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IGP Kashmir visits Baramulla & Sopore, takes stock of security scenario

JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, DEC 4

Inspector General of Police (IGP) Kashmir Zone VK Birdi Monday visited North Kashmir's Baramulla & Sopore to assess and enhance the security measures.

The IGP Kashmir alongwith DIG NKR Baramulla Vivek Gupta chaired security review meetings, emphasizing the importance of collaborative efforts in ensuring the safety and well-being of the citizens and discussed strategic initiatives to enhance the overall security development of the district, a police spokesman said in a statement issued to the news agency.

SSP Baramulla Amod Ashok Nagpure, Addl. SP Baramulla Divya D and other senior officers of the district attended the meeting. Similarly in Sopore, SP Sopore Shabir Nawab and other senior officers attended the meeting.

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Hajj committee of India invites online application for Hajj-2024

JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, DEC 4

The Haj Committee of India has invited Online Haj Application Forms for all the aspirants who intend to undertake Hajj journey 1445(H)-2024(CE).

The Haj application forms shall be available w.e.f 04/12/2023 and the last date for submission of the same has been fixed as 20th December, 2023.

Before filing the application form online, the concerned Haj aspirants are hereby requested to go through Haj Policy available at Haj Committee website www.hajcommittee.gov.in.

Applicants must be in possession of

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Allocation of additional 293 MWs brings huge respite from distress curtailment in J&K: Govt

JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, DEC 4

Jammu and Kashmir power Development Department (JKPDD) Monday said that the recently allocated 293 MW additional power by the union ministry has brought huge reduction in distress curtailment.

Principal Secretary, Power Development Department (PDD) H Rajesh Prasad told the news agency, "Unscheduled power cuts have reduced since GoI has announced power supply of 293 MW. We have been able to maintain

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SC's Judgment in Article 370 case to be pronounced this month

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, DEC 4

The Supreme Court is likely to pronounce its verdict in the long-pending case challenging the Union Government's 2019 decision to repeal the special status of Jammu and Kashmir under Article 370 of the Constitution this month (December 2023). The Constitution bench of the Supreme Court, led by Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud and composed of Justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul, Sanjiv Khanna, BR Gavai, and Surya Kant, had presided over these hearings.

The Apex Court had reserved the judgement in the matter on 5 September 2023 after hearing it for sixteen long days. It may be recalled that the petitioners in the matter had also challenged the J&K Reorganization Act which



bifurcated the State into Union Territories of J&K and Ladakh.

With Justice SK Kaul retiring from Supreme Court on December 25, 2023 and December 15, 2023 being the last working day for Supreme Court before winter vacations, it is likely that the judgement would come out soon.

The hearing in the matter, which commenced on August 2, 2023, witnessed extensive arguments and discussions over a span of sixteen

days. This landmark case had remained dormant for over three years, with its last listing dating back to March 2020. The petitioner counsels argued for the first nine days and stressed upon the unique nature of J&K's relationship with India which got embodied in the Indian constitutional setup, highlighting that the Maharaja of J&K did not give up the internal sovereignty to the Dominion of India. Thus, while the power to make laws relating to foreign affairs, communication, and defence lied with the Union as per the Instrument of Accession (IoA), the internal sovereignty of J&K which provided it with powers to legislate on all other matters remained with the Maharaja. It was argued that Article 370 had assumed permanence and was no longer a 'temporary' provision post the dissolution of the J&K Constituent Assembly in 1957. The petitioners further contended that the Indian parliament, under the current constitutional framework, could not convert itself into a Constituent Assembly. They also stressed upon the misuse of Article 356, which imposes President's Rule in a State. It was emphasised that the purpose of Article 356 was to restore state machinery and

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CS for creating formal mechanism for regular interaction with Industries

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 4

Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo Monday held the introductory review of the Industries and Commerce department to take stock of its working and implementation of the Industrial Policy here in the UT.

The meeting was attended by Commissioner Secretary, Industries & Commerce (I&C); Secretary in I&C; Managing Directors of the allied Corporations besides HoDs of I&C from both the Divisions of the UT.

In the meeting Dulloo impressed upon the Department to create a



formal mechanism for highlighting and resolution of the concerns of Industrialists. He advised to hold periodic sittings of the forum in both the divisions. The objective of the forum should be to

advocate and further the interests of stakeholders in the Industrial sector. While appreciating the fact that MSMEs form the backbone of the Industrial sector in J&K, the Chief Secretary emphasised

upon providing the necessary support to the MSME units in every sphere, so as to upgrade their status from lower to higher stratum for large scale employment

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Massive searches underway in Rajouri, Poonch; 3 Detained

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 4

Three persons were detained for questioning as security forces launched massive search operations to flush out suspected terrorists in the forest areas of Rajouri and Poonch districts in Jammu and Kashmir, officials said on Monday.

The joint search opera-

tions by police, Army, and CRPF in different parts of Budhal, Thanamandi, Sunderbani, and Kalakote in Rajouri and Mendhar in Poonch were underway when last reports were received, officials said.

They said three persons were picked up for questioning from Barote in Budhal Sunday evening.

Searches have been on in Muradpur, Bathuni, Ghai Bhawal (Sunderbani), Tatta Pani Broh in Kalakote, Ghambir Mughlan in Manjakote, and Rajdhani-Thanamandi in Rajouri since this morning, officials said.

They said security forces are also engaged in combing operations in Gursai, Jabranwali

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Srinagar records 53 fire incidents in November month

JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, DEC 4

With the onset of winter season in Kashmir, the fire incidents have witnessed a rise in the summer capital of Jammu & Kashmir, Srinagar where 53 incidents have been reported in the month of November 2023.

According to an official data prepared by the Fire and Emergency Services (F&ES) department, available with the news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO), 53 fire incidents have been reported across Srinagar in the month of November. The highest number of fire incidents were

reported on November 21, adding that five incidents were reported on the particular date at Gojwara Chowk, SKIMS Soura, Polo View, Bakshipora Palpora and Wazir Bagh here.

Pertinently, the number of fire incidents always goes up during the winter period in Kashmir.

However, the officials said that the number of incidents compared to the previous years have declined after the concerned department organized the awareness events and programmes across the Valley in a bid to sensitize the people about the measures.

Deputy Director F&ES

Commandant Srinagar, Aqib Ahmad Mir while talking to KNO said that the preparations by the department are always equal during summers as well as in winters, but during the winter months, the alertness remains high in wake of the frequent fire incidents. "We keep the men and machinery at the disposal during the winter months," he said

"The number of fire incidents cannot be reduced at the level of Fire and Emergency Services, but at the level of the general public. It has been observed that the use of Bukharis, heaters and other heating gadgets

are the primary sources of fire incidents during winters. Until and unless the people will not use the gadgets judiciously, the situation cannot be tackled; the people must follow dos and don'ts while using such gadgets," he said.

"The general public has an immense role in this regard and taking the safety measures should be their top priority," he added.

Asked about the measures taken by the department to reduce the fire incidents, he said F&ES has organized thousands of awareness events and programmes

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'Never stop chasing your dreams': LG to youth



JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 4

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha attended the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of Delhi Public School, Jammu on Monday.

In his address, the Lt Governor congratulated the Administration, Teachers and Students of Delhi Public School on the occasion.

He said the reputed educational institution, under the care and tutelage of Maharaja

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DDC Member, Rising Athletes Organisation of J&K delegation call on LG

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DECEMBER 4

Er. Wajid Bashir Khan, DDC Member from Mendhar Poonch called on Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan today

A delegation of Rising Athletes Organisation of J&K led by its President Sh Sahil Pandita met the Lt Governor and briefed him on the upcoming endeavours to promote sports in the region.

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Don't vent frustration of assembly polls defeat inside parliament: PM Modi to opposition

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, DEC 4

Asserting that people have rejected "negativity", Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday urged the opposition not to vent its frustration of the assembly polls defeat inside Parliament and move forward with positivity as that may change the people's perspective towards them.

Speaking with the media outside Parliament building ahead of the Winter Session, he said the session was a "golden opportunity" for the opposition.

"The country has rejected negativity. We always have dialogue with opposition friends at the start of session, we always seek cooperation of everyone. This time also all such processes have been com-



pleted," he said.

"This 'temple of democracy' is a very important platform for people's aspirations and strengthening foundation of developed India, Modi said and urged all members to come well prepared and called for a thorough discussion on bills so that good suggestions come to the fore.

But if discussion does not take place, the country misses those things,

Modi said. "If I speak on basis of the assembly poll results, this is a golden opportunity for opposition friends. Instead of making plans for venting frustration over defeat, they should learn from this defeat, leaving behind the habit of negativity of the last nine years, if they move forward with positivity this session, the

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World looking up to India as emerging biomanufacturing hub: Dr Jitendra



JNEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DEC 4

The world is looking up to India as an emerging Biomanufacturing Hub, Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh said today.

Biotechnology Startups and Institutional linkages with Industry will drive India's Bioeconomy in the years to come, he said.

The Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Space and Atomic Energy, Dr Jitendra Singh said this while inaugurating the "Global Bio-India 2023 International Conference" at Bharat Mandapam in the national capital.

Dr Jitendra Singh said that our Bioeconomy witnessed double digit growth rate year-on-year in the last 9/10 years under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"In 2014, India's bioeconomy stood at just about \$10 Billion, this fiscal we are likely to touch \$150 billion and

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Kishtwar admin finalises arrangements for JKSSB Panchayat Secretary Exam

JI NEWS SERVICE
KISHTWAR, DECEMBER 4

Deputy Commissioner (DC), Dr. Devansh Yadav today convened a meeting of concerned officers to finalise arrangements for the Panchayat Secretary Examination scheduled to be held on 10th of December 2023 in the district.

During the meeting, it was informed that about 4344 candidates are expected to appear in the Panchayat Secretary examination at 13 centers across the district, while an adequate number of Magistrates, Superintendents, Observers and invigilators have been deployed for the smooth, free and fair conduct of the examination, an.

Dr. Devansh Yadav directed concerned officers to meticulously inspect all examination centers and ensure essential facilities such as heating, drinking water, sanitation, proper lighting, security and basic amenities are in place for



the seamless conduct of the Panchayat Secretary Examination.

The Assistant Regional Transport Officer (ARTO) was directed to formulate a comprehensive route plan, parking facilities and ensure enhanced logistical coordination.

Additionally, the District Treasury Officer (DTO) was instructed to coordinate with police authorities to ensure other safety and security arrangements including CCTV in the strong room.

Police administration was asked to deploy adequate flying squads

besides male and female personnel at each centre on the day of exam.

Moreover, the DC emphasized the importance of videography of examination material during the opening and closing procedures, reinforcing transparency and security measures for the Panchayat Secretary Examination. He said that CrPC 144 will be imposed around the 200 Meters radius of every examination center on Exam day.

Besides, a team of magistrates and police administration will conduct the joint inspection on the

9th December at all the centres and ensure that all the arrangements have been placed in for the hassle free conduct of the upcoming exam, informed the DC.

The meeting was attended by SSP Khalil Ahmed Poswal; ADC, Inderjeet Parihar; ACR Varunjeet Singh Charak; SDM Paddar Arun Kumar Badyal; DTO Lokesh Kumar, besides CDSO, DIO, ARTO, CMO, CEO, STO, Executive Engineer Jal Shakti, concerned officers of line departments, GDC Principal and heads of schools where exam is going to be held.

DEO Kishtwar reviews progress of Special Summary Revision and provision of AMF in Polling centres

JI NEWS SERVICE
KISHTWAR, DECEMBER 4

District Election Officer/Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar, Dr. Devansh Yadav today chaired a meeting to review the provision of Assured Minimum Facilities (AMF) in polling stations and the progress of ongoing Special Summary Revision (SSR) of Electoral Roll 2024 in the district.

