer seasons for years now said that since the increasing footfall of visitors to the Bungus valley a potential threat to the environment has grown, causing a worry.

They said that it can be estimated by the fact that each thing that causes harm to natural habitat is seen there in the open thus becoming a threat to Paradise-like places. "It used to be very clean, people friendly with mesmerizing beauty and it still has a lot of potential but acts like open littering will leave a dent and cause long-term harm," they said.

They said that they have multiple times informed

the authorities and asked for dustbins but each time no one reverted positively for a change.

"With time the natural beauty will come to an end. Already the flowers which grew annually here naturally haven't shown up yet. Acts like open littering are causing a great threat to a natural place like Bungus valley," they said.

Abdul Rashid an elderly man, said that he has been coming to Bungus for the last two decades now. "I've seen Bungus and found it more beautiful than any other tourist destination across the Kashmir valley. The surface here is so soft and amazes every visitor," he said.

He said that tourists are throwing waste in the open without showing any concern regarding the implications it will leave in the longer run. "People have food and thrown bones and other waste there. Bottles and other plastic waste along with plastic bags are thrown in the open within the natural meadows, thus causing harm to the natural beauty of the place."

He blamed both forest and tourism departments for not keeping an eye on the practice causing harm to the natural habitat.

Those who have setup their small stalls said that they have hired a man to keep the area safe from plastic and other potential

threats. "We collect all the bottles, plastic and other things that cause harm and put them aside packed. We ensure that nothing harmful is thrown in the open," they said.

Nazir Ahmad Hajam, 40, a Zachaldara Handwara resident said that although the people are coming here but they are leaving back all the waste thus causing harm to this beautiful place.

"Visitors in hundreds visit here on a daily basis, but they don't bother to keep this place clean. They throw plastic and other waste in the open which is a potential threat. No arrangements by the concerned authorities have been made for collection

or dumping of waste," he said.

Recalling his visits since 2005 to Bungus valley, he said that the upper ground surface was so pleasing that it would feel like walking on a dunlop mattress. "With regular human interference this place is losing its significance and natural potential."

People, mainly the locals, have urged the authorities concerned to make required arrangements as early as possible. They have also urged the Lieutenant governor of Jammu and Kashmir Manoj Sinha for personal intervention into the matter to give directions to concerned department for their early action. KNO

CS visits 3-day solar energy awareness camp at Sgr Civil Sectt



J1 NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, AUG 03

Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta Thursday inspected the stalls installed to create awareness about the benefits of adopting solar energy among the employees in the lawns of Civil Secretariat, Srinagar.

The camp is being held from August 02-04 by J&K Energy Development Agency (JAKEDA), Department of Science & Technology in collaboration with multiple vendors of renewable energy industry and other line departments of Jammu and Kashmir.

Dr Mehta appreciated JAKEDA for organizing this awareness camp about the Gol sponsored Solar connected Solar

Rooftop Power Plants. He encouraged the employees to come forward and take lead in adopting this clean and reliable energy source that would not only reduce their power bills substantially but simultaneously save our environment by reducing carbon emissions also.

He asked JAKEDA to organize more such awareness camps across other parts of the UT so that people would know about the rooftop solar plant, KUSUM scheme and its financing pattern so that the benefits reach all the eligible persons.

The Chief Secretary said that renewable sources of energy holds great promise for the future as the government and environmentalists are reducing dependence on

fossil fuels by promoting alternative renewable energy sources. He also noted that besides reducing carbon emissions, the generation of solar energy through rooftop solar programme would also offset power requirements of domestic consumers in J&K thereby aiding our Power Discoms to provide quality power to the rest of the consumers.

He observed that ultimately the future belongs to renewable energy. He further said that the energy, besides clean and less hazardous, is cost-effective for the people. He encouraged them to readily adopt this futuristic technology for both their domestic and agricultural purposes in order to save their

resources and environment as well.

The Commissioner Secretary, Science and Technology, Saurabh Bhagat on the occasion remarked that the department is making concerted efforts to popularize the use of solar energy both in public and private sector. He made out that Under Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Govt's Schemes, domestic electricity consumers across the UT can install Rooftop Solar PV Plants for electricity purposes and can also avail the benefit of securing around 50-65% subsidy on installation of such plants.

It was given out that the solar rooftops are available from 1 KW to 10 KW capacity with five years

free maintenance. Moreover with the tie-up of JAKEDA with the Banks, the employees can avail the benefits on the EMI starting from just over Rs 900/month.

A noticeable feature of the scheme is that it occupies only 80-100 sq ft roof area per KW, generating 120-140 units of energy per month on an average.

It was also revealed that it can offset about 1.43 tons of carbon emission annually per KW which is equivalent to planting 66 trees. It also supplements energy generation which in turn reduces power curtailment hours and the plants can be customized as per the requirements of the consumers to offset his monthly electricity bills. KNO

Burglary case solved in Baramulla, 2 arrested: Police

J1 NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, AUG 03

Jammu and Kashmir Police in Baramulla have solved a burglary case by arresting two accused persons involved in the commission of crime besides, recovered stolen property from their possession.

"On 31-07-2023 Police Station Kunzer received a written complaint from Abdul Razak son of Late Gh Mohammad resident of Gonipora Kunzer stating therein that during intervening night of 30-07-2023, some unknown burglars barged into his residential house and stole jewellery. Accordingly, a case under relevant sections of law was registered at Police Station Kunzer and investigation was initiated," a police spokesman said in a statement issued to the news agency.

During the course of investigation, police said that officers with the help of technical and human resources, zeroed in on two persons identified as Bilal Ahmad Lone son of Gh Mohd Lone and Ashan Jeevani Wani son of Ghulam Jeevani Wani, both residents of Gonipora Kunzer.

78-yr-old Ghulam Nabi Hakak keeps alive traditional wood carving art

J1 NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, AUG 03

Age is just a number for the 78-year-old Ghulam Nabi Hakak, who always remains busy with carving the floral pattern over the oval piece of wood with his chiselling tools. Hakak might be one of the oldest artisans still working with his chisel.

Talking to the news agency, Hakak said he learned the art from a wood carver where he was taken by his father's friend some 60 years ago.

"I received injuries many times as it was difficult for me to handle the tools while carving the patterns and designs on wood," he said, adding that it took him a few years to understand the work and handle the tools.

Ghulam Nabi works in his own factory in Srinagar's downtown area where he along with two more craftsmen work on orders for special door designs, dressing table, beds, wooden boxes and stand for the Qur'an.

"I have two more people with me, and among them is my brother. We all work here in my own factory," he said.

Hakak, however, said the work nowadays is "not too much". People nowadays are very less interested in buying these traditional handcrafted items, he said.

He requested government for support to take this traditional art to "new heights". KNO

ACB arrests revenue official for accepting Rs 2000 bribe in Budgam

J1 NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, AUG 03

The Anti-Corruption Bureau on Thursday trapped and arrested a revenue official for demanding and accepting bribe in Khag area of central Kashmir's Budgam district.

According to a statement, issued to the news agency that a complainant approached ACB Srinagar, with a written complaint against Fayaz Ahmad Shora, senior assistant and incharge Nazir Tehsil Office Khag, alleging demand of bribe for listing his case of property dispute sooner in the court of Tehsiladar concerned.

"On 31-07-2023 Police Station Kunzer received a written complaint from Abdul Razak son of Late Gh Mohammad resident of Gonipora Kunzer stating therein that during intervening night of 30-07-2023, some unknown burglars barged into his residential house and stole jewellery. Accordingly, a case under relevant sections of law was registered at Police Station Kunzer and investigation was initiated," a police spokesman said in a statement issued to the news agency.

It reads that the complainant did not want to pay bribe and instead approached ACB Srinagar for taking legal action against the accused.

"On receipt of the complaint, a Case FIR No. 14/2023 U/S 7 PC Act 1988 was registered at ACB Srinagar and investigation was taken up. During the course of investigation, a trap team was constituted which laid a successful trap and caught the accused red handed while demanding and accepting a bribe amount of Rs 2000 from the complainant."

It added that the money was recovered from the accused on spot. "The accused has been identified as Fayaz Ahmad Shora S/O Allaad-Din Shora of Beerwa. Further investigation into the case is going on," it reads. KNO

FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

Double standards...

months of 2023. The figure is set to cross 2.25 Crore by the year end. The LG said that gradually tourist infrastructure is being upgraded everywhere in the UT to provide best facilities to the guests.

He said that J&K was deprived of proper Panchayat raj system for decades together. "The system was set up for the first time in J&K to ensure governance at the grassroots level. I believe time has come when we should have Panchayat polls so that people reap the benefits of governance at their door steps right at their door steps once again," he said.

The LG said that Srinagar is witnessing a major revamp and is set to become a major example of development shortly. "Some people who can't digest the development of the city are even making non-issues an issue. Recently, heavy rainfall triggered some water logging and this was highlighted on social media. Roads were made in a way in Srinagar which always resulted in waterlogging during rainfall. It will take some time to address the issue as Srinagar is set to emerge as a model city," he said, adding that he was hopeful to see the ongoing projects," he said.

The LG said that no development would take place unless peace becomes a permanent feature. "I have been saying this from day one," he said, adding that "today youth and their parents are going home late night while holding guitars and ice-creams in their hands". KNO

Terrorist associate...

Kishtwar. The Public Safety Act empowers law enforcement agencies to take necessary measures to counter potential security risks and maintain the safety of the community. The Kishtwar Police is committed to upholding the rule of law while ensuring that civil liberties are respected, police said.

SSP Kishtwar, Khalil Poswal, emphasized that the police force is employing a multi-pronged approach to address the issue of anti-national elements.

Alongside organizing awareness programs to educate the public, the police will not hesitate to take stern actions against those disrupting peace and harmony.

SSP Poswal issued a stern warning to all OGWs and anti-national elements, stating that Kishtwar will not tolerate any activities that threaten the security of our nation. He urged them to return to the path of peace and urged the public to support the police in maintaining a safe and secure

environment.

The Kishtwar Police Department encouraged the general public to promptly report any information related to anti-national activities, anti-social elements. Citizens can contact the helpline number 990615-1000. The identity of informants will be kept confidential. KNO

18 lawyers representing...

submission has been allocated to intervention applicants, two of whom are represented by Senior Advocates Menaka Guruswamy and Nitya Ramakrishnan and are allocated a time frame of 30 minutes each.

While advocate Maneka Guruswamy represents Javid Bhat and Awami National Conference, Nitya Ramakrishnan is appearing on behalf of Peoples Democratic Party.

Others who are arguing on behalf of intervenors include Senior Advocate PV Surendranath (30 minute), advocate Manish Tewari (15 minutes) advocate Irfan Hafiz Lone (10 minutes) and advocate Zahoor Ahmad Bhat (10 minutes). KNO

'Tobacco-free youth'...

Programmes have already been started to educate people about the hazards of tobacco chewing and smoking. He said the officials have been directed to conduct regular enforcement drives for the implementation of COTPA-2003.

As per the National Health Survey figures, the prevalence of tobacco in Kashmir includes Kupwara 56%, Shopian 52%, Anantnag and Bandipora 49% each, Budgam 48%, Pulwama 44%, Ganderbal 42%, Baramulla and Kulgam 41% each and Srinagar 38%.

As per the GATS 2 data, 35.2% of men, 5.1% of women and 20.8% of all adults smoke tobacco in J&K. The data states 6.8% of men and 1.5% of women and 4.2% of all adults currently use smokeless tobacco, 39.7% of men and 6.2% of women and 23.7% of all adults either smoke tobacco or use smokeless tobacco.

The government of Jammu and Kashmir has also imposed a complete ban on the sale of loose cigarettes, loose beads and loose tobacco while all educational institutions and tourist destinations were declared as tobacco-free zones.

Tobacco is said to be the leading cause of preventable deaths in the world. It kills approximately more than seven million globally and more than one million in India. Lung

cancer has been found to be the second commonest cancer. In the past few decades, the cancer catastrophe has created havoc globally, Kashmir has witnessed a rise in cases of lung and breast cancers.

As per the hospital-based data from the Kashmir Valley, males have a higher incidence of lung cancer. "There is a direct relation between length of smoking and number of cigarettes smoked per day. Even if smokers quit smoking, there are chances of developing cancer but these chances decrease to a greater extent," the officials said. KNO

Union MoS reviews...

She impressed upon the participants to ensure that PRI representatives are taken on board during the implementation of different schemes, programs for the welfare of the farming community of the region.

The Union Minister asked the officers to increase the awareness among the farmers at Panchayat level so that the desired results under different programmes could be realised. She assured the concerned officers of every possible support from the Union Ministry for the development of agriculture, horticulture and other allied sectors in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir.

During the meeting, a detailed powerpoint presentation was given before the minister by Director Agriculture Kashmir, Director Central Institute of Temperate Horticulture (CIHT) and Deputy Director Horticulture Kashmir regarding CSS, HADF and credit linked schemes. KNO

PDP, NC misleading...

leader exhorted the opinion leaders of the Gujjar and Bakewal Communities to see through the nefarious game plan of some disgruntled and dejected political actors, who have unleashed highly malicious disinformation campaign to mislead the youth, knowing well that the inclusion of Paharis in the reservation list is not at the cost of the Gujjar & Bakewals. He referred to the assurances held out by the Home Minister during his visit to Jammu and Rajouri a few months back, assuring that the interests of Gujjars and Bakewals are not going to be affected in any way and they will continue to get their share in jobs and admissions in professional institutions. The Gujjar leaders too stand convinced after their successive meetings with the Union Home Minister on the issue, he said, and hailed the bill

brought in the Lok Sabha after giving a due thought by the Prime Minister and the Home Minister, keeping in view the aspirations of the marginalized segments.

Rana said the BJP is committed to welfare and progress of Gujjar and Bakewals and referred to the proposal of allotting five marla plots to over 8000 families of landless Bakewals under the Prime Minister's Awas Yojna Rura.

Devender Rana assailed the PDP and the NC for behaving like ostrich by ignoring the overall transformation taking place across Jammu and Kashmir after the political developments of August 5, 2019. He asked them not to be colour blind over the path breaking achievements registered during the past four years. Peace and normalcy has paved the way for huge infrastructural developments, especially after the massive infra interventions. Stone pelting has become a nightmare of yesteryears while the shut-down culture has been taken over the humming economic activities. He referred to the unprecedented record tourist influx last year which is expected to cross two lakh mark this year and said that the Muharram procession took place on the traditional route in Srinagar after 34 years with Lieutenant Governor Mr Manoj Sinha joining it in the downtown areas of the City. Similarly, he said Shri Amarnathji Yatra has surpassed last year's numbers in less than a month of the 2 month pilgrimage in the Kashmir Himalayas. The tourist and Yatri influx has given a huge economic fillip in both the regions of the Union Territory, he added.

Devender Rana said Jammu and Kashmir is witnessing a new era of development and political empowerment to all, and not only to chosen few of a particular area. Jammu region is getting politically empowered irrespective of religion, caste or sub-region. This is something the people had been craving for over seven decades but for the so-called political elite class. He said the Union Territory is progressing as per the vision of Prime Minister and his cherished agenda of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Prayas, Sabka Vishwas. It is because of the single minded approach of the administration and the cooperation of the people that the Jammu City is going to emerge as one of five developed and clean cities of northern India, he added.

