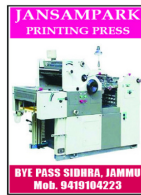




# JINDRAH IMAGES



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## People are living their lives without fear and on their own terms: LG

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, AUGUST 7

Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today attended Hindustan Shikhar Samagam, 'Badalte Kashmir Ki Buland Awaaz', organised by Hindustan and ABP News Network at Srinagar.

The Lt Governor shared transformational journey of UT of Jammu Kashmir, the socio-economic scenario and the unprecedented growth registered across all sectors in the last few years. "Under the guidance of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji, J&K is growing at an impressive pace and the rapid development in the diverse sectors over three successive years



### LG inaugurates Veshaw Literary Festival at Kulgam



J1 NEWS SERVICE  
KULGAM, AUGUST 7

Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today visited Kulgam and inaugurated the Veshaw Literary Festival organised by Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts (IGNCA) and District Administration.

During his visit, the Lt Governor paid homage to the martyrs, who made supreme sacrifice to protect

is unprecedented in the history of the UT," the Lt Governor said. "People are united for their bright future and committed to build a new J&K of their dreams. Youth are exploring all the opportunities to realise their talent and skill and also supporting development aspirations of the society. Women, farmers, tribals, under-

privileged, poor and weaker sections are becoming socio-economically empowered," he said. Speaking on the security scenario, the Lt Governor said the record influx of tourists, industrial investments, the successful conduct of the G20 summit and other national and

## Infiltration bid foiled, Hizb Commander tasked to revive terrorism in Pir Panchal killed

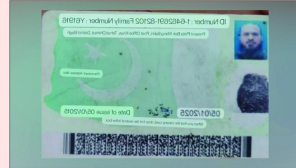
J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, AUG 7

The security forces on Monday killed a divisional commander of Hizbul Mujahideen while another terrorist was injured after an infiltration attempt was foiled, an official said.

The official said that with the foiling of this infiltration bid, a conspiracy by proscribed outfit to revive its activities in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district has also been thwarted.

"The body of Hizbul Commander Muneer Hussain was recovered along with a huge cache of arms and ammunition, while the body of another terrorist could not be retrieved as he managed to return to the other side of the Line of Control (LoC) in Deswar sector before falling on the ground. He is presumed dead," said Jammu based Defence Spokesperson, Lt Col Suneel Bartwal.

Divulging more details, the spokesperson as per the news agency, said Army and



Special Operations Group (SoG) of Jammu & Kashmir Police launched a complete intelligence based operation across the chances of an infiltration. "At approximately around 0200 hrs, during the night of 06/07 August 2023, alert troops in the Poonch Sector observed a suspicious movement of a group of two individuals trying to sneak across the Line of Control," he said, adding, "Troops kept the movement of the infiltrating group under continuous observation through new generation electro optical devices and as both the infiltrators moved towards own LC, the ambushes chal-

lenged the infiltrators." On being challenged, the infiltrators opened fire on their own troops. In the ensuing fire-fight, one terrorist was shot dead and another injured. The injured terrorist managed to sneak into the forest close to the border, taking advantage of the thick foliage, rain and rocky outcrop. The area was immediately cordoned to prevent their escape across the Line of Control, the spokesperson said. "Joint search operation was launched after first light in which the dead body of one terrorist was recovered. The other one is also presumed to have

## LS passes bill to recognise pharmacists qualified under J&K pharmacy act

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, AUG 7

The Lok Sabha on Monday passed a bill allowing persons qualified or registered under the Jammu and Kashmir Pharmacy Act to be registered as pharmacists under the Pharmacy Act, thus doing away with the ambiguity with regard to the two legislations.

Piloting the Pharmacy (Amendment) Bill, 2023, Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said that changes will increase job opportunities for the youth of Jammu and Kashmir.

The bill, which was passed by voice vote in the Lower House, seeks to do away with issues concerning the status of persons registered or qualified under the Jammu and Kashmir Pharmacy Act.

Under the current dispensation, registration under the Pharmacy Act is mandatory for persons practising pharmacy in the country.



"Any person whose name has been entered in the register of pharmacists maintained under the Jammu and Kashmir Pharmacy Act, 2011, or possesses qualification (medical assistant/ pharmacists)... shall be deemed to have been entered in the register of pharmacists prepared and maintained under Chapter IV of this (Pharmacy) Act," said the statement of objects and reasons of the bill. Replying to the short debate on the Bill, Mandaviya said the situation in Jammu and Kashmir has changed significantly after the abrogation of Article 370 and the

amendments to the Pharmacy Act will enable the youth to take up even government jobs.

He further said the facility of tele-consultation is now available in Jammu and Kashmir and people are taking advantage of it to get the best possible medical treatment.

The minister further said that the government's Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme is transforming the healthcare sector in the country with domestic industry taking up production of critical medicine and reducing dependence on imports.

## DGP sanctions special welfare relief of over Rs 1.01 cr; financial assistance for martyr's daughter

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, AUG 7

Continuing with its welfare measures and to provide assistance to the families of the police personnel, SPOs, the Director General of Police (DGP) Dilbag Singh Monday sanctioned Special Welfare Relief of over Rs 1.01 crore for the next of kin of seven deceased police personnel, SPOs vide different orders.

The Special Welfare Relief of rupees 22 lakh each has been sanctioned in favour of dependents, legal heirs of deceased police personnel ASI Bashir Ahmad, ASI Sansar Chand, SgCt Nazir Ahmad and Follower Sohail Singh who passed away while in service, a

## J&K records highest-ever developmental works in last over 3 years: CS Mehta

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, AUG 7

Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta on Monday said that Jammu & Kashmir has witnessed the highest ever developmental works in the past over three years and Kashmir's real culture is being revived where there was no place for violence.

Addressing a gathering during a function in South Kashmir's Kulgam district, Dr Mehta, as per the news agency, said that Jammu & Kashmir as per the

## Democracy has been established in J&K for first time since independence: PM

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, AUG 7

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on August 7 took a dig at the Congress, saying that there were no concrete efforts made to strengthen Panchayati Raj Institutions in the country, and Jammu and Kashmir is the biggest example where democracy has been established at the ground level after 2019, following abrogation of Article 370.

Mr. Modi said that for over four decades after the country's Independence, the Congress did not get to understand how vital it was to imple-



ment the Panchayati Raj system in villages. He was virtually addressing the two-day regional Panchayati Raj council held in Haryana. "During Congress's regime, there were no concrete efforts made to strengthen Panchayati Raj Institutions. Maximum work was limited to figures and documents.

Jammu and Kashmir is the biggest example. In the year 2019, after Article 370 was abrogated, it was for the first time that elections were held there from the gram panchayat (village) level to the zila (district) level, in which, over 33,000 local public representatives have been elected," he said.

"It's for the first time that democracy has been established there [Jammu and Kashmir] at the ground level. This has come after so many years after the Independence," he said. Mr. Modi said after this when a mechanism

## Lok Sabha passes landmark 'Anusandhan' bill moved by Dr Jitendra Singh

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, AUG 7

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology, MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh today moved the landmark Bill in Lok Sabha to establish "Anusandhan" National Research Foundation (ANRF). The bill was later passed by a majority vote after debate by the members which was followed by the Minister's reply.

Moving the Bill, Dr Jitendra Singh described it as rationalisation and democratisation of human resource and research funding.

The Minister said, the



new Act will provide high level strategic direction for research, innovation and entrepreneurship in the fields of natural sciences including mathematical sciences, engineering and technology, environmental and earth sciences, health and agriculture. He said that since India's future economic growth will be Science & Technology driven, ANRF will prepare India for a global role as India takes lead in addressing global chal-

lenges as envisioned by Prime Minister Modi. He also said that this is going to be a historic step as this would lead to rationalisation and democratisation of human resources and research funding.

The Minister said, it will also promote scientific and technological interfaces of humanities and social sciences to promote, monitor and provide support as required for such research and for matters connected therewith or incidental

thereto. It may be recalled that on 28th June, 2023 the Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi approved the introduction of the National Research Foundation (NRF) Bill, 2023 in the Parliament. The approved Bill will pave the way to establish NRF that will seed, grow and promote Research and Development (R&D) and foster a culture of research and innovation throughout India's universities, colleges, research institutions, and R&D laboratories. The bill, after approval in the Parliament, will establish NRF, an apex body to provide high-level strategic direction of scientific research in

## Fresh batch of pilgrims leaves from Srinagar for Amarnath Yatra

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, AUG 7

Another batch of pilgrims left from Pantha Chowk base camp in Srinagar for their onward pilgrimage to Amarnath cave shrine on Monday morning.

The pilgrims were heard shouting 'Bam Bam Bhole' Slogans on the way to the holy shrine. "The arrangements made for the yatra are very good, I have not seen such a facility anywhere. I would like to thank our Army for this. I will come here every year." Devi Lal kumawat, a pilgrim said. "Administration has helped in every way; local people are also very cooperative. Everyone should come and see Kashmir, we are very happy to be here,"

## Efforts on to resolve it: EAM Jaishankar on eastern Ladakh row

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, AUG 7

India and China made progress in the Line of Actual Control in eastern Ladakh through talks in the last three years and efforts are underway to resolve the remaining issues, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said on Monday.

Rejecting the opposition's criticism of the Government on the lingering border row, he told a group of reporters that complexities are involved and both sides are engaged to find solutions.

The Indian and Chinese troops are locked in an over three-year confrontation in certain friction



points in eastern Ladakh even as the two sides completed disengagement from several areas following extensive diplomatic and military talks. "It was said that we will not be able to do anything, talks will not be successful, there will be no progress, disengagement cannot take place, but solutions were found in some of the focal

## Neelkanth Ganjoo murder case | SIA seeks public assistance in investigation

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, AUG 7

Jammu and Kashmir Police's State Investigation Agency (SIA) has sought public assistance to investigate murder case of famed judge Neelkanth Ganjoo.

The SIA, has through a communiqué appealed all persons familiar with facts or circumstances of Neelkanth Ganjoo murder case to come forward and share any account of events which has direct or indirect bearing on the investigation of the instant case in order to unearth the larger criminal conspiracy into the matter.

"Identity of all such persons shall be



# Under present dispensation, tourism sector is getting ignored in Jammu region: Rattan Lal Gupta



JJ NEWS SERVICE

**UDHAMPUR, AUG 07:** J&K National Conference today launched a scathing attack against the present dispensation for its hollow claims with regard to the unprecedented development witnessed in the tourism sector.

Addressing a meeting of party functionaries of District Udhampur Rural, Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President JKNC Jammu said tourism is an essential pillar of Jammu and Kashmir's economy, contributing significantly to its growth and employment opportunities. He said that the government's assertions regarding its efforts to boost tourism industry have failed to materialize in any tangible outcomes. Despite extravagant promises, the ground reality presents a stark contrast to the claims made by the authorities. The Provincial President questioned the LG led Administration that how much tourists who visited the Jammu region, excluding the famous Mata Vaishno Devi and Baba Amarnath Shrine, in the past year. He questioned the government's efforts in enhancing tourism in the area by stating that the current administration has failed to create infrastructure for the development of tourism in the region.

The LG administration is also failed

to create a religious circuit in Jammu despite the presence of several religious places across the region. Despite the high number of visitors to revered sites such as Shree Mata Vaishno Devi, Shadra Sharief, Sarthal Devi Mata, Machail Mata, Sukrala Mata, Shiv Khori, Kol Kandoli Temple, Purmandal, Utterbehi, Krimchi Temple, and many others, the government has not capitalized on the potential of these religious circuits to boost tourism in the Jammu region, he said.

Rattan Lal Gupta said that several tourist places like Patnitop, Mansar, Surinsar, Peer Ki Gali, Noori Chahamb, the seven lakes at Poonch Rajouri, Bhadarwah, Kishtwar, Suchetgarh, and others, which have the capacity to boost tourism in Jammu region. He asked the LG Administration to clarify the infrastructure developments made in these tourist attractions.

He firmly believed that the creation of a religious circuit and the implementation of necessary infrastructure could significantly enhance tourism in Jammu. By developing and promoting various tourist destinations across the region, creating a religious circuit, and investing in necessary infrastructure, the potential for tourism growth and economic opportunities can be realized, he added. The Provincial

President emphasized the victory of National Conference in the upcoming ULB and Panchayat polls as the solution to every problem.

The meeting was convened under the chairmanship of Ram Parshotam Sharma, District President Udhampur Rural who also briefed the senior functionaries about the hardships being faced by the people of Ramnagar, Cheanni and other rural far flung areas of District Udhampur. The party functionaries also discussed threadbare regarding the upcoming elections of Cheanni and Ramnagar municipalities.

Sheikh Bashir Ahmed, Provincial Secretary JKNC, raised concerns about the declining economy of Jammu due to anti-people measures by the government, particularly in ending the shifting of the annual Darbar Move. More than 50,000 government employees who moved to Jammu every year with the Civil Secretariat have significantly contributed to the local economy during their six-month stay.

Pardeep Bali and Vijay Lochan, senior NC leaders appealed to the people to strengthen the hands of Dr. Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah in the upcoming elections. They called upon the public to rally behind these accomplished politicians for a brighter future. Meanwhile, Mir Qasim Wani, Retd. Sub Inspector of J&K Police of Basantnagar, Shah Ali of Chenani and Aryan Jamwal, of Udhampur along with their supporters joined the Party under the leadership of District President Ram Parshotam Sharma and in presence of senior functionaries of the party. Among those who were present include: Mohd Shafi Adv, Rajesh Gupta Adv, Lal Chand Musafir, Vijay Khajuria, Prem Nath Nami, Govind Chaitra, Tanveer Sheikh, Naresh Anthal, Mohan Lal, Ramesh Kumar, Bushan Kalotra, John Willson, Rama Gupta, V.D Shrista, Puspita Bhagat, Madhu Verma, Geeta Handu and others.

# IHRO LG admin for refunding excess fees taken by GMCH Jammu from BSc Nursing Students



**JAMMU, AUG 07:** In a remarkable display of unity and determination, nursing students from the Government Nursing College Gangyal, Jammu, achieved a significant victory after a prolonged protest against exorbitant fees. Spearheaded by the International Human Rights Organization (IHRO), with Akash Bhagat, Youth Provincial President Jammu IHRO J&K, playing a main role from start to end, the students' relentless pursuit of justice has resulted in the initiation of a refund process for the excessive fees charged by the Govt Medical College Jammu.

The catalyst for their outrage was the glaring disparity between the fees specified in the 2017 notification from the Health and Medical Education

Department and the exorbitant fees actually charged by the college. According to the 2017 notification, nursing colleges were directed to charge INR 10,500 for the first year and INR 4,600 for the subsequent three years. However, Government Nursing College Gangyal chose to charge a staggering INR 70,000 and INR 50,000 for the first year, and INR 30,000 and INR 50,000 (for APL category students) for the subsequent three years. This significant deviation from the specified fees ignited the students' determination to fight against this injustice.

On the guidance of Chairman J&K International Human Rights Organization (IHRO) Adv. Pardeep Singh Chib, IHRO J&K Youth President Shubham Langer, along with Akash Bhagat, Youth Provincial President Jammu IHRO J&K, and stu-

dents of BSc nursing, met Bhupinder Kumar, Commissioner Secretary Health and Medical Education J&K. They presented all the relevant matters, after which he initiated the process that eventually led to the refund of the excess fees.

The protest, which began on October 17, 2022, gained momentum over time, culminating in a successful outcome that many thought impossible. The IHRO played a crucial role, with Akash Bhagat, Youth Provincial President Jammu IHRO J&K, at the forefront, guiding and supporting the students throughout their journey and leading them to a meeting with the Secretary of Health & Medical Education. The protest, which lasted for nearly one year, showcased the unwavering determination of the students some namely tarun raina , gowhar ishaq , umar farooq ,faisal urfa javed , tamana sheotra ,harshika dhanki of Government Nursing College Gangyal.

Thanks to the collaborative efforts and the dedication of the students, as well as the remarkable leadership of Akash Bhagat, Youth Provincial President Jammu IHRO J&K, justice has been served, and the nursing students will now receive the rightful refund of the excess fees charged by GMC Jammu. This victory stands as a testament to the power of unity and the unwavering spirit of those who strive for fairness and justice.

# NSF pays tributes to Rabindranath Tagore

**JAMMU, AUG 07:** National Secular Forum (NSF), Jammu unit today paid rich tributes to Rabindranath Tagore on his death anniversary.

A programme in this connection was organized wherein Dr Vikas Sharma Coordinator Jammu District (Urban) and Secretary Central Zone JKNC was the Chief Guest while TR Sharma KAS (Retd), Presided over the function. Vikshay Vashist, Secretary NSF, was the guest of honour.

The activists of NSF paid tributes to Rabindranath Tagore and garlanded the portraits of the son of soil.

Speaking on the occasion Dr Vikas Sharma threw light on the life history of Rabindranath Tagore and appreciat-

ed the efforts of NSF and appealed to the youth to come forward to eliminate all evils from the society.

Dr. Vikas Sharma expressed that present day youth was frustrated due to lack of job opportunities and neck deep corruption in the recruitment process being followed by the UT administration.

He mentioned that people have suffered a lot during the last four years especially after the abrogation of Article 370, bifurcation of Jammu and Kashmir and downgraded of State to a Union Territory. Dr Vikas urged the young generation to strengthen the hands of J&K National Conference (JKNC) enabling it to redouble its efforts to get the status of Jammu and Kashmir statehood restored.

While Speaking Sh TR Sharma KAS (Retd) stressed upon the youth to shun their self-centred outlook and contribute to the development of the nation. He also threw light on the achievements of Rabindranath Tagore who was a Bengali poet, philosopher, artist, playwright, composer, novelist and India's first Nobel laureate.

Vikshay Vashist in his speech said that such great people could not be ignored.

Among those who were present on the occasion including, Roshan Sharma, Abhishek Uppal, Aditya Khajuria, Ankush Babu, Umar Charak, Vineet Gupta, Ishyaq Ahmed, Aditya Sharma, Puneet Bakshi, Zafar iqbal, Jafar Ali Mughal, Sumit Manhas and others.

# No dearth of funds to transform Jammu into a 'Model City': Kavinder Gupta



JJ NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU, AUG 07:** Senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister, Kavinder Gupta has asserted that there is no dearth of funds in transforming Jammu into a Model City and Administration is seriously engaged in this endeavour. He said that the goal can be achieved successfully with the people's proactive participation.

The senior BJP leader was speaking after starting development work of laying

tiles in the Sai Vihar Marble Market of Ward No. 52, Jammu. On the occasion, Councillor Ajay Gupta, Rekha Gupta District President, Vinay Gupta senior leader, Nceeraj Lucky Pari Mandal President, Ajay Pargal, Abhay Pargal, Narinder Koki, Parveen Pargal, Ravi Kumar, Nitin Thapa, and Ajay Badan were present.

During his address, Kavinder Gupta highlighted the rapid development taking place across the City of Temples. He commended the J&K Administration and the government at the Centre for their determination to establish Jammu as a model city for others to emulate. He assured that there is no dearth of funds available to ensure the successful completion of this project in the shortest possible time. The government is working tirelessly to create state-of-the-art modern facilities and infrastructure in every corner of Jammu City, he added.