The meeting was attended by Dy DEO, Naresh Kumar, ADC, ACR, SDM Paddar, alongside AERs including Tehsildars, XENs from PWD, PHE, and PDD, CEO Kishtwar, Election NT, Election Officials, and other officers.

Focusing on the AMF, Dr Devansh Yadav directed officials to ensure comprehensive provisioning of necessary

facilities like ramps, drinking water, sanitation, electricity, and furniture at all the 405 polling stations. He stressed for the saturation of targets through concerted efforts. Additionally, he urged prompt identification and rectification of any deficiencies observed in the AMF.

He underlined the importance of achieving 100 percent registration of eligible voters and refining the electoral roll under SSR 2024.

The District Election Officer stressed the importance of the error less process and instructed the EROs and AERs to galvanise the machinery to ensure no eligible voter is Left Out in the process as the last date to register is 9th December 2023 with 01-01-2024 as Qualifying age for new voters.

In the realm of SVEEP (Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation) activities, Dr Devansh Yadav instructed nodal officers to conduct intensive awareness campaigns and special enrollment camps, specifically targeting previously unregistered demographics such as first-time voters, women, senior citizens, and individuals with disabilities. Furthermore, he highlighted the utility of online platforms such as the NVSP portal and Voter Helpline App for seamless voter registration and verification.

Dr Devansh Yadav urged officials to collaborate with unwavering dedication and synchronization to ensure forthcoming elections in the district are conducted in a transparent, equitable, and peaceful manner.

Awareness-cum-voters enrolment drive organised in GDC Ukhral

JI NEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN, DECEMBER 4

As part of the ongoing Special Summary Revision 2023, Government Degree College Ukhral, today organized an awareness-cum-enrolment drive under Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) Programme.

Principal of the GDC, Ukhral, Prof. Dr. Shalu Samyal, faculty members and a large number of students were present on the occasion.

The objective of organising the event was to educate the prospective voters about the importance of voting and their role in the electoral process, besides highlighting the importance of voters' participation in a democracy and educating the eligible voters about their registration in the electoral roll during the ongoing Special Summary Revision.

DDC Chairman reviews progress of developmental activities in Doda

JI NEWS SERVICE
DODA, DECEMBER 4

To ensure that the developmental activities in the district are going on as per the timeline, maintaining the quality as per the prescribed guidelines, Chairman, District Development Council Doda, Dhananter Singh Kotwal today presided over a meeting of the Council here in the conference hall of DC office complex and took a comprehensive review of the developmental scenario in the district.

Among the others present in the meeting were Vice Chairperson DDC Doda, Sangeeta Rani; BDC Chairpersons; DDC Councillors; ADDC Doda; SE PWD; SE Hydraulics; SE JPDC; ACP Doda; DFO Bhandarwah; CMO Doda; Executive Engineers of PWD/PHE/PDD and other district officers.

It was informed that 308 works under DDC grants are ongoing in the district involving an amount of Rs 470.76 lakhs. The works are under execution by RDD, Jal Shakti, JPDC, Forest, PWD, Health, Ground Water Department Jammu, and YSS Department.

During the meeting,



the DDC Chairman took a comprehensive review of the physical and financial progress of different departments under various schemes and sought up to date status in this regard. All the councillors provided inputs on the ongoing developmental works in their areas with bottlenecks hampering execution of some of the important public works. DDC Chairman issued directions to the concerned authorities for taking appropriate measures to address the bottlenecks and ensure the projects/works are completed and dedicated for public use in time.

While speaking in the meeting, the DDC Chairman urged the officers and councillors to syn-

chronise their efforts and ensure the efficient delivery of public services for inclusive development in the district. He asked the officers to provide the public with the best possible relief by providing them with all basic amenities. Chairman laid thrust on speeding up the pace of execution to complete the works in a time bound manner. He also directed them to make endeavours aimed to ensure prompt execution of works and holistic development of the district and asked them to work with utmost dedication in taking the district forward in the developmental front. The Chairman also asked them to be proactive towards the public grievances and try their best to redress all

the genuine grievances of the public in a time bound manner.

Referring to Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra Programme, he asked the officers to strive for saturation of welfare schemes and spread awareness about the important initiatives launched by the Government to benefit the public. He urged the officials to reach out to the underserved, underprivileged and weaker sections for their hand holding in getting their due share of benefit for overall development of the district. He reaffirmed the commitment to work towards achieving the goal of attaining the developed status for our country.

JKAACL hosts "Meet the Author" Padamshri Surjit Patar

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DECEMBER 4

The Jammu & Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture, and Languages (JKAACL), under the guidance of Bharat Singh, Secretary (JKAACL), organised Meet-the-Author at JKAACL premises in Jammu.

The series intends to have a direct interaction of the writer with the audience, and these interactions shall aid the exploration of various life aspects and works which act as a creative inspiration for the author/writer. Today's event featured PadamaShri Surjit Patara-renowned Punjabi writer, poet of international fame. Patar hails from village Pattar Kalan in Jalandhar district from where he got his surname. He graduated from Randhir College, Kapurthala and then went on to get a Master's degree from Punjab University, Patiala and then a PhD in Literature on "Transformation of Folklore in Guru Nanak Vani" from Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar. He then joined



the academic profession and retired as Professor of Punjabi from Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana.

He started writing poetry in the mid-sixties. Among his works of poetry are "HawaLikheHarf" (Words written in the Air), BirkhArzKare (Thus Spake the Tree), HanereVichSulagdiVarnmala (Words Smouldering in the Dark), Lafzaan Di Dargah (Shrine of Words), Patjhar Di PazeB (Anklet of Autumn) and Surzameen (Music Land). He has translated into Punjabi the three tragedies of Federico Garcia Lorca, the play Nagmandala of GirishKarnad and poems of Bertolt Brecht and Pablo Neruda. He has also adapted plays from Jean Girardoux, Euripides

and Racine.

He has written tele-scripts on Punjabi poets from Sheikh Farid to Shiv Kumar Batalvi. He is the president of Punjab Arts Council, Chandigarh. In the past, he has held the office of the President, Punjabi Sahitya Akademi, Ludhiana. He was awarded Padma Shri in 2012.

At the outset, Secretary JKAACL gave a heartfelt cordial welcome to everyone, especially Padma Shree Surjit Patar. While addressing the audience, he expressed that authors are the face of society. "They (authors) represent the inner thoughts of the social fabric through their ink, and it is indeed a special skill," mentions the Secretary. He, in his address, further added

that it is a priceless opportunity to interact with poet of such a calibre and learn from his literary journeys. Anil Sehgal presented the paper on S. Surjit Patar. The dignitaries who shared the presidium included S. Sukhjit Singh, S. Manmohan Singh, and Khalid Hussain all Sahitya Akademi Awardees.

S. Popinder Singh Paras, Editor Punjabi, JKAACL Conducted the Proceedings. The dignitaries and writers at the event included Dr. Baljeet Raina, S. J.P. Singh, Shailender Singh, A.K. Angurana, S. Ajeet Singh Mastana, Dr. Nirmal Vinod, Prof. Raj Kumar, S. Kamal Kashmiri and others. Dr. Shahnawaz, Editor cum Cultural officer, Gojri presented the vote of thanks.

HME Deptt refutes news regarding rise in AIDS cases in J&K

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DECEMBER 4

Health and Medical Education (H&ME) Department (H&ME), has rebutted the news carried out by some sections of media regarding rising trend in AIDS cases in Jammu and Kashmir due to tourism and influx of migrant labourers. As per a communication received in this reference, the H&ME department has termed the news as baseless and manipulated.

"Prevalence of HIV in Jammu and Kashmir is lowest in the country with 0.06% as per India HIV Estimates 2021 which is very much below the National prevalence of 0.21% and this has been possible due to the efforts

of J&K AIDS Control Society. JKACS provides a comprehensive package of Care, support and treatment to patients", clarifies the department.

The 6305 HIV positive cases mentioned in the news are a total since inception of JKACS (1998). Till date, 1,452 HIV positive patients have died while 3583 patients are alive on Anti-Retroviral Therapy (ART) while 521 patients have left follow up treatment.

No doubt, J&K is a tourist destination which receives huge influx of different categories of people including truck drivers, migrant labourers and high concentration of forces, which may be few of the contributing factors for risk of HIV

transmission, but not the only reason, there are many other reasons for the spread of HIV/AIDS.

The increase in number of HIV cases which is being projected by some unverified news items as rising trend is in fact due to the greater coverage, testing, counselling and reduction in the stigma and discrimination due to the dedicated efforts and awareness by J&K AIDS Control Society. These cases are actually the detection of hidden "At-risk populations" in different areas of J&K.

Due to strenuous efforts towards case detection, the testing capacities in the entire UT of J&K have been increased manifold as a result of which the number of tests con-

ducted among the general population has increased three times between the financial years 2020-21 and 2022-23. During the current financial year, more than seven lakh fifty thousand tests are expected to be conducted for HIV screening against six lakh tests conducted last year. Similarly, every effort is being made to ensure that expecting mothers undergo the compulsory HIV screening during their ANC (antnatal checkup) in the first trimester. Furthermore, High Risk Groups (HRGs) like Female Sex Workers (FSWs), Injecting Drug Users (IDUs), Truckers, Migrant Labourers (MLs) are also being screened for HIV through increased community outreach.

DC Ganderbal finalizes arrangements for JKSSB Panchayat Secretary Examination

JI NEWS SERVICE
GANDERBAL, DECEMBER 4

In connection with the forthcoming JKSSB OMR based written examination for Panchayat Secretary, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shyambir today convened a meeting to finalize the arrangements here at Conference Hall of Mini Secretariat Ganderbal.

At the outset, a detailed discussion was held regarding the arrangement like security plan, identification of strong room, heating arrangements, training, identification of rooms and man power at examination centers, power, water and other allied facilities to be put in place for successful conduct of examination.

It was informed that examinations will be conducted in 15 centers in the district and an order has been issued for Superintendents, Magistrates and Invigilators to be deployed at these centers.

The meeting decided that section 144 Crpc shall be imposed around all the examination centres on



the exam day in the district besides special passes shall be issued to the officials who have been assigned responsibility for ensuring the smooth conduct of the SSB forthcoming examination.

The DC directed concerned officers to ensure SOPs issued by JKSSB regarding examinations are followed strictly and essential facilities such as heating, drinking water, sanitation, proper light-

ing, and other amenities are in place for the seamless conduct of the Panchayat Secretary Examination.

The DC further issued directives to the concerned departments to work in a coordinated and cohesive manner to ensure successful conduct of examination.

The Assistant Regional Transport Officer has been directed to formulate a comprehensive route

plan, enhancing logistical coordination for transportation of examination material from strong room to examination centers. Besides, the District Treasury Officer has been instructed to install CCTV cameras at the Strong Room.

Emphasizing the importance of videography of examination material during the opening and closing procedures, the DC directed the ADC to ensure sufficient videographers are deployed to reinforce trans-

parency and security measures for the Panchayat Secretary Examination. Meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner, Gulzar Ahmad; Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Sub Divisional Magistrate Kangan, Chief Education officer, Assistant Regional Transport Officer, District Treasury officer, DySP HQ, Superintendents, Magistrates and other concerned officials.

Union Secretary DFS chairs 12th UT Level Bankers' Committee meeting with special focus on PM Vishwakarma Scheme

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, DECEMBER 4

Implement and Popularize PM Vishwakarma Scheme to provide end-to-end support to artisans and craftspeople who work with their hands and tools so that they take advantage of the comprehensive scheme, which is one of the stepping stones in realising the all important milestone of Prime Minister's Vision to see India as a developed country by 2047.