He said the governmental initiatives are bearing positive results, as the number of Below Poverty Line families in J&K has reduced from 25 to 15 per cent as per reports by a credible periodical of the country which is testimony of the economic alleviation of the state.

Gaurav Gupta calls on LG Sinha, discusses issuance of Plot Approval & Turnover Incentive Issues

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 03: Former General Secretary of Chamber of Commerce and Industry Jammu, Gaurav Gupta, had a productive meeting with Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha to discuss critical concerns concerning the general public and traders fraternity.

During the meeting, Gaurav Gupta shed light on two pressing issues affecting the region. Firstly, he highlighted the issuance of NOC for Plot Approval & Transfer in Gandhi Nagar Colony.

Gaurav mentioned that Gandhi Nagar colony, established in the early 1960s, has been home to generations of residents. Over the years, the original allottees have passed on their portions of the plot to their children and, in some cases, even their grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He said some have sold parts of their plots for the betterment of their families. However, the Housing Board is currently not issuing NOCs for plot approval



and transfer, causing significant inconvenience and injustice to the property owners. Furthermore, over the past 50 years, the government has not created enough additional colonies to accommodate the growing population, leading to the proliferation of unapproved unauthorized colonies in Jammu.

Interestingly, the maps of plots in these unauthorized colonies have been approved while plots duly developed by the govern-

ment's Housing Board remain deprived of such approvals, he added. He requested the Lt. Governor to intervene and facilitate the issuance of NOCs for plot approval and transfer in Gandhi Nagar Colony. This would not only resolve the long-pending cases but also ensure the growth and development of the area in a systematic and organized manner, he added.

Secondly, Gaurav Gupta discussed the timely disbursement of the 2% / 3%

turnover incentive for existing industries in Jammu and Kashmir. With the abolition of Toll Tax and implementation of GST, existing industries have faced challenges in maintaining competitiveness against outside entities. The government introduced a scheme to provide turnover incentives, but the delay in disbursement due to limited funds is causing liquidity stress and discouraging potential new industrial units from setting up in the state.

Gupta earnestly requested the government to allocate the necessary funds promptly and issue instructions for the timely disbursement of the turnover incentive, as it is crucial for supporting the survival and competitiveness of existing industries in Jammu and Kashmir.

Gupta expressed hope that Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha's timely intervention will bring relief to property owners in Gandhi Nagar Colony and provide vital support to the existing industries, fostering growth and prosperity in the region.

J&K PP School hoists two-day workshop for Girls students on Diet, Health and Hygiene

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 03: J&K Police Public School Miran Sahib Jammu took a significant step towards empowering its female students by hoisting a two-day workshop in school on 02-08-2023 and 03-08-2023 on Girls Diet, Health, Hygiene and counsel them about changes in adolescent age. Dr. Shagufa Chowdhary, Police Medical Officer of IPR-15th Bn. a renowned healthcare professional conducted the workshop which saw the participation of around 250 girls-students of the school from class 6th to 12th.

The ground-breaking initiative was spearheaded by Sh. M.N Tiwari, IPS, (IGP Armed/IR Zone, Jammu), the Administrative Officer



of J&K Police Public School Miran Sahib Jammu. Recognizing the importance of addressing the specific health concerns and awareness needs of the female students, he took this initiative. With a focus on educating and empowering the young girls of school, Dr. Shagufa Chowdhary shared her extensive knowledge and expertise guiding the participants regarding

importance of balanced diet, the impact of food on overall health and the significance of proper hygienic practices for girls in adolescent age. Dr. Rubinder Kaur, Chairperson, Management Committee, JKPPS/PWWA-J&K also acknowledged this innovative step and expressed her unwavering commitment to support initiatives that enhance the overall well-

being of the students.

Sh. Rajeev Sharma, Principal, J&K Police Public School Miran Sahib Jammu expressed his heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Shagufa Chowdhary and lauded the initiative taken by Sh. M.N. Tiwari, IPS and Chairperson School Management Committee for extending their cooperation and support for such workshops which underscores the dedication of school and its commitment to the holistic development of students.

The two-day workshop on Girls Diet, Health and importance of Hygiene in adolescent age will serve as a catalyst for empowering the female students and equipping them with vital knowledge required for a healthy and fulfilling life.

Adolescent Education Programme held at MIER

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 03: Smt. Shanti Gupta Centre for Women's Studies, MIER College in collaboration with Model Academy School, organized a two-day Adolescent Education Programme for the students of classes 9th to 12th. The programme was conducted in four sessions on the 1st and 2nd of August 2023 on the themes of life skills with a focus on SWOT Analysis and Stress Management. Mrs. Shashi Rattan, Ex. Vice-Principal, JK Public School, Jammu, was the resource person. The Adolescent Education Programme places a strong emphasis on learning practical skills as the best way to deal with the difficulties of adolescence and also on the acquisition of different skills to navigate through them. Speaking on the first day of the workshop, Mrs. Shashi Rattan explained life skills as the abilities for adaptive and positive behavior that enable individuals to deal effectively with the demands and chal-

lenges of everyday life. She comprehensively talked about different life skills as envisaged by the WHO, such as problem solving, critical thinking, coping with stress, decision making, etc. Through different activities, she explained SWOT analysis and how we can use it to identify our strengths, weaknesses, and challenges.

On the second day of the workshop, Mrs. Rattan explained stress as a psychological and physical strain of tension generated by emotional, social, economic, or occupational circumstances, events, or experiences that are difficult to manage and endure. By providing examples and through interesting activities, she talked about various stress busting strategies like changing your attitude, involving in physical, relaxing, and recreational activities, talking to somebody etc. Students actively participated in the question answer sessions to clarify their doubts and also shared their experiences.

Mrs. Rupa Gupta, Jt. Director MIER

and Director SGCWSS appreciated the joint efforts of the Centre for Women's Studies and the Model Academy School for conducting a workshop on the pertinent topics. She said life skills are essential abilities and competencies that enable individuals to navigate and cope effectively with the challenges and demands of everyday life. They play a crucial role in personal development, well-being, and success across various aspects of life and we all need to use some kind of stress busters to maintain the balance of life.

Ms. Kritika, Gender Champion ably conducted the programme, and Ms. Shriya Sharma, Head Girl of the school welcomed the resource person. Ms. Anjali Jain and Ms. Ishu Sharma students of B.Ed. department presented a formal vote of thanks on the first and second of the programme. The event was organized under the supervision of Principal, Mr. Pramod Srivastava, Mrs. Bharti Tandon, Convener CWS and Mrs. Manju Vaili, Academic Manager middle wing.

Kesri condemns attack on annual religious procession at Nalhar village in Nuh

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 03: Shiv Sena Hindustan J&K President Pt Rajesh Kesri today strongly condemned attack on the annual religious procession at Nalhar village in Nuh on Monday, in which six people were killed and injured over 60 others. Addressing Media persons in Jammu during a press conference, said India is a secular plural and a diverse country where there are diversities of religion, caste, creed and language. There are much diversities so far as the culinary habits of the people are concerned. But there is unity in diversity in the country and all the communities live in peace and security. This unity in diversity is the greatest treasure of India. All have the opportunity to grow up



to the fullest possibility and every religion is free to propagate its religion and celebrate its festivals. Kesri further said that fact is that we celebrate the religious festivals jointly and greet each other on these festivals.

But this diversity is exploited by the cunning politicians and they use these diversities to arouse the feelings of communal

hatred and this leads to communal violence and strife sometimes and pollutes the peaceful atmosphere. The communal violence strife and clashes which took place in Haryana's Nuh, Faridabad, Gurugram and some other places is savage, shameful and hair-raising. This violence is unprecedented and has no place in our secular and plural country and it

deserves to be condemned by one and all.

Kesri maintained that all the political parties should unequivocally condemn current communal violence with one voice and strongly Steps should be taken so that communal violence does not take place in future. Political parties and politicians should desist from politicizing on communal violence. The political parties should cooperate with the government to curb communal violence. Both the majority community and the minority communities should honor and revere the religious festivals of each other and celebrate these festivals jointly. The pelting of stones on the Shoba Yatra in Nuh is very unfortunate and against the secular ethos and culture of the country, added Kesri.

Abdullahs, Muftis, and their coterie have again started playing dirty politics over Article 370: KPC

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 03: Kashmiri Pandit Conference (KPC) strongly castigated and cursed to Kashmiri centric so-called leaders like Abdullahs, Muftis, and their coterie for again playing dirty politics over Article 370, and again started exploiting the sentiments of people of Kashmir valley to keeping them away from the reality.

Kundan Kashmiri, President KPC stated that such so-called leaders always maintained double standards and promoted violence which suited their divisive politics, and not allowed Kashmiris to contribute for nation-building, but incultated hatred among them against Indian nation. KPC President stated that neither Kashmir nor Article-370 was an any issue for the people of Jammu and Kashmir, but it was always an industry for Abdullahs, Muftis and their coterie who were its beneficiaries.

Now after abrogation of article, when role of such so-called Kashmir centric leaders is over, they again started to roping in religion politics and challenging the abrogation of Article 370 in Supreme of India. Jo garner peoples support and then come back to power to spread hate, divide people, loot the state exchequer and built its own mansions.

As regards Article 370, Kundan Kashmiri, Senior KP leader stated that when Article 370 was tabled for discussion in the Constituent Assembly in 1949, none of the ministers in Nehru Cabinet approved it and even Dr. Ambedkar, then Law Minister and father of Indian Constitution bluntly told Sheikh Abdullah that he was not going to make another Pakistan in independent India, but Sheikh Abdullah pressurized and blackmailed the Nehru and got the bill passed in the parliament, now same Parliament passed the Reorganization

Act of 2019 with an overwhelming majority.

Kundan Kashmiri further said, If these Kashmiri centric leaders call it majoritarianism then how Sheikh Abdullah had managed to grab 73 out of 74 votes when J&K constituent assembly was formed. Secondly, Article 370 of constitution of India was temporary provision inserted in the year 1949, hence this article was over due to get abrogated.

KPC President, Kundan Kashmiri, suggested people of JK UT to concentrate towards development, peace and prosperity of their people, and children and to remain loyal towards their own nation where they live, as well as honor its flag and constitution and not allow to suffer again at the hands of Jihadi,s, separatists, semi-separatists and double standard Kashmiri centric so-called leaders, like Abdullahs, Muftis, Mirwaz and other agents and advocates of Pakistan.

Farooq most dramatic person in country: Bali Bhagat

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 03: Senior BJP leader and former Union Minister, Bali Bhagat, raised serious concern over Dr. Farooq Abdullah's involvement in a delegation comprising 31 MPs that met with the President of India to discuss the present situation in Manipur and Haryana. He termed Dr. Abdullah as the "most dramatic person in the country" and raised questions about his inaction during the Kashmir unrest in

1989. Bhagat pointedly asked Dr. Farooq Abdullah about the 1989 incidents when Kashmir witnessed turmoil, leading to the forced exodus of approximately 4 lakh Kashmiri Hindus from their homes. He questioned whether Dr. Abdullah approached the President of India at that time with the support of 31 MPs to address the severe issue.

The senior BJP leader further accused Dr. Farooq Abdullah of being

solely responsible for the death of 43,000 Kashmiris in last 70 years in J&K, and referred to his actions as "the most communal act in the history of India." He expressed disappointment that Dr. Abdullah continues to engage in dramatic acts for political gain even at this age.

Bhagat urged Dr. Farooq Abdullah to apologize specifically to the Kashmiri Hindus and, more broadly, to the nation for the alleged heinous acts committed 34 years ago.

Convene Dharam Sansad to embrace Dalit Community: Raju Chandel

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 03: Hindu BJP leader, Raju Chandel, urged all Shankaracharya Dharmacharyas across the nation to call for an urgent meeting of the World Parliament of Religions in Kashi, Mathura, or Haridwar.

Addressing the Shankaracharya Dharma Acharyas, Chandel emphasized the pressing need to convene a Dhama Sansad to address the long-standing issue of preventing Dalits from entering temples across the country. He highlighted that this unjust practice has caused displeasure among the Dalits, leading to some of them converting to other religions, which poses a threat



to Sanatan Dharma and the unity of the country.

Chandel stressed that the Parliament of Religions should focus on devising effective strategies to counter Islamic fundamentalist Jihadis, who aim to harm Sanatan Dharma. He called upon all Shankaracharyas to take a stand and ensure that Dalits are welcomed and embraced in all tem-

ples, thereby eliminating the seeds of animosity and promoting unity.

Expressing the urgency of the matter, Chandel urged the entire Dalit community to return home and reunite with the Sanatan culture. He firmly stated that the unity and cultural preservation of the nation lie in the hands of the Shankaracharyas and

Dharmacharyas who hold esteemed positions in the country.

Chandel emphasized that the call for the World Parliament of Religions is not to divide the nation further, but to promote unity and safeguard the rich heritage of the Hindu community. He asserted that the proactive initiative of the Shankaracharyas and Dharmacharyas is crucial to ensuring a strong and enduring Hindu nation.

In conclusion, Chandel made a passionate appeal to all Shankaracharya Dharmacharyas of the country to act promptly and work towards embracing the Dalit community with love and respect, thereby fostering unity and the perpetuity of the Hindu nation.

GDC Vijaypur celebrates Angdaan Mahotsav

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SAMBA, AUGUST 03: NSS Unit (KHDMAT) of GDC Vijaypur celebrated Angdaan Mahotsav under the aegis of Meri Mati Mera Desh in the college campus by spreading awareness among the students and NSS volunteers of the college about the importance of organs and tissue donation.

Speaking on the occasion, Principal, Dr. Vandana Gupta emphasized the importance of organ donation while dispelling associated myths and misconceptions. Furthermore, she administered pledge to the students and college staff.

The program was coordinated by Dr. Naseem Chowdhary (NSS PO) and Dr.

Shital Sharma (Convener NSS) and Co-convener Prof. Poonam Kundan (Convener Cultural Committee) and Prof. Anil Bhagat (HoD Commerce).

Rajouri: Meeting held to distribution of appointment letters to Sanginis and Sahayikas

RAJOURI, AUGUST 03: Deputy Commissioner, Vikas Kundal, chaired a meeting today to discuss the distribution of appointment letters to Sanginis and Sahayikas in the district. The Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir has approved the appointment of 168 Sanginis and Sahayikas in the district and the employment letters would be distributed by the Lieutenant Governor himself through online mode. Apart from the distribution of appointment letters, the meeting also focused on the distribution of scooters to specially-abled persons. The Deputy Commissioner Rajouri directed the officials to ensure that all the necessary arrangements, such as the availability of internet connectivity and the required infrastructure, were in place for the smooth conduct of the online distribution process.

Police seizes 17 vehicles, arrests 17 persons in illegal extraction and transportation of minerals during previous 02 months

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 03: Acting tough against the persons involved in illegal extraction and transportation of minerals, police have seized 17 vehicles and arrested 17 persons during the month of June & July in District Ganderbal.