However, Kavinder emphasized that the trans-

formation of the city cannot be accomplished without the active participation of its people. He called upon the people to join hands and contribute their efforts towards making Jammu a model city.

Kavinder also expressed his appreciation for the exceptional work carried out by local Councillor Ajay Gupta in his ward. He urged the residents of Ward No. 47 to play a vital role in setting an example for other wards, showcasing the effective and result-oriented participation necessary for making Jammu a model city.

Councillor Ajay Gupta, in his speech, emphasized the importance of the community's involvement in the development of Jammu. He called upon the people to actively participate and contribute towards making their city a model for others to follow. He assured the people that several development projects are in the pipeline and will be implemented in a phased manner.

# Gojri film 'ye Rodiya' with plight of Tribals awarded at International Film Festival

**JAMMU, AUG 07:** The Two-Day International Film Festival culminated at the Auditorium of Mata Vaishno Devi Spiritual Growth Centre, Katra(Jammu). On the concluding day of the Film Festival an Award Ceremony was held in presence of special guests who are National and International Film personalities. Prominent among them were Actor(s) Preeti Sapru, Yashpal Sharma, Suman Talwar and Vijay Varma besides Filmmaker Mohmad Rasheed from Maldives. Many awards were distributed in number of categories but the highlight of the event was that the team who made a film on the Tribals of Jammu and Kashmir - Bakerwals once again compelled the Jury and the Organisers to recognise their splendid work. The Gojri Film- 'YE RODIYA' (the untold apathy) brings forth the miseries of the tribal sect (Bakerwals) of Jammu and Kashmir. The special thing about this Gojri Film is that none of the crew which include Actor, Director of Photography, Music Director, Producer or even the Director of this lovely piece of Art in shape of a Film speaks or even knows Gojri Language. The Director Sachin Dhar for the Gojri Film - 'YE RODIYA' was Awarded for his excellent Clarity in

vision which was translated in the most effective way on Silver Screen of this International Film Festival of Jammu and Kashmir (IFFJK) held at Katra. This is the third time this Gojri Film has been Awarded in India. The Producer of the Film Sanjay, K Raina was all praises for the entire team of 'YE RODIYA' especially the Director Sachin Dhar who put in his strenuous efforts to bring the Film upto this level. The Producer for the Gojri Film announced one more Short Film for the upcoming International Film Festivals in a couple of months besides resolving to send this Film in the Film Festivals being hosted out of India. Director for the film Sachin Dhar who has been earlier Awarded in Feature Film and Short Film Category at Jammu and Kashmir International Film Festival(JKIFF) held at Pune and Jammu Film Festival(JFF) held at Jammu despite being Awarded as Best Director on the sidelines of the Award Ceremony appreciated the sincere efforts of his entire team and expressed that a Director's Vision attains perfection when the prime Cast and Crew of any film is able to translate that vision onto the Silver Screen. The team for this brilliant film 'Ye RODIYA' includes fine Actor(s) like Ritu Mehra, Anjana Mishra, Sunil Koul, Balwinder Singh, Manoj Bhat,

# CCI lauds PM Modi for redevelopment of Railway Stations in Jammu region



JJ NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU, AUG 07:** Arun Gupta Senior Chamber of Commerce & Industry the meeting of the Office Bearers held today expressed his gratitude and thanks to the Union Govt, headed by Sh. Narendra Modi Hon'ble Prime Minister of India for including the Railway Stations of Jammu and Udhampur for redevelopment with world class facilities resembling like Airports.

Chamber also thanks the Hon'ble Union Minister of State in PMO Office Dr. Jatinder Singh and Sh. Jugal Kishore Sharma, Hon'ble MP with whose efforts the Railway Stations of

Jammu and Udhampur will get world class facilities.

Arun Gupta further said that the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme involves preparation of Master Plans and their implementation in a phased manner to improve the amenities at the stations like improvement of access to the stations, circulating area, walnut halls, Toilets, Lifts and escalators besides cleanliness, free Wi-Fi etc.

Further Sh. Arun Gupta, President CCI request Dr. Jatinder Singh, Hon'ble Union MOS in PMO Office to take up the matter with the Railway Ministry that Jammu Railway Station should get the Divisional Status like Ferozpur though it has been

announced years back but no further steps have been taken in this regard.

Gupta also said that only one train is running between Jammu-Hariwar on daily basis. Although a new train has been started but it is running for two days a week. The people of Jammu are travelling Hariwar frequently to perform religious rituals but due to availability of train for 2 days only they are facing lot of inconvenience, we demand that this train should be operated on daily basis

Arun Gupta further said that at present only one train is running between Jammu and Jaipur where from thousands of pilgrims visit to Katra for pilgrimage. There is utter need to introduce new super fast trains from State of Rajasthan especially Jaipur for facilitation of Mata Vaishno Devi pilgrimage. Arun Gupta also demanded that few new trains and some existing ones be restricted exclusively up to the Jammu Railway Station and Visitors be encouraged to travel to the city of Jammu keeping in view its historical importance and in order to give boost to the economy of this city of temples.

The other office bearers present in the meeting include Sh. Anil Gupta, Sr. Vice President, Sh. Rajeev Gupta, Jr. Vice President, Sh. Manish Gupta, Secretary General, Sh. Rajesh Gupta, Secretary and Sh. Rajesh Gupta, Treasurer.



## Shiv Sena Hindustan Youth Wing protest against JPDCL



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 07: Shiv Sena Hindustan J&K Youth President Ganesh Choudhary today led strong protest against JPDCL over sending inflated power bills to poor people at Bari Brahmana today. Scores of women came out on the road, raising slogans in favor of their demands while urging the concerned department not to go ahead with the move of installing the smart meters. "We are poor and our men are making their ends meet through labour and we will not be able to pay the hefty bills that will be generated after the installation of the smart meters," they said. Speaking on the occasion,

Choudhary said that most of the people in rural areas are financially weak and cannot afford to pay hefty power bills. "Most of the people in our area are living hand to mouth and they cannot afford to pay Rs 500 per month on power bills. We have decided to fight tooth and nail against the installation of smart meters," said Choudhary. Choudhary further said that: "They used to pay a flat rate of Rs 750 per month but after the meter was installed they have turned off all the heavy gadgets but still they receiving a bill of Rs 1400-1800 per month." He said residents of rural areas are in a state of shock after receiving their power bills. The bills have been sent without taking the actual reading of the meters. The PDD is forcing people to pay illogical electricity bills when people of rural areas are mostly poor and they hardly earn Rs 10,000 to Rs 15,000 per month while the PDD is issuing them inflated bills. He alleged that the LG Government is forcing all new rules on Jammuites. Choudhary further said that that the Government of Jammu and Kashmir is forcing people to pay inflated bills. He said that no party including BJP is opposing it but we have decided to oppose it strongly and we are continuously protesting against it on the streets against the authorities of Power Development Corporation. He said that JPDCL's linemen and other officials are promoting 'Kundi' system by extorting money from the slum dwellers while the local people are being handed over huge electricity bills. "We won't tolerate this at any cost and would intensify the movement against it in the days to come," Choudhary added. He appealed to the concerned higher-ups to look into the matter so that the problem they are facing is resolved. Prominent among those who participated in protest include Bishnah Block Chairman Vikas Kumar, Bishnah Block President Sanjay Bhagat, Bishnah Vice President Sanjay Singh, Arina Block Vice President Bharat Bhusan, Surinder Choudhary, Sunil Kumar, Sara Chak President Ajay Kumar, Shail Sharma, Pritam Singh, Rampal, Sardari Lal, Mohd Hanif, Bhushan Mottan, Distt President Samba Nek Ram, Vicky, Arina Block President Suman Devi, Bishnah Block President Madhu Bala, Reena Devi, Sunita Devi, Tripta Devi, Neelam Devi, Manisha Devi, Sonika Choudhary, State Chairman Shishpal Salathia.

## Unprecedented public response to Amarnathji Yatra reflective of changing scenario in J&K: Rana



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU AUG 7: Senior BJP leader Mr Devender Singh Rana today said the unprecedented public response to Shri Amarnathji Yatra is reflective of the fast changing scenario in Jammu and Kashmir with people reposing their faith in peace and normalcy, the essence of their glorious pluralistic ethos. "Surpassing the previous year's numbers in less than a month of the 2-month pilgrimage speaks of the sense of confidence among pilgrims on account of security and arrangements put in place by the administration with pro-active cooperation of the people," Mr Rana said while interacting with the devotees after performing Puja at the Vishal Bhandara organized by

President All India Manhas Maha Sabha, Mr Harnam Singh Manhas, here this afternoon.

Also present on the occasion were Mr B. S Billawaria, Deputy Mayor Jammu, former minister Syed Mushtaq Ahmed Bukhari, former MLA Mr Balwant Mankotia besides socio-political and religious leaders.

He lauded the arrangements made by the administration and Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board in smooth and coordinated conduct of the pilgrimage. Devender Rana described Shri Amarnathji Yatra as a shining symbol of India's intangible civilization and exuded confidence that the pilgrims from across the country and abroad attain spiritual bliss on the Kashmir Himalayas and carry back the

cherished memories of warmth and hospitality of the land of Rishis and Saints.

Rana described the Yatra unique, which is being performed by the people of one faith and facilitated by another that speaks about the unity in diversity of this great nation. He said that people of Jammu and Kashmir have all along demonstrated a high degree of hospitality for the successful conduct of this ancient pilgrimage.

Rana said such pilgrimages of spiritual bliss spread the universal message of Sanatan Dharma for peace and amity besides inspiring the people to dedicate themselves to the service of humanity. He invoked the great philosophy of Vedas about universal brotherhood, love and compassion, hoping that once imbuing this spirit, the society will go harmoniously with ill will for none.

Complimenting the organizers of the Vishal Bhandara for keeping up the tradition, Mr Rana recalled the huge role of Langer organizations in making the pilgrimage comfortable for the pilgrims. Such a Bhandara at the first base camp of the annual Yatra is inspiring, he said, hoping that the blessings of Lord Shiva will help further strengthen the bonds of brotherhood and promote righteousness.

## Dr. Nirmal, Prof. Gharu, Anuradha, Arvind listen to public grievances

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 07: A large number of people from Jammu and other areas reached BJP headquarter, Jammu to take up their problems with former Deputy Chief Minister Dr. Nirmal Singh and other leaders.

Dr. Nirmal Singh, along with Ex-MLA & DDC Prof. Gharu Ram, BJP Vice-President Anuradha Charak and Secretary Arvind Gupta, listened to the grievances of the people and took up every matter with the senior officials of the concerned departments and stressed upon them to take immediate measures to mitigate the sufferings of the people.

In today's public darbar, people in groups and individuals from Ramban, Doda, Billawar, Dina, Jammu east, Uri (Kashmir), Akhnoor, Rajouri and Vijapur, had direct interaction with BJP leaders and informed about their burning problems related to release of salary, transfers, health treatment, Awas



Yojna scheme, sanctioning of link roads, loans for setting up own earning units etc. A large number of the VDGs also met BJP leaders and expressed their gratitude towards the party for helping them in getting their salaries released, which was stopped in October 2017 and were suffering for so many years.

Dr. Nirmal Singh, on this occasion, said that the BJP leaders are available at the party headquarter on every working day and listen to the public with a motive of providing help to them in getting their problems

resolved. He said that the BJP is not only a political party with the sole objective of getting votes in elections but a mission to remain in public and serve the people to the best possible extent. He said that the BJP cadre is always in front to stand with the public in their sorrows and joy.

"The BJP has proved, time and again, that it stands committed for the nation and its people", Dr. Nirmal Singh said and added that self is last for us, which is the basic principle of BJP. Prof. Gharu Ram Bhagat appealed to the people not

to trust the Congress and other parties, which have turned useless and are working only to defame BJP. He said that the people have very well seen this mis-governance of these parties for decades and cannot be misled any more.

Anuradha Charak and Arvind Gupta coordinated the grievances camp proceedings and diarized the issues presented by the visiting masses. They said that BJP leaders sincerely try to provide the solution to every issue presented by the visiting persons and deputations.

## DSS Rahya presses for Curbs on Drug Menace & Issue of Dogra Certificate



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 07: As a part of its public outreach programme, the Dogra Sadar Sabha (DSS), Jammu, under the chairmanship of Th Gulchain Singh Charak, President of the Sabha, held a meeting with its prominent members at the historical town of Rahya with participants joining in large numbers from adjoining areas including the youths. Prominent members from the DSS central body who participated were Col.

Karan Singh, vice president, Jagdeep Singh, Chhankar Singh, Vidya Sagar Sharma and others.

Various issues pertaining to the area were raised by the local people and youth. These were discussed thoroughly and following resolutions were adopted: Drug menace has emerged as a serious problem in whole of the kandi belt and border areas and the parents are worried about their upcoming generations. This belt has been known for its brave hearts in the Indian

army and security forces. The region has the history of bringing up and providing valiant soldiers for the army, but now the youth are getting increasingly lured and are trapped through a vicious game plan of envious foreign agencies by making them drug addict. Rahya chapter of the DSS demands strict and quick action against those involved. Proper vigilance is the need of the hour, says the resolution.

Link roads leading to rural areas are in highly

dilapidated condition and need immediate repairs.

Unemployment among the youth is increasing fast. Therefore, it was resolved that government must initiate special recruitment drive for the youth who are none other than our own children of the country.

As being requested repeatedly since many years, the Dogra certificate must be revived and issued to the youth of Jammu region so that they get the necessary relaxation in the height and other specific genetic characters peculiar to the Dogras, for recruitment to bell forces, etc.

Prominent among others participated in the meeting were Khajoor Singh, Raghubir Singh, Inder Pal Singh, Chhankar Singh, Mahesh Kumar, Gandharb Singh, Bhagwan Singh, Sukhdev Singh, Balwant Singh, Rajeev Kumar, Daljeet Singh Bogal Prem Kumar, Romesh Singh, Chanchal Singh, Jaswant Singh, Harbans Singh and others.

## Vigorous demonstration held against installation of prepaid meters in Janipur

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 7: Under the leadership of senior social worker Amit Kapoor, thousands of people protested vigorously near the Matador stand in Janipur Colony today against the installation of prepaid meters. During this, he announced the closure of the Tawi bridge on 16 August. Amit Kapoor appealed to all political parties including Congress, PDP, BJP, NC and Chamber of Commerce, Bar Association, Yuva Rajput Sabha and other social organizations and other social organizations to participate in it. Amit Kapoor said that if the leaders of these organizations have sympathy for the people, then they should register their protest against the government by participating in this protest.

The protesters were raising slogans against the electricity department. During this, he also took a dig at other opposition leaders including BJP leaders for



maintaining silence in this matter. During this, while addressing the protesters, Amit Kapoor said that the people of Jammu had voted the BJP to victory, but it has completely failed to live up to the expectations of the people. He attacked the BJP for maintaining silence on this issue.

He also lashed out at the BJP corporators for maintaining silence on this issue. Meanwhile, Amit Kapoor announced that he would close the Tawi bridge on August 16 against this decision of the government. For this, he called upon all political

parties and social organizations to participate in this protest in large numbers and wake up the government which was sleeping in the sleep of Kumbhakaran by closing the Tawi bridge. He said that electricity was privatized in Punjab 20 years ago, but prepaid meters have not yet been installed there and the Punjab government and the Delhi government are giving free electricity to the people, while in Jammu and Kashmir people are getting power to meet the deficit.

A huge amount of money is being collected from

them. Amit Kapoor lashed out strongly against the Modi government at the Center for forcibly installing smart meters in Jammu and Kashmir.

He said that people are being given free electricity in states like Delhi and Punjab, so why are people's blood being sucked by installing smart meters in Jammu and Kashmir. Amit Kapoor thanked all the people for participating in the protest in thousands and urged them to be ready for a big movement in the coming days for this anti-people decision of the government.

## Strict action taken against tinted car windows: A step towards enhanced security

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 07: In a recent move towards bolstering security measures and ensuring compliance with regulations, the city police, under the supervision of SDPO Sunil Kesar, and under the direction of SHO Pacca Danga Sunil Kumar, have initiated a comprehensive operation targeting vehicles with tinted windows. This operation was carried out in collaboration with PSI Amit Singh in Manda police check post, who established a checking to monitor violators and enforce the removal of tinted films from car windows. Just a few days ago, a circular was issued by the Jammu and Kashmir police, outlining the need for strict adherence to the rules regarding tinted car windows. Those found violat-



ing the directive faced the prospect of hefty penalties. This proactive step was taken to enhance transparency and security on the roads and maintain a level playing field for all citizens. The recent operation conducted at the Manda police checkpoint yielded significant results. Vehicles with tinted windows were taken to ensure compliance with the regulations. The removal of black films from tinted windows was carried out promptly, sending a clear message to the public about the importance of adhering to traffic rules. With the approach of the

15th of August, a day of national significance, security measures are being tightened across the region. The authorities are leaving no stone unturned to ensure that the celebrations are conducted smoothly and without any untoward incidents. The rigorous enforcement of rules, such as the removal of tinted films from car windows, is a part of this broader effort to maintain security and order during this period.

It's important to note that this initiative doesn't merely serve as a punitive measure, but rather as a reminder of the collective responsibility we hold towards maintaining safety and security in our society. As the community, it is our duty to cooperate with law enforcement agencies and adhere to regulations that contribute to the greater good.



# JKEDI, TiE Chandigarh collaborate to facilitate J&K's TiE Chapter to boost entrepreneurial ecosystem of the UT

JNEWS SERVICE SRINAGAR, AUGUST 7

The Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI) and The Indus Entrepreneurs (TiE) Global through TiE Chandigarh have joined hands to start TiE-J&K Chapter, which is set to take off initially as a satellite extension of TiE Chandigarh.

This initiative marks a significant step towards harnessing the immense entrepreneurial potential of J&K. The collaboration will provide budding and established entrepreneurs with a platform to connect, learn, and thrive.

The Chief Mentor and former President of TiE Chandigarh, Jitin Talwar, graced the occasion as the keynote speaker. With a wealth of experience in the entrepreneurial ecosystem, Talwar shared invaluable insights into the transformative potential of the TiE-J&K Chapter.

Accompanying him was Kashish Mittal, a distinguished entrepreneur and former IAS officer, who is also a prominent member of TiE Chandigarh.

Ajaz Ahmad Bhat, Director JKEDI presided over the event and shared his insights about the signifi-



cance of opening of the J&K Chapter.

"JKEDI will act as a bridge and will strive to connect entrepreneurs and policy makers across the country. When the TiE-J&K Chapter will open, it will encompass an array of engaging workshops, seminars, mentorship programs, and networking opportunities, providing entrepreneurs and startups with a comprehensive toolkit to navigate the challenges and opportunities of the business world. These collaborative efforts have been made possible through the unwavering endeavors of the J&K Government under the leadership of Hon'ble Lt. Governor and the guidance of Commissioner Secretary, J&K," he said in his address.