This was stated by Union Secretary DFS, MoF, Dr Vivek Joshi while chairing the 12th Meeting of J&K UTLBC at SKICC, Srinagar here. The meeting reviewed the performance of banks in delivery of credit under various schemes during the half year ended September 2023 and a special focus was given to the implementation of PM Vishwakarma scheme in J&K.

MD & CEO J&K Bank and Convenor J&K UTLBC, Baldev Prakash; Principal Secretary Finance, Santosh D. Vaidya; Administrative Secretaries; Regional Director, RBI Kamal P. Patnaik; Chief General Manager NABARD Bhallamudi Sridhar; General Manager, RBI Sandeep Mittal; representatives of MSME MSDE and MEITY

and other senior functionaries of the Government, RBI, NABARD, Banks, Departmental Heads of J&K Government, insurance companies and Lead District Managers were present on the occasion.

Dr Vivek Joshi said, "I am here to impress upon you all that PM Vishwakarma is an ambitious programme of the Union Government. With its primary focus on quality, the scheme has been devised in such a way that it could well serve as a template for all upcoming schemes of the Central and State Governments."

"Targets set for this scheme are very much achievable and J&K has potential to take this scheme forward. Bankers and line departments have a huge role to play to ensure that all the eligible Vishwakarmas avail benefits under the scheme and contribute to their self-sufficiency, improved productivity besides the Nation's self-reliance," he added.

Pointing to the gaps in the storage capacity and apple production in J&K, Dr Vivek Joshi directed the Banks to extend credit linkage to all the CA Stores through pledge financing against Electronically Negotiable Warehouse Receipt (ENWR).



He further said, "While the apple growers need to be made aware about all the Central and State Government Schemes with outcome-oriented approach, there is a need to replace old and low-productivity orchards with high density plantation, which requires investment and gestation period of 4-5 years", he stated

"I also urge UTLBC and Lead District managers to keep monitoring the progress under various flagship schemes being implemented through banks. All bankers should whole heartedly commit themselves to achieve saturation of all eligible persons under social security schemes", he further said.

Earlier, Union Additional Secretary Ministry of MSME, Dr Rajneesh gave an exhaustive presentation on the coverage, benefits and processes involved in availing the finance under PM Vish-

wakarma scheme. With around 19,000 applications received across the UT, he stated that aspiring artisans and crafts people are actively participating to reap benefits of the scheme. "This is where the Panchayat Raj Department and Banks have a crucial role to play", he said. He also stressed for 100% on-boarding of Gram Panchayat Pradhans on PM Vishwakarma portal and immediate completion of 1st and 2nd stage verification.

"Pitching for Aadhar enabled payments by March 2024, Principal Secretary Finance urged the Government departments and banks to utilise digital platforms of Government of India for 100% KCC saturation. "The focus need to shift from digitally-enabled to digitally active accounts."

"Developed Mind-set and Developed Skill-set are pre-requisites for

becoming a developed Nation. And that is where this PM Vishwakarma assumes great importance and needs to be implemented with diligence and sufficiency", said Regional Director, RBI, Kamal P. Patnaik

In his welcome address, Convenor UTLBC and MD & CEO, Baldev Prakash hailed DFS Secretary's painstaking concerns in implementation of Government schemes across the country. He also appreciated the policy making efforts of DFS in orchestrating India's successful journey towards Atma Nirbhar Bharat.

He also expressed gratitude to recently retired J&K Chief Secretary Dr AK Mehta for his contribution as administrative head of the UT in ensuring successful implementation of various government schemes in J&K. He also reiterated that Banks would continue to provide

all possible support to the UT government in employment generation, poverty alleviation and taking the government initiatives to the last mile of the UT.

Earlier, General Manager J&K Bank, Syed Rais Maqbool while making presentation on the financial achievements of various banks in different sectors during the first half year ended September 2023 informed that banks in J&K have achieved 75% of the Annual Target under ACP by disbursing credit of Rs.38,909 Crore to 12,19,877 beneficiaries which included Rs.21,796 Crore disbursed to 6,87,338 beneficiaries under Priority Sector and Rs.17,113 Crore to 5,32,539 beneficiaries under Non-Priority Sector.

It was also informed that banks have sanctioned loans to the tune of Rs.1,214 Crore to 25,875 beneficiaries under major employment generation schemes during the period.

The meeting concluded with the vote of thanks presented by Sudhir Gupta Executive Director J&K Bank who thanked the Secretary DFS for his invaluable insights saying, "I believe, these insights will benefit not only the bankers present here but people at large."

DC Bandipora convenes meeting to review the progress of PMGSY projects



JI NEWS SERVICE
BANDIPORA, DECEMBER 4

To ensure timely completion of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) projects in the district, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Dr Owais Ahmad Monday convened a meeting to assess the progress of the execution of works.

During the meeting, the DC assessed the progress of the works being executed under PMGSY in different regions of the district, and stressed on the importance of their timely completion. He also took stock of the challenges faced by the executing agencies, including adverse weather conditions and terrain

difficulties. The DC directed the concerned authorities to identify and resolve bottlenecks that act as hindrances in the execution of the projects.

It was informed that the department has already made a remarkable achievement in connecting the people via roads and bridges. The DC was assured by the concerned authorities that all the pendencies and issues shall be redressed timely.

The meeting was attended by ADC Bandipora Umar Shafi, JD Planning, Superintending Engineer PMGSY, ACR Bandipora, besides Officers of PMGSY including Executive Engineer PMGSY Bandipora.

IEC Vans traversed across several Panchayats of Drabshalla, Thakrie & Warwan blocks on day 7 of VBSY

JI NEWS SERVICE
KISHTWAR, DECEMBER 4

On the day 7 of the ongoing Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY), the scheduled activities commenced today in different Panchayats of district Kishtwar with enthusiastic participation of public and PRIs from the adjoining areas.

The VBSY took the central stage when the IEC Vans traversed through Bugrana and Barhoti area of block Drabshalla and pvt. Dharbadan and Anjole of Block Thakrie.

Public participation was also observed in far flung Panchayat Mulwarwan and Basmeena of Block Warwan today along with the scheduled activities under the close supervision of Nodal Officer in these areas.

The Yatra was accorded a warm welcome by PRIs, Senior Citizens, Officials and local residents at all the locations and were engaged with knowledge enriching audio-video material screened on Special IEC Vans. They listened attentively to a recorded video message from the Prime Minister, emphasizing the significance of the campaign. Participants took the Viksit Sankalp Bharat pledge, affirming their commitment to holistic national development.

The locals in these Panchayats were provided information about different government schemes and initiatives.

Special Medical camps were also organized to provide health services to the local people at their doorsteps.

During the day long events, students also showcased their artistic talents through mesmerizing cultural performances where in local Dance and Musical folklore exhibited the diverse cultural heritage, fostering a sense of unity and celebration among the spectators.

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra campaign abounds across Ramban District

JI NEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN, DECEMBER 4

The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY) was accorded a warm welcome by PRIs, senior citizens, youth and local residents as it traversed across 8 Panchayats of Ramban Block.

Witnessing enthusiastic and vibrant participation of all stakeholders, the campaign was held in Panchayat Kunfer, Sawani, Neera, Kanthi, Beri Neghal, Demote-A, Demote-B and Sildhar of Block Ramban.

Equipped with IEC vans, the yatra spread awareness about Government schemes among the public. Health camps, Sankalp pledges, and outreach activities were organized, fostering community engagement, besides making available on-the-spot services.

On the arrival of Yatra at each respective location, a dynamic mix of events and initiatives unfolded, intertwining stories of empowerment and collective engagement towards a shared vision of national development.

The locals were sensitized about different flagship schemes and initiatives launched by the Government for their welfare.

Officials and nodal officers organized a session on agricultural activities, including a drone demonstration, and interacted with progressive farmers to discuss organic farm-



ing. For providing free health care services to local people at their doorsteps, free medical camps were organized by the health department. Participants pledged in line with the vision of Viksit Bharat, aiming to foster equal development of rural and urban areas as well.

Taking part in the activity 'Meri Kahani Meri Zubani', achievers and beneficiaries of various schemes expressed their experiences. They listened attentively to recorded video messages from the Prime Minister, emphasizing the significance of the campaign. Participants took the Viksit Bharat Sankalp pledge, affirming their commitment to holistic national development.

The main focus of the

Yatra is to reach out to the unattended population, making them aware of various government schemes such as the Jal Jeevan Mission, Ayushman Bharat Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, Jan Dhan Yojana, PM Awas Yojana, PM PRANAM Yojana, and the Urea Subsidy Scheme, along with the process to avail benefits.

Tehsildar Ramban, S. Harvir Singh, BDO, Tanzeel Runday and various other officers participated in the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra in different panchayats of block Ramban. The officers highlighted the primary objective of this outreach and information dissemination campaign is to empower citizens to become active stakeholders in the country's development.

DM Jammu reviews preparations for Panchayat Secretary Recruitment exam

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DECEMBER 4

District Magistrate, Sachin Kumar Vaishya led a series of consecutive meetings today to review preparations for the upcoming recruitment exam for the post of Panchayat Secretary.

The examination, being conducted by the Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board, is scheduled to take place on December 10 across 90 centres spanning 86 locations in the district. As many as 35306 candidates of Jammu District are going to appear in the Exam. The meetings were



held at Teachers Bhawan with attendance of key stakeholders, including SSP Jammu, Dr Vinod Kumar, SSP Security, SSP Traffic, ADC, Sub Divisional Magistrates and RTO Jammu.

The DM said that all necessary arrangements have been put in place to conduct the examination in a free and fair manner. He urged the officers to strictly adhere to procedures for a transpar-

ent examination in their respective centers. The Magistrates and observers received comprehensive briefings on their roles and responsibilities during the critical recruitment process.

The ADC, Ansuya Jamwal, while presiding over the similar meetings early in the morning with School Principals and Superintendents and others concerned directed them to ensure

the exam's fair and transparent conduct.

Member JKSSB, Atul Kumar gave a presentation detailing the standard operating procedures for all the stakeholders during the occasion.

Logistics plans for the examination day were thoroughly reviewed by the DM, who emphasized the importance of proper lighting, seating arrangements, and bold signages across all examination centers. Ensuring candidate facilitation, he stressed the need for adequate drinking water and toilet facilities.

Notable attendees also

Empowering people: Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra elevates government endeavors in District Doda

JI NEWS SERVICE
DODA, DECEMBER 4

District Doda witnessed the transformative momentum of the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, a campaign aimed at raising awareness about the ongoing government initiatives for the comprehensive development of the region. The program, spanning locations such as Assar, Kastigarh, Bhaiderwah, Bhalla, Thathi, Kahra, and Changa blocks, sought to educate locals about a myriad of developmental programs. The yatra brought together community members, leaders, and dedicated individuals, all dedicated to advancing national development.

This dynamic initiative not only showcased the diverse cultural heritage of the region but also provided a platform for different government departments to present their flagship schemes and services at stalls. The lively cultural extravaganza, coupled with the presence of esteemed personalities and community leaders,



heightened enthusiasm among attendees, encouraging active participation in the nation's progress.

The yatra left an indelible mark by visiting numerous panchayats, including Chakka A1, Chakka A2, Dhandal A, Dhandal B, Thanalla, Chakka, Sindra, Choundhry, Dharyouth, Bathri, Porapian, and Kilohotran. Residents responded with overwhelming enthusiasm, with government middle school students actively participating by delivering speeches on moral values and adding vibrancy through captivating cultural programs.

At Chakka A1 in the Assar block, the Viksit Bharat Sankalp yatra van received a warm welcome, and a

pledge ceremony regarding the initiative was led by frontline workers and the public. A health checkup camp garnered significant attention, and members of self-help groups expressed gratitude for government-sponsored schemes like NRLM, SBM, social welfare schemes, and PMAY. The yatra's enthusiastic reception, coupled with the airing of the Prime Minister's message on a big LED screen, added fervour to the event.