Under the directions of SSP Ganderbal Shri Nikhil Borkar-IPS, Special Police teams were constituted

to check the menace of illegal mining in the district. The teams were led by SHOs and DOs of Police Stations and Police Posts of the district under the supervision of SDPO Kangan Shri Muzaffar Jan-JKPS & DySP Hites Ganderbal Shri Gh. Hassan-JKPS. During the course of action, 17 persons were arrested & 17 vehicles (15 Tipsters, 01 Tractor & 01 Dumper) were seized who were found involved in illegal extraction and transportation

of minerals during the month of June & July-2023. Accordingly, cases under relevant sections of law stand registered at respective police stations and investigation has been taken up.

Persons found indulging in illegal mining activities shall be dealt as per law. Community members are requested to share information regarding the crimes in their neighbourhood with their concerned police units.

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

"An eye for and eye will only make the whole world blind" - Mahatma Gandhi

JINDRAH IMAGES

E-buses for Smart City

Jammu is all set to get new smart and technology-equipped buses with the Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) planning to introduce a fleet of about 100 e-buses on city roads to provide an alternate and hassle-free travel to the citizens. So far, these vehicles were the part of major cities of the country. The move has received overwhelming appreciation from all. As of now, only private minibuses and buses, except government-run public transport, have maintained a monopoly and they had been operating at their sweet will on city roads without caring the inconvenience being caused to the travellers. The e-buses will have emission free services along with all the comforts like facility of air conditioner and CCTV cameras for security and surveillance purpose. It is expected that these buses would reduce the pollution level in the city to a large extent as they will run on batteries. As per the plans, nearly 10 buses would arrive at Jammu on a weekly basis. Some will run within the city while others will move between Jammu and Kathua, Udhampur and Katra. The e-ticketing would be used for collecting fare from the passengers using services of these buses which are being introduced under the Jammu Smart City Project. Of all buses, 25 will be of full size (12 meter in length) and 75 will be small buses (9 meters in length). The small buses will run within the city. The JSCL will run these buses which are brought on Gross Cost Contract (GCC) with TATA. On the other side, Jammu's existing road infrastructure has "very limited" scope of expansion. The failure of successive regimes to construct alternate roads to deal with congestion has compounded the problems. Non-execution of flyover projects on busiest sections—Ambphalla-Janipura, Jewel-Canal road and Satwari-Airport and delay in widening of Akhnoor road have made the task difficult for traffic regulating agencies. Moreover, the Centre has expended millions of rupees on creation of new parking lots and urban mobility plan for smart and sustainable transport solutions but the exploding vehicular population without commensurate improvement in road conditions and parking spaces has made situation worsening in the winter capital of state. Out of the total over 10 lakh vehicles in ten districts of the province, Jammu district alone has more than 75 percent vehicles. In addition to the floating vehicular population, the number of registered vehicles, according to the UT's motor vehicle department, moving on Jammu roads is about eight lakhs. The rising number of road accidents and congestion are attributed to government indifference and insensitivity with authorities failing to take corrective measures including construction of new flyovers, improvement in road conditions, ensuring better public transport system, putting in place intelligent traffic management system and creating adequate parking facilities. Except the recently constructed 1.5-km-long Bikram Chowk-Gandhi Nagar college flyover, all other flyover projects were abandoned mainly due to political interference and funding constraints. The government's proposals to construct four flyovers to ease the pressure on roads but there are two functional flyovers at the moment, one was commissioned in 1999. In 2007, the project worth Rs 30 crore approved to construct one from B C Road-Ambphalla stretch to ease pressure on New Plot-Janipur road was dropped because the state government declined to bear the cost of land compensation. Similarly Jewel Chowk-Canal road flyover was also left out for the same reason. By introducing e-buses, the government is trying to make a disciplined system of transport on city roads. What is expected from the citizens is that they should extend full cooperation to make Jammu a congestion-free city.

OPPENHEIMER'S DILEMMA AND THE BOMB'S EFFICACY

WHO KNOWS WHAT THE UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCE WOULD BE OF AN INVENTION THAT REMAINS UNADDRESSED BY ANY SUPREME REGULATORY BODY?

SHELLEY WALIA

FOR more than 70 years, the world has lived under the shadow of a nuclear disaster. The Doomsday Clock of the Bulletin of Atomic Scientists, set at two minutes to midnight, is ticking. This is the closest it's been to terminal disaster. Understandably, the gravity of the nuclear challenge has direct relevance for the future of humanity. As Noam Chomsky says, "It's kind of a miracle that we've survived in the face of increasing danger" apparent in numerous military conflagrations.

The fear of a nuclear war lurking formidably close resonates in Christopher Nolan's Oppenheimer, the film based on American Prometheus, a Pulitzer Prize-winning biography by Kai Bird and Martin J. Sherwin. It has sparked a furious debate on Oppenheimer's dilemma and the efficacy of his invention. The great anti-nuclear fervour is back. One wonders why the bomb was used when the war had stopped. Was it to show it as a 'deterrent' or was it to bring Japan to its knees? A peaceful conclusion could have been reached if the world leaders had tried to negotiate.

Robert Oppenheimer, the father of the atomic bomb, standing in his laboratory at Los Alamos in New Mexico, imagines Vishnu trying to persuade Arjuna to do his duty. Taking on the avatar of a multi-armed form, he says, "Now I am become Death, the destroyer of worlds." This, Oppenheimer reflects, was the feeling in all those present on that fateful day of the greatest human tragedy ever. It was a day of misgivings and undying anguish.

Advocating international control on the nuclear bomb, the movie remains faithful to the book but for a few missing details of the real disposition of Oppenheimer as well as the lack of visuals of the dying thousands. Nagasaki, where the real destruction took place with plutonium used as an experiment, is barely revealed. 'Little Boy', the sobriquet given to the uranium-based bomb dropped on Hiroshima, did not cause as much anguish to Oppenheimer as the more lethal explosion of 'Fat Man' over Nagasaki that finally devastated him emotionally and morally. The movie also fails to counter the official narrative prevalent since 1945 that the bombing was crucial for saving the allied soldiers and the Japanese from a calamitous carnage.

The debate on the real man behind the scientist, his genius as well as his commitment to his country ostensibly remains disregarded in the film. Nolan does show Oppenheimer as a student at Cambridge inoculating potassium cyanide into an apple for his professor who had chastened him once. His spitefully belligerent personality stands out for a moment.

The moral quandaries and historical stakes that Oppenheimer faces are reduced to a few images that do not really underscore the truth. There are more complexities to Oppenheimer and his personality than the movie cares to take up. When he speaks after the attack to his fellow scientists,



there seem to be no reservations in him, though he begins to visualise the flashes of destruction and conflagration in the suffering and scalding of victims.

The pull between the serious physicist and the project he was imperceptibly sucked into brings about his existential crisis. In his mind, he never wanted Nazi Germany to win the race to produce the bomb. But he also believed that the bomb, a reliable deterrent, would finally end all future wars. Though deeply averse to the bomb being experimented on living humans, he dubiously never stood up against the official justification. But the idea that a lesson be taught to Germany, Italy and Japan was uppermost in his mind. The brutal decision to drop the bomb into the heart of Hiroshima, therefore, began to seem to be the most effective option.

Apparently, mankind had not envisaged a calamity on such a large scale. Though the nuclear bomb did become a deterrent, it began to be manufactured by enemy countries, leading to the deep-seated panic of the apocalypse. Once the war ended, the production process was accelerated. It became clear to Oppenheimer that he had been compromised as a well-meaning scientist. His pacifism drew anger from President Truman, resulting in the compulsion to ostracise him. He died a shattered, unhappy man at 62.

After more than half a century, Oppenheimer emerged from the ashes to finally get the blot reversed by the overturning of the security clearance denied to him in 1954. He was exonerated on December 18, 2022, and the historical record amended to honour his profound contributions to national defence and scientific enterprise.

Understandably, Oppenheimer was a victim of McCarthyism, a political practice of making accusations of disloyalty or subversion with inadequate concern for evidence. It was political pro-

secution of left-wing individuals for their alleged hand in Soviet espionage. After taking up a job in Berkeley, he began to lend support to the anti-fascist cause in the Spanish Civil War. The communist label stuck to him and his wholehearted efforts to stop the nuclear race brought him under the scanner. Early leftism and later ideology of non-violence brought a deep emotional upheaval in him.

History now stands rectified, but the role of the man behind the bomb remains contentious. Moreover, this comes as a lesson to future scientists that their true loyalty and well-articulated opinions against military bloodshed would not go unnoticed. His clemency is a step towards the state making amends and bestowing on civil society the freedom to express contrary opinions on the wisdom of official policy decisions.

The Prometheus moment is, therefore, pivotal in world history at a stage when numerous statesmen and scientists have given a cautionary call to the world travelling down the nuclear path. Nolan undoubtedly uses music and visuals to have a profound and instinctual impact on his audience, but he fails in honouring the dead or underscoring the ignominy of the US in going ahead with its 'experiment' after the armistice. The haunting image from WH Auden's poem 'The Second Coming' of the 'rough beast' slouching towards Bethlehem to be born portends the human tragedies yet to come when regulatory bodies like the UN have gone moribund.

Who knows what the unintended consequence would be of an invention that remains unaddressed by any supreme regulatory body? As Daniel Ellsberg put it succinctly, "This is not a species to be trusted with nuclear weapons... The fact that no nuclear weapon has been used in combat since August 9, 1945, is the result more of pure chance than of accumulated wisdom."

Conscious forgetting of primordial animosities

people who do not forget anything from the past are likely to continue with the feuds that they have inherited.

M RAJIVLOCHAN

A MID the turmoil in Nuh and other parts of Mewat, one is reminded of former Punjab CM Partap Singh Kairon. In the 1950s, Kairon issued a stern warning to those who gave an indication that they would not let Muslim families coming from Pakistan settle back in Mewat. These families had migrated to Pakistan in the days following the Partition in 1947. By the mid-1950s, most of them returned to their villages. Kairon ensured that thousands of Mewati Muslim families got their properties back.

"Just forget the animosities of the past; do not dwell upon your sufferings," he would say in speech after speech to large crowds of Hindus and Sikhs who had suffered during the Partition. Therein lies an important lesson for us today.

Nations are built on both forgetting and remembering. People who don't remember the past become rootless. Even the people who were enslaved, when they look forward to forging a brighter future, seek out roots or create fictitious ones. At the same time, people who do not forget anything from the past — or insist upon raking up imagined wrongs — are likely to continue with the feuds that they inherited from previous generations. The generations of the past had lived in social formations that were essentially small in size, characterised by face-to-face interactions and based on mutual trust built through various primordial identities. Anyone outside that small circle of trust was distrusted and presumed to be dangerous. All that changed with the emer-



gence of that amorphous entity called 'modernity'.

The easiest bonding between people comes through face-to-face interactions. However, such bondings and the resultant social groups are inevitably small in size, with meagre abilities to influence anyone else. It was the emergence of the institutions of the nation-state, and corresponding dissolution of primordial bonds, that enabled the dramatic enlargement of the scale that set apart modern society from its predecessors.

The history of the modern world has been essentially about subordinating primordial identities and the rise of anonymous, faceless institutional structures, which enabled the

individual to be free of primordial identities and ensured that primordial social groupings could not build the individual into submission. These structures were anchored in the nation-state, with the individual who owed allegiance to the nation-state — rather than to a primordial grouping — as its constituent unit. This could not be achieved through coercing anyone. People cannot be coerced to develop a sense of belonging. That is a feeling which has to come organically to every person. An interesting concomitant to the strengthening of the bond between the individual and the nation has been the fear that the former would become anonymised. This fear has pushed many liberals to fetishise primordial social

structures even at the cost of the common good. It is almost as if they do not care about the outcome of empowering those who derive their power through primordial structures, religion being the most powerful one among them.

Religion as a system of thought that allows people to make sense of the world and gives them hope and meaning has been the greatest competitor for the loyalties of people vis-a-vis the nation-state. In India, this challenge to the nation-state has been connected to the rise of political Islam. So much so that in the early 20th century, pan-Islamists in India floated the idea that India, on attaining self-rule, needed to establish a United States of Religion, analogous to the United States of America. Maulana Mohammad Ali, who prided himself on not having read the Quran, advocated this idea in his newspaper, 'The Comrade'. Little did he know that it would spawn Muslim separatism to the extent of partitioning the country.

The fact is that the freedom to practise religion has never been an issue in India. Even in the aftermath of the Partition riots, when the matter of right to religion came up for discussion in the Constituent Assembly, everyone took it for granted that in India everyone would automatically have the right to practise his or her religion. On the matter of the right to propagate one's religion, some members did express concern that Hinduism was not a proselytising religion. They argued that such a right would result in the annihilation of Hindus. Such members were assured by others that taking Pakistan into consideration, it was important to assure Muslims that they were

welcome in India. They were told by members who were practising Hindus that if the misconceptions about India's culture and heritage were to be removed, the right to profess and propagate religious faith must be conceded. And so it was.

That is how things stand currently. Except that often we have people who would rather excite feelings in the name of religion, or claim that one or the other religious group is being ill-treated in India. Previous efforts at hiding bad behaviour by one community or highlighting equally bad behaviour on the part of another has not helped matters. Rewriting textbooks of history to hide some wrongs or highlight others hasn't helped. The simple fact is that once people have made up their mind, it is not possible to change it merely by hiding facts or telling lies this way or that way.

It is in this context that we in India would do well to draw lessons from the history of Europe. The fetishisation of the diversity of India can be the starting point for such an understanding. While obsessing about our diversity, we often forget that all nations and people, across the world and throughout history, have been diverse. Indians might find it incomprehensible, but for many centuries in Europe, the fights were around whether people should be free to read and understand the book of their religion themselves or should merely be satisfied with interpretations provided to them by religious experts. Yet, with the expansion of the economy and with the increase in the scale of society that accompanied it, the Europeans found ways, consciously, to move away from such conflicts.



CHRISANN PEREIRA ON COMING BACK TO INDIA: I FEEL SAFE NOW, JAIL WAS SCARY, I WAS SHOCKED

Four months after being framed in a fake drug case and being arrested in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates (UAE) actor Chrisann Pereira returned to Mumbai on Thursday after getting cleared, much to the delight of her near and dear ones.

The first thing she did was go and meet Mumbai Police Commissioner Vivek Phansalkar and other senior police officials to thank them for their help. And the second thing? Talking to us. "I am so happy to be back. I feel safe and happy to be reunited with my family. I am looking forward to whatever life has to bring to me. If we can tackle this, we can tackle anything," she sounds happy.

Calling the past couple of months "crazy", she gives us a sneak peek into what went on inside her head, when she was jailed. "It is extremely scary. I did not meet a lot of people like me. So many there already knew about drugs, drug lords, and had been there in the country for a long time. They knew more about the situation than I did. I went into a cloud of darkness, and had no idea what was going on. It was a culture shock. I was also shocked with the overall situation. I was mentally overthinking the entire situation, and trying to make sense 'why would someone do this to me?'," Pereira's voice cracks up.

Losing hope in such a situation is very



easy, so what kept her going? "Every day I would just say 'I have to survive today'... I would wake up with that intention. Once I spoke to my parents 17 days in, they gave me hope, and updates every single day on

my case. I had people in the jail I used to talk to, I would workout to keep my mental health okay in jail. I danced to no music at all, just to keep it going," says the 27-year-old.