A dedicated coordination group comprising local entrepreneurs has been established. This group will play a crucial

role in outlining the necessary procedures for the formal inclusion and seamless integration of the J&K Chapter into the larger TiE network. Jitin Talwar offered his insightful perspective on this transformative partnership. He highlighted the significance of TiE Chandigarh's expansion into J&K, emphasizing that it represents a momentous stride towards creating an ecosystem that empowers entrepreneurs, stimulates economic advancement, and nurtures innovation.

Talwar elaborated on various initiatives spearheaded by TiE, aimed at providing valuable support and resources to entrepreneurs. These include programs such as The Young Entrepreneurs, TiE University, TiE Women, TiE Global Summit/TIECON, among others. These initiatives, he emphasized, are designed to cater to the diverse needs of entrepreneurs at various stages of their business journeys.

Furthermore, Talwar underlined that TiE's fundamental objectives encompass mentoring, networking, education, incubation, and funding. These pillars of support, he noted, will prove immensely beneficial for local entrepreneurs and startups. Kashish Mittal also took the opportunity to share his insights with the participants, shedding light on his transition from his time in public service as an Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer and elucidating how his dual passions for technology and music steered him into the realm of entrepreneurship. As the event progressed, Anuj Sharma, the Founder and CEO of ALLISAR Impact, an impact incubator and transaction advisory firm with a distinct emphasis on frontier markets, also joined. His notable presence brought a wealth of experience and expertise to the occasion. His active involvement in supporting local entrepreneurs within the J&K region, who have showcased remarkable achievements, added to the event's significance.

# SAC meetings of KVKS held at Bandipora



JNEWS SERVICE BANDIPORA, AUGUST 7

The 17th and 2nd SAC meeting for KVK Bandipora-I (Potushai) and KVK Bandipora-II (Gurez) respectively was held at Mountain Agriculture Research & Extension Station (Gurez) under the chairmanship of Vice Chancellor SKUAST Kashmir, Prof. Nazir Ahmad Ganai. The meeting witnessed active participation from officers of the varsity including Director Extension Prof. Dil Mohamud Makhdomi, Director Research Prof. Tariq Hussain Masoodi, Director Finance Dr. Manzoor Ahmad besides participation of all Heads of Kishri Vivan Kendras and KVK valley, scientists of sectoral Heads of the development departments viz. Sub Divisional Magistrate Gurez Chief Agriculture Officer Bandipora, Chief Horticulture Officer, Chief Animal Husbandry Officer, District Sheep Husbandry Officer Bandipora, Forest Range Officer Gurez, besides Block Development Officer Gurez.

At the outset, Programme Coordinator KVK Bandipora-I (Potushai) Dr. Tariq Sultan presented the Annual Progress Report for the year 2022-23 through Powerpoint presentation and highlighted the key achievements made by the Kendra which was followed with proposed Action Plan for 2023-24. The programme continued with presentation by KVK Bandipora-II (Gurez) by Dr. Bilal Ahmad Bhat. The feedback was sought from all sectoral heads regarding the achievements made by the Kendras followed with threadbare discussion to chalk out the future strategies in tune with the developments through inclusion of the same under proposed action plans. In his remarks, Vice Chancellor SKUAST Kashmir appreciated KVK Bandipora-I (Potushai) for receiving the best KVK award conferred to the Kendra recently during Zonal KVK workshop held on June 26-28, 2023 at Dehradun. He further informed the house that despite all the odds and challenges, KVK Bandipora-I Potushai had a significant impact through outreach and demonstrations across the district.

# WSC celebrates National Handloom day at Srinagar



JNEWS SERVICE SRINAGAR, AUGUST 7

To commemorate the 9th National Handloom Day, 2023, Weavers' Service Centre (WSC), Srinagar organized a mega function at Community Hall, Nalbal Nowsheera here.

Director Handicrafts and Handloom Development, Mahmood Shah; Assistant Director, Weavers' Service Centre (WSC), officers from IICIT, NHDC, artisans and large number of weavers participated in the event.

Mahmood Shah while speaking on the occasion, suggested to improve the quality level of production and introduce new innovative designs as per the latest market trends which will enhance the growth of Handicraft and Handloom sector. He highlighted that the department will intensify the efforts to promote the handloom products through various channels and will reach out to artisan and weaver community by connecting them with potential buyers and motivating different sections of the society in supplementing the efforts of the Government in increasing sales and improved profits for handloom weavers.

Balvindra Singh from National Handloom Development Corporation, in his speech sensitised the handloom weavers for supply of yarn under Raw Material Supply Schemes. Other speakers highlighted the historical significance of the day and urged the civil society members, youth and working class to buy handloom and handicraft products in order to provide relief to the weaver community. Weavers' Service Centre (WSC), which functions under the Development Commissioner (Handlooms) of the Ministry of Textiles, provides skill-upgradation training in disciplines such as weaving, dyeing and designing.

## FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

### People are living...

International events in the UT has sent the message to the world that Jammu Kashmir is peaceful and is on the move.

"We have a policy of zero tolerance against terrorism and are determined to root out terrorism, separatism and the ecosystem of conflict profiteering. We have been successful to a certain extent and people are living their lives without fear and on their own terms," the Lt Governor said.

Today, J&K is leading by example for other states/UTs in the country. Transparent & accountable governance system and seamless access to government services has improved the ease of living of the people, he said.

Big business houses and companies from across the world are willing to invest in J&K. Reforms in education, health, agriculture and allied sectors, industries, infrastructure, connectivity, power, hospitality, handicrafts, revenue, films, information technology, sports and other sectors have laid a solid foundation for the bright and prosperous future of J&K and its people, he added.

The Lt Governor paid tributes to the bravehearts of security forces and police who laid down their lives in the line of duty. We will forever be indebted to our brave Police, Army, CAPFs personnel for maintaining peace and a secured environment in UT of J&K, he said.

Senior officers of UT Administration, Police, Security forces, experts, senior journalists, prominent personalities from different walks of life, youth and people in large numbers were present on the occasion.

### IG inaugurates Veshaw...

the integrity and sovereignty of the nation.

He also dedicated various development projects to the people of the district.

In his address on the occasion, the Lt Governor commended the endeavour of the IGNCa and the District Administration for the promotion of the literary activities in Kulgam. The Veshaw Literary Festival over the next two days will bring power of ideas and imagination to the people, he added.

"J&K reflects the composite cultural identity of India and it has kept alive time-tested traditional wisdom and knowledge. Writers, Artists, Rishi, Sufis were guiding force and immensely contributed to cultural synergies over the years," the Lt Governor said.

He said, the world of literature and art expands our horizon, offers limitless wisdom, intellectual inspiration, new ideas and perspectives.

Literature is also a device for inner growth and provides new insights. We should cherish the diversity literature offers in different languages to enlighten the society, he added.

Reiterating the commitment of the UT Administration, the Lt Governor said, in the last few years, a conducive environment has been created for artists, writers, litterateurs to realize their true potential and promote the rich spiritual, creative and cultural values of Jammu Kashmir.

He called upon the writers and artists to present the transformation taking place in J&K UT to the world. "Terrorism affects every vital sphere of a society, damages artistic freedom and stifles the socio-cultural growth. We must come together to neutralize this menace and ensure dignity of people, freedom of thought and fundamental right of cultural expression," Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor also highlighted the major reforms introduced by the UT Administration to ensure socio-economic equality, improving quality of life and inclusive development of J&K.

He said the 29 poor landless PMAY beneficiaries have

been provided with 05 Marla land in Kulgam. 7286 Youth in the district were provided handholding under different self-employment schemes, he added.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor also reminded the people to strike a balance between rights and duties to support the progress of the Union Territory.

He said, if the capable section of the society pay for the services, it will become easy for the government to take care of the needs of the poor, small and marginal farmers and even provide them relief in power bills. But, the system cannot function if the rich refuses to discharge their duties towards J&K and the nation.

The projects inaugurated by the Lt Governor today included Conference Hall at Mini Secretariat, Indoor Badminton Court, Two lane 400 Mtr Bridge on Kulgam-Chambgund road and Finance Complex at Mini Secretariat.

Mohammad Afzal Parrey, Chairman, District Development Council Kulgam; Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary; Sh Vijay Kumar, ADGP Kashmir; Sh Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; Dr Syed Abid Raseed Shah, Secretary Tourism Department; Dr. Bilal Mohi-ud-din Bhat, Deputy Commissioner Kulgam; PRI members, prominent personalities from literary field and large number of people were present on the occasion.

### Infiltration bid foiled...

been killed but his body has not recovered yet," the officer said.

The slain terrorist was identified on the basis of Police records as Muneer Hussain resident of Bagyal Dara, Poonch. He was a dreaded terrorist, a Divisional Commander of Hizbul Mujahideen.

The individual had gone to the Pak occupied Jammu & Kashmir in 1990s and has masterminded a number of attacks on security forces, he said.

Inputs suggest that he was given the task of re-vitalizing the terrorist activities in South of Pir Panjal Ranges.

The search operations led to the recovery of one AK 56, one 9 mm Pistol with Silencer, one magazine of AK 56, 10 rounds of 7.62 mm, nine rounds of 9 mm, two hand grenades, eatables and medicines. Recovery of Pistol with Silencer indicates the individual was likely to be quite high in the Organizational setup.

The operation has once again proven the existing synergy between all security agencies operating in this area and highlights the close coordination between them. This incident also highlights the adversary's attempts of reviving terrorism in South of Pir Panjal Ranges exploiting the terror veterans. ❦

### LS passes bill to recognise...

He said that soon 38 out of 52 critical active pharmaceutical ingredients (API) will be produced within the country.

Mandaviya said that Ayushman Bharat Scheme has ensured quality medical treatment even for poor people. Similarly, Jan Aushadhi Kendras are making generic medicines available to people at lower cost. (Agencies)

### DGP sanctions special...

police spokesman said in a statement issued to the news agency.

Rupees one lakh each has been already paid to the NoK of deceased police personnel for performing the last rites as immediate relief by the PHQ through their concerned units. The financial assistance has been given out of the Contributory Police Welfare Fund. He has also sanctioned special relief of rupees 06 lakh

each in favour of dependents, legal heirs of deceased SPO Zahoor Ahmad and SPO Abdul Khaliq who passed away during their engagement with the department. The financial assistance has been given out of the Contributory Welfare Fund of SPOs.

Moreover the DGP has sanctioned rupees one lakh as financial assistance in favour of the daughter of a martyr police official to defray the expenses in connection with the marriage ceremony of his daughter. The amount has been given out of the Police Pariwar Fund.

Police Headquarters has taken many initiatives to ensure increased and timely help and assistance to police personnel and their families, in the time of need - (KNO)

### J&K records highest-ever...

figures has witnessed the highest-ever developmental works in the past three years.

He said that it is a time to remember Kashmir's real culture, there are several big names like Lal Ded, Nuni Rishi and others. "If we go back to the era, I would not hesitate to say that Kashmir had a great thinking and even the amalgamation of religions like Buddhism, Islam, Hinduism and religions has started from here. We are moving back to the era in terms of culture, we are reviving that culture," he said.

He asked people to take a lead in making the change within the district, saying that the goals can be achieved only when you dream about it. "If you dream to make a change then only it can happen," he said.

"In the next one year, I am expecting that no one from Kulgam district will be falling in Below Poverty Line. Self employment will be given priority," he said, adding that drugs have emerged as the biggest problem as the youth are getting involved in it.

Terminating drugs up to the Chief Secretary asked people to take oath not to touch the drugs, and not to allow anyone to get involved in such a nuisance.

"We need to protect ourselves and save others too. Those who are spilling the youth should be prevented as well. Drugs have no place in our culture," he said.

The Chief Secretary further asked the gathering to work hard to promote the tourism destinations like Aharbal, Kousar Nag and others. He said that the district should be made one among the best places in terms of tourism.

He further said that J&K is witnessing development. The online services have been increased from 35 in 2019 to 675 today, he said. ❦

### Democracy has been...

at the district level was developed it was left to its destiny during the Congress regimes, following which the country's third the population that resides in villages were left to struggle for basic amenities such as road, power, water, bank, and house, etc.

"This is the reason that even after seven decades of the country's independence, electricity couldn't reach over 18,000 villages across the country...it was due to Congress and other parties with similar ideology and their corrupt leaders, who had made more than 16 crore rural houses a hub of adjustment," he said

Mr. Modi asserted that the Panchayati Raj system is a strong pillar of Indian democracy.

### Lok Sabha passes...

the country as per recommendations of the National Education Policy (NEP), at a total estimated cost of Rs. 50,000 Crores during five years (2023-28).

The Department of Science and Technology (DST) will be the administrative Department of NRF which will

be governed by a Governing Board consisting of eminent researchers and professionals across disciplines. Since the scope of the NRF is wide-ranging - impacting all ministries - the Prime Minister will be the ex-officio President of the Board and the Union Minister of Science & Technology & Union Minister of Education will be the ex-officio Vice-Presidents. NRF's functioning will be governed by an Executive Council chaired by the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India.

NRF will forge collaborations among the industry, academia, and government departments and research institutions, and create an interface mechanism for participation and contribution of industries and State governments in addition to the scientific and line ministries. It will focus on creating a policy framework and putting in place regulatory processes that can encourage collaboration and increased spending by the industry on R&D.

The bill will also repeal the Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) established by an act of Parliament in 2008 and subsume it into NRF which has an expanded mandate and covers activities over and above the activities of SERB.

### Fresh batch of pilgrims ...

another pilgrim said. The 62-day-long Amarnath Yatra, which began on July 1 will culminate on August 31, 2023. (Agencies)

### Efforts on to resolve...

points in the last three years," he said. "There were five-six areas that were very tense. There has been progress (there)," he said.

Highlighting the Government's priority to develop border infrastructure, Jaishankar said the armed forces are now better placed to quickly deploy troops and counter movement of the Chinese military effectively.

If you ask whether after 2014, the Indian military and the Indian Air Force are able to deploy and counter any Chinese movement better, the answer is "yes, absolutely," he said.

Jaishankar said the overall mobility of both the armed forces and the civilian population in the border areas has increased tremendously in the last few years because of the Government focus on rapid enhancement of infrastructure in the frontier areas.

"The capability is growing year after year," he said. The minister said the infrastructure push along the Northern border is going to determine India's response to national security challenges.

The ties between India and China nosedived significantly following the fierce clash in the Galwan Valley in June 2020 that marked the most serious military conflict between the two sides in decades.

India has made it clear to China that until there is peace and tranquillity in border areas, the relationship between the two countries cannot progress.

Jaishankar said India is also boosting connectivity with Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan.

India is in talks with Bhutan for a rail link between that country and Assam, he said. (Agencies)

### Neelkanth Ganjoo murder...

kept completely hidden and protected besides all useful and relevant information shall be suitably rewarded," reads the communique.

The public has been asked to contact on 899004976 or on email spsisa-kmrg@jklpolice.gov.in for having any information related to this murder case.



# Neelam, Dr. Pardeep, Keshav inaugurate tile work in Bharat Nagar

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 07: Neelam Nargotra, Councillor, JMC Ward No. 40 in presence of Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, Media Incharge J&K BJP and Keshav Chopra, Talab Tillo Mandal President, inaugurated a work of laying paver tiles at Bharat Nagar.

Neelam Nargotra, while inaugurating Paver tile work, said that with the laying of paver tiles, the long-standing demand of lane residents has been fulfilled. She said that this would also solve the sanitation problem of the lane with the smooth flow of filthy water in the drains.

Neelam, while giving details of the present work said that this Paver tile work in the lane along with other works would be completed with the Estimated Cost 40 Lakh rupees with the funds allocated in (City Grant), Councillor Funds. She has served residents of the Ward with the selfless motto, she said and added that many lane and drain works are being executed at this time and the remaining areas will also be covered soon with the needed construction and repair works.

Dr. Pardeep Mahotra appreciated the dedication of local Councillor, for her proactive approach to address the genuine demands of the local residents. He said that the BJP believes in



in the politics of development rather than profiteering. He said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has set a benchmark by his hardwork and every BJP worker is continuously serving the society 365 days in a year following his directions. He said that BJP believes in the wholesome development of an individual, society, and the nation; and as such framed the core policies to benefit earlier neglected and downtrodden segments with the blend of basic amenities and advance development.

Keshav Chopra reaffirmed the party's commitment to the development. He said with the ongoing devel-

opment works, Talab Tillo will soon develop into a mesmerizing place to visit, shop and reside. He also appealed to the common public to participate in the making of beautiful ambience in the surroundings.

District Media Incharge Arun Dubey, Mandal Vice President Parveen Ghai, Mandal V-President Rahul Nargotra, Mandal General Secretary Paramjeet Ravinder, Social Worker Abhishek Sharma, Additional Media Secretary Mandal Vikas Kumar, Shabab (JE JMC), Department Supervisor and number of prominent locals were present.

# J&K UT Handball Championship Concludes at Baramulla

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 07: District Jammu lifted Both Men's, and Women's title in the 9th J&K UT Handball Championship, which concluded today here at Indoor Stadium Baramulla.

Colonel Paratek Sharma (46RR) was the chief guest on the occasion, while Major Rajat Galot, Major Ankush Singh were the guests of honour. They distributed Prizes/Trophies, medals and Cash Prize of 5000 and 3000 among the winners and runners-up teams respectively, on the occasion. The championship was organized by J&K Handball Association under the aegis of Handball Association India and sponsored by J&K Sports Council.

Speaking on the occasion, the chief guest said that army has always been forefront in providing platform to youth and guide them to follow their goals by organizing different events across



J&K UT. Jammu and Kashmir is rich in sports talent and sportsmen from here have proven their mettle at different national and international championships. He added that proper nurturing by JKHA will go a long way in promoting the talent at different levels.

Later Executive Member Handball Association India, Ashwani Kumar Raina thanked the participating teams for their sportsmanship and enthusiasm during the tournament. He also presents a special memento

to Colonel Paratek Kumar commanding officer 46 RR Baramulla and other officers of army and civil administration as a token of love and thanked them for gracing the closing ceremony & encouraging the youth towards sports activities.

Prominent persons including, Subedar Major Sikander Singh Mohd Ashraf Parry, Ravi Singh, Kaiser Asrar Wani, Former services coach and international handball Player Pardeep Kumar, Ab Majeed Manager J&K sports council Baramulla, Showket Ahmad

In charge Indoor stadium Baramulla were present during the event.

The final match in women's section was played between District Udhampur and District Jammu, which District Jammu emerged winner by 12-18 goals, whereas in the men's section, the final match was played between JKP and District Jammu wherein District Jammu scripted win by 30-29 goals.

The matches were officiated by Nissar Ahamed (Referee), Arushi Sharma and Richa Mandala.

# Youth National Conference stages protest against installation of Smart Meters

JJ NEWS SERVICE



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 07: The Jammu and Kashmir Youth National Conference (JKNC) held a robust protest today at Guru Nanak Nagar Jammu, vehemently opposing the installation of Smart Meters in Jammu city.

Led by Tejinder Pal Singh (Aman), District President of the Youth National Conference Jammu (YNC), the demonstration saw a strong participation from party members and citizens

alike. The protest was fueled by concerns over the installation of Smart Meters, a move perceived by the JKNC as contrary to the people. The protesters expressed their desires and aspirations of the people.