Similarly, in the Chakka panchayat of the Bhaiderwah block, the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra van was welcomed, and various activities highlighting government-sponsored schemes took center stage. A health checkup camp

was organized, and cultural programs and government initiatives were showcased for the public. Panchayat Kilhotran in the Changa block warmly welcomed the yatra van, with colourful cultural programs and various activities enhancing the event's vibrancy.

Events of a similar nature unfolded in various other panchayats, where government-sponsored schemes were elucidated by concerned officers and officials. Beneficiaries of different government initiatives attended the events, expressing gratitude for the benefits received. The mission of the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra underscores the importance of bringing government schemes closer to communities, igniting a spirit of development. Frontline workers played a pivotal role, actively participating and strengthening the impact of this public outreach. Expressing gratitude, the Nodal Officer commended the participants, emphasizing the significance of the Viksit Bharat pledge.

BJP is strong force in J&K, will form next govt in UT, Dr. Manyal to NC

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, DEC 5

Jammu and Kashmir BJP general secretary and former minister Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal, while reacting to the assertion of NC Vice-Pres-

ident and former CM, that BJP won't get even 10 seats in J&K Assembly elections, said that the ground work will itself show as to who will be gainer or loser in the assembly elections in the UT. Dr. Devinder Kumar

Manyal said that like other parts of the country, the political graph of BJP is very high in Jammu and Kashmir UT, it has become a strong force and will surely win 50+ seats in the future assembly elections and form govern-

ment here.

The firm belief of the BJP to win 50+ seats arises from various factors, particularly the party's commitment for real development and welfare of masses under Narendra Modi government, which

has flooded J&K with numerous projects in different sectors and countless schemes meant for the socio-economic upliftment of every section of the society. Sabka saath, sabka vikas, sabka vishwas working line of BJP govern-

ment under Prime Minister Narendra Modi has, during the last about ten years, made every region and section realise that the party is genuinely concerned and committed for overall development of one and all

across the entire length and breadth of the UT, like other parts of the country.

Dr. Manyal reminded the former Chief Minister that the track record of BJP in J&K shows that the party had, once, single MLA, later

it got success in 11 assembly seats and in the last election, it moved ahead and won 25 seats, and winning more than 50 seats in future will come true as BJP has always improved its tally in successive elections.

FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

SC's Judgment in Article...

not destroy it but the President's Rule in J&K was imposed to destroy the state legislature. It was added that President's Rule under Article 356 was in its nature "temporary" and thus permanent actions could not be taken under it. The petitioners also argued that the amendment of Article 370 through Article 367 was invalid. Finally, it was stated that while Article 3 of the Indian Constitution granted the power to Union to alter the boundaries of states and even create smaller states through bifurcation, it had never before been used to convert an entire state into a Union Territory (UT). The negative impact of turning J&K into a UT on the constitutional structure was also underlined. A detailed summary on petitioners arguments can be found here.

Per contra, the Union Government along with other respondents argued that the abrogation of Article 370 resolved the 'psychological duality' of the people of J&K and that there existed discrimination against the people of J&K before the abrogation as the Indian constitution was not fully applied to the state prior to 2019. It was underlined that it was very clear that the Constitution makers foresaw Article 370 as a 'temporary' provision and wanted it 'to die'. Challenging the assertion of an exclusive special status for J&K, the respondents argued that during the late 1930s, a multitude of princely states were in the process of drafting their own constitutions. It was also submitted that the execution of a merger agreement was not necessary to become a part of the Indian nation. Further, internal sovereignty could not be confused with sovereignty. It was stated that J&K was only converted to a UT owing to it being a sensitive border state for a temporary time period and that its statehood would be restored. It was also argued that if Article 367 was not modified, it would have the effect on Article 370 becoming a permanent feature of the Indian Constitution, as sans the Constituent Assembly, Article 370 could never be modified. Finally, the respondents asserted that the J&K Constitution was subservient and subordinate to the Indian Constitution and the J&K Constitution never had original constituent powers. Thus, even if the Constituent Assembly had been in existence, it would have a limited role to play in abrogation of Article 370 as its decision would be only "recommendatory" in nature and the President could have taken any decision even if the Constituent Assembly did not agree to the same.

Appearances

For the petitioners- Senior Advocates Kapil Sibal, Gopal Subramaniam, Zaffar Shah, Rajeev Dhavan, Dushyant Dave, Chandar Uday Singh, Dinesh Dwivedi, Shekhar Naphade, Nitya Ramakrishnan, Gopal Sankaranarayanan, Menaka Guruswamy, Prashanto Chandra Sen, Sanjay Parikh and Advocate Warisha Farasat argued.

For the Union of India : Attorney General for India R Venkataramani, Solicitor General of India Tushar Mehta, Additional Solicitor General KM Nataraj, ASG Vikramjeet Banerjee and Advocate Kanu Agarwal.

For the intervenors backing the Union - Senior Advocates Harish Salve, Rakesh Dwivedi, V Giri, Guru Krishnakumar; Advocates Archana Pathak Dave, VK Biju and Charu Mathur. (LiveLaw)

'Never stop chasing...

Hari Singh Social & Education Foundation Trust and Rajput Charitable Trust, has made immense contribution in shaping the future of young talents and social transformation.

The Lt Governor highlighted the transformation taking place in education sector and emphasized the need to reinvent the concepts of classroom learning.

"School is the cradle of future leaders and centre of creativity, character building and a fundamental medium to strengthen the value system in our society. Today, the real challenge before our education system is to promote learning beyond classroom and impart life skills," the Lt Governor said.

He called upon the teaching community and the educational institutions to adopt best practices aligned with the National Education Policy to bridge the learning gaps.

National Education Policy has provided the immense possibilities to elevate the learning and create a conducive environment for critical thinking, creativity, individuality and inquisitiveness to flourish so that our young children can learn new things, he said.

At Silver Jubilee Celebrations, the Lt Governor encouraged the students to follow their passion and believe in their abilities and potential.

"Never stop chasing your dreams, is my message to our youth. Discover what you really love doing, strive continuously to achieve new goals, reflect on your great passion and never ever stop believing in yourself," the Lt Governor said.

Ajatshatru Singh, former Minister and President, Rajput Charitable Trust, J&K extended his gratitude to the Lt Governor for his encouraging presence and inspiring thoughts, affirming the faculty and students.

Dr. Ritu Singh, Pro-Vice Chairperson, DPS Jammu highlighted the initiatives including 'Project Vriddhi' and 'Project Roshni' aimed at fostering inclusivity and technological empowerment, for societal betterment.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor inaugurated Roshni lab dedicated to empowerment of visually impaired students.

He also felicitated the winners of the NHPC painting competition and the girls belonging to rural areas who successfully completed basic course on computer education under the 'Vriddhi' project.

Students of DPS Jammu presented a Book Report to the Lt Governor on their entrepreneurial project of river cleaning using drone technology.

S.S. Sodhi, Director DPS Jammu; Principals, teachers and students of the DPS Jammu, DPS SMVDU-Katra, DPS Nagbani and prominent personalities from different walks of life were present—(KNO)

CS for creating formal...

generation in J&K.

He advises for fixing timelines for completion of work on all the new industrial estates besides regularly monitoring the allotments to ensure the timely operationalization of the units by the aspiring entrepreneurs.

Dulloo also observed that the PM Vishwakarma scheme is the platform that envisages end to end support to the marginal artisans and craftsmen who work with their hands and deserve support and recognition for their work. Hence the scheme should be given due priority for its proper implementation. He directed for providing every kind of assistance to the applicants for registration as per the approved target and ensure that every such artisan is on boarded on the portal.

Dulloo also reviewed the progress on GI tagging and He advised to fulfill all the necessary formalities for securing the same for the 11 products in pipeline in addition to the 10 notified. He also directed to enhance the number of such authorized users in a time-bound manner.

It was given out that of the 46 new IEs, 7 and 8 are being developed by IRCON and NBCC and 6 each by CPWD and SIDCO/SICOP respectively. The Chief Secretary noted the issues of development of industrial estates and future plans of the department, capex expenditure made till date and directed to fast track its pace and meet the deadlines.

The Commissioner Secretary, I&C, informed that till October 2023, the Department has realized an investment of Rs 2079.76 Cr in the UT besides registering highest ever investment worth Rs 2153.45 Cr in the previous fiscal.

Single window system, development of land for IEs, availability of utilities there and issues related to the flagship programmes being monitored by Ministry of Home Affairs and their status in the UT also came under discussion during this meeting.

Moreover Dulloo emphasised on maintaining the pace of development of different sectors and ensure that the aspirations of stakeholders are also met in a hassle-free manner—(KNO)

Don't vent frustration...

country will change its perspective towards them. A new door could open for them," he said.

"They are in the opposition but still I am giving them good advice," he added.

Modi urged the opposition to come forward with a positive mindset.

"Everyone's future is bright, there is no need to lose hope but please don't vent the frustration of the defeats suffered outside inside Parliament. There would be frustration and disappointment, also your colleagues would need to show their strength but don't make this temple of democracy that platform," the prime minister said.

"I say on the basis of my experience, I would say change your (opposition) direction a bit, leave the habit of opposing for the sake of opposing. Support constructive things that are in country's interest, debate the shortcomings that are there and you will see that the hatred among the people over such things, that may change into love," he said.

Modi said it is a chance for the opposition and they should extend cooperation in Parliament.

"I want to say from the political point of view that it is in your (opposition) interest also to give a message of positivity to the country. It is not good for democracy that your image is of hate and negativity," he said.

In democracy, the opposition is equally important and should be capable, Modi said.

The prime minister said, "2047 - the country does not want to wait long for becoming developed. This is the feeling in every section of the society. Respecting this sentiment, all members should take forward Parliament proceedings, this is my request to them".

In his remarks to the media, he said the results of assembly polls were encouraging for those committed to people's welfare and the country's bright future.

Those who move on principle of empowerment of four 'castes' of women, youth, farmers, poor get overwhelming support, the prime minister said.

When there is commitment to people's welfare then the word anti-incumbency becomes irrelevant, he said, adding that some call it pro-incumbency, good governance or transparency that is being experienced in the country.

The BJP swept Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh on Sunday inflicting a resounding defeat on the Congress to tighten its stranglehold in the Hindi heartland.

The Congress ousted the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) in Telangana to make it 3-1 for the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in the latest round of Assembly elections billed as a semi-final before next year's poll showdown.

The Winter session of Parliament is scheduled to have 15 sittings till December 22. (Agencies)

Massive searches underway...

Gali, Saruti, and Ari villages near the Line of Control (LoC) in Mendhar sector of Poonch district.

The operations were launched following inputs about suspicious movement in the forest areas, officials said.

Searches were intensified in the twin border districts following a fierce gunfight in Dharmal belt's Bajimaal area of Rajouri on November 22 and 23 that left five

soldiers including two captains dead.

Two Pakistani terrorists affiliated with the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) outfit were eliminated in the 36-hour long encounter.

In one such operation on December 2, security forces detected a 5 kg Improvised Explosive Device in Topa Hilltok area of Darhal. It was later destroyed. (Agencies)

Srinagar records 53 fire...

across Jammu and Kashmir so far, which has helped in reducing the number of such incidents.

"If we see the previous figures, the fire incidents have gone up to even 2900 in one year, but this year such incidents have reduced by nearly 20-30 per cent as 1900 cases were reported till October this year," he said.