Margot and Ryan weren't the first choice for Barbie

Barbie has managed to make stunning reviews globally and an admirable amount of money, having grossed more than \$196 million outside the United States and bringing in around \$400 million in total gross at the box office.

Fans cannot help but keep obsessing over the splendid performance of the cast and the entire team of Barbie.

Barbie is expected to reach a total of \$500 million at the global box office in its first week. What if we told you that the cast that projected such success wasn't the ideal fit for the crew initially? That there were other A-list Hollywood stars prior to Margot Robbie and Ryan



Gosling?

There was a given that Amy Schumer had backed out of the film as there were creative differences, but she later confessed she liked the movie and also mentioned it being feminist and cool. Anne Hathaway was

approached and was also meant to lead the role of Barbie after issues of creative differences emerged with Amy Schumer, but later the film was slated to release in 2020 according to the deadline and hence never worked out. According to Margot herself,

she envisioned Gal Gadot as the ideal character for Barbie, considering her personality, the energy she brings to the table, and her natural beauty.

Saoirse and Timothee Chalamet have both worked alongside Greta in Little Women before, and Greta wanted them both to star in the Barbie movie, but due to reasons, they both went ahead and denied their roles, which Greta was a little upset about.

Saoirse Ronan told her fans that she was supposed to play the role of a cameo in the film, but then she said:

I WAS SUPPOSED TO DO A CAMEO BECAUSE I LIVE IN LONDON AND THEY WERE

[FILMING] THERE. THERE WAS A WHOLE CHARACTER I WAS GOING TO PLAY- ANOTHER BARBIE. I WAS GUTTED I COULDN'T DO IT

Due to issues with location scouting, actor Dan Levy was forced to back out of the role in which he was to play as one of the Ken versions, as said by casting director Allison Jones to Vanity Fair.

Glee actor Jonathan Groff was rumored to play the role of Allan, which was done by Michael Cera, but it didn't work out. Allison said:

DEAR JONATHAN GROFF WAS LIKE, I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M TYPING THIS, BUT I CAN'T DO ALLAN.

After cancer, Chhavi Mittal diagnosed with costochondritis: 'This too shall pass'

Actor Chhavi Mittal took to Instagram and informed fans about her recent diagnosis. She is a cancer survivor, and has been diagnosed with costochondritis, an injury to a cartilage in the chest, she explained in her post. Soon after she shared her health update, her fans came out in support of her and extended love and strength.

Chhavi posted a photo from one of her gym sessions and wrote, "Naya wali beemari layi hoon market mein (I have a new disease) it's called costochondritis. Fancy no? (It's an injury to a cartilage in the chest) The probable cause could be radiation (cancer treatment) or a side effect of the injection I took for osteopenia (a condition with low BMD) or it could be incessant cough (which I had a few days back) or a combination of one or more or all. I have pain while breathing, or using my hand, or arm, or lying down, or sitting, or laughing or pretty much everything."

She continued, "No, I'm not always positive about it, but I'm rarely negative. So, holding my chest in my hand, I went to the gym (my happiest place) coz u know what? We all get knocked down, but do we get up again? Well I do! For anyone who needs to hear this. I know u suffering in some way or the other, but ur not alone! And this too shall pass."

Internet to Chhavi Mittal

Responding to her health crisis, a fan wrote in the comments, "I am a Costochondritis patient since past 8 months and I realise how difficult it is to even do a normal activity like walking or even breathing for that matter. Plus it's relatively unknown so it's hard for people to understand too."

Alia Bhatt wants sister Pooja Bhatt to win Bigg Boss OTT 2: 'I love her'

Actor Alia Bhatt is rooting for sister Pooja Bhatt who is currently inside the Bigg Boss OTT 2 house. Alia had previously named her favourite contestants from this season and it did not include her half-sister. Now, recently, Alia came out in support of Pooja whom she wants to be the winner of the new Bigg Boss instalment.

Alia Bhatt wants Pooja Bhatt to win Bigg Boss

Alia Bhatt was out and about in Mumbai for the success event of her film Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani. A video from the event features her briefly commenting about whom she wants to take the Bigg Boss trophy home. As someone from the paparazzi is heard asking about Pooja Bhatt, Alia said, "Woh waha hai. Mere liye woh hi jete (She is in the house and I want her to win). I love her."

Alia Bhatt on her favourites from Bigg Boss OTT 2

Reacting to Alia's support for Pooja, one fan commented, "So nice to see that Alia is supporting Pooja di." "I like Pooja Bhatt. I like her opinion and views. She is very strong lady. Jeete na jeete dil jarun jeet liya Pooja ji ne (she has won



everyone's heart)," added another user. Someone also said, "I also like Pooja Bhatt. She is very strong lady."

Previously during film promotion in Chandigarh, Alia was asked to name Rocky and Rani from the Salman Khan-hosted show. She told the media that Elishv Yadav has a 'Rocky personality'. She said, "Elishv mujhe bohot naughty lagte hai. Unka jaisa woh andaaz hai, jaisa woh bola hai (Elishv is very naughty, the way he speaks), it's very entertaining. He is very funny. I like him a lot."

"Manisha Rani ko hum Rani bulate the kyuki uske naam me

Rani bhi hai. Unki jodi kafi cute lagti hai. (I will call Manisha Rani as Rani because her name has Rani and their pair looks very cute together)," she added. Alia had praised her sister Pooja as well. She said, "But I have to take my sister's name kyuki vo to humari ghar parivar ki Rani hai. (But I have to take my sister (Pooja Bhatt)'s name because she is the queen of our family, the way she is)."

Pooja is one of the leading contestants in Bigg Boss OTT 2. Recently, Mahesh Bhatt met daughter Pooja inside the Bigg Boss OTT 2 house. Pooja is Mahesh's daughter with first wife Kiran Bhatt.

Ananya Panday asks father to pull some strings against Ayushmann Khurrana in new Dream Girl 2 promo



Raaj Shaandilyaa's comedy Dream Girl 2 has been slowly and surely building a star-studded promotional campaign ahead of the film's release in cinemas on August 25. Ayushmann Khurrana's cross-dressed character Pooja has been seen talking to hunk on the phone, from Shah Rukh Khan's Pathaan to most recently, Ranveer Singh's Rocky.

But the latest promo of Dream Girl 2 features none other than Chunky Panday, the real-life father of Ananya Panday, who is the leading lady in the film. She is a new addition to the Dream Girl franchise, the first part of which opened to great box-office numbers in 2019, and starred Ayushmann in the lead role.

New Dream Girl 2 promo

Ananya posted the new promo of Dream Girl 2 on Instagram on Saturday. In the video, Ananya is seen complaining to her father and actor Chunky Panday that Ayushmann's character of Pooja is hogging all the limelight in the promotions of the film. She demands he talk to the production house, Balaji Telefilms, owned by Ekta Kapoor and her mother Shobha Kapoor.

Beyoncé skips Lizzo's name from Break My Soul performance amid sexual harassment lawsuit, fans react



Beyoncé decided to skip Lizzo's name during her performance of Break My Soul (Queen's Remix) held at a concert in Boston on Tuesday. This takes place a few days after the report that Lizzo is being accused by her three former dancers on the allegations of sexual harassment and hostile work environment. Several videos of Beyoncé appeared on Twitter where fans noticed that she skipped Lizzo's name.

Did Beyoncé skip Lizzo's name?

In several fan videos that emerged on Twitter soon after the concert, many noticed how Beyoncé omitted the name of Lizzo even as Lizzo's name flashed up on the screen behind her. Instead, Beyoncé took Erykah Badu's name four times.

Fans reacted to the video and posted comments on the microblogging site. One said, "Lizzo girl... You lost." Another wrote, "this is much worse than the lawsuit." A second comment read, "If Queen B canceled you too... So the story is true... damn now I know for sure for sure this girl is guilty," read another comment.

Lizzo sued by former dancers

The complaint by three of Lizzo's former dancers Arianna Davis, Crystal Williams and Noelle Rodriguez surfaced on Tuesday over claims that included sexual harassment and creating a hostile work environment. The accusations include sexual, religious and racial harassment, discrimination, as well as fat shaming. The plaintiffs also alleged that the singer and the production company did not give them pay them fairly during Lizzo's European tour. Lizzo has not yet responded to these allegations. Earlier, Lizzo had shared a video of her watching the same set of Beyoncé at a previous show on the Renaissance tour. She wrote on Instagram saying, "In that moment I was thinking about baby me, listening to Happy Face by Destiny's child and crying myself to sleep because of bullies..."

Lizzo's dance captain Shirlene Quigley who is named in sexual assault lawsuit once went missing

Lizzo's dance captain Shirlene Quigley had once gone missing amid issues regarding her mental health in 2016. Shirlene, who has been named in a bombshell lawsuit, disappeared in October 2016. The incident got national attention, with Rihanna and Missy Elliot making pleas to try and find her. The 'Diamonds' singer took to Instagram and captioned her video of Quigley:

THIS BEAUTIFUL SOUL AND FORMER DANCER OF MINE IS MISSING!!! MY HEART ACHES THINKING OF

HOW HEAVY THIS IS ON ALL WHO LOVE HER! IF ANYONE HAS SEEN OR HAS ANY INFORMATION ON SHIRLENE QUIGLEY'S WHEREABOUTS...

Meanwhile, Missy took to her Instagram, where the post has currently been taken down, and captioned it: HELP FROM THE WHOLE DANCE COMMUNITY NOW. Shirlene described herself as "deeply religious," which was raised in the lawsuit. Brad also noticed that Shirlene was religious and was also holding back on sex until marriage.

failed to get in touch with her during their routine check-in calls. He told the New York Post that his daughter was showcasing strange behavior, which led to her disappearance, and had allegedly sent a text to a friend, writing: I'M SPENDING TIME WITH GOD, MY FATHER, AND DON'T HAVE TIME TO DEAL WITH THIS RIGHT NOW. Shirlene described herself as "deeply religious," which was raised in the lawsuit. Brad also noticed that Shirlene was religious and was also holding back on sex until marriage.

The police tracked her down through a 911 caller who helped locate her, and told the police that "a woman was wandering in, as out of trafficking in NYC, and reported by NJ.com. While the exact reason as to why Shirlene went missing is still unclear, she was later found in New York City shortly after.

Captain David Dowd from the Police department was assigned the case and helped search for Shirlene when she went missing. In an interview on page six, he says, "She was 'very kind, sincere, and a genuine per-

son." The captain previously recalled, in an interview with Page Six, A CONCERNED CITIZEN CALLED THEM BECAUSE THEY HAD NOTICED A WOMAN MATCHING SHIRLENE'S DESCRIPTION, WHO WAS 'UNWELL' AND 'NEEDED MEDICAL HELP.' The captain also spoke about the time he met with Shirlene and her father when they stopped by to thank the captain and the team for all the help they provided with the search and also went on to take a picture with the star.



HOW HEMP IS HELPFUL FOR WOMEN IN PERIODS

New Delhi: Hemp, a variety of Cannabis plants is usually grown for industrial purposes. It is counted as one of the fastest-growing plants on the earth. Earlier, hemp was an unknown plant and was a mystery. However, lately, it has been considered as one of the superfoods. Due to its rich nutritious content and health benefits, it is now increasingly preferred by consumers.

Procured from the Cannabis sativa plant, hemp seeds are often confused with cannabis. However, it is way different and useful. It does not extend any mind-altering properties and is extremely safe and beneficial.

Offering multiple usages

These small brownish seeds are rich in protein, fiber, fatty acids including Omega 3s and Omega 6s. Additionally, they offer vitamin E, minerals, calcium, iron, magnesium, potassium, and Zinc making them ideal for consuming in meals or using externally as a part of cosmetic and skincare products. The seed offers various usages. The protein in its seeds is used to prepare tofu, cheese, etc. Its seed oil is used to prepare non-toxic diesel, paint, lubricating oil, etc. Whereas the seed itself can be grounded to bake items like cookies, bread, pasta, etc. Possessing antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties, these are advantageous for menstrual cramps, ailments of the skin, heart, and joints.

Benefits offered by the seeds

This is a magical seed and possesses numerous known and unknown benefits.

Aids in digestion and is gut-friendly Promotes healthy heart-Rich in amino acids, Omega-3 fatty acids, they reduce the risk of coronary heart diseases

Is therapeutic and helps relieve stress- Offering a high quantity of magnesium, amino acids, and vitamins, they help fight stress

Beneficial for the skin- coming with the right balance of fatty acids, they improve skin health.

Helps in reducing the symptoms of PMS, menstrual cramps during menstruation and menopause phases Hemp's pain-relieving properties



and its usage during menses

Menses are the monthly companion of every female. With them comes bloating, extreme abdominal pain, mood swings, etc. The cramps combined with pain and discomfort is a nightmare and can range from mild to severe intensities. In extreme cases, they even disrupt our normal routines. Even though there are various pain-relieving medicines available; females usually don't prefer popping a pill to reduce the cramps. They prefer natural and organic solutions over advanced pills. This is where hemp took an opportunity and entered the lives of such females. It is indeed a blessing in disguise as its super nutritious oil if used while menstruating can help females from the bouts of pain and discomfort. It is one of the safest, easiest available, and easy to use options present in the market for curing menstrual pain.

All you need to do is take a few drops of the hemp oil on your palm and massage it gently on the abdominal region. You can also use a heater pad or bottle for 15-20 minutes on the abdomen and let the oil work its magic. While hemp's use is not just restricted during the menstruation phase, it can also be used while you are PMSing or post menses, and

even during the menopause phase. It is an ideal instant solution for sudden cramps.

Limitations of using Hemp

While hemp extends various benefits, it also has a few limitations. However, the primary restriction is that its usage should be done only after prior consultation from your doctor. This is advised because hemp can react with certain medicines and can leave side effects in both the short term and long run.

Additionally, its usage should be in controlled quantity as using it excessively can lead to organ damage, mood fluctuations, gut troubles, loss of appetite, etc. Just to name a few.

Summing Up

Hemp has escalated the use of natural products over western medicine. It is one of the most beneficial and multi-purpose usage ingredients available in the market. Its availability and easy usage make it the ideal solution for various health troubles, especially during menses.

So the next time, the monthly cramps try to hamper your lifestyle, you just need to grab a bottle of hemp oil and you will realize that you are being guarded by the angels straight from heaven.

Kids with less fear, desire for social connection may later become antisocial: Study

Young children who showed less fear and desire for social connection, and engaged rarely in civic behaviour are more likely to exhibit antisocial traits later in life, according to a study which may lead to new psychological interventions for kids. Researchers, including Rebecca Waller of the University of Pennsylvania and Nicholas Wagner of Boston University in the US, studied the mechanisms and processes that give rise to a set of behaviour called callous-unemotional (CU) traits – known to lead to antisocial behaviour. The study, published in the Journal of Child Psychology &

Psychiatry, used data from the Boston University Twin Project. In this project, during a couple of two-hour lab visits, at age 3 and again at age 5, children played out several scenarios, like offering a parent "candy" from a can that actually contained a stuffed snake, popping bubbles, or separating different coloured beads into piles. On analysing the children's behaviours, the researchers found that less fearful kids who cared less about social connections at the first visit were more likely to develop CU traits by the second. "Fearlessness on its own is not the only ingredient. These children also don't feel, to the same

degree, that inherent motivation and reward from having positive social bonding with others," Waller said. The scientists also found that harsh parenting – which includes strategies like yelling and spanking – intensified the fearlessness and strengthened the link with later CU traits. "If kids are fearless, including toward the potential for punishment, the likelihood that harsh parenting will exacerbate risk increases. That fits into the model that clinicians understand already. It takes two to tango; what kids bring to the table mixes with what they're experiencing in the environment," Wagner said.