Tejinder Pal Singh (Aman) voiced his reservations about the current administration's actions, accusing them of disregarding the sentiments of the populace and making decisions that are out of alignment with the interests of the citizens.

He said that the BJP's actions have resulted in disillusionment among the people and predicted that the upcoming polls will reflect the public's dissatisfaction with such maneuvers. He emphasized that the citizens will deliver a resounding response to the BJP's approach in the forthcoming elections.

The J&K National Conference has consistently championed the rights and aspirations of the people of the region. The protest serves as a strong demonstration of the party's commitment to safeguarding the interests of the citizens and advocating for decisions that resonate with the public's welfare.

Among those who were present include Nitish Goswami Provincial Secretary YNC Jammu, Manjeet Singh President (ward No-44), Dr Amina, Som Raj Taroch, Prince, Balbir Singh, Amandeep Singh, Amit Sharma, Harsimarjeet Singh, Asif, Pardeep Singh, Vijay Singh, Madan Singh, Ayush Goswami, Mejoor Singh, Harsh Singh, Avtar Singh, Simranjot Singh, Pawan Singh, Vikas Soni, Mohinder Pal Singh, Bachan Lal, Satish, Sandeep Kumar, Pawan, Raju, Suresh Gupta, Rinku Kumar and others

# Dy Mayor inaugurates "The Kulcha Hut" restaurant in Jammu



JAMMU, AUG 07: Deputy Mayor Jammu, Baldev Singh Billawaria, inaugurated the restaurant named "The Kulcha Hut" (Branch of Amritsar, Since 1990) at Gandhi Nagar in Bahu constituency. Deputy Mayor Jammu, Baldev Singh Billawaria was accompanied by Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) Chairmen, Subhash Sharma & Gopal Gupta, Corporator Dinesh Gupta and other prominent citizens of Jammu. Deputy Mayor Jammu, Baldev Singh Billawaria and other guests were welcomed and felicitated by Sunny Sharma, Proprietor of the "The Kulcha Hut". Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Mayor Jammu, Baldev Singh Billawaria said that after the removal of 370, companies and brands from all over the country have opened businesses in Jammu and Kashmir, due to which Jammu and Kashmir is moving forward day by day in terms of business. Deputy Mayor Jammu said that it is

very good for our Jammu and Kashmir that youth will come forward and start new ventures in Jammu. It also helps to decrease unemployment and also drugs free society because youth in the right way than our country will in safe hands.

He appealed to the youth to take inspiration from entrepreneurs Sunny Sharma and commence their journey towards becoming job providers in their economic interest as well as in the ultimate interest of this Union Territory. He hailed the efforts of the

owner of the restaurant for taking such an initiative and further providing employment to the people.

Deputy Mayor Jammu, Baldev Singh Billawaria further said that many schemes of Modi Government have created job avenues and appealed the youths to become a job provider instead of job seeker. He also said that a job provider plays a dominant role in boosting the economy. Deputy Mayor Jammu, Baldev Singh Billawaria expressed his hope that "The Kulcha Hut" will

become a more popular destination for Food lovers in Jammu. He also said that "The Kulcha Hut" should provide quality food at reasonable prices so that the citizens get the best value for their money. He said that everyone should come to "The Kulcha Hut" and enjoy the delicious food. Proprietor Sunny Sharma thanked the Deputy Mayor Jammu, Baldev Singh Billawaria and the guests for attending the event. He said that "The Kulcha Hut" already has a restaurant in Greater Kailash Jammu.

# SMVD Gurukul's Sanskrit Short Film adjudged best in Int'l Film Festival



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 07: A 10-minute-long Educational Sanskrit Short Film 'Tatvabodh' presented by the students of SMVD Gurukul and sponsored by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board was honoured with an award of Best Sanskrit Short Film in the first ever International Film Festival held at Spiritual Growth Centre from 5-6 August 2023, in the picturesque town of Katra.

The film depicts significant insight into the awareness about pristine education framework in Gurukul and the journey of the pro-

tagonist from a Gurukul to Modern School and back to Gurukul after the tumultuous experiences of a father of the protagonist on finding scary traces of teen indulging into drug abuse impacting our society and daily lives. The 2-day festival was a collaborative effort between the Universal Film Makers Council (UFMC), Karnataka and Harman Cultural & Educational Society (HC&ES), Jammu which attracted a diverse range of people, from aspiring filmmakers to seasoned professionals.

As many as 171 films were screened from more than ten languages including

Sanskrit and 85 films were awarded by the jury in different categories during the valedictory function of the festival.

The award on behalf of the Shrine Board was received by Dr. J.C. Mehra, Jt Chief Executive Officer, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board also Administrator, along with Principal, SMVD Gurukul. The award was given away by the South Indian Cine Star Suman Talwar and Bollywood Actor/Director Yashpal Sharma in the presence of Dr. M. A. Mumtaz (President, UFMC and Chairman, Nava Karnataka Film Academy).

While congratulating the performers of the Short Film, Anshul Garg, Chief Executive Officer said that from the last 12 years the SMVD Gurukul is paving the way to develop the students with high moral values well accustomed with the Modern, Traditional, and Spiritual Education for the strong spiritual-cultural foundation of J&K and have taken important step towards revival of Sanskrit and connecting students with science and spirituality in J&K. Under the constant guidance and directions of Chairman, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (Sh. Manoj Sinha Lt. Governor, JK-UT) and close monitoring of Mahamandeshwar Shri Swami Vishveshvaranand Giri Maharaj, Member, SMVD&S and Chairman of the Governing Council, the Gurukul has earned a name not only at regional level but has proved its metal at National level. He exuded confidence that very soon the SMVD Gurukul will emerge as a centre of excellence.

# Our security forces will give a befitting reply to perpetrators of Kulgam attack: Kesri

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUG 07: Shiv Sena Hindustan activists under the leadership of its J&K President Pt Rajesh Kesri today held strong protest against Pakistan over martyrdom of three Army personnel including a local army man from Bandipora district in an encounter with militants in Halan forests of South Kashmir's Kulgam district in Arnia. SSH activists also torch effigy of Pakistan and raised slogans against terrorist country.

Speaking on the occasion, Kesri said that very sorry to hear about the death in the line of duty of three soldiers following an encounter with militants in Halan forests of South Kashmir's Kulgam district. While condemning the attack I send my condolences to the families and express my solidarity with the bereaved families, Kesri said. I salute the bravehearts who laid their lives for the Nation. He said Pakistan is a crumbling nation is desperate and is using all evil tactics to create disharmony in J&K but will never succeed.



Our security forces will give a befitting reply to perpetrators of despicable attacks," said Kesri.

Kesri added that these attackers originating from Pakistan reflect the evil designs of our enemies towards peace and development of the region established by our security forces.

Lauding the army and security forces for eliminating terrorists involved in attacks, he saluted the valour and bravery of the jawans martyred or injured in the encounter.

"The enemies of peace are trying everything to hurt the peace and prosperity in J&K with their nefarious designs by carrying out such attacks on the security forces. He

prayed for the eternal peace of the departed souls of the Indian Army and prayed for courage to their family members. Kesri said that SSH will continue to oppose elements who are bent upon to destroy the peaceful atmosphere in J&K and mislead the innocent youth.

Prominent among those

present on the occasion include Baldev Kumar, Arnia Pradhan Vijay Luthra Bishnah Pradhan Labba Baba, Rajkumar, Balwant Fauji, Gara Ram Fauji, Sanjeev Sharma, Rajesh Kumar, Om Prakash, Darshana Devi, Rajni Devi, Poli Devi, besides dozens of other Shiv Sainiks.

# 2 vehicles loaded with illegal minerals seized in Gandoh

JJ NEWS SERVICE

DODA, AUGUST 07: Two trolleys loaded with illegally extracted minerals were seized in Gandoh area amid the intensified vigil on the illegal activity in Doda District.

The strategic operation was carried out under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner, Vishesh Mahajan. District Mineral Officer Sunil Kumar Manhas, spearheaded the operation, showcasing remarkable determination to clamp down on the unlawful practices.



THOUGHT OF THE DAY

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

JINDRAH IMAGES

Resurgence of terror groups

Twin border districts – Rajouri and Poonch – are apparently once again in the grip of terrorism as terror groups have intensified their activities there in recent months. Security agencies claimed that they have eliminated two terrorists trying to sneak in from across the border. Forces have now launched searches for terrorists at Gunda Khwas and surrounding areas in Koteranka belt of Budhal in the border district of Rajouri. Forces believe that about three groups of militants, each comprising two to three ultras, are operating in Rajouri and Poonch districts and they are determined to wipe out terrorism from the region. Security agencies are making twice the effort to thwart the attempts to push militants from across the border. Each group comprises two to three militants but it is yet not clear the exact number of terrorists in each group. There has been killing of six terrorists in recent encounters, including four in the Surankote area of Poonch on July 18, and attempts are being made to disturb the peaceful atmosphere by pushing terrorists into the Indian side from across the border. The resurgence of terror activities is seen as a major challenge for security agencies to keep twin districts terrorism free. In recent times, Rajouri and Poonch districts have come under the radar of the terrorists. The deadly terror attack in Poonch, targeting Army personnel, had also exposed the chinks in security grid. The change in tactics by terror groups denoted a mounting challenge for the security establishment. It also gave an impression that terrorist groups were out to create terror among the local populace with an attempt to revive terrorism in the otherwise peaceful border districts of Rajouri and Poonch. The killing of unarmed innocent people in Dhangri at the beginning of this year was aimed at sending a clear message that militancy has not ended in the district. The attack on an Army vehicle in Poonch also served as a big blow to any prospect of a thaw in India-Pakistan ties, which were already in deep freeze. It is an open fact that Pakistan wants to keep pot boiling in Jammu and Kashmir. It has been fomenting trouble in the Union Territory by sponsoring terrorists who don't bother to kill innocent people including women. The people are yet to forget the killing of innocent people in Dhangri village. Moreover, it has also turned out to be an unending wait for the victims of the Dhangri massacre seeking justice for them. Six minority community people were brutally killed in Dhangri in January this year but security agencies have miserably failed to identify and trace out the perpetrators of the dreadful terror attack. The patience seems to be running out for the victim families and they have now started giving vent to their anger. Given the hostile terrain and geographical conditions, it has been a daunting task for security agencies to hunt down the perpetrators of terror acts. Better synergy among security agencies can bring desired results.

Import curbs on laptops deferred

G. SRINIVASAN

But if the intention is to target China on this count, it would come unstuck as it affects other major manufacturers from the West too, who have a lot of stakes in India's software

Close on the heels of clamping a ban on export of non-basmati rice on July 20, the Government did an unedifying flip-flop on the foreign trade front by first imposing a curb on import of laptops, tablets and all-in-one and small factor personal computers requiring licenses for sale within the country immediately on August 3 but retracting on the very next day by suspending the curbs on these electronic items till November 1! The irony of this sort of gambit that is one for export and another for import is not altogether lost, reflecting the underlying policy dichotomy at a time when India is trying to become a big player in the global trading arena to ensure its presence in the world supply chains or the elusive manufacturing hubs in specific export products of value!

What is palpable is that in the case of the ban on export of non-basmati rice that was made applicable to all transitional arrangements too meaning to cover all those already contracted for shipment to outbound destinations, in the case of the ban on import on laptop, PC curbs requiring licenses, the implementation of the notification of August 3 was deferred the very next day till November 1, 2023. Thus although most cargo and containers had obtained customs clearance before the DGFT (Directorate General of Foreign Trade) declared the notification banning white rice exports on the evening of July 20, as much as two lakh tonnes of the grains were stranded at several ports, thereby hanging their fate in the balance much to the annoyance of the exporter and to the dismay of the overseas parties!

What turned the balance in favour of the specified electronic items requiring import license when the Customs filed officials swung up to stop in-transit hardware shipments as the DGFT notification specifies "immediate effect" is no rocket science. As reported in leading dailies that officials speaking on condition of anonymity, euphemism for escape from the establishment to save skin but to shift blame, that it was not intended to have import licensing of these products "impact" shipments that were already on their way to India, not to speak of the ones already lying in the ports, even as the field officers were prompt in following the rules with gusto. What a way to devise a rule in haste and defer it with equal celerity, oblivious to the hullabaloo such an action triggers off to the consternation of the stakeholders and the dent to the image of the country as a reliable trade supplier. If the authority is moved by the undue trouble to the importers in the case of getting the import license for taking their goods, how is it that such a considerate approach was not shown in the case of rice exporters whose cargoes remain stranded at the shipment ports?

Even as the DGFT has the remit to recommend a range of import restrictive measures including anti-dumping duty, countervailing duty or quantitative restrictions (QRs) on grounds of likely injury to the domestic industry due to deluge of imports, licensing or QR regime was a thing of the past after India had to stop this with WTO members pressing for it way back in the last decade of the last century! The paradox is that bringing technology products such as laptops or PC under this QR regime is not only anachronis-



tic but also speaks poorly of India's growing strengths and presumed power in cutting-edge technology and superior software potentials. Even assuming that the prospective import licensing is premised on bolstering Make in India credo for igniting domestic hardware manufacturing firms, the curbs would create a demand-supply mismatch in the market, causing hefty increases in prices of these products till the supply situation stabilizes.

But as set forth by several trade policy works that apart from the proposed new licensing regime on the import of select electronic items, India had also earlier slapped tariffs on certain IT products such as Single-Mode optical fibres indispensable for high-speed data transmission, specific types of integrated circuits and certain sorts of flat panel displays used in televisions and computers. Countries like the United States, the European Union and Japan contend that these products fall under the ITA's zero tariff commitment which is but a derogation of WTO rules in sticking to trade discipline.

It is also revealing from official figures published that in fiscal 2022-23, India's import of the seven items being proposed to be under import licensing regime cost \$8.8 billion dollars. Of this, a hefty proportion close to \$1 billion dollars was sourced from China where most PC suppliers possess manufacturing facilities. But if the intention is to target China on this count, it would come unstuck as it affects other major manufacturers from the West too who have a lot of stakes in India's software potentials and demonstrated strengths to let that slip for want of hardware materials to supplement software skills. A sort of symbiotic relationship between the deficiency in the hardware equipment and abundance in software skills need to be reinforced and harvested for a win-win situation, instead of acting on a pique against one country to score political brownie point. This is no apology for China as both India and China remain members of the WTO and "import from any WTO member can be restricted only if these do not conform to domestic laws, rules, orders, regulations, technical specifications environment and safety norms or on grounds of general exceptions provide in Article XX of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)". Moreover, the proposed ban or import licensing is also not compatible with WTO norms as India had agreed as far back as 1997 to the Information Technology Agreement (ITA), after

the first WTO Ministerial Meeting in Singapore in 1996.

It also needs to be reckoned that the Government has oft repeated its goal to make India a significant Electronic System Design and Manufacturing hub as part of its Atma Nirbhar Bharat (self-reliant India). It has catalogued a congeries of measures and initiatives for increasing and deepening the electronics manufacturing ecosystem and to render the country a global electronics manufacturing hub. In the last five years, the country's electronic equipment industry indigenously has grown tremendously and its exports had leapt up from 26,779 crore rupees in 2014-15 to 94,599 crore rupees in 2021-22. Though this is a mile as compared to the billions of dollars the country earned by its software product exports that fetched 7.3 billion dollars in 2022-23, it would be short-sighted on the part of the authorities to damage the goose that yields golden eggs for any short-term gains or reprieve in instituting any import-restrictive trade regime that is bound to invite trade reprisals from the affected countries who may be using India's software technology. Trade is a two-way traffic and give and take strategy for mutual gains and it is otiose to play spoilsport to our own detriment.

In the end India may laudably claim that its measures are basically designed to safeguard domestic industry but experts emphatically say that they could be counterproductive. According to a trade policy expert and international consultant based in Washington, T.G. Srinivasan "For a nation touted as a skilled manpower source for the world with a burgeoning knowledge economy and a dominant position in IT service exports, these restrictive trade practices risk attracting retaliatory actions from global partners. This not only has the potential to impede the growth of India's vibrant IT sector but could also tarnish its global image as a reliable and open trade partner. The juxtaposition of being software power house, facing specific trade disputes with key partners, over products integral to the IT ecosystem and simultaneously erecting barriers on IT imports presents a contradiction in the global trade arena". This perhaps neatly sums up India's predilection for presenting itself as a paradox without parallel, notwithstanding its constant quest for being on the race to a developed nation from its emerging economy status!

(G. Srinivasan is a senior economic journalist based in New Delhi)

The challenge of making farming profitable

RECONSTRUCT SMALL-SCALE FARMING AND ECOLOGICALLY SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE TO USHER IN REFORMS AND REDUCE INEQUALITY.

DEVINDER SHARMA

SOMETIMES, silence speaks louder than words. A heart-wrenching video clip of a vegetable vendor breaking down at the Azadpur mandi in New Delhi has gone viral. When asked whether he would go back with an empty cart if he couldn't afford to buy tomatoes at the inflated price, the vendor is lost for words and unable to control his tears – his silence gives a powerful reply.

The short video clip hit the sensibilities of a nation that otherwise remains engrossed in new car models hitting the market and the latest electronic gadgets flooding the supermarkets. With regular TV shows about the latest in automobiles as well as what's new in electronic gadgets, and with reports every now and then of a fast-growing economy, it is only once in a while that a video clip shakes the middle class out of its stupor, bringing it face to face with harsh realities.

The clip of Rameshwar, the vendor from New Delhi, was one such instance. His economic distress was clearly evident from the tears he found difficult to hold back. When asked as to how much he earned, he said it was not more than Rs 100-200 per day. His reply also laid bare India's poverty levels and the explosive rise in inequality.

Not many would, however, know of a 45-year-old sugarcane farmer and labourer from Thikpurli in Maharashtra. The farmer, Bharati Patil, told a research platform: "Over the last five years, our wages have remained largely unchanged. Before demonetisation, they were



Rs 100 per day and now, if we work till 5 pm, we get Rs 150 a day." In other words, going by what the marginal sugarcane farmer claims, daily wages in Maharashtra's sugar belt have increased by a paltry Rs 50 in five years. With the prices of all necessities having gone up, it is difficult to comprehend how the marginal farmers and farm labourers survive with the same low wages year after year.

The increase in real wages, when adjusted for inflation, therefore, must be close to zero, and

not looking up in any meaningful way. In fact, some studies have pointed to the real wages either falling or remaining stagnant between 2013 and 2017. The Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) had, in April 2022, said that the majority of the country's 900 million workers were so disillusioned with the available employment opportunities that they had stopped looking for jobs.

It is primarily for this reason that the farm sector's share in the country's employment,

which stood at 45.5 per cent in 2021-22 as per the Periodic Labour Force Survey, did not drop to the pre-pandemic levels, when the share of the farming population was relatively lower at 42.5 per cent of the workforce.

Following the outbreak of the Covid pandemic, a sizeable proportion of an estimated 100 million workers who had trudged back to their villages after the lockdown was imposed did not return to the cities.