He further stated that the fire can be controlled at the initial stage, but only if the people are aware about the techniques and other related things. "The people should keep a small fire extinguisher at their home, which costs nearly Rs 2000 only so that the fire can be controlled at the first instance and the major tragedy can be averted," he added—(KNO)

World looking up to India...

we look forward to having \$300 Billion by 2030," he said.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, India has made rapid strides in the last 8/9 years. "We had just 55 (Biotech) Startups in 2014, now we have more than 6,000," he said.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, today there are over 3,000 Agritech Startups and are very successful in areas like Aroma Mission and Purple Revolution.

"About 4,000 people are engaged with Lavender cultivation and earning lakhs of rupees," he said.

The S&T Minister said, Biotechnology will provide the "future value addition" to India's economy in the years to come.

"India has a huge wealth of bioresources, an unsaturated resource waiting to be harnessed and an advantage in Biotechnology especially due to the vast biodiversity and the unique bioresources in the Himalayas. Then there is the 7,500 kms long coastline and under the Deep Sea Mission, we are going to dig the biodiversity beneath the seas," he said.

Dr Jitendra Singh said Biotechnology has emerged as a trending career option among the youth. In a recent survey of Class 12 students in Delhi it was found that Biotechnology was ranked as the preferred stream at No.4/5 whereas earlier it didn't figure anywhere as a career option, he said.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, PM Narendra Modi has created the milieu for entrepreneurship and a thriving industry. "We had everything, but we were possibly waiting for an enabling milieu to happen. And that enabling milieu happened after Prime Minister Modi came in," he said.

Hailing PM Modi for taking the lead during the G20 New Delhi Summit, Dr Jitendra Singh said, the launch of Global Biofuel Alliance (GBA) will foster global collaboration for the advancement and widespread adoption of biofuels.

"Biotechnology will be the key to Amrit Kaal economy and also for making India a frontline nation in the world," he said.

Stating that there is no more room for scepticism, Dr Jitendra Singh said, the policy planning changes during the nine years of leadership under Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi have created mutual trust between public and private sectors.

Calling for wider synergy among Government, Academia, Startups and Industry, Dr Jitendra Singh said the dictum is: "The whole of Science, plus the whole of Government, plus the whole of the Nation."

The Inaugural session of Global Bio-India Exhibition and International Conference was also addressed by Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA) to the Government of India, Prof. Ajay Kumar Sood; Secretary, Department of Science & Technology, Dr. Abhay Karandikar; Secretary, Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Dr Rajesh Gokhale; and Ms. Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, founder and CMD of Biocon Limited.

IGP Kashmir visits...

During these meetings, IGP Kashmir engaged in constructive discussions with key officers to assess the existing security framework. The discussions covered a wide range of topics including prevailing security scenario, the existing security grid, other crime works, and operational strategies to counter the challenges posed by the inimical elements, and sought inputs from officers to formulate comprehensive strategies. These meetings provided a platform to assess the current security landscape and devise comprehensive strategies to address potential challenges.

The IGP Kashmir emphasised on some crucial developments including deployment of additional security personnel in critical areas, implementation of advanced surveillance technologies, community engagement programs to foster trust and cooperation and training programs for law enforcement personnel to enhance response capabilities.

He highlighted the vision of creating a prosperous and harmonious environment for everyone.

Highlighting the approach to combat the drug menace, VK Birdi said it is imperative that we unite our efforts to eradicate this menace from the society. Law enforcement agencies are committed to intensifying operations and adopting advanced techniques to dismantle drug networks.

While briefing the officers, IGP advised them for finalization of the pending cases, public complaints to give the relief to the general public and directed for speedy

disposal of cases assigned to them for conducting the investigation.

The IGP Kashmir expressed confidence in the collective efforts of the community and law enforcement agencies to maintain a secure and peaceful environment. Besides, he exhorted upon to take stringent action against any person or organization supporting anti-national activities. The visit underscores the commitment of the police to proactively address security concerns and ensure the well-being of the citizens.

Soon after the meeting in Baramulla, the IGP Kashmir paid floral tributes to the martyrs at DPL Baramulla for their supreme sacrifice in the line of duty. The IGP also inaugurated the new cabin of PCR Baramulla besides, inspected the infrastructure and other facilities available in the premises of DPL Baramulla—(KNO)

Hajj committee of India...

Machine-Readable International Passport issued on or before the closing date of application and valid at least upto 31st Jan, 2025.

Allocation of additional...

the schedule cuts."

Asked about the ongoing curtailment schedule of power, the principal secretary said, "The ongoing schedule will continue to remain in effect. We are not reducing it." He said that the department was maintaining more than what was being supplied last year. "As of now we cannot say as to how much of power demand and supply will be there because of several factors including power availability, peak winters and availability of funds," Prasad said.

He said that the department didn't want to make any promises which it won't deliver.

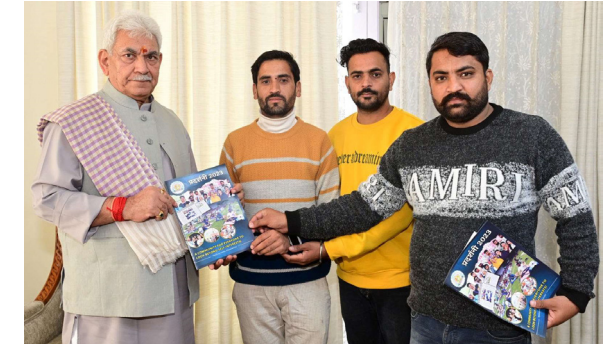
Meanwhile, Chief Engineer Distribution for KPDCL, Javed Yousuf Dar told KNO that there was an improvement in the situation in this regard. "There has been a huge reduction in distress curtailment."—(KNO)

DDC Member, Rising...

Sh Akash Parihar, Chairman, Tejas Ek Pahal Foundation, apprised the Lt Governor on various issues of public importance of Doda.

Sh Abhinav Anand, President, Trikuta Nagar Traders Association, Jammu also called on the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor assured the members of the delegations that the issues projected by them will be looked into earnestly for early redressal.



Deputy Commissioner reviews implementation of Ayushman Bharat Scheme in District Rajouri

JINews SERVICE
RAJOURI, DECEMBER 4

Deputy Commissioner Rajouri Vikas Kundal today reviewed the progress made under Ayushman Bharat scheme wherein steering discussion on the efficient distribution of Ayushman PVC cards was held. These cards, crafted from durable polyvinyl chloride material, promise ease of portability, marking a significant leap in ensuring that beneficiaries have ready access to their healthcare benefits.

During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner underscored the pivotal role of the Health Department in expediting the distribution process. Recognizing the transformative potential of the Ayushman PVC cards in improving healthcare delivery, he directed the officers to intensify their efforts to ensure the expeditious completion of the distribution process.

The Ayushman PVC cards are not merely pieces of plastic; they represent a gateway to comprehensive healthcare services for the beneficiaries. Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal emphasized the importance of a meticulous and time-bound distribution plan, emphasizing that every effort must be made to reach all eligible beneficiaries promptly.



With the portability of these PVC cards, beneficiaries gain the flexibility to access healthcare services seamlessly. The cards serve as a tangible embodiment of the commitment to enhancing the well-being of the community, providing a tangible link between individuals and the array of health services available.

The Deputy Commissioner acknowledged the dedication of the Health Department in this initiative and encouraged them to adopt innovative and efficient strategies for distribution. He emphasized the need for coordination between various stakeholders to streamline the process and minimize any potential delays.

As the distribution of Ayushman PVC cards gathers momentum, it is poised to make a substan-

tial impact on the healthcare landscape in Rajouri. The district administration remains steadfast in its commitment to realizing the vision of accessible and quality healthcare for all.

The Deputy Commissioner concluded the meeting with a call to action, directing all officers involved to approach this task with a sense of urgency and responsibility. The Ayushman PVC card distribution stands as a testament to the commitment of the administration to the welfare of its citizens, marking a significant stride towards a healthier and more resilient community.

Among the others, Chief Planning Officer, Mohammad Khurshid; Deputy Chief Medical Officer, Dr Manohar Rana and other concerned officers attended the meeting.

Panchayat Secretary recruitment Test J&KSSB imparts training to Superintendents, Invigilators at Rajouri

JINews SERVICE
RAJOURI, DECEMBER 4

The J&K Service Selection Board (JKSSB), in collaboration with the District Administration Rajouri, imparted comprehensive training to supervisory staff ahead of Written Test for selection of Panchayat Secretary here today.

The focus of the training was to sensitize center Superintendents, Dy Superintendents, observers, and invigilators to ensure fair and transparent conduct of examination.

The training session emphasized the paramount importance of adhering to Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and examination conduct regulations. The deployed staff was urged to approach their roles with meticulous attention to the details. Critical events involved in the examination process were discussed extensively, providing a thorough understanding of the necessary steps through a detailed PowerPoint presentation.

Simran Deep Singh, a Member of JKSSB, highlighted the significance of this interaction, aiming to familiarize center superintendents, dy superintendents, observers and invigilators with standard procedures and protocols. He stressed the need for complete transparency and fairness in the examination process. Participants were encouraged to approach their assignments earnestly, demonstrating utmost seriousness, and contributing to the efforts of the Government to ensure the selection of deserving candidates.



ADC Rajouri, Rajiv Kumar Khajuria, underscored the importance of the deployed staff strictly adhering to all instructions provided by JKSSB. He emphasized the need to read between the lines of the examination manual, ensuring a smooth and fair conduct of the examination. This approach is vital for upholding the integrity of the entire selection process.

In a subsequent question-and-answer session, participants had the opportunity to seek clarification, and doubts were addressed by the Member of JKSSB, Simran Deep Singh. This interactive element not only reinforced the information provided but also ensured that participants felt confident and well-prepared for their roles in maintaining the integrity of the examination.

Overall, this training initiative reflects commitment of the JKSSB to upholding the highest standards of examination conduct, instilling confidence in the deployed staff, and ultimately contributing to the selection of deserving candidates through a transparent and fair process.

Director Agriculture visits Pampore, holds interaction with Vegetable Growers



JINews SERVICE
SRINAGAR, DECEMBER 4

The Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhury Mohammad Iqbal today visited Pampore and adjacent areas and took stock of the agriculture activities there. He also visited the semi-hi tech poly houses of a specially-abled Vegetable Grower.

Speaking to the farmers, the Director highlighted the initiatives by the department for the development of small and marginal farmers. He said that under HADP a

project is being implemented for the promotion of vertical expansion of vegetable cultivation.

The Director impressed upon the officers to cover the target areas under the HADP project (promotion of vegetable and exotic vegetables) so that the benefits could reach the farmers. He asked them to guide the farmers during all the pre and post harvesting activities.

Director Agriculture was accompanied by the District Agriculture Officer Pulwama and other Officers.

GDC Kishtwar Student scripts history by winning Gold Medal at National Power-lifting Championship



JINews SERVICE
KISHTWAR, DECEMBER 4

Suraj Singh, a student of semester 1st at Government Degree College Kishtwar has demonstrated exceptional prowess in powerlifting by winning a Gold Medal in the 83 Kg Sub Junior category at the 28th Men and Women National Benchpress Championship 2023, held in Bengaluru, Karnataka on November 25, 2023.

Suraj's remarkable performance extended beyond his category as he clinched the prestigious title of Best Lifter of India 2nd runner up, underscoring his exceptional dedication and talent in the sport.

Hailing from a remote region of district Kishtwar, the stupendous achievement of Suraj stands as a testament to his relentless dedication, innate talent and unwavering perseverance.

Upon his return, Suraj was warmly welcomed by the Principal, staff, and

students of Government Degree College Kishtwar. Dr. Jyoti Parihar, Principal GDC Kishtwar commended Suraj's outstanding talent, citing him as a role model for the youth of Kishtwar. She urged students to draw inspiration from Suraj's success and emphasized the importance of nurturing individual talents.