Resolve to live healthy

Both obesity and diabetes are on rise in India and numbers are increasing at an alarming rate. There have been studies that have proven a direct link between the two. The potentially bad combination of diabetes and obesity has been termed as diabesity. It has become a major area of concern lately owing to the sedentary life style and diet indulgences of almost every age group and income strata of our country. So this New Year, here are some health-oriented resolutions that will not only help you stay fit but keep you out of the dangerous diabesity zone. Choose the right protein: Switch from red and fattening meat to lean and healthy meals such as salmon and other fish and chicken, organic eggs and other poultry items. Reduce your oil intake: Switch from hydrogenated and solid oils to oils that are liquid at room temperature such as flaxseed oil, olive oil, rice bran oil, etc. Prepare a healthy meal: You need to create a food budget so that you include healthy vegetables like bell pepper, broccoli and nuts and seeds as well. Avoid the temptations of cheap street food all costs. Make sure that you do not eat out much or order in and instead cook your meals all by yourself so that you can keep a regular check on your food intake. Feed right portions to kids: This one is for health-conscious parents. This is a basic yet underestimated technique to prevent overeating among kids. Serve them the right portions regardless of their age. According to experts, from ages 1 to 3 it is always advised to serve 40 calories of food for every inch of their height. Teach your kids what their ideal portion



size should be. Eat and promote healthy: Be a role model for the family and friends. You should inculcate good eating habits in your children and all family members by eating healthy and setting a good example for them to follow. By doing this you ensure that nobody in your family falls prey to obesity or diabetes. Visit your doctor regularly: If you are trying to stay fit and avoid obesity and diabetes, visiting your doctor or physician periodically is the best approach. They will help you keep a regular check on your blood glucose level, cholesterol and blood pressure as well. A strong will power: Resolutions are plain words if you

do not intend to convert them into habits. More than anything else what you are going to need is a strong will power to stay immovable on your new year's resolutions to stay fit in 2020. Move it and lose it: Please include some physical activity in your daily routine, no matter how busy you are. Nothing is more important than your health. Aim to work out every-day. A 20-minute daily exercise session is better and beneficial than an hour-long workout on alternate days or irregular long or intense exercise sessions. If you can't work out at a stretch, break it into three or more sessions of 10 or 15 minutes.

WORLD'S MOST POPULAR HERBAL MEDICINES

For centuries, cultures around the world have relied on traditional herbal medicine to meet their healthcare needs. Despite medical and technological advancements of the modern era, the global demand for herbal remedies is on the rise. In fact, it's estimated that this industry grosses about \$60 billion annually (1).

Some natural remedies may be more affordable and accessible than conventional medicines, and many people prefer using them because they align with their personal health ideologies (1).

All the same, you may wonder whether herbal options are effective. Here are 9 of the world's most popular herbal medicines, including their main benefits, uses, and relevant safety information.

We include products we think are useful for our readers. If you buy through links on this page, we may earn a small commission. Here's our process.

1. Echinacea

Echinacea, or coneflower, is a flowering plant and popular herbal remedy.

Originally from North America, it has long been used in Native American practices to treat a variety of ailments, including wounds,

burns, toothaches, sore throat, and upset stomach (2).

Most parts of the plant, including the leaves, petals, and roots, can be used medicinally – though many people believe the roots have the strongest effect.

Echinacea is usually taken as a tea or supplement but can also be applied topically.

Today, it's primarily used to treat or prevent the common cold, though the science behind this isn't particularly strong.

One review in over 4,000 people found a potential 10-20% reduced risk of colds from taking echinacea, but there's little to no evidence that it treats the cold after you have caught it (3).

Though insufficient data exists to evaluate the long-term effects of this herb, short-term use is generally considered safe. That said, side effects like nausea, stomach pain, and skin rash have occasionally been reported (4).

You can find echinacea in most supermarkets and health food stores, though you can also buy it online.

2. Ginseng

Ginseng is a medicinal plant whose roots are usually steeped to make a tea or dried to make a pow-

der. It's frequently utilized in traditional Chinese medicine to reduce inflammation and boost immunity, brain function, and energy levels.

Several varieties exist, but the two most popular are the Asian and American types – Panax ginseng and Panax quinquefolius, respectively. American ginseng is thought to cultivate relaxation, while Asian ginseng is considered more stimulating (5).

Although ginseng has been used for centuries, modern research supporting its efficacy is lacking.

Several test-tube and animal studies suggest that its unique compounds, called ginsenosides, boast neuroprotective, anticancer, antidiabetic, and immune-supporting properties. Nonetheless, human research is needed (6).

Short-term use is considered relatively safe, but ginseng's long-term safety remains unclear. Potential side effects include headaches, poor sleep, and digestive issues (7).

Ginseng is available at most health food stores, as well as online.

3. Ginkgo biloba

Ginkgo biloba, also known simply as ginkgo, is an herbal medicine derived from the maidenhair tree (8).

STRETCH YOURSELF OUT

Sedentary lifestyles, unhealthy eating habits, especially among the millennials and young, are giving rise to many lifestyle problems. A large number of young women and adolescent girls are being affected by such a lifestyle problem called polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS). In India one in every four young women is said to be affected with PCOS. It is a condition involving an imbalance of hormones among women and is one of the leading causes of infertility. Women with PCOS have irregular menstrual cycles, fail to produce eggs and find it difficult to conceive. PCOS is caused due to a combination of genetic and environmental factors. Unhealthy diet, high-stress levels, lack of physical activity and being overweight are some conditions that make women more prone to PCOS. The incidence of this metabolic anomaly is increasing world over with the growing prevalence of poor lifestyle habits, unhealthy



eating practices as well as sedentary conditions. There is a dire need to control and prevent it as

PCOS can lead to a lot of long-term medical issues like diabetes, heart diseases, infertility, gynaecological cancers, hypertension,

depression and gestational diabetes. While there is no cure for

PCOS, treatment involves restoring hormonal levels through the use of birth control pills or diabetes drugs. Women with PCOS are advised regular physical exercise and weight reduction. With its deep-rooted knowledge of the intrinsic mind-body balance, yoga offers a highly viable solution to tackle the condition of PCOS. A combination of naturopathy and yoga allows the restoration of hormonal balance besides offering a remedy for anxiety and depression that are common among women with PCOS. Here are the few yoga postures that can help in keeping PCOS in control and overcome infertility, anxiety and other symptoms associated with it. **Badhakonasana** (Bound angle pose) **Badhakonasana** improves blood circulation to the pelvic region, promotes relaxation, reduces stress and helps the reproductive organs. For this asana, sit straight with your spine upright and legs spread in the front. Bend and bring the feet

close to the pelvis, having the soles touching each other. Interlock the finger and hold the feet firmly. Draw in the heels towards the genitals and take deep breaths, pressing the thighs and knees down towards the floor by providing gentle pressure. Stay in this position as long as it is comfortable. Then inhale, lift the knees away from the floor and extend the legs to their original position.

Bharadvajana (Bharadvaja's twist) Regular practice of this posture alleviates stiffness and pain in the lower back, neck, and shoulder, makes hamstrings supple and tones the muscles of uterus. For this pose, start with sitting on the yoga mat, legs stretched ahead and arms resting on both sides of the body. Fold your knees and bring them close to the left hip, putting the weight of the body on the right buttock. Position the left ankle on the arch of the right foot and twist your upper body leisurely to the right side as much as possible.

It Governor inaugurates various projects of Srinagar Smart City

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 03: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today e-inaugurated various projects of Srinagar Smart City from Integrated Command and Control Centre, Shaleng.

In his address, the Lt Governor congratulated the residents of Srinagar for the launch of new initiatives.

He said the projects dedicated to the people today will strengthen core urban infrastructure, integrate technological tools for clean and sustainable environment and IT-based solutions to address the challenges to ensure quality of life to the citizens. "The core of all the smart city



projects is to enhance city's livability and to ensure that the development is sustainable and inclusive," the Lt Governor said. Real-time Water Quality Monitoring System for River Jehlum and Dal lake; Real-time

Noise Monitoring stations and systems for Srinagar City; integrated solid waste management and door to door collection monitoring system will improve smart city management, he added.

He said, the new technology and digital transition is aimed to create a smart grid system in Srinagar to tackle the challenges of climate change, connect all infrastructure and to provide innovative solutions for better coordination between services.

Technology-powered My Srinagar Portal and App, initiatives such as "SMC Srinagar new Web Portal", "My City My Ideas" will improve the quality of services and it will also strengthen the contact between citizens and the city administration, the Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor commended the efforts of the Municipal Corporations, Srinagar Smart City Limited and line depart-

ments for making the life of common citizens' better and providing quality services for ease of living.

At the inaugural ceremony, the Lt Governor called upon the people of Jammu Kashmir to identify the elements who are trying to create disruption in the peace and development process.

"Tendency to classify terrorists must end immediately. There should be no double standards for terrorism."

Those who are trying to create distinction are enemy of peace & development. We must isolate such individuals as they are the gravest threat to peace and growth of society," the Lt Governor said.

DC Udhampur approves cases under Mission Youth

JJ NEWS SERVICE



UDHAMPUR, AUGUST 03: A meeting of the District Level Implementation Committee (DLIC) on Mission Youth was held under the chairmanship Deputy Commissioner, Sachin Kumar Vaishya at district headquarters today.

During the meeting, 3 cases under the Tejaswini scheme, 7 cases under the Spurring Entrepreneurship Initiative (SEI) and 14 cases under the MUMKIN scheme were approved for further processing.

The DC impressed upon all concerned to enhance the pace of disposal of cases to facilitate unemployed youth in the district. He asked officers to clear pending cases at the earliest and sought details of pending cases from concerned to assess the pace of the sanctioning process.

Cooperative Department organizes Mega Awareness Camp at Baramulla

DR SEHRISH PRESIDES OVER THE FUNCTION; CALLS FOR REALIZING PM'S VISION OF REVIVING COOPERATIVES AS VIBRANT ECONOMIC ENTITIES

JJ NEWS SERVICE

BARAMULLA, AUGUST 03: With an aim to strengthen the cooperative movement and deepening its reach to the grassroots level in Baramulla district, Cooperative Department Baramulla in convergence with allied departments today organized a day long Mega Awareness Camp within the premises of Central Cooperative Bank Ltd. Baramulla.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Dr Syed Sehrish Asgar presided over the function as the chief guest, while as Additional District Development Commissioner Baramulla, Aijaz Abdullah Saraf was the guest of honor.

The day-long awareness camp was also attended by General Manager DIC, Chief Agriculture Officer, functionaries of concerned departments, besides hundreds of stakeholders.



At the outset, the DC in presence of all officers inspected stalls set up by various departments including Cooperative Societies for awareness of the general public about various schemes. Addressing the gathering, Dr Sehrish said that the main motive behind this awareness camp is to

aware the general public regarding the Cooperative movement and its role in providing employment and other benefits in socio-economic development particularly to the weaker sections of the society.

On the occasion, the DC stressed upon the stakeholders to take advantage of the schemes of the Cooperative Department. She said that Cooperative is a movement having tremendous scope to revolutionize the economy of the societies adding that at the time when government jobs are not easily available for youth, it is high time that Cooperative societies could be encouraged to yield better results for maximum number of interested youth. Elaborating further, the DC said that Baramulla district has a great potential for development of dairy/sheep farms, handicrafts and tourism and urged upon the youth to venture in these sectors.

Mohammad Arif Shah highlighted the objective of organizing an awareness camp besides deliberating on the achievements of the cooperative sector in Baramulla district.

Prabhat Pheris: DYS&S organizes Spectacular Sports Events across Baramulla

JJ NEWS SERVICE



BARAMULLA, AUGUST 03: The Department of Youth Services & Sports Baramulla hosted an unopposed Kabaddi match under the flagship initiative "Prabhat Pheris" at HSS Kreeri to commemorate the spirit of Independence Day.

The highlight of the event was the mesmerizing rally, where 250 enthusiastic students from HSS Kreeri passionately chanted slogans and showcased their skills while playing Kabaddi.

The "Prabhat Pheris" initiative aims to instill a sense of national pride and foster unity among the youth through engaging sports activities.

Furthermore, in an effort to promote sports at the grassroots level, the District of Youth Services & Sports organized an enthralling inter-school football competition for boys under 14 at Subhana Stadium, Sopore. A total of 15 teams from various schools participated in the competition, demonstrating their talent and sportsmanship on the field.

These initiatives not only encourage physical fitness and teamwork but also cultivate a sense of camaraderie and sportsmanship among the youth, empowering them to become responsible and active citizens of the nation. The District Youth Services and Sports Officer Baramulla, Jatinder Singh extended his heartfelt appreciation to all participants, school authorities, and supporting staff who contributed to the success of these events.

Vehicles checking continues in Bandipora

RS. 12K RECOVERED FROM OFFENDERS

JJ NEWS SERVICE

BANDIPORA, AUGUST 03: The Assistant Regional Transport Officer (ARTO) Bandipora, Bilal Ahmad Mir along with his team, Wednesday conducted surprise checking of vehicles on Sopore-Bandipora road with special focus on Affixation of HSRP plates and speed limiting devices.

During the drive, 10 Driving licences, 05 RCs and 05 permits were seized and notices were issued on spot for traffic violations.

A fine of Rs. 12,000 was recovered from offenders and documents of some vehicles were also seized. Moreover vehicles plying without HSRP were also seized.

Srinagar ranks first among all Districts across India in 'Eat Right Challenge - Phase III' under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

Engaging citizens through social and behaviour change is key to Eat Right Movement: DC Srinagar

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 03: Continuing its endeavor, the Srinagar District has achieved top rank across the country in implementation of phase III of 'The Eat Right Challenge for Cities and Districts' of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India.

The Eat Right Creativity Challenge Phase III started from May 2023 and will end in October has been launched as a part of the celebration of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav is aimed to tap the creative talent of students and enable them to inculcate healthy dietary habits.

The Eat Right Challenge in Srinagar was carried out under the overall supervision of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad, while Assistant Commissioner Food & Safety, Yamin ul Nabi was its Nodal Officer.

The Targets fixed by Food Safety Standards Authority of India were satisfactorily achieved, hence Srinagar District figured as top District across the country as of August 03, 2023.

The Eat Right Challenge also known as Eat Right movement envisioned as a competition among Districts to recognize their efforts in adopting and scaling up of various initiatives under Eat Right India.

These initiatives include strengthening food safety through the food regulatory environment, to provide safe and healthy food options by enabling the supply side and to engage with citizens for adoption and demanding healthier diet.

The activities which were carried out under this challenge include Registration and licensing drives, surveillance drives, lifting of enforcement samples, special camps for consumer awareness, hygiene rating, clean street food, no food waste certification, reusing of cooking oil, training to Asha & Anganwari workers, eat right campuses to promote eat right message.