Similarly, in Bangladesh, employment in agriculture has shown an increase this year. As per the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, most of the job generation in the April to June 2023 quarter and seen on a year-to-year basis has been in agriculture. Some economists think it is not a good sign as it indicates the lack of formal employment opportunities in the cities.

Let's first see how depressing inequality is turning out to be. At the global level, the World Inequality Report has tracked the worsening inequality, with the latest report saying that the richest 10 per cent of the global population own 76 per cent of all the wealth whereas the bottom half of the people own hardly 3 per cent of the wealth. In India, Oxfam International tells us that the top 1 per cent own 40.5 per cent of the country's wealth.

The economic design is so woven that the rich continue to amass wealth, whereas the poor are driven up the wall. The capitalist system is so well entrenched that despite the big talk of ending inequality, the top 500 super-rich globally added \$852 billion to their wealth in the first six months of 2023.

Using the World Bank matrix of assessing the

proportion of the population of the BRICS countries living on an income of less than \$4 a day, India tops the chart. With 91 per cent of the population below that benchmark – far ahead of South Africa, which is a distant second with 50.3 per cent of its people living on less than \$4 a day – the aspiration for a decent living would be much higher among the people who are left behind.

Considering that agriculture is the largest employer, the best way to reduce the gnawing inequality is to put the resources where the actual need is. Instead of continuing with the failed trickle-down economics, the task should be to shift the focus to lift the bottom and middle levels.

Since the majority of the livelihoods in India and Bangladesh are dependent on agriculture, mainline economists should accept the challenge of making farming profitable by incentivising rural entrepreneurship. Instead of sucking wealth from the bottom, provide more income in the hands of farmers even if it means defying the dominant economic framework. A vibrant agriculture is the crying need of the times. There is no other way to wipe the tears of every farmer and wage-earner. My suggestion would be to devote the next five years to rebuilding agriculture. Provide as many resources, incentives and economic stimuli to agriculture as we have given to the industry ever since the reforms were unleashed. Reconstruct small-scale farming and ecologically sustainable agriculture to usher in the next stage of reforms that are healthy, wealthy and regenerative.





# GAL GADOT INTERVIEW: ALIA BHATT IS 'SUPER READY' TO BREAK INTO HOLLYWOOD

Gal Gadot is synonymous with Wonder Woman today. But only the Israeli actor knows the years of persistence she put in to bag the superhero role in a big-budget studio franchise. From getting rejected in an audition for the Bond girl in Quantum of Solace (2008) to finally crystallising her name for posterity with a star on the coveted Hollywood Walk of Fame, Gal has come a really long way.

Even rarer is for her to have done it in the film industry of a country she wasn't born in. In that sense, her journey is similar to her Heart of Stone co-star Alia Bhatt. Alia, who made her acting debut in Bollywood back in 2012 with Karan Johar's Student of the Year, has taken great strides in a decade. Her latest feat is making her international debut alongside Gal Gadot in Tom Harper's upcoming spy thriller Heart of Stone.

Gal Gadot's pep talk for Alia In an exclusive interview with Hindustan Times, Gal agreed that watching Alia navigate the early stages of Hollywood does remind her of her own struggle. "We share so much in common. From the very first time we met, I felt we connected. Not just because both of us are from different countries and English is not our native language and the culture we come from is very different, but she brings a lot of warmth with her. Also a lot of, if I can say, cut the bullshit attitude. She's always blunt. For me, as an Israeli, it's delightful. You get what you see," Gal told Hindustan Times.

A word of advice for Alia Gal is quite confident that Alia is equipped enough to make inroads into Hollywood on her own. "I don't think Alia needs any word of advice. She comes with such experience, working for over a



decade in India. And India, you guys are massive! So she knows how to handle the heat. Breaking into the American market is going to be a smooth, healthy evolution or transition for Alia. I think she's super ready. If she ever needs anything, she's my buddy, she's my sister, she has my number, she has my address.

"I'm always here for her," Gal added. Another parallel with Alia Alia was pregnant when she was filming the action scenes of Heart of Stone. Interestingly, Gal had to turn down an action part in Zack Snyder's 2013 superhero film Man of Steel because she was pregnant then.

## 'If you are struggling - it will get better': Bella Hadid shares health update as she battles Lyme disease



Bella Hadid shared a health update with her fans as she continues to battle Lyme disease. She started her lengthy Instagram post saying, "the little me that suffered would be so proud of grown me for not giving up on myself." She went on to thank her mother for sticking with her, and then continued, "Living in this state, worsening with time and work while trying to make myself, my family and the people who support me, proud, had taken a toll on me in ways I can't really explain. To be that sad and sick with the most blessings/privilege/opportunity/love around me was quite possibly the most confusing thing ever. one thing I want to express to you all is that I am okay and you do not have to worry, and 21 wouldn't change anything for the world.

If I had to go through all of this again, to get here, to this exact moment I'm in right now, with all of you, finally healthy, I would do it all again. It made me who I am today."

"The universe works in the most painful and beautiful ways but I need to say that if you are struggling- it will get better."

## Sunny Deol calls his Gadar 2 character Tara Singh 'our Hulk, Superman'

Actor Sunny Deol has compared his character Tara Singh from the upcoming film Gadar 2 with Hulk and Superman. Speaking during a session on the last day of the 2023 Jagran Film Festival in New Delhi, Sunny said that every person wants to watch a superhero on screen who 'will set things right'.

Sunny compares Tara Singh with Hulk, Superman



As quoted by news agency PTI, Sunny said, "Tara Singh is our Hulk, Superman. Every man wants to watch Hulk and Superman. He believes that (the hero) on screen will set things right. Like there are Marvel

Comics, here is Tara Singh. You don't draw these powers from working out. These are emotional powers.

Sunny talks about a character facing a difficult choice Citing the example of the

famous Hindustan Zindabad sequence from Gadar, Sunny said that when a character is faced with a difficult choice, God comes on screen to show the way and then one can move ahead. He added that 'it is the superpower

of honesty, earnestness, and simplicity. That's what superheroes are all about."

Sunny talks about him as an actor Talking about how he doesn't believe in preparing for a role, Sunny continued, "It is in your genes or you have it. You can enhance it through technique but you can't become an actor by doing bodybuilding or dancing. Every person has all kinds of emotions. As actors, we are blessed when a character comes to us, so we are able to present those emotions outside. That's when it feels real."

All about Gadar 2 In Gadar 2, Sunny reprises his role of Tara Singh from his 2001

hit Gadar: Ek Prem Katha. Filmmaker Anil Sharma, who also helmed the original, has directed the follow-up which will hit the screens on August 11. The film also stars Ameesha Patel and Utkarsh Sharma. The sequel is set in 1971 about 17 years after the events of Gadar.

Recently, Sunny shared the trailer on Instagram. The three-minute-long trailer showcases Tara Singh and Sakeena's legacy, set amidst the tumultuous Crush India Movement of 1971. In the trailer, Tara Singh went all the way to Pakistan to save his son, Chaman Jest Singh (played by Utkarsh Sharma) from the Pakistani Army.

## Sonu Sood turns 'babysitter' as he gives piggyback ride to baby in Kaza



Bollywood actor and humanitarian Sonu Sood shared a video of himself giving a baby in Himachal Pradesh a piggyback ride.

Sonu took to Instagram, where he shared the video. In the clip he is seen asking the name of the baby to the mother. He then puts the baby on his back with the help of a cloth he ties him around.

Sonu then walks around, and is seen telling the baby that he is taking him to Bombay. He tells the baby "Bombay actor banna jaa rahe hai." He is then heard telling others, "Naya Roadie aa gaya hai."

For the caption, Sonu wrote: "Any job of a babysitter. I am the best attractive packages available."

Sonu shared the video from Kaza in Himachal Pradesh, where he is currently shooting for the youth-based reality show 'MTV Roadies - Karm Ya Kaand'.

On the Bollywood front, Sonu will next be seen in 'Tateh', which is inspired by real-life incidents and will feature high-octane action sequences. The action-thriller is helmed by Abhinandan Gupta, who earlier worked as an assistant director in films such as 'Bajirao Mastani' and 'Shamsher'.

## Young Poo from Wamiqa Gabbi on-board Atlee's next Hindi film with Varun Dhawan: I had been waiting to do commercial project for so long

Actor Wamiqa Gabbi earned rave reviews and critical acclaim for her performance in the web show Jubilee, is all changed up for she has bagged her first Hindi commercial project. The actor, who has primarily done Punjabi films, will be seen in director Atlee's highly-anticipated next Hindi production, after the Shah Khan-starrer Jawan.

"I'm thrilled and grateful to be a part of this film. Atlee is someone known for his crazy commercial films that he makes with so much passion. And this one is backed by Murab (Khetani) bhai, who has that eye for typical masala potboilers. All this makes it such a special project, and I'm really excited about this collaboration,"



says Gabbi, confessing that she had been waiting for long to do a "full-on commercial Hindi project and this is just it".

At the moment, the untitled film directed by Tamil director Kalesh, which has been generating buzz across social media platforms, is referred to as VDI8 and is slated to release next year.

Not allowed to divulge much about her character, the 29-year-old says what also makes this film more special are her co-actors. "The opportunity to work alongside (actors) Varun Dhawan and Keerthy Suresh and sharing screen space with them is definitely something I'm looking forward to, and that makes this project

even more special," she continues, "Varun seems like a ball of energy and that's my vibe, too. He's doing a range of films where he has done a variety of characters, so I'm hoping we get to learn something from each other as artists."

While Gabbi had a small role in Kabir Khan's sports film '83 (2019) and has also shot for Vishal Bhardwaj's Khufiya, she hopes with Atlee's film, she would be seen in a different light. "As an actor, with each new project, you find a new voice, a new audience, and this film will have a huge impact when it comes to reaching the masses and that's something I'm sure of once the film is ready and comes out," ends the actor, who has also done web projects such as Grahani and Mai.

## 'Taali' trailer: Sushmita's daring transformation from Ganesh to Gauri, heroic battle for transgender rights



The trailer of upcoming series 'Taali' starring Sushmita Sen in the lead, showcases the revolutionary story of transgender activist Shreegauri Sawant, and her iconic fight for the recognition of the third gender in India.

The two minute 11 seconds trailer, which was unveiled on Monday starts with Sushmita's voice, saying "Namaste Mai Gauri, Ye Khabani mere jaise kayi logo ki hai, kyuki ye Gauri bhi kabhi Ganesh tha."

The video shows a glimpse of a school child, and his teacher asks him what will you become when you grow up, to which he replies, 'mujhe maa bana hai'. The teacher says 'mard kabhi maa nahi ban sakta'.

The little boy can be then seen wearing a saree and a red bindi on his forehead, and he performs some rituals with transgender.

The transition happens, and Sushmita is seen in the place of that boy. She is filling an application form, where she is left confused wondering to tick on the section of male or female. She is standing in between two lines - one for women, another for men. The scene gives a sense of confusion that transgenders go through when choosing (officially) what sex they belong to. There is also a glimpse of a surgery that Gauri undergoes.

Later, we see Gauri fighting for the rights of transgenders. She is heard saying "Jis desh me kutton (dogs) ka bhi census hota hai, par transgenders ka nahi, es desh me ap logo ke beech me, that is scary". Gauri is sitting with a panel on stage, and the crowd is clapping for her.

We then see some transgenders performing some rituals on her. Gauri, in a deep thought is sitting with her bare upper half, and these transgenders are happily pouring water on her. She also has turmeric on her cheeks and hands.

The trailer shows Gauri talking to an advocate, and saying, "If you are not a male or female then you are not alive", to which he replies "this is the rule".

## Celina Jaitley on Pakistani man claiming she slept with Fardeen, Feroz Khan: 'Twitter did nothing to stop him...'

Celina Jaitley opened up about her ordeal after a self-proclaimed Pakistani journalist shared derogatory tweets about her and how she has been coping with it.

A few months ago, a self-proclaimed Hindi film critic and journalist from Pakistan Umair Sandhu had shared derogatory tweets about actor Celina Jaitley, and claimed that she 'slept with both father (Feroz Khan) and son (Fardeen Khan) many times'. In a new interview with India Today, Celina opened up about when and why she decide to file an official complaint with

National Commission of Woman (NCW), and how Twitter (now X) 'did nothing' to stop the man's 'baseless, untrue character assassination via his tweets'.

Twitter claimed no issues with his tweets

Celina told India Today that on April 12, 2023 she filed an official complaint with NCW, adding, "This person created the fake viral content maligning me, thousands of people, including myself, lodged a complaint with Twitter to ban his account. Twitter's auto-generated responses claimed no issues

with all his tweets, encouraging him to go on a horrifying spree of baseless, untrue, character assassination via his tweets. He made multiple tweets at my expense, garnering him massive views the whole day, and Twitter still did not do anything... The height of stupidity is that some of the most reputable and credible media outlets report on the lies spread by a Pakistani imposter... He might as well be an ISI agent who is trying to infiltrate the Indian media outlets."

Celina said she had no idea who Umair Sandhu was until

April 11, 2023, when her 'Twitter account blew up' and she saw 'horrific and viral content' about her that he had generated. Celina said she was tagged by hundreds of people, who brought her attention to Umair Sandhu's 'bizarre claims'. She slammed him for making content that is "nothing short of online violence just for personal gain".

Celina on why she sought NCW's help

Further speaking about how the self-proclaimed journalist 'was hiding in Pakistan', taking legal recourse was not possible

for her even as continued to 'assault her with verbal violence'. Celina said that after much deliberation, she took the matter to the NCW in India. She added that she doesn't know what the laws in Pakistan are, but is hopeful that laws against cyberbullying are stringent there. Celina said in the same interview, "I am very grateful that MEA (Ministry of External Affairs) has responded with full support."

We need to understand that all processes have their protocols and even my complaint must go through its due process. I have



attached MEA's response to Ms. NCW. I will wait for the process Rekha Sharma, Chairperson, to take its due course.



# The chef who creates art with 'uttapams' and 'idlis'

Surabhi Sehgal developed a love for cooking while helping her grandmother in the kitchen as a child. Now at 46, Sehgal runs the Instagram account @supainstaplates that focuses on food art and styling. The account hit 200 thousand followers last week, when one of Sehgal's reels featuring the beloved uttapam reached 18.9 million views and garnered more than 900 thousand likes. It shows Sehgal cooking thin uttapam with thin slices of colourful vegetables arranged like flowers.

Originally from Dehradun, the Gurugram-based chef and food content creator shares her insights on food art, and the joys and challenges of being a food content creator.

What is the story behind starting your Instagram page?

I secured a Master's degree in English Literature and had a corporate job until I got married. My husband is a hotelier, and we've lived in six different countries. In 2016, when we moved to Abu Dhabi, I felt a deep need to take my passion for food forward, and started posting pictures on Instagram. My mother, who is a school teacher by profession, spent her free time painting while my father writes poetry. I come from a creative family. Like my mother, I create art through the medium of food, which is how @supainstaplates was born. How does food presentation influ-



ence the experience of eating it?

We eat with our eyes first, so if something doesn't look good, it dents our appetite. By looking at the dish, people can tell whether it's going to be soul nourishing. While the food must taste good, the presentation plays an important role too.

What do you keep in mind while plating a dish?

For me, colour is a very important element. I like bringing out the vibrant hues of seasonal vegetables. My passion is to present artfully-created dishes by using simple techniques, like using microgreens or herbs to create a contrast between the colours of different ingredients. I try not to follow any fixed rules, and it's an intuitive process.

How do you make Indian food look stylish on Instagram?

I used to hear from people that Indian food is difficult to style, because most curries are brown and dull. I don't think so. When you go to a spice market or bazaar, you will notice how vibrant they are, and I wanted to recreate that in my dishes. I'm absolutely in love with fresh ingredients from our mandis, and I wanted to show the beauty of our cuisine. So, I try to use seasonal foods and colourful spices when thinking about what to feature on my Instagram page.

What inspires you to style a certain dish?

I draw inspiration from ingredients. For the uttapam reel, I found beautiful onions in the market that had thin stems and I thought they could be used in a dish. When I began styling food, I have no idea what the final result might be. The process is

similar to painting; I have a few ingredients to experiment with to make something that's new and beautiful.

What is a challenge when it comes to posting food content on Instagram?

On Instagram, the algorithm rules you. So, if you make a certain kind of video, it has higher chances of going viral, but I have never followed these trends. I share dishes with vegetables and healthy plant-based foods which is feels new to me. While ideas come effortlessly, I sometimes take a look at my profile and decide I want to feature more of a certain colour or ingredient, and then start thinking about how it could be incorporated in videos.

Who are some chefs that inspire you to create your content?

Growing up, I used to love watching television shows featuring chefs like Nigella Lawson, Heston Blumenthal, Marco Pierre White and Gordon Ramsay. I thought the food they cooked was new and fresh.

Do you have any tips for home cooks getting into food art? I always tell people to get a few basic white plates first, and learn to bring out the best colours in their dishes. Don't overcook your vegetables. You can start clicking pictures on the phone; you don't need expensive equipment. I always tell home cooks to learn the techniques and develop their own unique style. If your food tastes good, people will be able to tell through the pictures.

# Reasons why you should give kombucha a shot



Kombucha, like sushi, draws strong reactions from people - you either like it or you don't. But as evidence of its goodness gets stronger by the day, kombucha may soon become everyone's go-to health drink. A drink that dates back to 2000 years (if not more), kombucha is made by fermenting tea with sugar and a symbiotic culture of bacteria and yeast (SCOBY).

A recent clinical trial by researchers at Georgetown University's School of Health, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and MedStar Health found that individuals with type 2 diabetes who drank kombucha for four weeks had lower fasting blood sugar levels than those who drank a similar-tasting placebo drink. The trial was conducted on 12 participants who were divided into groups. The groups were given eight ounces of kombucha or placebo beverage daily for four weeks and then, after a two-month period, to wash out the effects of the beverages, the kombucha and placebo were swapped between groups with another four weeks of drinking the beverages. Neither group was told which drink they were receiving at the time.

The results showed that the fermented drink helped lower average fasting blood glucose levels after four weeks from 164 to 116 milligrams per deciliter while the difference after four weeks with the placebo was not statistically significant. The results can be attributed to the active ingredients in the drink, namely, lactic acid bacteria, acetic acid bacteria and a yeast varietal called Dekkera.

Also Read: Add adaptogens to your diet with a pinch of caution

This new finding is but only the latest addition to an already impressive list of benefits of kombucha, which is also informally referred to as 'booch. Here's a quick low-down of the benefits of this drink that is said to have its origins in China in the 2nd century BC.

# A viral social media hack combines ice cream and—wait for it—fries



McDonald's has been trending on social media platforms recently. It began in June with the launch of their Grimace Shake, a berry-flavoured milkshake. The trend involved videos of people drinking the shake which then morphs into a scene of supernatural horror, with celebrities like Courtney Cox joining in on social media platforms. Other hacks have also included making an ice cream sandwich using two hash browns and Oreo McFlurry which was posted by content creator Kelly Arvan on TikTok and Instagram (@arvanfamily) in May.