Speaking at the felicitation event, Dr. Tariq Tamkeen, Professor at the college, highlighted that Suraj Singh's achievement not only brought pride to the institution but also serves as an inspiration to numerous budding athletes in the state. His dedication and success are a testament that determination and hard work can surmount any challenges.

The Principal underscored the significance of sports in personal development and mental well-being, emphasizing its role in keeping the youth engaged and steering them away from societal challenges.

Seri village in Bhandarwah gets JK Bank ATM



JINews SERVICE
DODA, DECEMBER 4

In a momentous occasion, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Doda, Harvinder Singh officially unveiled a Jammu and Kashmir Bank ATM in village Seri located on Doda - Bhandarwah road.

The inauguration marked a crucial step towards enhancing accessibility to banking services for the local community.

The inauguration ceremony witnessed a vibrant gathering, including enthusiastic local residents including local Sarpanch, Branch Manager, Bank officials, and several other eminent personalities from the area. The collective presence of these individuals underscored the significance attached to the establishment of the J&K Bank ATM. This

newly inaugurated ATM holds paramount importance for the people of Seri, Bhandarwah, offering them convenient access to essential banking services. Prior to the opening of this facility, residents faced the inconvenience of having to travel to nearby towns to fulfill their banking needs. The establishment of the J&K Bank ATM directly addressed this challenge, heralding a new era of accessibility and financial convenience for the community.

Later, the Deputy Commissioner inspected local Government High School where he had an avid interaction with the students and the staff of the institution. He also assessed the functioning of the school and the quality of education being imparted to the students.

District Samba gears up for JKSSB Exam: Training Program Equips Supervisory Staff



JINews SERVICE
SAMBA, DECEMBER 4

To prepare for the upcoming JKSSB exam for Panchayat Secretary Recruitment, the District Administration Samba organized a detailed training program for supervisory staff. The program was held in the Conference Hall in the DC Office Complex Samba, under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner, Abhishek Sharma.

The training session was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Suresh Chander Sharma; Chief Education Officer Kewal Krishan and other members. The purpose of the program was to ensure the smooth and fair conduct of the examination. ADC Suresh Sharma explained the roles and responsibilities

of Center Observer Magistrate, Center Superintendent, Deputy Superintendent, and Invigilator Staff. He said that all the arrangements have been made to avoid any problems or malpractices during the examination. He also stressed the need to follow the rules and regulations strictly and maintain the quality of the examination process in their respective centers.

He informed that the District Administration has set up 21 examination centers across the district. He appreciated the cooperation and support from the Police, Education, and other related departments for the OMR examination test. The examination will take place on December 10, 2023, from 12 noon to 2 pm at the assigned examination centers.

DLSA Ganderbal conducts Pre Lok-Adalat



JINews SERVICE
GANDERBAL, DECEMBER 4

The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Ganderbal today conducted a Pre Lok-Adalat session for Pre-Litigation Civil and Telephone Services related matters in District Court Ganderbal, in preparation of the upcoming National Lok Adalat scheduled to be held on 9th December 2023.

The session aimed at resolving disputes before they proceed to litigation.

The pre Lok Adalat was held under chairmanship of the Principal District and Sessions Judge, Ganderbal, Ritesh Kumar Dubey and under the active guidance of the Civil Judge (Sr. Division) / Secretary, DLSA Ganderbal, Nusrat Ali Hakak.

The Pre Lok-Adalat session aimed to resolve disputes that were pending before the formal litigation process. The event witnessed the active participation of litigants, and officials from BSNL and saw the successful settlement of maximum number of cases by Secretary of the District Legal Services Authority, Ganderbal.

Notably, the Pre-Lok Adalat provided an opportunity for the litigants to present and discuss their cases, seeking an amicable settlement rather than resorting to prolonged court proceedings.

By engaging in mediation, conciliation, and negotiation, the participants explored alternative methods to achieve a mutually agreeable resolution. The Pre-Lok Adalat conducted by DLSA Ganderbal serves as a significant precursor to the National Lok Adalat slated for 9th of December 2023.

Poster making competition organized by GDC Ramgarh on Wildlife Conservation Day

JINews SERVICE
SAMBA, DECEMBER 4

Government Degree College Ramgarh celebrated Wildlife Conservation Day today by organising a poster making competition. The event was organized by the Department of Environment Science under the supervision and guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Geetanjali Andotra, the principal of the college. The organizing committee of the event included Dr. Aditi Khajuria, Prof. Brham Dutt and Prof. Sandeep Kumar. Akanksha Kangotra, faculty EVS department gave insight on Wildlife Conservation

and its importance. The goal of Wildlife Conservation is to ensure the safety and survival of Wild Species and to educate the people on living sustainably with these species.

The delegation included Mahesh Das, Director General, Accounts and Treasuries; Neeraj Gupta Bakshi, Director General, J&K Funds organization; Iftikhar Hussain Chauhan, President JAKFAS; Ashok Kumar, Director Finance, GAD; Anil Dogra, Director Finance, Social Welfare Department; Araf Khan, Director Finance, LG Secretariat; Rashim Deepika, FA/CAO Science and Technology Department and Sonam Singh, Vice President JAKFAS.

The delegation submitted a memorandum highlighting various issues, including the colossal stagnation faced by officers of the J&K Accounts Service due to the exclusion of Assured Career Progression (ACP) & demanded same in favour of J&K Accounts Service.

JAKFAS delegation called on Chief Secretary

JINews SERVICE
JAMMU, DECEMBER 4

A delegation of Jammu and Kashmir Finance and Accounts Society (JAKFAS) today called on Chief Secretary, Atal Dullo here at Civil Secretariat.

The delegation included Mahesh Das, Director General, Accounts and Treasuries; Neeraj Gupta Bakshi, Director General, J&K Funds organization; Iftikhar Hussain Chauhan, President JAKFAS; Ashok Kumar, Director Finance, GAD; Anil Dogra, Director Finance, Social Welfare Department; Araf Khan, Director Finance, LG Secretariat; Rashim Deepika, FA/CAO Science and Technology Department and Sonam Singh, Vice President JAKFAS.



The delegation submitted a memorandum highlighting various issues, including the colossal stagnation faced by officers of the J&K Accounts Service due to the exclusion of Assured Career Progression (ACP) & demanded same in favour of J&K Accounts Service.

Chief Secretary gave a patient hearing and assured the delegation that all genuine issues would be looked into and resolved on merit.

Chief Secretary gave a patient hearing and assured the delegation that all genuine issues would be looked into and resolved on merit.

EDITORIAL

BJP victory puts Opposition on back-foot

The opposition parties' relentless efforts to bring unity ahead of Lok Sabha polls to lodge the BJP from the Centre seem to have failed in achieving desired results. The outcome of assembly polls in four states are a testimony to it where the BJP's made a clean sweep in the Hindi heartland states of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. The results have come as a humiliation for 'united' opposition, particularly Congress party which was boastful of winning all the states with a thumping majority. The outcome of these polls has come as a big shot in the arm for the party as well as Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the run-up to the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. The ruling party at the Centre not only countered anti-incumbency in Madhya Pradesh but also wrested Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh from the Congress. The drubbing of Congress party is seen as a big setback to the grand old party which is struggling to revive post 2014 elections when the BJP under the leadership of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi came to power at the Centre. The losses in these three states have pushed the Congress to a backseat as its position as the spearhead of the Opposition bloc INDIA has now weakened considerably. However, the party's victory in Telangana elections where it defeated the ruling Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) is the only solace for it. On the other hand, the Chhattisgarh outcome is a pleasant surprise for the BJP, which had gambled by targeting popular Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel over alleged corruption and favouritism. Baghel was expected to lead the Congress to a second successive victory, but the BJP's ploy upset his apperance. Banking on Modi's 'guarantees' was another gamble that paid off for the saffron party in Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan and MP. In contrast, the Congress' caste card found few takers. The running feud between Ashok Gehlot and Sachin Pilot cost the Congress dear in Rajasthan, while the party has never recovered from the twin shocks in MP—Jyotiraditya Scindia's defection to the BJP and the collapse of the Kamal Nath government in 2020. The Congress had won the Assembly elections in these three states in 2018, but the results in the 2019 Lok Sabha polls were strikingly different. The results are not only an eye-opener for the Congress to go for introspection but also send alarm bells ringing. Furthermore, the Saffron party needs to resist the temptation of extrapolating a national trend from the state poll results. It is back to the drawing board for the Congress, which must realise that expanding its footprint in south India—the party had ousted the BJP from power in Karnataka earlier this year – is not enough to pose a strong challenge to the Modi juggernaut in the parliamentary battle, which is barely five months away. The bigger challenge for INDIA bloc is to keep its flock together. The only way to put a tough fight before the BJP is regrouping and consolidating their (opposition groups) position in their bastions to ensure that the BJP does not get any margin in their key areas. The opposition parties should sit together and deliberate as to how they could offer voters a credible alternative to the BJP.

Navigating Democracy: The Imperative of Delimitation for Local Elections in J&K

HAMID RATHER

In a significant and timely move, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has recently underscored the pressing need for delimitation in the context of local elections in Jammu and Kashmir, categorizing it as a constitutional requirement. This call has ignited discussions on the importance of adapting electoral boundaries to demographic shifts, historical context, and the evolving political landscape of the Union Territory to Panchayats and municipalities after delimiting constituencies for the Parliament and Assembly. Jammu and Kashmir, a region marked by its complex history and diverse demographics, has been undergoing a transformative journey since the Amendment in Article 370 in August 2019. Among the critical aspects of this transition is the imperative need for delimitation, a process that redefines electoral constituencies to ensure proportional representation based on population changes.

LG Sinha's Vision

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, since assuming office, has been a vocal advocate for good governance, development, and public participation. His call for delimitation in local elections aligns with the broader vision of creat-

ing a transparent and inclusive electoral process. This vision is grounded in the belief that every citizen's voice should be heard and every vote should carry equal weight, reinforcing the democratic principles that form the bedrock of our political system.

Constitutional Mandate

The historical context of Jammu and Kashmir is crucial to understanding the need for delimitation. The region has witnessed political upheavals, demographic shifts, and territorial changes, which have significantly impacted the distribution of population across electoral constituencies. The call for delimitation is, in essence, an effort to rectify historical imbalances and adapt to the evolving socio-political landscape. Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha's emphasis on delimitation as a constitutional requirement draws attention to the legal foundation supporting this process. Constitutional provisions such as Article 82 and Article 170 empower the Delimitation Commission to conduct constituency delimitation for parliamentary and assembly constituencies. The extension of this mandate to local elections reflects a commitment to upholding the principles of fairness, equity, and representative governance.

Fair Representation and Democratic Governance

Delimitation, at its core, is aimed at ensuring fair representation and strengthening democratic governance. By redistributing electoral constituencies for Panchayats and Municipalities based on population changes, the process aligns electoral outcomes with the actual demographic distribution. The principle of 'one person, one vote' is upheld, contributing to a more equitable and representative political system. The move towards delimitation is poised to have a considerable impact on electoral outcomes in Jammu and Kashmir. As demographic trends and population shifts are taken into account, political dynamics and party representation in local bodies are likely to witness changes. This adjustment seeks to create a more accurate reflection of the people's will and aspirations, ensuring that political power is distributed in line with the demographic realities of the region. Beyond the immediate electoral implications, delimitation holds broader significance for Jammu and Kashmir. A fair and representative electoral system contributes to political stability, inclusivity, and overall development in the region. The call for delimitation is not

merely a technical adjustment to electoral boundaries; it is a strategic move with far-reaching consequences for the socio-political landscape of the Union Territory.