Speaking in this regard, the Deputy Commissioner, Srinagar said that "The Eat Right Challenge activity was aimed to propagate the message of adopting healthy food habits among, the masses to include fortified foods as nutraceuticals in their diets.

Samba Administration, CU Jammu sign agreement on skills gap survey

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SAMBA, AUGUST 03: Samba District Administration has entered into an agreement with Central University Jammu to conduct a comprehensive skill gap survey in the district. The agreement in this regard was signed today at the district headquarters.

The survey, to be conducted under the SANKALP initiative, aims to identify current skill gaps in the district, encompassing both industry demands and skill-related needs of youth in Samba. This endeavour aims to lay the



groundwork for targeted interventions and effective skill development programs. During the signing ceremony, Deputy Commissioner, Abhishek Sharma emphasised the impor-

ance of identifying and addressing skill gaps in the region.

The activity around the signing of leveraging a skilled workforce for institutions such as AIIMS Jammu and other mega infra-

structural projects in Samba, contributing to regional development and growth.

Central University Jammu, specifically the School of Business Studies, will lead the

execution of this survey. The nodal officer for the survey, Chief Planning Officer, Sukhleen Kaur, will coordinate with the university to ensure seamless execution. The MGNF Samba has pledged support to augment the survey's success, providing insights and resources.

This skill gap survey represents an initiative by District Administration Samba and Central University Jammu to empower youth in Samba with necessary skills aligned with industry requirements and foster employability and economic growth.

Celebration of AKAM under theme 'Meri Maati, Mera Desh'

STATE TAXES DEPT, MINING DEPT J&K ORGANIZE AWARENESS/ SENSITIZATION PROGRAMME AT DOODHGANGA NALLAH

JJ NEWS SERVICE

BUDGAM, AUGUST 03: As part of celebrations of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' under the theme 'Meri Maati Mera Desh' the Department of Mining as a part of its programs w.e.f. August 01 to August 15 in collaboration with the State Taxes Department today organized an awareness cum sensitization programme at Doodhganga Nallah regarding conservation and development of mineral, systematic and scientific mining, and impact of illegal and haphazard mining on the overall environment.

The programme was organized under the guidance of Dr. Kashmi Singh, Commissioner State Taxes/Administrative Secretary Mining dept, J&K

Also, Re-grassing activity as a part of soil restoration was also kick started by the Administrative Secretary Mining

besides field check of the mining blocks on the occasion.

Commissioner State Taxes/Administrative Secretary, Mining, J&K was accompanied by Additional Commissioner State Taxes Kashmir, Shakeel Maqbool, Deputy Commissioner Enforcement (Central) Kashmir, Parvaiz Ahmad Raina, DC Appeals I&II, DC Recovery & IT Nisar Ahmad, Joint Director Geology and Mining, Kashmir, SDM Chadoora, District Mineral Officer, Budgam, besides State Taxes officers and other officials of both departments.

This joint initiative aimed to raise awareness about scientific and systemic practices of mining with proper safeguards for environmental conservation and by coming together, both departments demonstrated their commitment for fostering sustainable development with scientific approach.

At Doodhganga, Administrative Secretary Mining/Commissioner, State Taxes J&K interacted with the stakeholders, offered patient hearing to their issues and assured meaningful intervention in due course of time.

The activity around the mining blocks at Doodhganga allah includes restoration with back filling of mining pits, re-grassing of identified patches mandatory as per the approved Mining plan, Environmental Clearance Sand Mining Monitoring and Enforcement guidelines and terms and conditions of the Mining Lease Deed besides NCT orders. The campaign seeks to engage volunteers, local community, panchayats, students besides other stakeholders in fostering a sense of responsibility and concern towards their natural resources. The collaboration between the two departments

also aims to address critical challenges like illegal mining besides possible evasion of GST revenue as a consequence, while nurturing a culture of synergy and shared responsibility towards sustainable development. With collaborative efforts, both departments aim to streamline processes, share knowledge and optimize utilisation of human resources to ensure efficient working on ground for overall sustainable growth and socio-economic development

Speaking on the occasion, Commissioner, State Taxes/Administrative secretary, Mining Department emphasized that the building synergy between our departments would improve revenue generation and also enhance environmental consciousness and social responsibility besides creating a more profound impact so far as environmental conservation and restora-

tion and improving tax revenues is concerned.

Later, Commissioner State Taxes accompanied by Deputy Commissioner Budgam, Akshay Labroo, stakeholders, students and locals organised a cleanliness drive at Nallah where department installed dustbins for proper disposal and segregation of waste.

The dustbins were procured from contribution by officials of State Taxes Department. The Deputy Commissioner Budgam directed concerned SDM to follow in letter and spirit the department of the initiative and ensure every support to the department. Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Commissioner Budgam said that the cleanliness drive is anticipated to have a positive impact on the natural beauty of the area and enhance the overall well-being of the local community and visitors.

Rent Assessment Committee meet held at Udhampur

JJ NEWS SERVICE

UDHAMPUR, AUGUST 03: The District Level Rent Assessment Committee meeting was held under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner, Sachin Kumar Vaishya today.

Detailed discussions were held on various aspects regarding the fixation of rent for private buildings hired for housing government offices. During the meeting, 15 rent cases pertaining to different government departments were approved by the committee. DC asked concerned officers who have hired private buildings as accommodation to expedite the process of remaining cases so that owners may not suffer and pending rent assessment cases could be settled in a time-bound manner. Senior Superintendent of Police, Dr Vinod Kumar, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Rafiq Ahmed Jari and other officers, as well as owners of buildings, were present in the meeting.

Interactive session on 'Discover STEM-2025' held at S.P College

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 03: The PG Department of Chemistry and Career Counselling & Placement Cell, Sri Pratap College, Cluster University, Srinagar in collaboration with the JK Scientists group has organized an interactive session on 'Discover STEM-2025', here.

In his special address, the Principal of the College, Prof. (Dr.) Ghulam Jeelani Qureshi appreciated the efforts of JK Scientists group for investing their valuable time and effort for the benefit of the student community. Calling the merging of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) as the



currency of the modern era, he emphasized its importance for creating knowledge based economy and enhanced sustainability. In the first talk of the day, Dr. Syed Mubarak Hussain, Neuroscientist University of New Mexico-USA, shared the details of his inspiring journey from a remote village of Budgam District to a top-notch University of USA.

He exhorted the students to seek admission in reputed national institutes like IITs, IISc, IISERs and various CSIR labs. Dr. Summaya an eminent toxicologist working at the University of Al-Kharj, KSA gave a detailed account of the flagship programmes offered by JK Scientists Organization. Her talk left an indelible impression on the

young minds. This was followed by a talk by Dr. Agha Shahi, Ramanujan fellow and expert on condensed matter, who dwelled on the strategies to be adopted and goals to be set for undertaking productive research. Dr. Peer Abdul Haseeb Shah, research Scientist and Faculty at the Department of Bio-Resources, University of Kashmir gave a

detailed guidance regarding procedure for getting admission in reputed national and international research institutes.

An online presentation was given by Anha Bhat, Process Engineer at Australian Nano-fabrication facility.

She, in her talk emphasized the importance of morals, integrity and reading culture in the overall personality development of an individual.

Earlier, the event started with a welcome address by the Head Department of Chemistry, Prof. Sadat Hassan Kar wherein he formally welcomed the guests and gave a detailed insight of the programme via a vis Career, Guidance and Counselling.

DC Ramban inaugurates Banihal Premier League



JJ NEWS SERVICE

RAMBAN, AUGUST 03: Deputy Commissioner, Ramban, Musarrat Islam inaugurated the Banihal Premier League, a night T20 Cricket championship at newly developed ground of the Government Model Higher Secondary School Boys, Banihal for late hours matches.

DDC Councillor Banihal, Intiyaz Khanday; SDM Banihal, Zabeer Abbas Bhat; Chief Education Officer, Devanand; Tehsildar Banihal, ZEO Banihal besides various officers of army, civil and police department were present on the occasion.

After inaugurating the BPL T20 cricket championship which was organised by the Banihal Volunteers in collaboration with the District Administration Ramban under Khelo India, the DC inspected stalls setup by the various departments to sensitize the people especially youth about job-oriented schemes. He advised the youth to avail the benefit from the youth-oriented schemes for their sustainable livelihood.

Appreciating the local youth for organising such well organised sports events at Banihal, the DC assured full cooperation from district administration for organising tournaments for local youth. Interacting with the youth, the DC advised them to keep away from the means of drugs for living a healthy and happy life besides contributing to the development of the nation.

In the inaugural match Jammu XI beat Kashmir XI by chasing a target of 152 runs. The event was witnessed by the thousands of local audiences in person and online which encouraged the youth to participate in the sports events for their overall development.

Ramban DC chairs meeting to review measures for protection of communities



JJ NEWS SERVICE

RAMBAN, AUGUST 03: Deputy Commissioner, Musarrat Islam, who is also the Chairman of the District Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee for implementation of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities Act), 1989 and Protection of Civil Right Act 1955, chaired a Bi-Annual Committee meeting.

The DC reviewed the functioning of the committee and said that it should ensure claims are paid to victims, including travelling and maintenance expenses paid to witnesses during investigation and trial of offences under the Act.

The DC directed Police Department to ensure zero tolerance for atrocities and register cases as per provisions of the Act. The DC directed the police department to immediately forward cases registered under the Act to the Member Secretary for further action, including investigating and filing charge sheets as per law and rules.

Discussion was also held on setting up an SC/ST protection cell headed by Deputy Superintendent Headquarters and appointing special officers for identified areas to coordinate with the District Magistrate and Superintendent of Police for implementation of provisions of the act.

The DC also discussed measures for social and financial rehabilitation of victims. ACR, Gias-ul-Haq; Dy. SP Headquarters, Om Prakash; DSWO, Rahul Gupta and other members of the committee attended the meeting.

DDC Councillor, Shameem Akter; Lecturer, Rajinder Kumar and Arun Kumar were also present in the meeting.

Overloading in cabs: RTO Kashmir directs officers to intensify inspections

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 03: In response to the reports regarding overloading in cabs across city, the Regional Transport Officer (RTO) Kashmir in a meeting with transport and JKRTC officers today said that such inputs are of a significant concern for authorities and the passengers, which cannot be overlooked.

The RTO said that it can compromise the safety and comfort of the passengers and increase the risk of accidents, adding that overloading can also lead

to discomfort during the journey especially the female passengers who may have to share limited space with others.

Meanwhile taking serious note of the issue, the RTO Kashmir directed the officers to intensify the inspections especially in late evening hours and ensure that public transport is available and enforce penalties for violations of passenger capacity limits.

He insisted on ensuring public transport is available during the late evening hours to all the places, especially from the

Lal Chowk and all major hospitals of the city.

JKRTC official stated that due to Amamath Yatra and Independence day preparations, the bus fleet is a little stressed, however, RTO asked the officials to compensate with induction of more private vehicles on the routes, especially on Lal Chowk - Harwar route.

RTO stated that overall, addressing the issue of overloading in cabs requires a collective effort from passengers, cab operators, drivers, and authorities and requested passengers to play their part by being aware of the passen-

ger capacity of the cabs they are traveling in and refusing to board a cab that is already overloaded.

He further made a public appeal that if they encounter an overloaded cab, they can report the incident to the transport/traffic authorities to ensure that necessary actions are taken.

The Assistant Regional Transport Officer, Srinagar later also visited the Lal Chowk Taxi Stands and warned the cab operators and drivers to adhere to the prescribed passenger capacity limits set in the permit conditions.

GCW Udhampur hosts awareness lecture on organ donation



JJ NEWS SERVICE

UDHAMPUR, AUGUST 03: As part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav campaign, an awareness lecture on organ donation was organised today at Government College for Women (GCW) Udhampur, under the co-sponsorship of Dr. Sanjeet Kour.

The event, aimed at spreading awareness about organ donation among students and the general public, was attended by the Principal of the College, Prof. Anjali Mahajan, who served as the chief guest. In her address, Prof. Mahajan congratulated the organisers and praised their efforts in organizing an event that would help spread the message about the importance of organ donation and dispel common misconceptions.

The resource person for the occasion was Dr. Priya Gupta, MD Pathology, Medical Officer, CMO Office Udhampur.

In her lecture, Dr. Gupta explained the meaning and purpose of organ donation and discussed its importance, types of organs, list of organs that can be donated, preservation time of donated organs, indications for organ transplantation and complications that may arise during transplantation.

Dr. Gupta also discussed various laws and acts related to organ donation, including the Transplant of Human Organ Act (THOA) and the National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO).

GDC Ukhral organises awareness programme on "Angdaan Mahotsav"

JJ NEWS SERVICE

RAMBAN, AUGUST 03: The NSS Unit of the Government Degree College, Ukhral, in collaboration with Debates and Seminar Committee, organised an awareness programme on "Angdaan Mahotsav"

under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. The program aimed to spread awareness about organ donation. The program started with a welcome address by NSS Programme Officer, Prof. Zakir Hussain Naik. Dr. Reyaz Ahmed Khan, a medical expert from

Health & Medical Education Department, J&K was the Keynote resource person of the event. Dr. Reyaz discussed the need for organ donation in saving lives. He said that 5 lakh people die every year due to non-availability of organs and there is a huge need for

organ donors. He emphasised that almost all organs can be donated and a single person can save up to 8 lives. Principal, Prof. (Dr) Shalu Samyal, advised students to spread awareness and motivate people to register for organ donation after death.

DC Samba reviews functioning of Revenue Department

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SAMBA, AUGUST 03: Deputy Commissioner, Abhishek Sharma, held a meeting to review the Revenue Department here today. The Deputy Commissioner emphasised digitising Mussaviv and re-creating dilapidated Mussaviv to streamline land records. Tehsildars were instructed to complete this task within specified timelines. The Assistant Commissioner (Revenue) and SDMs were directed to ensure

timely completion.

The chair discussed the need for attention to detail in the correction of Jamabandies to ensure accurate land records. Regarding the Geo-referencing of Cadastral Maps, SDMs were assigned the responsibility of identifying villages where Abadi was not recorded and submitting patwar-wise information.

The DC highlighted the need to expedite land acquisition cases, particularly those involving land transfer to the Army and other

security forces. ACR and SDMs were entrusted with ensuring prompt compensation and swift resolution of all pending cases.

The DC directed to organise village-wise camps to facilitate smooth inheritance mutation processes and provide efficient online services including Fardintikahy, Revenue Record various certificates and CLU applications. The status of domicile certificates was reviewed to ensure timely issuance to eligible individuals. Officers were directed

to review pending SRO-43 cases and take necessary steps for prompt resolution.

Tehsildars were tasked with checking pending services to uphold PSGA principles. The status of ongoing departmental enquiries, redressal of public grievances and vigilance matters were discussed for timely resolutions. The DC examined existing vacancy positions in administrative roles and discussed measures to address them. He reviewed complaints and grievances on the

J&K Grievance Redressal Portal, emphasising swift disposal. The implementation of e-office at all levels was reviewed. Naib-Tehsildars were commended for having the service available at their level. All Tehsildars were instructed to clear the backlog of mutations. The attendees included Additional Deputy Commissioner, Assistant Commissioner (Revenue), SDMs from Vijaypur and Ghagwal, Tehsildars, Naib-Tehsildars and Giridawars/Patwaries of the district.