This month, a new trend starring a beloved food from the fast-food chain has gone viral. Last week, Janelle Flom and Kate Heintzelman posted a video on their Instagram account (@janelleandkate) which showed them mashing six McFlurry ice cream cones and then adding cookies, chocolate syrup, and rainbow sprinkles to make a unique dessert. Then, they dipped French fries in the mixture. "It's the sweet and salty mixture," said one of the creators while the other called the combination "perfect."

The reel received over 5.1 million views and approximately 88 thousand likes, adds, root-rotting bacteria, and viruses. Early detection can make it possible to save crops from damage, especially in a world that's facing food shortages, according to the US space agency's NASA.

# German wines beyond Riesling

The first name that comes to mind when one mentions German wines is a fine Riesling. "But, there is much to discover," says Sonal Holland who holds the distinguished title of Master of Wine, one that's especially useful if a sommelier works in the international wine trade. She goes on to pick a few: The light-bodied German Pinot Noir known as Spätburgunder; the easy-drinking Pinot Blanc; the elegant Pinot Gris or

Grauburgunder that has a hint of pink; and Silvaner, which comes in a unique green, flattened circular bottle with a long neck, called Gockelbouteil.

As a fan of the floral and delicate Spätburgunder, Holland believes it's the lightest Pinot Noir of all. It's also a case study in how learning about wine is not limited to flavour and aroma; but has a broader scope involving etymology, geography and climate. The etymology of the

German Pinot Noir indicates its origin.

Spät means late ripening and burgunder refers to the world famous wine region of Burgundy in France. With France as the neighbour in the south-west, separated by the Rhine river, it isn't surprising that most of Germany's viticulture is concentrated in this area, and it yields the best Spätburgunder.

"In Germany, it's all about varietal wines. This means wines made from a single grape which can stand out and holds its own in the bottle. So, you will only get high-quality grapes, like Riesling and Spätburgunder, which grow well in the cool climate," explains wine writer and educator Ruma Singh.

Among the whites, Holland makes a special mention of the Silvaner, specifically from the Franken region. The area has an interesting backstory. Its mineral-rich soil formed over centuries

and dates back to the age of great extinction—the Triassic period about 250 million years ago—that lends immense characteristic to German wines today. "It produces extremely powerful, rich and mineral-tinted wines with amazing floral, herbal, pear-like aromas. Only in the Franken region, Silvaner finds its true expression; anywhere else, they are fairly neutral and unimpressive. I tasted some and they were so good."

# Do these exercises to control your blood pressure

A RECENT STUDY HAS FOUND THAT ISOMETRIC EXERCISES ARE VERY EFFECTIVE IN COTROLLING BLOOD PRESSURE. HERE ARE FIVE EXCELLENT EXAMPLES FOR YOU TO TRY

If you want to tame your spiralling blood pressure, perform a plank hold for as long as you can. A recent study conducted in the UK found that while all forms of exercise help in improving a person's resting blood pressure, the most effective are isometric exercises. These are exercises that engage your muscles without any movement, such as planks, hollow holds and wall sits.

The study in question is a meta-analysis of 270 randomized controlled trials, involving over 15,000 people, and conducted between 1990 and early 2023. Titled Exercise Training And Resting Blood Pressure, it was published last month in the British Journal of Sports Medicine.



Researchers found that when people exercised for more than two weeks, irrespective of their choice of exercise, they reported a reduction in their blood pressure as compared to those who did not

exercise at all. They further found that benefits varied depending on the nature of the exercise as well. While high intensity interval training (HIIT) showed the mini-

mum impact on reducing blood pressure, isometric exercise had the maximum effect; twice as impactful as HIIT in fact. The study found that certain exercises such as combination training, dynamic resistance training and aerobic exercise fall in a spectrum between the two.

Certain exercises, the study found, such as the isometric wall squat and running, were effective in reducing both diastolic and systolic blood pressure.

This is significant, as blood pressure is one of the key indicators of our health and it is closely associated with various cardiovascular diseases, as well as stress and hypertension.

With this in mind, here are five great isometric exercises for you to perform at home and keep con-

trol of your blood pressure.

Plank: Everyone is familiar with this simple and effective exercise for the core. Doing the plank is quite easy:

Prop yourself on the ball of your feet and elbows (elbows under your shoulder), while squeezing your stomach and keeping your body parallel to the floor. However, holding one for as little as a minute is another matter altogether.

The plank strengthens your core muscles, including abs, lower back, pelvis and glutes. A strong core plays an important role in your posture, mobility, movement, all forms of exercise and sports.

You could also perform a high plank on your palms instead of elbows and it is just as effective.

# Best places for the best breakfast in London

When the new City branch of the Wolsley flings open its ornate King William Street doors later this year, the financial center will finally get a taste of what Mayfair and St James's denizens have been enjoying at the Piccadilly flagship for the past two decades: the over-the-top Wolsley breakfast.

Eggs, served Benedict, Florentine or Royale, waffles, French toast, stacks of pancakes and granola, grilled kippers, kedgeree and devilled kidneys: The early morning menu at the Wolsley is pitched somewhere between an American-style brunch and a shooting weekend at an Edwardian country house.

The City crowd has not been devoid of breakfast options, but they're getting even more plentiful. The Italian minded Lina Stores' City branch (in the Bloomberg Arcade) is launching a morning meal in late-August, that goes beyond a fast espresso fix. On the menu: Fried egg and roast porchetta breakfast sandwiches.

Former banking hall 1 Lombard Street is the doyen of City breakfast haunts. Head chef Herbert Berger launched its first breakfast menu in



2001. 'The idea,' recalls owner Soren Jensen, 'was to offer a five-star hotel breakfast, the only one outside a hotel.' It was slow to take off, but now there is a queue outside at 7.30 every morning. People may not be coming into the City every day, but when they do, they fill the day with meetings, starting at breakfast.' Martin Williams, chief executive officer of M Threadneedle Street, has also seen breakfast sales double over the last year, especially Tuesday to Thursday, when people do come into the City, they want to fit in as

many meetings and as much corporate entertaining as they can.' He also notes a demographic shift in the clientele. 'I'd say less than half are in suits now, half are women, and more and more are tech guys.'

At Follow, the much-lauded modern British restaurant in St James, co-owner James Robson notes a distinct uptick in breakfast business, 'especially on Mondays. Tuesday to Thursday was always busy, but we're serving more and more breakfasts early in the week.'

Robson says the peak time for the classic corporate breakfast is 8 a.m. 'But we're busy through until 10.30. The average spend is around £25 (£32). That's around half the lunch spend, and a quarter of what we take at dinner, but it's good turnover.' He adds: 'Given the costs of running a central London restaurant, you can't afford to be shut.' The sentiment is echoed by Francis O'Neill, the proprietor of Maison Francis, where breakfast is lavish. 'A place like this shouldn't have its lights off. We have night chefs making bread and patisserie, then breakfast brings the room to life and sets a precedent for the day,' he says. From 7 a.m. until 9 a.m., the crowd is mostly business people: 'Quick in, quick out, lots of regulars. We had to triple the number of staff making coffees.'

All agree that there's something hard-headed—sober, even—about early business meetings. Says Jensen: 'The great thing about a deal struck at breakfast is that you can go back to the office, nail down the details, then go out for lunch to celebrate.'

Follow Best known for its fiercely local, seasonal and inventive modern British

cooking, Follow is now open for breakfast. The kitchen's regional ethos applies to the morning menu: The No Avo on sourdough (£12) features crushed English peas, smoked cheese curds, coriander and walnut dukkah. Royales—the signature croissant rolls—are filled with baked egg, spinach, 'nduja and crème fraîche; sausage patty, cheese, bacon and egg; or grilled mushroom, cheese, crispy shallot and egg.

M Threadneedle Street M Restaurant owner Williams credits the booming breakfast business at his handsome high-ceilinged City dining room in part to the ability to have a clear-headed, alcohol-free meal—'although our clients don't always pick the healthiest menu items: Our 'firecracker' scrambled eggs with chorizo and coriander... is very popular.' The Wagyu Sausage and Egg M Muffin (pun very much intended) with smoked ketchup is a further bestseller; less-blowout options include avocado on sourdough with feta (£9.90) and almond granola with organic black sesame yogurt and fruit.

45 Jermyn Street Hedge funders book 45 Jermyn

Street's trademark orange banquettes each weekday morning, lured by well-spaced tables and a wide-ranging—and calorie-counted—breakfast menu. Baked hen's eggs with spinach and ricotta weighs in at 255 kcal (£15.50); the Full English blowout contains sausage, bacon, black pudding, tomatoes, beans and eggs any style (1594 kcal, £19.50). If you want a 7.30 a.m. celebratory bottle of Champagne or an orange marmalade-spiked breakfast martini, the bar is one of London's best.

1 Lombard Street A favorite with the City finance crowd for a couple of decades, 1 Lombard is now bringing in a wider range of breakfast diners, according to owner Jensen. 'Oil traders, insurance brokers, hedge hunters... not all suits and ties anymore.' The spacious tables in the high-domed former banking hall lend themselves to meetings: 'Some of them use [the restaurant] as an office.' The 1 Lombard breakfast menu is a roll call of classics, from eggs Benedict (£15) to grilled kipper served with wholegrain mustard butter (£17), plus less-conventional options like hurra with beets and vegan and vegetarian takes on English breakfasts.



# One - Day Workshop on "Navigate your Software Development Journey" held at GDC Baramulla

JI NEWS SERVICE

BARAMULLA, AUGUST 07: The Post-Graduate Department of Computer Sciences at Govt. Degree College (Autonomous), Baramulla, organized a one-day workshop on "Roadmap to Success: Navigate Your Software Development Journey", here.

Attended by approximately 100 students from diverse academic backgrounds, including BCA/BBA, MCA, and the faculty members of the college, the event aimed to provide students with comprehensive insights and



guidance for a successful career in Software Development.

The session featured Er. Firdous Ahmad, an accomplished figure in the field of

Software Development, serving as the Founder & CEO of Red Star Labs, Srinagar, J&K, India, and Senior Software Architect at IDEaS Revenue Solutions, USA.

His extensive experience and expertise offered a unique perspective on the ever-evolving landscape of software development. The session began with a warm welcome from Prof. Shakeel Ahmad Najar, Head of the PG Department of Computer Sciences, who emphasized the value of interdisciplinary learning. The programme was held under the guidance of Prof. Mohammad Ferooz Rather, Principal of the college.

Er. Firdous Ahmad's presentation engaged the audience, sharing his inspiring journey and experiences in the software industry. His insights emphasized the significance of adaptability, innovation, and continuous learning in the path to success. In addition to his personal journey, Er. Firdous Ahmad also provided valuable insights into the current industry requirements and opportunities in the software development field. He shed light on the emerging trends, such as artificial intelligence, machine learning, and cyber-security, and how students can position themselves to leverage these opportunities.

# JKRLM empowering lives through Beekeeping

Asiya Jan's story in Nowbahar VLO, is nothing short of a remarkable success story

JI NEWS SERVICE

PULWAMA, AUGUST 07: Asiya Jan, a resilient and determined individual from Lotus Self Help Group, Nowbahar Village Level Organisation (VLO), has become an inspiring figure in her community through the journey of embracing beekeeping as a sustainable livelihood.

With the unwavering support of the Jammu and Kashmir Rural Livelihoods Mission (JKRLM), Asiya's transformation from an ordinary villager to a successful beekeeper is nothing short of a remarkable success story.

Coming from humble beginnings in Gangoo Village, Block Pulwama, Asiya Jan faced numerous challenges that are all too familiar to rural residents. Determined to bring about a positive change in her life and that of her community, she decided to explore alternative livelihood options. Recognizing the potential of apiculture,



Asiya sought support from the JKRLM, a flagship program aimed at empowering marginalized communities in Jammu and Kashmir. With the guidance and training provided by JKRLM through SHGs, Asiya embraced the art of beekeeping, gaining valuable knowledge on modern beekeeping techniques, hive management, and honey extraction methods. The program also emphasized sustainable practices, ensuring that beekeeping would not only provide a source of income but also contribute to the preservation of the environment and biodiversity.

Overcoming initial challenges, Asiya Jan's passion for beekeeping began to bear fruit. She established her own apiary, strategically placing beehives amidst the abundant flora of Nowbahar Village Organization. As the bees diligently pollinated the local crops, the village witnessed an increase in agricultural productivity, further strengthening the bond between the community and their newfound beekeeping venture.

Asiya's dedication to her newfound livelihood paid off, as she started to harvest high-quality honey, wax, and other bee products. With access to market linkages facilitated by JKRLM,

she found a ready market for her products, not only within the region but also beyond the state borders.

Today, Asiya Jan stands as an embodiment of the positive change that is possible when determination meets support and opportunity. Her journey from a member of the Lotus Self Help Group, Nowbahar Village Organization (VO) to a successful beekeeper showcases the potential that lies within every individual, given the right resources and encouragement.

The JKRLM commends Asiya Jan's dedication and perseverance, and it reaffirms its commitment to empowering more individuals like her, who are eager to build a brighter and sustainable future for themselves and their communities.

Shugufta, a resident of Nichandagan in the Ichgzoa cd block, embarked on a new venture by taking up beekeeping as her primary source of income.

# DC Pulwama distributes Motorized Tricycles to 120 specially-abled persons of district

JI NEWS SERVICE

PULWAMA, AUGUST 07: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, Dr. Basharat Qayoom today distributed keys of Motorized Tricycles to 120 specially-abled persons of various locations of Pulwama district at District Headquarters Pulwama. He also handed over appointment letters to 35 Anganwadi workers under Poshan Mission.

The beneficiaries to be provided motorized Tricycles were identified by Social Welfare Department well in advance.

ADC Pulwama, along with officers from Social Welfare Department, ICDS and Information department participated.

Speaking on the occasion, DC complimented the Social Welfare Department for organizing the distribution camp for specially-abled persons. He said Motorized Tricycles will empower the people with special needs and would include them in mainstream life.

He added that the mobility of the specially-challenged people would be pivotal in earning sustainable livelihoods without inconvenience and asked the DSWO to organise more programmes in near future for creating more and more awareness among the general masses.

The DC also appreciated the efforts of the department in reaching out to the marginalised and downtrodden sections of the society.

Dr Basharat while handing over the appointment letters to Anganwadi workers said that government is providing employment opportunities to all section of the society by making appointment process fair and transparent.

# DC Kupwara inaugurates IMI Campaign at SDH Kupwara

Says campaign will run in H&WC, AWCs



JI NEWS SERVICE

KUPWARA, AUGUST 07: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan today inaugurated Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) campaign at Sub District Hospital Kupwara.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC said that the aim of Intensified Mission Indradhanush Campaign is strengthening vaccination coverage in the district. She said that the IMI was already in place and U-Win Platform has been introduced in it which is new software for keeping the vaccination record in a digitized format. She added that 542 children of 0-5 age group who are either new born or dropouts will be vaccinated this week in Kupwara district.

The DC said that the IMI Campaign will run in every health facility of the district including Health & Wellness Centres and Anganwadi Centres for cent percent coverage of vaccination.

On the occasion, the DC provided vaccination to an infant and interacted with his mother.

Chief Medical Officer Kupwara, Dr. Ramzan; Medical Superintendent, Doctors and medical/paramedical staff were present on the occasion.

# Intensified Mission Indradhanush 5.0 launched at Ganderbal



JI NEWS SERVICE

GANDERBAL, AUGUST 07: Intensified Mission Indradhanush 5.0 campaign was today launched in district Ganderbal by the Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Ganderbal, Mehraj-ud-Din Shah during a function held at District Hospital Ganderbal.

The main objective of Intensified Mission Indradhanush 5.0 is to identify and vaccinate all left-out and drop-out children under 5 years of age and pregnant women thereby to strengthening and sustaining routine immunization.

This campaign will further help in eliminating Measles Rubella in the country. There are three rounds to be conducted in this campaign- one each in August, September and October 2023. Round-I 7th to 12th Aug-2023, Round-II 11th to 16th Sept-2023 and Round-III 9th - 14th Oct-2023.

The ADC stressed that routine immunization session plan should not be disturbed, and additional sessions should be planned in high risk areas not covered by route immunization during the campaign.

On the occasion, the ADC was informed that in Round-I that has commenced today, 714 beneficiaries of 0-5 age and 142 pregnant women will be vaccinated in 169 sessions for six consecutive days in the district.

Furthermore, it was informed that 2701 beneficiaries of the 0-5 year age group and 398 pregnant women will be vaccinated in all the three rounds of IMI-5.0 campaign.

# DC B'la chairs meeting, discusses Action Plan for Road Safety Measures

JI NEWS SERVICE

BARAMULLA, AUGUST 07: In order to discuss various road safety measures and other vital issues pertaining to transport mechanism, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Dr Syed Shrish Ashgar today chaired a Road Safety meeting with the concerned functionaries at DC Office, here.

The meeting discussed the present scenario of the public transport system in the district along with the road safety action plan reflecting tar-

gets assigned to allied departments.

Presenting the detailed list of activities to be conducted by the concerned departments for Road Safety and traffic management, Dr Shrish emphasized upon the officers to work in proper coordination and cohesion so as to ensure the betterment in the system.

The DC directed the functionaries of BEACON to nominate a Nodal Officer for installing sign boards at all public institutions on National Highway (NH) and improve

road markings to ensure Road Safety in the district.

She also called to identify black spots in unexpected sharp corners, hills, winding paths, hidden junctions and poor or concealed warning signs besides removal of unnecessary speed breakers.

On the occasion, Dr Shrish also deliberated for adopting the requisite safety measures so that the accident ratio is minimized in the district besides stressed on organizing awareness programmes so that people are sensitized about the traffic rules

and regulations.

Further, the meeting also discussed other factors for the smooth traffic management and road safety which include improvement of junctions on State highways and other roads, installation of speed management measures by way of transition from Highway to city traffic, wayside amenities for long distance drivers etc.

Moreover, DC exhorted upon the concerned stakeholders to mobilize all the available resources in order to provide safe road infrastructure and sus-

tainable transport services to the masses with best emergency care.

She further directed ARTO Baramulla to make the requisite and sufficient services available in all the hungry routes of the district. The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner Baramulla, Aijaz Abdullah Saraf; Superintending Engineer R&B, Chief Education Officer, Chief Medical officer, ARTO, other district and sectoral officers besides representatives from BECON and other departments.

# One-day National Conference on 'Bridging the Gap between Science & Arts' held at GDC D.H Pora

JI NEWS SERVICE

KULGAM, AUGUST 07: The one-day National Conference on "Bridging the Gap between Science and Arts" was successfully held at Govt. Degree College (GDC) D.H. Pora to explore the interconnectedness and mutual contributions of science and arts in shaping our society and culture.

The conference featured an impressive collection of 42 abstracts, each offering a glimpse into the diverse themes that bridge the gap between science and arts. These abstracts, submitted by scholars and researchers from all over the country, showcased the breadth and depth of knowledge in this interdisciplinary field.

From the exploration of scientific principles through artistic

prisms to the utilization of artistic techniques in scientific research, these abstracts provided a captivating overview of the myriad ways in which science and arts converge. Through a series of thought-provoking presentations and abstracts, attendees were able to delve into the rich tapestry of connections that exist between science and arts. The conference provided an excellent platform for scholars, researchers, and practitioners from various disciplines to engage in meaningful discussions and exchange valuable insights on the integration of science and arts.