Rectifying Past Errors

The establishment of administrative units such as revenue blocks and rural development blocks in Jammu and Kashmir was historically driven by political interests, resulting in a flawed foundation for subsequent electoral constituency delineation. Specifically, the integration of villages like Tapper, Andergam, Hamray, Tilgam, and Wanigam into the Kreeri-Wagoora constituency, despite belonging to the Pattan rural development block, exemplifies the unscientific nature of the recently concluded delimitation process. Given that District Development Council (DDC) elections are aligned with rural development blocks, it is imperative to realign these villages with the Kreeri block now, considering factors such as geographic homogeneity, administrative efficiency, political accountability, and developmental objectives.

Likewise, a comprehensive revision of the territorial boundaries of the Pattan Municipal Committee is essential. Inclusion of adjacent areas such as Buran, Zangam, Kalsari, Palhallan

(parts), Sadribal, Nihalpora (parts) and Hanjwera is warranted, not only for administrative coherence but also to leverage Pattan's potential as a trans-urban area. Such expansion serves a dual purpose by addressing the congestion issues in Srinagar city and establishing Pattan as a vibrant hub for industrial and entrepreneurial activities. Redefining the Pattan Municipal Committee becomes a pivotal initial step, transforming it into an 'engaging institution' capable of undertaking multifaceted responsibilities beyond its traditional roles, thereby fostering holistic development in the region.

Challenges and Controversies

The path to delimitation is not without its challenges and controversies. Critics argue that the process may be susceptible to political manipulation and could exacerbate existing tensions. Striking the right balance between addressing historical imbalances and ensuring a transparent, apolitical delimitation process will be crucial in navigating these challenges. A transparent and inclusive approach to delimitation necessitates robust public engagement and consultation. The voices of the people, community leaders, and political stakeholders

must be heard to ensure that the process is not only technically sound but also enjoys broad public legitimacy. This engagement can foster a sense of ownership and participation in the democratic process. The global community has been closely observing the developments in Jammu and Kashmir. The call for delimitation is in line with international norms of adapting electoral boundaries to demographic changes. It reflects a commitment to democratic values and the constant evolution of political structures to meet the needs of the population.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the imperative of delimitation for local elections in Jammu and Kashmir, as highlighted by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, transcends the technicalities of redrawing electoral boundaries. It is a strategic and visionary move towards strengthening democratic governance, ensuring fair representation, and adapting political structures to the dynamic realities of the region. As Jammu and Kashmir navigates this critical phase in its political journey, the call for delimitation stands as a testament to the commitment to democratic principles and the continuous pursuit of a more inclusive and representative political system.

Problem with school exams: How they affect creativity, working together and thinking

SABZAR AHMAD BHAT

As students walk through school hallways, we find a surprising issue in the education system. The way we test knowledge might be causing problems rather than helping. The usual exams, meant to check what students know, are turning into a problem. They focus so much on competing and doing well individually that they are hurting creativity, teamwork, critical thinking, and the human side of education.

1. Creativity Block: Exams are too strict, leaving no space for creativity. Students feel pressured to give set answers, stopping them from using their imagination. Get-

ting good grades becomes more important than coming up with new and creative ideas.

2. Unhealthy Competition: Exams make students compete against each other. Instead of working together, everyone is focused on getting the best grades. This turns healthy competition into a stressful race, leaving no room for shared success and growth.

3. Ignoring Critical Thinking: Studying for exams often involves memorizing without really understanding. This kills the development of critical thinking skills. Students memorize facts but don't learn to analyze, question, or put information together parts of what they are thinking.

4. Forgetting About People: The rush to study for exams means we forget about kindness and caring for others. As students memorize facts, the human side of education kind, understanding, and helping the community is ignored. This might create a generation that's great at grades but lacks important human values.

5. Falling Behind in Teamwork: Studying for exams happens alone, and you miss out on group learning. In a world that values teamwork, the current exam system might be making people good at working alone but bad at working together in real life.

6. Losing Friendships: Exam stress can strain friendships and make students compete instead

of supporting each other. Instead of creating a friendly learning environment, the system might be causing problems and stopping the development of a helpful and cooperative community.

7. Not Focusing on Helping Others: Exams mainly look at personal success, not community work. Ignoring the importance of helping others in the education system might lead to a generation that's great at school but doesn't understand the value of making society better.

8. Ignoring Real-Life Problem Solving: Doing well in exams doesn't mean being good at solving real-life problems. The gap between exam-focused learning and practical problem-solving can

leave students unprepared for challenges outside the classroom.

In conclusion, traditional exams need to change to support a complete education. We should make reforms that prioritize creativity, teamwork, critical thinking, kindness, cooperation, friendship, and community involvement. This way, we can nurture individuals who do well in school and also make meaningful contributions to society. The path forward includes rethinking how we test, encouraging different ways of learning, and remembering that education goes beyond exam rooms.

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Impact of unemployment upon well-being of youth in J&K

SAIMA HAMID

By prioritizing mental health support, skill development, and socio-economic stability, we can pave the way for a brighter future for the youth, fostering resilience, empowerment, and a sense of purpose amidst the challenges they face.

Unemployment is a persistent issue affecting societies worldwide, and its consequences extend far beyond financial hardships. Among the population segment most affected by unemployment are young individuals, who often bear the brunt of economic downturns. In the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K), where a significant youth population resides, the impact of unemployment on mental health has been a growing concern.

This article explores the adverse effects of unemployment on the mental well-being of the youth in J&K and emphasizes the need for holistic support systems to mitigate the challenges discussed

below:

Economic Strain and Anxiety

Unemployment not only deprives individuals of financial stability but also engenders anxiety and uncertainty about the future. For the youth in J&K, this strain is amplified due to the limited job opportunities and socio-political complexities in the region. The state has witnessed a prolonged history of conflict and instability, which has hindered economic development and contributed to a scarcity of jobs. Consequently, young individuals in J&K face an uphill battle in securing employment, leading to financial burdens and mental health challenges. The constant worry about meeting basic needs and fulfilling responsibilities can lead to anxiety, stress, and depression. These conditions, if left unaddressed, can significantly impact one's overall well-being and hinder personal growth.

Loss of Identity and Self-Esteem

Employment is often seen as a source of iden-

tity and purpose in society. When young individuals are unable to find suitable employment, they may experience a loss of self-worth and self-esteem. This loss can be particularly pronounced in J&K, where political unrest and limited opportunities exacerbate the sense of marginalization. The lack of meaningful engagement in productive work can lead to a diminished sense of purpose and identity among the youth, affecting their mental well-being. The resulting feelings of hopelessness and frustration can lead to a downward spiral in mental health, influencing not only the individual but also the broader community.

Social Isolation and Loneliness

The stigma associated with unemployment can result in social isolation and feelings of loneliness among young people. In J&K, where social networks play a crucial role in daily life, the absence of work-related interactions can lead to a sense of dis-

connection and alienation. The reduced social support network can amplify the psychological impact of unemployment, making it harder for individuals to seek help or find alternative pathways. The youth in J&K may face isolation from friends, family, and their communities due to the social perception that their unemployment is a reflection of personal failure. This isolation can further deteriorate mental health, leading to a cycle of negative emotions and a lack of motivation to seek assistance.

The Need for Holistic Support Systems

To address the mental health challenges posed by unemployment in J&K, a comprehensive approach is required. This approach should focus on several key aspects:

a) Mental Health Services: Enhancing access to mental health services, including counselling and therapy, is crucial. Community-based mental health initiatives and support groups can play a vital role in providing a

safe space for individuals to express their concerns and seek help and receive the necessary guidance. Collaborations with local healthcare organizations and professionals can ensure that mental health services are culturally sensitive and tailored to the specific needs of the youth in J&K.

b) Skill Development Programs: Investing in skill development programs tailored to the local context can empower young individuals to explore entrepreneurship and self-employment opportunities. Such initiatives can help in diversifying the economy and creating a conducive environment for job creation. By equipping the youth with relevant skills and knowledge, these programs enhance their employability and reduce the negative impact of unemployment on their mental health.

c) Promoting Entrepreneurship: Encouraging entrepreneurship and providing necessary resources and mentorship can empower young

individuals to start their own businesses. Entrepreneurial initiatives can not only create employment opportunities but also foster resilience and self-reliance among the youth. Support for entrepreneurial ventures, including access to funding, business development training, and mentorship programs, can pave the way for economic growth and alleviate the mental health challenges associated with unemployment.

d) Socio-Political Stability: Fostering an environment of stability and peace is essential to attract investments, promote economic growth, and generate employment opportunities. Addressing political grievances, improving infrastructure, and ensuring a conducive business environment are essential steps toward reducing unemployment and its mental health impacts. Government efforts should focus on creating a stable and inclusive society that provides equal opportunities for all, regardless of their backgrounds,

thereby fostering a sense of belonging and purpose among the youth.

Conclusion

Unemployment in Jammu and Kashmir UT has severe ramifications for the mental health of its youth. The combination of limited job opportunities, economic strain, social isolation, and the potential for radicalization creates a challenging environment for young individuals in the region. Recognizing the urgent need for intervention, a comprehensive approach is required to address the mental health implications of unemployment. Efforts should focus on improving access to mental health services, establishing community-based support systems, and destigmatizing unemployment-related mental health challenges. Additionally, investing in skill development programs and promoting entrepreneurship can provide alternative pathways for employment and foster resilience among the youth. Furthermore, creat-

ing socio-political stability and addressing the root causes of unemployment are crucial for long-term solutions. By reducing conflict, improving infrastructure, and creating a conducive business environment, the region can attract investments, generate employment opportunities, and improve the overall mental well-being of the youth in J&K. Ultimately, addressing the impact of unemployment on the mental health of the youth in Jammu and Kashmir UT requires collaborative efforts from the government, civil society organizations, and the community at large. By prioritizing mental health support, skill development, and socio-economic stability, we can pave the way for a brighter future for the youth, fostering resilience, empowerment, and a sense of purpose amidst the challenges they face.

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DEHYDRATION AND METABOLIC HEALTH: A RELATION

ZOOMI SINGH

Over half of our body weight accounts for water. About 50-60 percent of body weight accounts for water in women while for men it's 60-65 percent. Dehydration occurs when the body doesn't have as much water as it requires. Without enough water, the body can not function properly, which causes problems in our daily activities. Depending on how much fluid is in deficit in your body, you can suffer from mild, moderate, or severe dehydration.



Dehydration can occur in anyone's body, but it is particularly hazardous for children and older adults. The most common causes of dehydration in young children are diarrhoea and vomiting. Older adults naturally have a low volume of water in their bodies. In addition, they may have conditions due to medications that can increase the risk of dehydration. Thus, even minor illnesses such as lung or bladder infections can cause dehydration.

Ongoing fatigue: If you have a slow metabolism, your body will burn energy slowly, and you may feel tired all the time, even after a good sleep. Continuous headache: A slow metabolism can cause regular headaches or severe migraines as the thyroid glands are not active enough. Weight gain: Hypothyroidism leads to a slow metabolism. You can experience weight gain even if you exercise regularly and stick to a healthy diet.

Metabolism refers to the chemical process by which the body converts the food you eat and drink into energy by breaking down the food into small particles. During this complex process, calories in food and beverages are combined with oxygen to be released as energy for the proper functioning of your body, from moving to thinking to growing. Thus, we can say that drinking less water can spike one's blood glucose levels. HealthifyPRO 2.0 helps you track your hydration levels. Also, the wearable device BIOS sends the user's real-time blood glucose levels to the coach. Body hydration levels play an essential role in keeping one's weight in control. However, it is usual to get confused between hunger and thirst cues. Therefore, whenever the blood glucose levels are higher than normal, it is an excellent practice to hydrate yourself with water, coconut water, or herbal teas and limit your food intake.

Constitution: Due to a slow metabolic rate, our body requires time to process food. As a result, this results in constipation.

Depression: As slow metabolism affects your gut, poor gut health impacts your mind and mood. Therefore, it can lead to depression.