FCS&CA Baramulla organise Awareness Camp at Uri

Director informs that additional quota of rice under PMFSS scheme will be available at ration stores from August 2023

JJ NEWS SERVICE

BARAMULLA, AUGUST 03: The Department of Food Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs Baramulla today organised an Awareness Camp at Baniyar, Uri.

The camp was presided over by the Director FCS&CA Kashmir, Reyaz Ahmad Sofi and was attended by the Assistant Director FCS&CA Department Baramulla, other officers besides large gatherings of public from different sections of the society.

The camp was conducted as a part of deliverables set by the Government to the Department and in light of celebrations of "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM) programme.

Speaking on the occasion, the Director FCS&CA Kashmir emphasized that the objective of this camp was to create awareness among the officials in particular and the public in general, regarding their rights and



responsibilities as a consumer. He asked the officials to serve the consumers in a complete professional manner so that they do not face any inconvenience while drawing their monthly ration or for any other issue.

He also informed the general public that the additional quota of rice under the PMFSS Scheme will be made available at ration stores from the month of August 2023. He also said that the Department will open new Fair Price Shops in the unfiled locations, so that the public get ration at ease.

Assistant Director FCS&CA Baramulla informed the gathering that the Department has launched OTP based transaction option for getting monthly ration easily and in a hassle free manner.

He also said that the weeding out of in-eligible beneficiaries is being carried out throughout the district.

Various other public representatives also spoke on the occasion and appreciated the department for introducing Aadhar enabled distribution saying that the system has brought more

transparency and accountability in the ration distribution process and they are getting ration supply on time.

On the occasion, the Director distributed PNH ration cards among the eligible beneficiaries

during the camp and further stressed to all the field functionaries to speed up the process of weeding out of in-eligible beneficiaries, so that eligible left out beneficiaries will be included in the NFSA category.

Power shutdown

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUGUST 03: Chief Engineer (Distribution) JPDCJ Jammu has informed that the power supply to Udhampur Town, Ramnagar, Chenani, Army feeder, Air Force, DIC, Battal Ballian, Industry, DC Office, Bainglad, Raiyan, BSE, Mawa, PHE, Katra, Nomain, Kothi, Kun, Chinta Mani, Agar Jitto, Arnas, Dharmari, Mahore, Sarbaga, Gulabghar, Chassana and adjoining areas shall remain affected on August 06 from 6 am to 10 am.

Similarly, the power supply to Industrial area of Bari Brahmana and Narbada line shall remain affected on August 06 from 6 am to 9 am. Likewise, the power supply to Channi Himmat, Transport Nagar, Fruit Mandi, Narwal, Railway Colony and adjoining areas shall remain affected on August 06 from 7 am to 10 am.

Superintending Engineer (Distribution) JPDCJ, O&M Circle Kathua has informed that the power supply to Mangloor, Dinga Amb, Khari, Them, Kakra and adjoining areas shall remain affected on August 04 from 6 am to 10 am.

DLC Ramban approves 7 trout units under HADP

JJ NEWS SERVICE

RAMBAN, AUGUST 03: Deputy Commissioner, Musarrat Islam, chaired a meeting of the District Level Committee on Holistic Agriculture Development Plan (HADP) in his office chamber today.

After scrutinizing all applications, a total of 10 proposals for trout fish units from different categories were presented before the committee under HADP plan for the year 2023-24. After detailed discussion, the panel approved 7 feasible proposals. The total cost of 7 approved units is Rs 38.50 lakh with a subsidy component of Rs.19.80 Lakh under HADP.

The DC said that the Holistic Agriculture Development Plan is a central scheme aimed at harnessing the fisheries sector potential in a sustainable manner to double the income of Fish Farmers. He asked the department to sensitize people to adopt fish farming as a livelihood through fish culture under HADP scheme. The DC directed the concerned department to closely monitor the establishment and management of existing and newly approved fish farms by conducting regular inspections. He further asked the department to identify more potential areas with a good source of cold stream and spring water for the establishment of more units. Among others, ACR Giasul-Haq, CPO Dr. Kasturi Lal, GM DIC Ravinder Anand, ACD Ashok Katoch, LDM, Deputy Registrar Cooperatives, DDM NABARD and various other senior officers attended the meeting.

ADP: DC B'la inaugurates 'Teacher Informatics Center cum Digital Studio/ Lab'

Rs. 60 lacs Unique Project to help students with least resources via Digital Platform: Dr Shrish

J1 NEWS SERVICE

BARAMULLA, AUGUST 03: In a bid to transform the experience of learning through digital technology and multimedia, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Dr Syed Shrish Asgar today inaugurated first of its kind in J&K 'Teacher Informatics Center cum Digital Studio/ Lab' under Aspirational District Programme at Mini Secretariat, Baramulla.



The Digital Studio accomplished with a cost of Rs. 60 lacs will help students of far flung areas in making up the deficiency of the requisite resources arising due to the non availability of the facilities.

After inaugurating the project, Dr Shrish highlighted the significance of Teacher Informatics Center cum Digital Studio and said that the project is the first of its kind in Jammu and Kashmir to help the students in learning through digital platform.

Dr Shrish asserted that the purpose of this innovative project is to give access to those students who are left with the lectures and through this

platform, students can avail the benefits of recorded lectures by the best and motivational faculties. She also added that the second phase of the project will give access to the students via mobile phones wherein they will get live streaming of all the subjects including Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Maths, Commerce and other subjects.

On the occasion, the DC also informed that for Teacher Learning Process, a separate Sessions will be organised to impart training to the Teachers so that the aim of the pro-

gramme is achieved. Meanwhile, the DC also interacted with various schools virtually through this digital platform.

Moreover, the DC informed that various initiatives will be taken for further streamlining of the Digital Studio wherein resourceful facilities across the district will create learning resources available for the students.

Joint Director Planning, M.Yousuf Rather; Chief Education Officer Baramulla, Balbir Singh Raina and other concerned officers and officials were present at the event.

DC Kulgam flags-off 20 SWC vehicles, also kick-starts fortnight cleanliness drive

Public cooperation, a must element for the success of the cleanliness mission: Dr Bilal

J1 NEWS SERVICE

KULGAM, AUGUST 03: As part of 'Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav' and under the aegis of Swachhta Pakhwada programme, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat today kick-started fortnight cleanliness drive.

The DC also flagged-off caravan of 20 Solid Waste Collection (SWC) vehicles for Panchayats from mini-secretariat, here.

An intensive cleanliness drive was also carried out at mini-secretariat and the drive was led by the DC himself.

ADCC, Showkat Ahmad Rather;

ADC, Viqar Ahmed Giri; ACR, ACD, ACP and other district officers and staff members of various departments housed in mini secretariat enthusiastically participated in this cleanliness drive.

Sweeping staff from the Municipal Council were also involved in this sanitation drive.

During this drive, paper waste/ plastic waste were removed from the area inside the mini secretariat complex and lawns. The staff also carried out dusting/cleaning of offices.

The DC instructed the staff of all the departments to ensure proper hygiene around their respective place of work.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC termed public cooperation a must element for the success of the cleanliness mission. He also highlighted the measures and steps taken to make Kulgam a beautiful and clean district.

He added that under Swach Bharat Mission 150 panchayats have been made model panchayats.

The DC also instructed the ACD to start intensive drive to lift legacy waste for its proper disposal.

It was shared that under the 15 day long cleanliness campaign major focus is being given on cleaning of water bodies, parks, roads, schools, hospitals and colleges.

DC Budgam reviews arrangements for Independence Day, 2023 celebrations

Directs officers to ensure a vibrant & beautiful Independence Day celebration in district

J1 NEWS SERVICE

BUDGAM, AUGUST 03: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Akshay Labroo today chaired a meeting to review the preparedness for ensuring Independence Day-2023 celebrations in the district.

The meeting was informed that the main function of the Day shall be held at Sports Stadium Budgam while similar functions will be held at sub-division and Tehsil levels also.

It was also informed that contingents of JKP, CRPF, NCC, students of various government schools will participate in the march past parade. Besides various cultural programmes will also be the part of celebrations and a felicitation ceremony would also be held.

On the occasion, various committees like the hospitality committee,

stage management committee and selection committee were formed for the smooth conduct of the celebrations.

Different departments viz. Education, PH&E, R&B, DYSO, Information, Health, Sports, Traffic, Motor Vehicles, Police, Floriculture, PDD, Municipality and Paramilitary Forces were directed to look after their respective assignments.

The decoration of the main venue ground, seating arrangements, uninterrupted power supply, drinking water/tanker service, barricading of venue, medical aid camp, availability of ambulance, deployment of fire tenders, transportation facilities, adequate and separate vehicle parking, refreshment, invitations, PAS system, brochures, cleanliness and sanitation measures were discussed threadbare in the meeting while as special

emphasis was laid on march past parades cultural programmes, refreshment, transportation, mobile toilets etc.

On the occasion, DC suggested that banners related to 'Mere Maati, Mera Desh' theme along with 'Nasha Mukta Budgam' and 'Swachh Budgam' be displayed in the main programme.

The DC directed all the officers to come up with a flawless and vibrant Independence Day celebration that truly celebrates 'Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav' and reflects the spirit of unity and patriotism.

Besides, SSP Budgam, Tahir Gilani; ADCC Budgam, Dr Akramullah Tak; ADC Budgam, Dr Nasir; CMO, CEO, ACD, ACP, Executive Engineers, SDMs, Tehsildars, all other District and Sectoral officers, representatives of CRPF, 62 RR were present in the meeting.

DC Shopian finalises Activity Plan for 'Meri Maati Mera Desh' campaign

J1 NEWS SERVICE

SHOPIAN, AUGUST 03: The District Administration Shopian today discussed the rollout of the 'Meri Maati Mera Desh' campaign in the district.

A meeting in this regard was held under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Faz Lal Haseeb at Meeting Hall of Mini-Secretariat Shopian. At the outset, the DC highlighted the importance of 'Meri Maati Mera Desh' campaign and said that it aims to foster a sense of unity and pride across all sections of society, celebrating India's rich heritage and patriotic spirit.

He expressed that celebrating 'Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav', the hall-mark event on Independence Day, 2023 will be paying tribute to the 'Veers' (martyrs) through ceremonies at all levels across the district.

He instructed that under the 'Meri Maati Mera Desh' programme, memo-

rial plaques would be placed at Amrit Sarovars, panchayat Ghars, parks and other public places in the memory of Martyrs who sacrificed their precious lives for the National cause. The DC also directed for ensuring hoisting of the National Flag at all Government Offices in the district. He also directed SDM Zainapora for the same at Zainapora Shopian, Assistant Commissioner Development and ARTO shall monitor implementation of the campaign and installation of hoardings and banners, at Panchayats, Fair Price shops, and vehicles in the district. A detailed outline of the events to be held in the district was given out through Power/point presentation wherein programmes will be held at each Panchayat and Blocks, colleges and schools under the theme 'Meri Maati Mera Desh' and stakeholders involved have been asked to make all the necessary preparations well in advance for the successful con-

duct of the campaign. The DFO territorial (concerned), DFO Social Forestry (Concerned), and BDOs were asked to ensure that the saplings are planted within well protected locations in panchayats.

NOTICE

I Khatjan Bibi D/O Mohd Din R/O Bachal, Sudhmahadev, Chenani, Udhampur, J&K. My name has wrongly been written in my insurance policy no 20737610. (PNB MetLife) Khatniza Banoo instead of Khatjan Bibi in my insurance policy. Now I am applying for the correction of the same above said. objection in any may be conveyed to concerning authority within 15 days from the publication of this notice.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA UNION TERRITORY JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, MECHANICAL DIVISION, JAMMU Tele-fax: +91-191-2453122, Email: xen-mdjammu@jk.gov.in /mdjxen@gmail.com NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

E-NIT No: MDJ/Tech/e-NIT/2023-24/25 DATED: 01/08/2023 DUE ON: 16/08/2023

On behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, Government of Jammu & Kashmir Bids are invited by Executive Engineer Mechanical Division Jammu by e- Tendering mode from reputed firms for undertaking the work as per SBD/BOQ.

S.No.	e-NIT No.	Description of work	Cost of tender	Time of completion	Tender opening authority
1.	MDJ/Tech/e-NIT/2023-24/08	Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Fire hydrant system at Sub District Hospital Jagti, Jammu	1000.00	45Days	Executive Engineer Mechanical Division Jammu

The e-NIT consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, terms & conditions, bill of quantities can be seen / downloaded from J&K Govt. website www.jktenders.gov.in.

All other information regarding the e-NIT can be had from the office of the undersigned on any working day during the working hours before due date

DIP/J-6211/23

SD/
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
MECHANICAL DIVISION
JAMMU.

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) CONST. DIVN. NO. II, JAMMU SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Short e-NIT No. 113 of 2023-2024/Div-2 Dated 31-07-2023

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir e-tenders are invited on percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with Union Territory of J&K, CPWD, Railways, MES and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works :-

S. No	Name of Work	Name of Division	Advertised Cost (Rs. in lacs)	Cost of document (in Rs.)	Earnest Money (in Rs.)	Time Allowed for complete-on	Time and date of opening of tender	Class of Contract or
1	Construction of CRC building at Jhajjar Kotli Nursery of Jammu District under CSS Silk Samagra-2 (HADP) for the year 2023-24.	PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. II Jammu	17.78	600	2% of Advertised Cost	03 Month	08-08-2023 (1.00Pm)	A, B & C Class
2	Construction of Parking shed for Two Wheeler Parking and Other allied works at Govt. College for Women Parade Ground, Jammu	PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. II Jammu	3.49	600	2% of Advertised Cost	20 Days	08-08-2023 (1.00Pm)	A, B, C & D Class
3	Repair and Renovation of Quarter no. 39 old water tank in NGO Quarter in Govt. Medical College, Jammu	PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. II Jammu	1.44	600	2% of Advertised Cost	10 Days	08-08-2023 (1.00Pm)	A, B, C & D Class

Position of AAA : Accreded

The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website <http://jktenders.gov.in> as per below schedule :-

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	31-07-2023
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 01-08-2023 to 07-08-2023 upto 1800 Hrs
3	Date, Time and place of pre-bid meeting	XXXXXXXX at XXXX Hrs. in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. II Jammu
4	Bid submission Start Date	01-08-2023
5	Bid Submission End Date	07-08-2023 upto 1800 Hrs
6	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	08-08-2023 on or after 1300 Hrs in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. II Jammu
7	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed

1. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of e-challan through Treasury indicating Treasury Voucher No. & date, e-NIT No. and name of work duly crediting to MH 0059 (Revenue) favoring Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. II Jammu and upload the same Le treasury challan / receipt. Earnest money/Bid security in shape of CDR/FDR/BC pledged to Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. II Jammu. The CDR/FDR/BC shall be valid for 45 Days beyond the bid validity period. The original instruments in respect of cost of documents, EMD and relevant documents of LI be submitted to the Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. II Jammu at the time of allotment.