The event successfully achieved its objective of bridging the gap between these two domains and emphasized the significance of interdisciplinary approaches in tackling complex societal challenges. The event

comprised three sessions viz. inaugural session, technical session and the valedictory session. In the inaugural session, Dr. Nadiya Muzaffar, Assistant Professor Sociology, commenced the session with opening remarks of Dr. Suhail A. Bandh, the Organizing Secretary of the conference. Prof. Sharique Zahida Deva, Convener of the conference and the Principal of the College, delivered the keynote address, setting the tone for the day's discussions. Bashir-ul-Hassan, SDM Doh Pora, traced the inaugural session as the guest of honor and encouraged the students to work hard to excel in their future endeavors. The session also featured two insightful plenary lectures by the guest speakers. Prof. Gull Mohammad Wani, Professor Department of Political Science, University of Kashmir delivered

an insightful lecture on "Revisiting Social in Social Sciences" and encouraged the students and participants to approach their studies with an open mind, to critically analyze social phenomenon, and to recognize the potential of social sciences in shaping a more just and equitable society.

While Dr. M.A. Shah, Professor Department of Physics, National Institute of Technology, Srinagar delivered an awe-inspiring talk on "Nanotechnology in Our Day-to-Day Life" to raise awareness among students about the transformative potential of nanotechnology and how it influences the world around us. He encouraged the students to recognize the significance of this rapidly evolving field and its role in shaping a more technologically advanced and sustainable future. The tech-

nical session featured eight thought-provoking presentations covering a diverse range of topics including "Mapping of Universe of Knowledge and Growth of Subjects: A Study", "Art as a Bridge to Science", "Sociology and Sciences: A Continuum", "Life and Culture of Ancient Kashmiri People", "Solution of Time Fractional Option Pricing Model through Sumudu Transform Iterative Method", "Mushtaraka Tahzeeb aur Urdu Zabaan-o-Adab", "Islamic Banking System as an Effective Element of the Economy", and "Problems of Conflict Victimized Orphans and Community Concerns in Kashmir". Dr. Mohammad Ashraf, Senior Assistant Professor Institute of Advanced Studies in Education (IASE) Srinagar conducted the proceedings as the chairperson of the session.

# DLC meeting for finalization of beneficiaries under PMMSY held at Ganderbal

JI NEWS SERVICE

GANDERBAL, AUGUST 08: In order to finalize the selection of beneficiaries under various components of fisheries sector, District Level Committee (DLC) meeting was held today here under the chairmanship of Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Ganderbal, Mehraj-ud-Din Shah.

The meeting was attended by Dr. Salman Rauof Chalkoo, Assistant Director Fisheries (Member Secretary, HADP), and officers from Agriculture and allied Departments.

The meeting started with a brief presentation by AD Fisheries regarding the HADP components in Fisheries sector and method of selection adopted by the District head for assessing the feasibility of sites for establishment of units.

14 beneficiaries were selected under general category, who will get a subsidy of 50%, and two beneficiaries under women as SC/ST quota, were also selected, who will get 60% subsidy.

Draw of lots was conducted in presence of all the members. One biotloc unit and one carp unit was also allotted to the beneficiaries during the meeting.

Under Pradhan Mantri Matsyaya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), 02 beneficiaries were selected for motorcycle with icebox and one beneficiary for construction of trout pond.



# Directorate of H&H Kashmir celebrates National Handloom day

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 07: Directorate of Handicraft and Handloom (H&H) Kashmir today celebrated 9th National Handloom Day at Kashmir Haat, here.

Commissioner Secretary Industries and Commerce, Vikramjit Singh was the chief guest on the occasion.

Director Handicrafts and Handloom Kashmir, Mehmood Ahmad Shah; Joint Director Handicrafts & Handloom Kashmir, Joint Registrar, Induscos Kashmir, Director ICT, Deputy Directors of Handicraft and Handloom Kashmir and



other staff members of Handloom Department, various Artisans, Weavers, & members of Cooperative Societies also attended the event.

Commissioner Secretary appreciated the efforts of the Department in promoting Handloom sector through various Departmental schemes and conducting the GI tagging of Pashmina shawls which has been revolutionary in preserving the craft and promoting the hand weaving in Kashmir Division.

He assured the weaver community that proper marketing support shall be provided to them through JKITPO and other departments of the handloom sector.

During the event, weaver registration certificates along with Mudra Sanction letters were distributed among weaver community.

On the occasion, stalls of various clusters and School of Designs antique textile artefacts were also displayed to showcase the rich Handloom heritage of the Kashmir Division.

In an effort to generate awareness regarding Departmental Schemes, pamphlets were also distributed among the participating weavers and online registration of weavers through JK single window portal was also done. National Handloom Day is observed on August 7th every year to commemorate the Swadeshi Movement, which was launched on this day in 1905.

# DC Kupwara reviews progress of Quality Check of digitized Jamabandies, Backlog Mutations

JJ NEWS SERVICE



KUPWARA, AUGUST 7: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan Monday convened a meeting of Revenue Officers at Mini-Meeting Hall of DC Office Complex here to review the progress of Quality Check of digitized Jamabandies and update of Backlog Mutations.

At the outset, ACR Kupwara, Irfan Bahadur while apprised the chair about the latest progress regarding status of quality check of digitized Jamabandies. He said that out of 379 total Jamabandies of 16 Tehsils of Kupwara district, quality of 304 Jamabandies have been checked and verified. The DC reviewed Tehsil-Wise progress of quality check and sought feedback from Tehsildars. She directed Tehsildars to speed up the certification and freezing of Jamabandies so that the process is completed.

While reviewing the backlog mutations, DC directed Tehsildars to cross check every entry of the Backlog Mutations so that the process becomes error free. The DC gave a deadline of next 10 days to complete the exercise of quality check, certifications of digitized Jamabandies and backlog mutations. She directed officers to stick to the deadline of 10 days and complete the exercise. Meeting was attended by ACR Kupwara, Tehsildars, NTS and other concerned Officers.

## Jal Jeevan Survekshan (JJS-2023)

# Srinagar Ranks First across India in implementation of JJM among Har Ghar Jal Certified Districts

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 07: In more major recognition, the Srinagar District has been ranked as the top performing District under Jal Jeevan Survekshan(JJS-2023) among 114 Har Ghar Jal Certified Villages across the Country in the implementation of the Jal Jeevan Mission(JJM) during October, 01, 2022 to June 30, 2023.

The Srinagar District has attained the top rank in implementation of JJM by obtaining highest score of 83.0 under set parameters and indicators of JJS-2023.

The activities during this period for achieving the top rank were conducted under the overall supervision of the Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad(Chairman JJM Board Srinagar) along completing water Quality testing of all the sources of different villages of Srinagar for Physical, Bacteriological and Chemical Parameters which plays a crucial role in ensuring the provision of clean and safe drinking water to rural households.

The mission emphasizes regular and comprehensive testing of water sources such as borewells, hand-pumps, springs, and surface water bodies to assess their suitability for

human consumption and the sources of all the villages have been tested successfully and meets the specific quality standards set by regulatory authorities.

Similarly, 5 Women in each village of Srinagar have been trained using FTK's for conducting Water Quality tests. The purpose is to empower women with tools and knowledge to perform basic water quality tests in their communities. By providing women with FTK's and appropriate training they can actively participate in monitoring the quality of Water sources.

In addition, Water Quality Testing for Chemical and Bacteriological Parameters of each School and Anganwadi Centre of all Villages of Srinagar has been conducted successfully with the aim to ensure that drinking water provided to children in these institutions meets the required quality standards and is safe for consumption as Children are more vulnerable to water borne diseases due to their developing immune systems and potential exposure to contaminated water sources.

Likewise, Water Quality testing of at least 3 Households from each village of Srinagar for Chemical and Bacteriological Parameters has been

performed. While, Geo-Tagging of the PWS/Assets of all the Villages of Srinagar has been completed within a stipulated time frame.

In addition, 100 % FHTC( Functional Household Tap Water Connection ) Coverage along with Har Ghar Jal Certification of each Village. Under FHTC every rural household of Srinagar has been provided with a reliable and sustainable water supply, thereby improving the overall quality of life and promoting better health and hygienic practices within the Community.

While, Construction of New Water Supply Scheme Poshpathri and Retrofitting Scheme of Upper pora Balhama. Augmentation / Improvement/ Retrofitting of Pipelines at Balhama A&B.

Similarly, 2 Skilled persons have been identified for various villages for operation and Maintenance of Water Supply Scheme. Under JJM awareness programmes /Cultural programmes were also conducted on the directions of the Deputy Commissioner in different villages of Srinagar to raise public awareness about Water Conservation , Water Management and importance of Clean Drinking water.

# DC Poonch inspects progress of JJM Scheme at Village Banwat Gundi

JJ NEWS SERVICE

POONCH, AUGUST 07: Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Yasin M. Choudhary, along with the Superintending Engineer Hydraulic Circle Poonch, Rajinder K. Sharma, visited Village Banwat Gundi to inspect the ongoing work of the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) scheme.

The visit was part of the Jal Jeevan Mission Fortnight Celebration being held in collaboration with the ISA (Society for Scheduled and Backwards).

A Special Gram Sabha was held as part of the awareness campaign under the Jal Jeevan Mission. The Superintending Engineer addressed the gathering and provided insights into the objectives and progress of the Jal Jeevan Mission.

Assistant Executive Engineer Poonch, Ashiq Hussain, Assistant Engineer Nasir and the field staff of the Jal Shakti (PHD) department were present at the Special Gram Sabha. Also in attendance were the Sarpanch of the concerned village, members of the Paani Samiti, PRIs (Panchayati Raj Institutions), AAWs (Anganwadi Workers), Asha workers, and the staff and students of the High School Banwat.

In addition to the Gram Sabha, a students' Rally was organized to raise further awareness about the Jal Jeevan Mission.

The Superintending Engineer, Assistant Executive Engineer, field staff of the Jal Shakti department, Paani Samiti members, prominent citizens of the village, students and staff of the High School Banwat actively participated in the rally.

During the visit, the officers of the Jal Shakti department conducted source water quality testing in the presence of the Sarpanch, Paani Samiti members, and students.

## Meri Mitti Mera Desh

# Wushu Championship kick-started at Bandipora



JJ NEWS SERVICE

BANDIPORA, AUGUST 07: The District Nodal Officer Coordination Mohammad Ashraf Hakak Monday kick started District Wushu Championship, 2023 at Government Higher Secondary School Ajas Bandipora.

The championship is being organized by the Wushu Association of Jammu and Kashmir in collaboration with District Administration Bandipora under Nashamukht Bharat Abhiyan.

As many as 330 participants, including both boys and girls from all age categories representing different clubs and schools of District Bandipora took part in the event.

On the occasion, Nodal officer Coordination District Administration Bandipora, Mohd Ashraf Hakak, inaugurated the championship. Padmashree Awardee Shri Fasal Ali Dar, Principal Higher Secondary besides others were present.

Hakak expressed his delight to hold the championship in Ajas Bandipora, recognizing its potential to encourage youth participation in sports and steer them away from negative influences. He acknowledged the excellent performance of Bandipora in the realm of sports and believed that this championship would serve as an inspiration to other districts. Furthermore, he assured unwavering support from District Administration Bandipora.

# Agri Deptt signs MoU with GCoE Srinagar for starting Skill enhancement courses under PMKYY & NEP-2020

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 07: In an important step towards the skill enhancement of the educated youth and students, the Agriculture department Kashmir today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Government College of Education (GCoE), IASE, M. A Road Srinagar, for starting of skill enhancement courses under Pradhan Mantri Koushal Vikas

Yojana (PMKY) & NEP 2020. The MOU was signed between Chowdhury Mohammad Iqbal the Director Agriculture Kashmir and prof. (Dr) Seem Naz, Principal GCoE, M.A Road Srinagar.

Speaking on the occasion, the Director Agriculture Kashmir observed that the signing of MoU with the said Educational institution will provide Agriculture department an opportunity to reach out to the students and

make them understand the skill based interventions in the agriculture and allied sectors.

He said with the help of this initiative the Agriculture department would be able to incorporate agri-skills among the students, which on one hand will make them acquainted with the basic agriculture activities and on the other hand will increase the employability among the students in agriculture and allied fields. Iqbal said the agri-skilled

educated youth could play vital role in the development of agriculture sector in the region and could contribute to the economic scenario of the valley. He said the main aim is to make our educated youth job providers not the job seekers.

Principal GCoE, M.A Road Srinagar also expressed her views and marked the importance of signing the MoU with the agriculture department for the overall benefit of students. She said that

she was looking forward to seeing learners who could access skilled employment opportunities in agriculture and allied sectors. Dr.Nazir Ahmed Bhat HOD Education, coordinator skill courses GCoE, Shiekh Imran Chief Technical Officer Agriculture Department Kashmir, Dr. Arif Bashir GCoE, Sabina Khan Associate Law Officer Agriculture Department Kashmir were also present on the occasion.

# Better coordination between Departments & Media required to make 'MMMD campaign' a grand success: DC Pulwama

JJ NEWS SERVICE

PULWAMA, AUGUST 05: For successful implementation of 'Meri Maati Mera Desh' campaign, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, Dr. Basharat Qayyum today convened an interaction session with media persons at Circuit House Pulwama.

During the interaction session, detailed discussions were held to ensure better coordination between the District Administration and media agencies to facilitate timely coverage of events under the 'Meri Maati Mera Desh' campaign.

Five events under the campaign including events of Deep Dive-Silaphalakam, Vasudha

Vandhan (planting 75 saplings), Veeron Ka Vandhan, Hoisting of National Flag, Singing of Kashtra Gana (National Anthem) and Panch Pran Pledge were discussed in detail during the meeting.

The timeline of various events starting from 9th of August, 2023 were elaborated in the meeting for prompt response and media coverage by the media fraternity. Similarly, the events happening under JJM fortnightly and Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav were elaborated for proper attention of media agencies.

The DC said the 'Meri Maati Mera Desh' campaign is an integral part of the concluding ceremonies of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav and its central focus revolves around 'Soil,' symbolizing the essence and unity of the nation. He further added that the campaign is aimed to collect Soil from every Panchayat across the district and later the same will travel to Delhi, to pay homage to the valiant heroes. Speaking on the occasion, the DC said that both the print and electronic media are playing a vital role in effective implementation of nationwide campaigns of Meri Maati Mera Desh, Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, Jal Jeevan fortnight campaigns.

He said that journalists should be aware of welfare schemes and government programmes so that they can report anomalies effectively which will ultimately help the public at large.

The DC said that the objective of holding such interaction sessions is to ensure that the information regarding the various developmental activities in the district can be disseminated in an effective manner so that the benefit of different government schemes percolate down to the common masses.

The DC further instructed the various line departments of administration to produce the calendar of events to be undertaken during the campaign Meri Maati Mera Desh, Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav with District Information Officer Pulwama so that the coverage of events is shared with the public of District Pulwama.

**NORTHERN RAILWAY E-Tender Notice**

Tender Notice No: 770-W/169/WA-1FZR/148-2023-24-ADEN-LDH acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on [www.irps.gov.in](http://www.irps.gov.in) with closing date 25.08.2023 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against these tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through online payment modes available on IRPS portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed.

| Tender Type | Tendering Section | Bidding System    |
|-------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Open        | Works             | Single Bid System |

| Date of Uploading Tenders | Bid Starting Date | Bid Closing Date/Time |
|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 07.08.2023                | 16.08.2023        | 30.08.2023            |

| S.No. | Tender No.               | Details of Tender   |
|-------|--------------------------|---|
| 1.    | 150-2023-24-Sr.DEN-C-FZR | Manufacturing and Supplying of 1,20,000 cum 65 mm gauge stone ballast (Mechanically broken) duly stacked and loading into Railway Wagons/Hoppers in quarry siding at Saha Depot at Madhopur Punjab on PTK-JAI section under ADEN/PTK. |

| Advertised Value (Rs.) | Validity of offer | Period of completion |
|------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| 111804000              | 90 Days           | 18 Months            |

24422023

Serving Customers With A Smile

**NORTHERN RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE**

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| 111804000              | 90 Days           | 18 Months            |

24432323

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

**NOTICE**  
I Sanjeev Kumar S/o Balwant Singh R/o Jammu, my mother name has wrongly been written in my 10th class marksheet. Session 2008 March-April, Roll No 144103, my mother name is Bimla kumari instead of Vimla Devi. now i am applying for the correction of the same above said. Objection if any may be conveyed to JKBOSE, Jammu, within 15 days from the publication of this notice.



**UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR  
OFFICE THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B)  
CONST. DIVN. NO. I, JAMMU**

**SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  
Short e-NIT No. CD-I/75 of 2023-24 Dated 04-08-2023

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 (in lacs) | Cost of document (in ₹) | Earnest Money (in ₹)              | Time Allowed for completion | Time and date of opening of tender | Class of Contractor                 |
|-------|--|------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1     | Construction of link road from Karval Joian BRO road to village Kotla (Under Samrith Seema Yojana (SSY) for the year 2023-24) (2nd Call)         | PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. 1 Jammu | 25.00                     | 600                     | 50000 (2% of the Advertised Cost) | 01 Month                    | (1400 Hrs) on or after 12-08-2023  | "A", "B" & "C" Class/ Hot Mix Plant |
| 2     | Providing and laying of Wet Mix 50mm & 25mm SDBC on Dhainsar to Govind Nagar via Bazigar Basti (Phase-I) Under Capex Budget for the Year 2023-24 | PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. 1 Jammu | 20.00                     | 600                     | 40000 (2% of the Advertised Cost) | 01 Month                    | (1400 Hrs) on or after 12-08-2023  | "A", "B" & "C" Class/ Hot Mix Plant |

**Position of AAA** :- Accorded  
**Major Head of Account** :- S.No. 1 Under Samrith Seema Yojana (SSY) for the year 2023-24 and S.No. 2 Under Capex Budget for the year 2023-24

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                    | 04-08-2023   |
| 2 | Period of downloading of bidding documents        | From 04-08-2023 to 11-08-2023, 1800 Hrs  |
| 3 | Date, Time and place of pre-bid meeting           | 08-08-2023 at 1300 Hrs. in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. 1 Jammu         |
| 4 | Bid submission Start Date                         | 04-08-2023   |
| 5 | Bid Submission End Date                           | 11-08-2023 upto 1800 Hrs   |
| 6 | Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online) | 12-08-2023 on or after 1400 Hrs in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. 1 Jammu |
| 7 | Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online) | To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed   |

- 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 0059 (Revenue) favoring Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. 1 Jammu and upload the same i.e treasury challan/receipt, Earnest Money/Bid security in shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. 1 Jammu. The CDR/FDR/BG 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. 1 Jammu at the time of allotment.
- 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 need 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.
- The date and time of opening of Financial-Bids shall be notified on Web Site [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://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. 1 Jammu. The date for same shall be intimated separately.