2. The electronic bidding system would not allow any late submission of bids after due date and time as per server time. Bidders may modify their bids by uploading their request for modification before the deadline for submission of bids. For this, the bidder needs not to make any additional payment towards the cost of tender document. For bid modification and consequential re-submission, the bidder is not required to withdraw his bid submitted earlier. The last modified bid submitted by the bidder within the bid submission time shall be considered as the bid. For this purpose, modification/withdrawal by other means will not be accepted. In online system of bid submission, the modification and consequential-submission of bids is allowed any number of times. The bidders may withdraw his bid by uploading their request before the deadline for submission of bids; however, if the bid is withdrawn, the re-submission of the bid is not allowed. No bid shall be modified or withdrawn after the deadline of submission of bids.

3. The date and time of opening of Financial-Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The Financial-bids of responsive bidders shall be opened online in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. II Jammu. The date for same shall be intimated separately.

No - 2216-38
Dated :- 31-07-2023

DIP/J-6188/23

SD/
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
PWD (R&B) CONST. DIV. NO. II
JAMMU

Advisor Bhatnagar conducts extensive tour of Tangmarg

JJ NEWS SERVICE

TANGMARG (BARAMULLA), AUGUST 03: Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar today conducted an extensive tour of Tangmarg of the district to evaluate the progress on key projects and gain insights into the infrastructure and educational facilities available for the residents.

During the visit, the Advisor inspected Water supply Scheme at Heing, Tangmarg being executed under Jal Jeevan Mission, inspected Govt Middle School Shurai and Fazli Kashmiri Memorial Govt Higher Secondary School Chandilora and took stock of their functioning as well as academic activities.

While inspecting the water supply scheme at Heing, Advisor Bhatnagar highlighted that this is a crucial infrastructure project aimed at providing a sustainable and reliable water supply to the locals here, adding that the present LG led Administration is committed to provide tap water to all the residents and rural households of Jammu and Kashmir under the Jal Jeevan Mission.

The Advisor during the inspection took stock of the ongoing works and interacted with the project officials as well as the representatives of executing agency.



He emphasized upon them to complete the project at the earliest so that the clean tap water is provided to the locals of the area.

Meanwhile, Advisor Bhatnagar also visited Government Middle School Shurai and Fazli Kashmiri Memorial Government Higher Secondary School Chandilora here and took first hand appraisal of educational infrastructure as well as assessment of quality of education being provided to students. The Advisor's visit was aimed to gather valuable feedback and identify areas that need improvement in order to enhance the overall educational experience for the students.

At Government Middle School Shurai, Advisor Bhatnagar appreciated the efforts of the school staff in maintaining a conducive learning environment at the school. He engaged with the teachers, and school management, encouraging them to continue their dedication towards imparting quality education and providing a nurturing environment for the students. He emphasized on them to focus on extracurricular activities also, which are essential for the holistic development of students.

During the visits to schools, the Advisor also took note of the infrastructure requirements and assured the school management of government's commitment of providing necessary resources to enhance the learning environment. Later, during the visit, Advisor Bhatnagar also held detailed interaction with DDC members, BDC members, PRI representatives, school children and sought feedback from them about the academic activities of the institution.

Meanwhile, at Fazli Kashmiri Memorial Government Higher Secondary School Chandilora, Advisor Bhatnagar lauded the commitment of the school's faculty in delivering quality education to the students. He emphasized on the importance of continuous professional development for teachers to stay abreast of the latest teaching methodologies and technologies.

INTERACTS WITH DDC, BDC MEMBERS, PRI REPRESENTATIVES, LOCALS

ALSO INSPECTS EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, ONGOING WORKS AT KEY PROJECTS

While interacting with the faculty, Advisor Bhatnagar highlighted that government is committed to uplift the living standards of the people in Tangmarg and reiterated the commitment to providing quality education and other essential services to the area. He remarked that the government is fostering sustainable development and improving educational facilities for our students as well as health facilities for the citizens here.

The PRI representatives and locals, while interacting with the Advisor raised several issues and demands before the Advisor and sought immediate redressal of same. The Advisor assured them that all of their genuine issues will be addressed on priority, while he also passed directions to concerned officers for redressing some issues on spot.

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Kathua: Mining Department seizes 13 dumpers

JJ NEWS SERVICE

KATHUA, Aug 03: District Mineral Officer, Rajinder Singh Rana seized 13 Punjab based dumpers for indulging in illegal mining at Gandial areas of district here today. Acting swiftly on inputs of dumpers entered in Gandial areas from Pathankote side, team of Geology and Mining Department rushed to the spot and caught all 11 vehicles on the spot while 2 others were seized at Taraf Tajwal. Meanwhile, 3 dumpers fled the spot.

Strict warning was given to violators for not lifting mineral from any stone crusher without e-challans and GST bills besides following the transportation guidelines and all rules of Geology and Mining Department as per SRO-105 and MMDR Act of 1957.

Deputy Commissioner, Rakesh Minhas was immediately apprised about the incident who instructed the department to remain cautioned while conducting raids and impose heavy penalties on the vehicles and machines involved in illegal mining.

DMO further informed that the mineral guards are working day and night to control illegal mining activities in Ravi-Uji rivers, Tamah and other khads during monsoon season and have kept strong vigilance on the transportation of mineral from Kathua to Punjab and other areas.

Sheetal Nanda inaugurates three day Assistive Devices distribution camp at Jammu

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUGUST 03: Commissioner Secretary, Social Welfare Department (SWD), Sheetal Nanda today inaugurated three day Assistive Devices distribution camp for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) at residential school for blind, Roop Nagar here.

The camp was organized by Department of Social Welfare Jammu in collaboration with Artificial limbs corporation of India (ALIMCO).

During the camp, the Commissioner Secretary distributed prosthetic aids/assistive devices like Tricycles, wheel chairs, hearing aids, smart phones, smart cans among identified differently abled persons. The beneficiaries were selected on the basis of assessment camp held in month of May by Social welfare department in collaboration with ALIMCO. Artificial limbs were also provided to the identified beneficiaries during the camp.

On the occasion, Sheetal Nanda also interacted with the divyaanjan and gave them a peaceful hearing. She also inspected residential school for blinds being run by social welfare department and directed for immediate remodeling of the home.

Director General, Social welfare Department, Vivek Sharma; MD Mission Vatsalya, Harvinder Kour; senior officers of SWD, PRI representatives, members of JMC and large number of locals were also present on the occasion.

GDC Ramgarh organises poster making competition on organ donation

JJ NEWS SERVICE



Participants in poster making competition on organ donation.

SAMBA, AUGUST 03: The National Service Scheme (NSS) Unit-Prabha of Government Degree College Ramgarh celebrated 'Angdhan Mahotsav' under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav by organising a pledge and a poster-making competition on 'Angdhan se Jeevan Daan'.

A large number of students of the College participated in the event. All the enrolled students and faculty members pledged towards organ donation. The pledge was administered by NSS volunteer, Vimal Singh.

Principal of the college, Prof. Dr.) Geetanjali Andotra, motivated the gathering to come forward and pledge to donate organs to save another life.

NSS Program Officer, Dr. Shamsher Lal, highlighted the importance of organ donation.

3 days Painters' Meet under NMBA held in Rajouri

JJ NEWS SERVICE

RAJOURI, AUGUST 03: The Himalayan Education Mission Rajouri, in collaboration with the Jammu and Kashmir Centre for Creative Arts, organised a three-day National Painters' Camp in Rajouri under the banner of Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan and as part of Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav.

The event aimed to harness creativity to spread awareness about the harmful effects of drugs and create a drug-free society. Talented painters from across the nation showcased their artwork and contributed towards this noble cause. The event was graced by Deputy Commissioner, Vikas Kundal, who served as the chief guest and Additional Deputy Commissioner, Rajeev Kumar Khajuria.

The DC praised the efforts of the Himalayan Education Mission Rajouri and the Jammu and Kashmir Centre for Creative Arts for organising such an impactful event. He emphasised how art has the power to transcend boundaries and touch hearts and urged everyone to work towards creating a drug-free society.

In his speech, the ADC stressed the importance of collective action in the fight against drug abuse and highlighted the role of art in creating social awareness.

Div Com reviews implementation of Forest Dwellers Act, 4G saturation



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUGUST 03: Divisional Commissioner, Ramesh Kumar, chaired a meeting with Deputy Commissioners and officers from Forest Department and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited to review the implementation of the Schedule Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers Act and pending land transfer cases for 4G saturation.

The Div Com reviewed pending land transfer cases for 4G tower installation of BSNL for better connectivity, while Deputy Commissioners informed about the total number of locations/sites involved and the status of land allotment to BSNL in their respective districts. The Div Com observed a mismatch of data shared and directed BSNL Officers to compile data in consultation with district administrations.

Deputy Commissioners were directed to expedite cases for early tower installation. The Div Com also inquired about the status of settlement claims received in the districts under the Schedule Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers Act. He instructed DCs to expedite progress and ensure early settlement of all pending cases. The meeting was attended by the Chief Conservator of Forests, Officers of BSNL, Information Technology besides Deputy Commissioners of Jammu division alongwith other concerned officers participated in the meeting through video conferencing.

Sheetal Nanda inaugurates Sakhi Niwas at Jammu



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUGUST 03: Commissioner Secretary, Social Welfare Department (SWD), Sheetal Nanda today inaugurated Rousing Women's Hostel; "Sakhi Niwas" at Roop Nagar here.

Director General, Social welfare Department, Vivek Sharma; MD Mission Vatsalya, Harvinder Kour and other senior officers of SWD were present on the occasion. Speaking on the occasion, Sheetal Nanda highlighted about the importance of "SAKHI NIWAS" under the Mission Shakti guidelines. She further said that efforts of Social Welfare Department is to reach out to various sections of society by conducting awareness events, campaigns, which are all aimed towards women upliftment. She added that the idea behind this initiative to strengthen the gender equality and empowerment of women and girls at all level.

The SAKHI NIWAS is established by Social welfare department, Jammu under the Mission Shakti guidelines. This hostel facility is for women hailing from rural areas in search of employment and higher education or training in the heart of Jammu city.

The scheme also addresses women rights to work and to free choice of profession and employment. The Women hostel has the facilities of Study Room, Kitchen with cook. Furthermore, it provides safe and women friendly atmosphere under the 24x7 supervision of security guards.

Govt to develop model infrastructure, special facilities in Verinag: CS

TWO-DAY SOUTH KASHMIR ADVENTURE EVENT CONCLUDES AT VERINAG

JJ NEWS SERVICE

VERINAG, AUGUST 03: Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta today said Verinag is an important tourist destination and constant efforts are being made to enhance the destination with modern state of the art tourist infrastructure.

He made these remarks in his virtual address during the concluding ceremony of two-day multi-activity event 'South Kashmir Adventure' organised by Directorate of Tourism Kashmir, Secretary Tourism and Culture, Deputy Commissioner Anantnag, Director Tourism, CEO Verinag, renowned artists and locals participated in the event.

Maintaining that tourism promotion is a top priority of the government, Chief Secretary said that Verinag offers scenic beauty at par with other major tourist destinations and all efforts are being taken to tap its full potential.

Chief Secretary said that there are certain things which are lacking but it is the endeavour of the government to ensure that the shortcomings are addressed immediately and all the facilities are available to the tourists.

He said that the coming times will be much better for the locals as the youth of the Valley have a vision to move forward.

He said that the serenity and hospitality of the place is mesmerizing and has a potential to attract tourist from all over the world.

Dr Mehta also interacted with the locals and adventure enthusiasts who thanked the government for upscaling the infrastructure and organising adventure and cultural events for the promotion of tourism sector which adds to the economy of the local populace.

Secretary Tourism, Dr Syed Abid Rasheed Shah in his address said that Jammu and Kashmir government is launching new initiatives and attractions for tourists to enjoy which can have a positive impact on the local economy. He said that Jammu and Kashmir has much more to offer than just its natural beauty - it has the potential to become a hub for adventure tourism. He said that activities such as trekking, mountaineering, skiing, river rafting, and paragliding are all examples of adventure tourism and Kashmir has all the necessary ingredients to become a popular destination for adventure tourism as it has some of the highest mountains in the world which offer excellent opportunities for trekking and mountaineering.

Secretary Tourism further said that promoting adventure tourism has several benefits that can help to diversify the tourism industry by attracting a new segment of tourists who are interested in exploring the great outdoors and seeking new challenges.

During the two days multi-activity event, participants from various parts of the valley displayed remarkable enthusiasm in engaging in diverse activities such as cycling, mountain biking, ATV riding, trekking and off-roading. The event was not only aimed to encourage adventure seekers but also advocate astro-tourism in the region. The expedition traversed through the locales including Kokernag, Daksum, Sinthan Top, and returned to Kokernag for the night stay. On the second day, the expedition started from Kokernag, to Achabal, Chatpal, and concluded at Verinag where a cultural night including events like star gazing, musical event, and other entertainment activities were held mesmerizing the audience. The stellar performance of popular Kashmiri folk singer Noor Mohammad was a breathtaking one. The audience was enthralled by various other singers and dance groups' performances during the event which drew a large crowd.

SKUAST Jammu hosts 30th Annual Group Meeting of AICRP on Rapeseed Mustard

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUGUST 03: The 30th Annual Group Meeting of the All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Rapeseed Mustard commenced at Baba Jitto Auditorium, SKUAST-Jammu today. Vice-Chancellor SKUAST-Jammu, Dr. BN Tripathi, was the Chief Guest, while ADG (Oilseeds & Pulses), ICAR, New Delhi, Dr. Sanjeev Gupta, was the Guest of Honour.

In his address, Tripathi highlighted the challenges posed by projected population growth and stressed the need for improvement in agricultural practices and sustainable farming techniques. He emphasised that technological interventions and sustainable farming practices must be embraced by all stakeholders to enhance productivity while minimising environmental impact. Addressing the alarming deficit in oilseed production, Tripathi highlighted that the country currently faces over 60% annual demand shortfall. Jammu and Kashmir (Union Territory) also reported a deficit in total oilseed production by over 70%.

He praised the role of the ICAR sanctioned AICRP sub-centre at SKUAST-Jammu in increasing the acreage and productivity of rapeseed mustard crops in the region. The initiative has achieved remarkable results over the past decade, with acreage increasing from 55,000 hectares and productivity from 762 kg/ha in 2012 to 140,000 hectares and 1149 kg/ha, respectively in 2022. He also appreciated the recent sanction of a Rs 31 crore project by the Jammu and Kashmir Government, focusing on the promotion of oilseeds under the Holistic Agricultural Development Project (HADP).



Participants at the 30th Annual Group Meeting of AICRP on Rapeseed Mustard.

During the meeting, Gupta emphasised the significance of oilseed production and the challenges and opportunities in the sector. He stated that ICAR is actively collaborating with NITI Aayog to set challenges and goals for the year 2027, aimed to achieve surplus production in oilseeds, pulses, meat, fruits and vegetables.

Gupta mentioned that ICAR is actively working on a diverse range of 65 oilseed varieties to develop new and improved varieties to address evolving needs. He stated that the current production scenario as per the 3rd advance estimates for 2023 projected a total of 41 million tonnes of oilseed production during the year.

Director Research, SKUAST-Jammu, Dr. RK Samotra, highlighted the potential of the Jammu region for rapeseed mustard cultivation and praised the contributions of the AICRP (Rapeseed Mustard) Clauha centre in developing beneficial varieties for the region's farmers.