SD ..  
(ER. K.K ATRD)  
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER  
PWD (R&B) CONST. DIV. NO. I  
JAMMU

DIP/J-4476/23

Ph. No 01992-2460583

e-mail: dswoudh@gmail.com

**UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR  
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER, UDHAMPUR  
BARRIAN, WARD NO. 5, UDHAMPUR 182101**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**Subject: Disbursement of Scholarship under the Scholarship Schemes of M/o Minority Affairs on National Scholarship Portal - Regarding re-validation of applications/verification of SNO/DNO/INO/Hol/applicants for AY 2022-23. regarding**

In order to disburse the scholarship under three scholarship schemes to the Ministry of Minority Affairs, the Government after considering the findings of the physical verification of Institutes/ beneficiaries for academic year 2022-23, carried out by National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) wherein various discrepancies in authenticity of institutes/ beneficiaries have been noticed, decided to re-validate the applications and verification of SNO/DNO/INO/Hol/applicants by organizing special drive w.e.f. 01.08.2023 through Aadhar based bio-metric authentication.

2. All concerned (SNO, DNO, Hol, INO and applicants) are therefore requested to observe the guidelines/instructions posted on NSP portal and ensure the updation of their Aadhar in NSP portal before 10.08.2023 to facilitate smooth Aadhar based authentication. In case the applicant is below 18 years of age, Aadhar details of his/her parents/legal guardian is to be updated.

3. Here it is clarified that selection of beneficiaries for above scheme is subject to fulfillment of the scheme guidelines criteria.

BY ORDER  
SS-15/8/2022 SCHOLARSHIP MOMA

SD/-  
(KANIKA GUPTA) KAS  
DISTRICT SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER,  
UHAMPUR

DIP/J-6457/23

**UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR  
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI  
MECH. DIVISION NORTH JAMMU**

e-mail: xenorth@gmail.com

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  
e-NIT No. 165 of 2023-24

For and on behalf of Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Jammu, Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Mech. Division North Jammu, invites tenders by e-tendering mode from the reputed/registered firms/Sole Prop. for the below mentioned work:-

| S. No. | Name of work  | Cost of document/ tender fee (in Rs.) | Earnest money            | Validity of Rates | Bid validity |
|--------|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| 1.     | Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of 1.6 kVA sine wave inverter with batteries at Intakes Sitlee. | 200/-                                 | 02% of the Quoted amount | 180 days          | 180 days     |

**Date of Publishing :** 04-08-2023 02.00 pm.

- Bid documents can be seen at and downloaded from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 04-08-2023 (02.00 pm).
- The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 04-08-2023 (02.00 pm) to 12-08-2023 (02.00 pm).
- The complete bidding process will be online <http://jktenders.gov.in>.
- The Technical bids received shall be opened online on 14-08-2023 (02.00 pm) or any other subsequent date in the office of Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Mech. Division North Jammu.
- The Financial bid of the bidders shall be opened online after scrutinizing the technical bid in the office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Mech. Division North Jammu in presence of the bidders who wish to attend. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.
- Cost of bidding document in shape of e-challan/single window challan of JMC pledged to Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Mech. Division North Jammu/tender fee receipt through online payment through the JMC link <http://www.jmcjammu.org/online-payment.html>.
- The original instruments in respect of cost of document, EMD in the shape of CDR/FDR and other relevant document of L<sub>1</sub> bidder will be required to be submitted to the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Mech. Division North Jammu after opening of financial bids on line. No separate intimation about opening of financial bids will be sent by this office / by the tender opening authority. In case the original documents are not submitted by the L<sub>1</sub> bidder opening of financial bid, the tender will be cancelled and the bidder will not be allowed to participate in any further / future tendering process in the division for a period of one year.
- The date and time of opening of financial bids will be notified on website <http://jktenders.gov.in> and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address.
- The original documents when submitted by L<sub>1</sub> bidder for the cost of tender documents, specified in the tender document should be same as uploaded on line (Scanned copies) otherwise allotment will not be issued, the tenders will be cancelled and the bidder will not be allowed to participate in any further / future tendering process in the division for a period of one year. Bid security of successful tenderer will have to be in form of CDR/FDR of any scheduled bank and shall have to be valid for 180 days after last date of receipt of bid.
- Only such firms should submit tender, who have requisite infrastructure and workshop facility for carrying out similar type of job which may be inspected by the competent authority before awarding the job contract so as to access the working capacity of the tenderer. The workmanship and material used should be of high quality and as per the specifications of the job order / tender.
- The bid for the execution of work shall remain open for acceptance for a period of 180 days from the date of opening of bids. If any bidder/tenderer withdraws his/bid/tender before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the earnest money of the firm shall stand forfeited.
- The tenderers are advised to visit the site of work / inspect the parts to be fabricated before uploading their tenders so as to acquaint themselves with exact measurement and site conditions.

JSMNDN/2464-66  
Dated: 03-08-2023

DIP/J-6419/23

SD/-  
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER  
JAL SHAKTI MECH. DIVISION NORTH  
JAMMU

**DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE PROTECTION J&K GOVERNMENT  
OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL WILDLIFE WARDEN, JAMMU ZOO  
MANDA HILLS, NEAR HOTEL ASHOK JAMMU.**

PH/FAX. 0191-2520247.

Email: [uwjammu@gmail.com](mailto:uwjammu@gmail.com)

**SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE**

**E-TENDERING**

**Tender Notice : e-NIT No.- 29/WLW/JZ of 2023-24 dated: 04-08-2023**

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, Jammu & Kashmir UT, e-tenders are invited from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K UT Govt. /Central Govt. Organizations for the following works:

| Name of work  | Adv. Cost (₹. in lacs) | Earnest Money (in Rs.) | Class of Contractor | Cost of Tender Document (in Rs.) | Time of completion | Receiving /Opening Authority |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| Construction of RCC Wall at the right and left side of the Reptile Enclosure. | 32.08                  | 64,160                 | A, B& C             | 1000                             | 30 days            | Tender opening committee     |

The e-NIT consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, bill of quantities, (B.O.Q), set of Terms & Conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental Website:- <http://jktenders.gov.in>

**Position of funds: JKIDFC. LUP 2545**

**Position of AA** : Accorded vide Order No. 244 of 2023 dated 03-08-2023 of the Office of Chief Wildlife Warden, J&K.

**Position of TS** : Accorded vide Order No. 227 of 2023 dated 04-08-2023 of the Office of Regional Wildlife Warden, Jammu.

|                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Publishing Date                       | 04-08-2023   |
| Download Start Date                   | 04-08-2023   |
| Bid Submission Start Date             | 04-08-2023   |
| Bid submission End Date               | 11-08-2023 up to 04:00 PM  |
| Date of opening of Technical Bid      | 12-08-2023 at 12:00 AM<br>(In the Office of Regional Wildlife Warden, Jammu, Manda Hills, Jammu) |
| Date of opening of Financial (online) | 12-08-2023 at 03:00 PM<br>(In the Office of Regional Wildlife Warden, Jammu, Manda Hills, Jammu) |

Bid documents can be seen at and download from the website: - <https://jktenders.gov.in>. Bid documents contain qualifying criteria for bidder, specifications, bill of quantities, conditions and other details.

DIP/J-6464/23

SD/-  
AMIT SHARMA (ACF)  
ADDITIONAL WILDLIFE WARDEN  
JAMMU ZOO



# Advisor Bhatnagar launches Intensified Mission Indradhanush 5.0 immunisation campaign at Srinagar

J I NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 07: In a significant step towards bolstering child healthcare and immunization efforts, Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar today launched the Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) 5.0 immunisation campaign at 500 bedded Govt. Children Hospital Bemina here.

The launch ceremony was organised by Directorate of Family welfare, MCH and Immunization and was aimed to cover children aged between 0-5 who missed vaccines in the national immunisation schedule. The campaign also aims to cover pregnant women who have not



taken the Tetanus-adult Diphtheria (Td) vaccine. The campaign also aims for 100% coverage of the Measles and Rubella vaccine for eradication of these diseases. The campaign will be held in three rounds starting each in months of August, September and October.

Addressing the huge gathering of doctors paramedical staff and health care professionals, Advisor Bhatnagar remarked that this Mission is a continuation of Government's commitment to extend immunization coverage

and provide vital vaccines to children and pregnant women residing in urban and remote areas. He added that this event will mark renewed determination to address the gaps in immunization coverage and ensure every child and mother has access to life-saving vaccines.

The Advisor further said that the government is committed to provide best health care facilities to the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

He added that the facilities have been decentralised from Tertiary care hospitals to District hospital to CHCs as well as PHCs and people can now access best possible health care services at the

doorsteps. He remarked that in last few years, health care services have been upgraded across UT, world class medical facilities have been established, paediatric ICUs have been established in all hospitals besides life supporting ambulance services have been made available here. The Advisor commended the department for organising this program and emphasized on the importance of immunization in reducing child mortality and improving overall public health. He added that this mission has been instrumental in reaching the unreach and providing protection against preventable diseases.

'Mission will ensure every child and mother has access to life-saving vaccines'

## Cleanliness drive conducted in Lal Draman post Summer Festival

Around one quintal plastic and polythene collected for safe disposal

J I NEWS SERVICE

DODA, AUGUST 07: Thousands of locals from across the district Doda and adjoining districts visited the Lal Draman meadow during the two day Youth Conclave/ Lal Draman Summer festival organised by District Administration.

Post the Summer festival a massive cleanliness drive was conducted to clear accumulated waste, especially plastic material to maintain and protect the fragile environment of the place. The cleanliness drive was conducted under the supervision of ACD, Phulail Singh and DFO Ravinder Kumar with the participation of Yogi Anil, volunteers of NGO Tejas Ek Pehal and locals. Around one quintal plastic, and polythene was collected, which will be safely disposed of.

Earlier, early in the morning a Yoga session for locals was also conducted amid the sprawling meadows of Lal Draman by Yogi Anil, who performed various asanas which were repeated by the participants.

## SDM Katra launches Intensified Mission Indradhanush 5.0

J I NEWS SERVICE

REASI, AUGUST 07: The Intensified Mission Indradhanush 5.0-the vaccine catch up campaign focusing to reach out to children aged between 0 to 5 years and pregnant women having missed any vaccine in the national immunization schedule, was launched at Community Health Centre Katra.

This is a special immunization drive targeting partially vaccinated or dropout individuals. The first phase of IMI 5.0 would be carried out from 07-08-2023 to 12-08-2023. Health Block Katra has identified 29 left out beneficiaries through head-count-survey who would be benefited by this campaign.

India's universal immunization programme provides free vaccines against 12 life threatening diseases which could be prevented by vaccination. During the inaugural session Dr Preeti Sharma Consultant Paediatrician, explained in detail the mechanism and benefits of IMI 5.0. She further elaborated that Health Block Katra has already achieved above 97% target of universal immunization programme and Asha/ ANM/ AWW work aggressively to ensure that no beneficiaries is left out un-vaccinated.

SDM, Deepak Dubey appreciated officers and officials of Health Block Katra for putting in sincere efforts for effective implementation of Various National Health Programmes.

## DC Poonch launches awareness campaign to encourage filing of Online Pension Applications

J I NEWS SERVICE

POONCH, AUGUST 07: In a significant stride towards creating an inclusive society and ensuring equitable access to government pension schemes, Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Yasin M. Choudhary, the other day, flagged off a dedicated vehicle as part of the Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) activities.

The primary objective of this campaign is to raise awareness among the general public, including elderly citizens who may face challenges in accessing online services, regarding the online application process for various pension schemes such as Old Age Pension, Widow Pension, Transgender Pension, and Disabled Pension.

District Social Welfare Officer, Mohinder Paul, expressed his enthusiasm for the initiative, highlighting that the vehicle will traverse through every nook and corner of the district, reaching out to villages and ensuring that individuals with limited literacy skills can benefit from the advantages offered by online schemes. Deputy Commissioner Yasin M. Choudhary underscored the importance of bridging the digital divide and ensuring that every eligible individual can easily access their pension. The campaign aims to empower individuals by providing them with detailed explanations of the online schemes and guiding them through the necessary steps to access their pensions via the Jan Sugam Portal, the designated online platform for these services.

## DC Doda launches Intensified Mission Indradhanush 5.0

CALLS FOR VACCINATION OF ALL LEFT OUT IN FAR FLUNG & HIGH-RISK AREAS

J I NEWS SERVICE

DODA, AUGUST 07: As the part of a nationwide campaign, Deputy Commissioner Vishesh Mahajan, on Monday launched the Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI 5.0) to cover unvaccinated or partially vaccinated 0 to 5 Yr old children and pregnant women in the Doda District.

Chief Medical Officer, Dr Ab Hamid Zargar; Dy CMO, Dr Om Kumar; DIO, Dr Versha Sharma; BMO Ghat, Dr Ab Gailoor; VCCM, Priyanka Manhas and other health officers/officials were present at the launch function held in CMO Office. The DC directed for effective coverage of all the left out and drop-out children. He further asked the concerned to give wide publicity to the program by all means of communication and media for better results.

Dr. Om Kumar informed that the camps will be conducted in all 209 health facilities from 7-12 August 2023 in the first round of IMI 5.0 for which 211 sessions have been created along with trained vaccinators.

## Hosting back to back inter-district sports events, Pulwama becoming favorite for sports enthusiasts: Dr Basharat



J I NEWS SERVICE

PULWAMA, AUGUST 07: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, Dr. Basharat Qayoom today presided over the concluding ceremony of the first edition of Dr Shyam Prasad Mukherjee Hockey tournament as chief guest. The tournament was held on league basis and all the ten districts of the Kashmir division participated in this event.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC said that series of sports activities have been started in the district under the banner of "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav" (AKAM) and Pulwama is becoming hub for sports activities. He thanked the YSS department for providing youth of Pulwama a chance to organise such wonderful tournaments and also impressed upon all the participants to take active role in building sports culture in the District.

He further highlighted that sports infrastructure is being developed on national standards and state of the art synthetic hockey Stadium is attracting youth who get their skills honed to represent state and country in the advanced levels of the game.

## Ramban: Aamir Sports Club wins CCL final

J I NEWS SERVICE

RAMBAN, AUGUST 07: The final match of Aamir Sports Club has won the final match of Chanderkote Premier League (CCL) here on the Chanderkote Ground. The winning team beat Shining Star by chasing a target of 151 runs. The event was witnessed by the thousands of cricket lovers encouraging the youth to participate in the sports events for their overall development.

Earlier, Deputy Commissioner, Ramban, Musarrat Islam inaugurated the final cricket match in presence of BDC Chairperson Ramban, Amjad Ali; Tehsildar Ramban, Mohammad Rafiq, PRs besides other officers.

The championship was organized by the Youth of Chanderkote headed by Ex Serviceman Sanjeet Kumar under the Khelo India movement.

Appreciating the local youth for organizing such well organized sports events, the DC assured full cooperation from district administration for organizing more tournaments. 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.

## Intensified Mission Indradhanush 5.0 launched in Rajouri

J I NEWS SERVICE

RAJOURI, AUGUST 07: District Development Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal today launched the "Intensified Mission Indradhanush 5.0 in the District here at Mother & Child Health/Immunization Section of GMC Rajouri Associated Hospital.

The launch aims to vaccinate all the children in the 0-5 year age group & pregnant women who are left out, dropout, missed, partially vaccinated or unvaccinated with the mission that no child or mother is left without Vaccination. The IMI 5.0 Nation Level campaign will run in three rounds in the months of August, September & October 2023 with the aim to Eliminate Measle Rubella by December 2023.

The DDC highlighted the importance of immunization in safeguarding the health and well-being of the infants and pregnant women. He emphasized that immunization is a critical public health intervention that prevents the spread of diseases and saves lives.

He also commended the efforts of the Health Department officials and expressed confidence in their ability to successfully implement the program. He acknowledged the necessary training received by the officials to ensure the smooth execution of the program and urged them to work diligently to achieve the desired immunization coverage targets.

The DDC Rajouri expressed his gratitude to all stakeholders involved in the program and urged them to ensure that the infants and pregnant women receive the required immunizations to protect them from vaccine-preventable diseases.

## Mayor Jammu launches Intensified Mission Indradhanush 5.0 at Jammu

J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUGUST 07: Mayor Jammu, Rajinder Sharma along with Secretary Health and Medical Education, Bhupinder Kumar today launched Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) 5.0 Government Hospital Gandhinagar, here.

Speaking on the occasion, Mayor Rajinder Sharma appreciated this campaign and highlighted about the importance of IMI 5.0 with which no children/pregnant women will be left without any due dose.

He appreciated the efforts of health staff involved in the vaccination process and appreciated the department for this IMI 5.0 campaign.

Speaking on the occasion, Secretary Health appreciated this special initiative in which all the districts of the UT have identified their due beneficiaries by the conducting head count surveys by going to each household/each slum and nomadic population.

He highlighted about the importance of this unique IMI 5.0 wherein missed/dropout beneficiaries (0-5 Yrs Children & Pregnant women) shall be vaccinated in campaign mode which



will hold in three rounds (7-12 August, 11-16 September & 9-14 October).

He added that another focus of this campaign is elimination of Measles-Rubella disease from India by December 2023.

The Secretary further said that earlier Mission Indradhanush campaigns used to be conducted in low performing districts of immunization but this time all the districts, all the blocks are being covered.

He further elaborated that this time U-WIN portal is launched through

which all the entries including registration, vaccination and digital immunization certificate generation will be done by entering the phone number of beneficiaries which will help health staff as well as parents of the children to know about their due doses.

The Secretary said that with this feature, even ASHA workers of the village and ANM will have digital due list and individual beneficiaries will receive SMS alerts reminding them of next due doses and acknowledgment of the same.

## North Tech Symposium 2023: IIT Jammu to host landmark Army-Academia-Industry Partnership at Jagti campus

J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUGUST 07: The prestigious North Tech Symposium, a platform that fosters synergy between the Indian Army, academia, and industry, is all set to mark a historic milestone as it convenes at the esteemed Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Jammu's picturesque Jagti Campus from 11th to 13th September. This year's edition will be distinct as it finds its abode in a civil establishment for the first time since its inception 15 years ago.

The symposium, a joint initiative with the Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM) under the aegis of the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII), endeavours to bridge the gap



between the needs of the Indian Army and the capabilities of academia and industry.

Event all set to welcome a diverse, prestigious gathering from New Delhi, private sector entities, promising startups, DPSUs, distinguished R&D organisations, and esteemed academic institutions

SIDM, formalised in 2017, plays a pivotal role as an advocate, catalyst, and facilitator for the growth and capability building of India's defence industry. Their active involvement in the North Tech Symposium 2023 promises to elevate the event's impact and effectiveness. Among the highlights will be a grand exhibition boasting the latest products from over 200 industry participants, with special attention given to burgeoning startups. Additionally, there will be product unveilings meticulously crafted to cater to the distinctive needs of the Armed Forces.

One of the Symposium's core objectives is to facilitate one-on-one structured interactions, fostering seamless engagement between industry representatives and academia. The event will also feature invigorating Technical Seminars, designed to ignite the spark of creativity and foster the exchange of novel ideas and concepts.

Moreover, attendees can look forward to an enthralling Ideas and Innovation Display, showcasing the brilliance of students and the Army, with meritorious recognition and awards to inspire even greater excellence.