Thin hair, brittle nails, and dry skin: People with a slow metabolism also have low thyroid hormone levels. Low thyroid levels cause issues related to skin, hair, and nail.

Benefits of Being Hydrated

Improved brain performance

Even mild dehydration affects memory, mood, concentration, and reaction time. Adding just a few glasses of water to your daily intake can stabilise your emotions and even combat feelings of anxiety.

Digestive harmony

Your body needs water, which helps break down the fibre and keep your digestive tract proper. Without enough water, you may experience irregular bowel movements, gas, bloating, heartburn, and other discomforts that can impact your daily activities.

More energy

Dehydration slows down circulation and affects the flow of oxygen to the brain. In addition, due to a lack of fluids, the heart has to work harder to pump oxygen throughout its body. Also, this makes you feel tired, sluggish, and less focused.

Weight loss/management

Drinking a lot of water boosts your metabolism, which helps in weight loss. In addition, water helps break down fibre, facilitating digestive functions and improving bowel movement. For example, suppose you drink glasses of water before

each meal. In that case, it will substantially reduce body weight, body mass index, and body composition. That is because water will reduce your appetite, enhance the calorie-burning process, suppress your appetite, boost your metabolism, and make exercise easier and more efficient, contributing to results on the scale.

Decreased joint pain

The cartilages in our joints are 80% water. Thus staying hydrated helps the joints remain well-lubricated, which helps reduce friction. This results in smooth movement of joints and fewer aches and pains.

Kidney stone prevention

Water dilutes the concentration of minerals in your urinary tract and even helps flush out harmful bacteria from your bladder, thus preventing the accumulation of kidney stones.

Healthier heart

Dehydration can cause an imbalance of vital minerals like potassium and sodium, which are crucial to your heart health. In addition, due to dehydration, electrolyte level is also decreased, negatively affecting your heart health.

Improved detoxification

Proper intake of water supports your body's natural detoxification systems. Therefore, removing waste and harmful substances through urination, breathing, perspiration, and bowel movements.

Fewer headaches

Dehydration causes the brain to contract away from the skull, which leads to headaches and migraines in some individuals. However, being well-hydrated may help in keeping head pain away.

5 Water-Rich Foods That Help You Stay Hydrated

Watermelon

As per USDA, per 100 grams of serving, watermelon contains:
Water: 91.4 g
Calories: 30 kcal
Protein: 0.61 g
Carbohydrate: 7.55 g
Fibre: 0.4 g
Magnesium: 10 mg
Vitamin C: 8.1 mg
Vitamin A: 28 ug

Due to high water content, watermelons have a very low-calorie density. Studies say that foods with low-calorie density are helpful for weight loss by promoting fullness and reducing appetite. Furthermore, watermelon is a rich source of antioxidants, such as lycopene. This compound helps reduce oxidative damage to cells, which is the root cause of ailments such as heart disease and diabetes.

Strawberries

As per USDA, per 100 grams of serving contains:
Water: 91 g
Calories: 32 kcal
Protein: 0.67 g
Carbohydrate: 7.68 g
Fibre: 2 g
Magnesium: 13 mg
Calcium: 16 mg
Manganese: 0.368 mg
Vitamin C: 58.8 mg
Folate: 27 ug
Strawberries provide lots of fibre and are a rich source of disease-fighting antioxidants, vitamins and minerals, including vitamin C, folate and manganese.

According to studies, including strawberries in your daily diet has been shown to reduce inflammation and help in protecting against heart disease, diabetes, Alzheimer's and various types of cancer.

You can include strawberries in your diet by blending them into smoothies or adding them into salads.

Cucumber

As per USDA, per 100 grams of serving contains:
Water: 95.2 g
Calories: 15 kcal
Protein: 0.65 g
Carbohydrate: 3.63 g
Fibre: 0.5 g
Magnesium: 13 mg
Calcium: 16 mg
Manganese: 0.368 mg
Potassium: 147 mg
Folate: 7 ug
Vitamin C: 2.8 mg
Cucumbers are the lowest in calories compared to other water-rich vegetables, and the high water content makes them refreshing.

According to a study, you can have a large portion of cucumbers without adding a significant number of calories to your diet, which is also helpful in maintaining weight. You can add cucumbers to your diet by adding them to salads

and sandwiches.

Celery

As per USDA, per 100 grams of serving contains:
Water: 95.4 g
Calories: 14 kcal
Protein: 0.69 g
Carbohydrate: 2.97 g
Fibre: 1.6 g
Magnesium: 11 mg
Calcium: 40 mg
Potassium: 260 mg
Manganese: 0.103 mg
Vitamin C: 3.1 mg
Vitamin A: 22 ug
Vitamin K: 29.3 ug
Folate: 36 ug

Celery may be a beneficial weight-loss food because of its high water content and low calories. In addition, celery contains fibre and many essential nutrients like calcium, magnesium, vitamin K and potassium, which are beneficial for our health.

According to studies, vitamin K and potassium protect against heart disease, cancer, and bone-related diseases like osteoporosis.

It's pretty simple to add celery into your diet, as you can eat it in any form, either raw or cooked. Also, you can add it to soups and salads or eat celery sticks with healthy dips such as hummus or Greek yoghurt.

Tomatoes

As per USDA, per 100 grams of serving contains:
Water: 94.5 g
Calories: 18 kcal
Protein: 0.88 g
Carbohydrate: 3.89 g
Fibre: 1.2 g
Magnesium: 11 mg
Calcium: 10 mg
Potassium: 260 mg
Vitamin C: 13.7 mg
Vitamin A: 42 ug
Vitamin K: 7.9 ug
Folate: 15 ug

The high amount of water in tomatoes contributes to their low-calorie content. Tomatoes have a rich nutritional profile and provide many health benefits such as maintaining a good heart and boosting immunity. They are also high in fibre and contain disease-fighting antioxidants, such as lycopene.

According to a study, lycopene helps lower the risk of heart disease and prevent prostate cancer development. You can include tomatoes in your diet by making soups, sauces, salad, salsa and several other dishes.

Conclusion

Dehydration can be the primary cause of various diseases that you struggle with. It impairs the body's ability to create and burn energy. Furthermore, it also affects glucose transportation across cell membranes and reduces insulin sensitivity. Adequate water consumption also benefits your kidneys as it helps remove toxins from your body. In addition, it also aids weight loss by reducing hunger and improving the breakdown of fats and other lipids to generate energy. Hence, cellular hydration is vital for the body's optimal functioning. So, hydrate yourself with fruits and vegetables that contain enough water. You should also drink ample water, coconut water, and other hydrating beverages.

COURTESY: HEALTHIFYME

BRIEFLY HEALTH NEWS

Whole30 Diet: What you need to know about the challenging weight loss routine

Holistic healthcare experts no longer propagate restrictive eating for weight loss – however, according to a new plan, resetting eating patterns could be key to improving overall health. The Whole30 diet created by Melissa and Dallas Hartwig is one such routine that can help regulate the foods that one eats to support weight loss.

What is the Whole30 diet plan?

The Whole30 diet is a 30-minute elimination regimen that offers several psychological and physical health benefits. In 2009, it was created by sports nutritionists and aims at resetting metabolism. This diet advocates abstinence from the following foods:

- Soy, Added sugars and sweeteners, Grains, Legumes, Dairy, Alcohol

This diet is centred on the notion that the above foods can have a negative on health and fitness. In the long run, abstaining from it can improve overall health.

How does the Whole30 plan work?

The Whole30 diet is based on the premise that one should eliminate unhealthy foods from the diet and gradually reintroduce them after noticing the effect on the body. The diet plan has tight guidelines and cheating is not permitted during the elimination phase. If one cheats, it is advised to start again from the top.

Abstinence from the start can help the body reset without being exposed to foods that cause gut disruptions, hormonal imbalance, and inflammation. It does not require portion control or measuring calories.

What are the health benefits of Whole30 diet?

After 30 days, one can expect the following health benefits:

- Improved sleep, Better athletic performance, High energy levels, Appetite control
 - Diminished desire for unhealthy food
- On the downside, this diet can be difficult to adhere to and may not support sustainable weight loss as well. One could also be at a heightened risk of nutritional deficiencies because of abstinence from legumes, grains, and dairy.

Do your periods end in just a day or two? Something could be seriously wrong

The menstrual cycle is one of the most interesting and essential parts of a woman's life – from body weight to pregnancy to mood swings and toxin management, this monthly cycle controls it all. They start when a girl hits puberty, usually around 9 to 14 years of age, and last for four to eight days depending on several factors. But periods become a cause of concern when too short or too long.

On the one hand, many women may end up celebrating for a short period, and little do they realise that it could be a consequence of either an underlying health problem or poor lifestyle choices. But the good news is that these conditions could be rectified easily, without the need for medication.

Some of the most common causes of a short menstrual cycle are:

- Aggressive workouts that hamper hormone release during ovulation
- Hormonal imbalance, Polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS), Thyroid disorders, Tuberculosis of the uterus, Poor ovulation, Effect of medication like blood thinners, blood control pills, or steroids, Stress,

What to do if periods last for only one or two days?

Periods become shorter when the body stops making ample levels of estrogen – a hormone that builds the lining of the uterus known as the endometrium. When estrogen levels go low, the endometrium is not thick enough and blood flow becomes less. This means that the periods would not be as long as they would normally be. This can also happen when one just hits puberty or is nearing menopause.

How long do normal periods last?

The duration and consistency of every woman's menstrual cycle can vary depending on her body weight and comorbidities if any. Normally, periods last between four to eight days. But if they are shorter than usual or light, do not panic and check with a gynaecologist.

Understanding the Protein Weight Loss Mechanism

PARUL DUBE

Protein isn't a new word in our health vocabulary. We have learnt its importance as the building block of our body during school biology lessons. Now it is a buzzword among fitness professionals and enthusiasts. But, of course, protein can be controversial too, as in how much you should consume, who should not be consuming any, whether it can be helpful, and more. But we are here to tell you everything you need to know about protein and its association with weight loss.

The big question is – does protein help you lose weight? First, let's dial it back to the basics for a bit. Starting with, what exactly is protein? Protein is essentially something that gives your body the energy it needs, along with the help it needs to build muscle mass. Proteins contain amino acids, which can be essential or non-essential. Our body produces the non-essential ones, but the essential amino acids are what we need to consume since they do not get produced naturally.

Types of Protein

It is vital to understand where you can get your protein intake. There are many different protein sources, which can get confusing, especially if you have any dietary restrictions or allergies. The main idea is to know where you can get the optimum amount of protein

without compromising on other factors.

Protein is of two types:

Animal-Based Protein

These come from animal products, mainly dairy-based products such as milk and yoghurt, and animal meat such as chicken, mutton, pork, etc. These get considered complete proteins primarily because they contain all nine of the essential amino acids that one needs to function.

Plant-Based Protein

These proteins get derived from plants, from peas and soy to chickpeas and brown rice. Unfortunately, these are incomplete proteins because they typically lack at least one critical amino acid your body requires.

Ways to Use Protein

You should ideally consume 0.8 grams of protein per kilogram of your body weight. So, weighing around 60 kg, a minimum of 60 grams of protein should be ideal. However, this also depends on other factors like your activity levels, body size, age, etc. For example, older people, more active people, and those who are pregnant or breastfeeding require more protein.

To complement your weight loss journey, increase your protein intake to around 1.6-2.2 grams per kilogram of body weight. You can also calculate



it by keeping protein around 25-30% of your daily caloric intake. It will help you balance the amount of protein you consume while ensuring your intake is not too high. Protein is also best when you consume it in tandem with exercise.

It would help if you had protein daily; it helps repair and grow your cells. Protein deficiency is very rare but can happen to you if you are perhaps on a plant-based diet. Also, suppose you are not consuming nearly enough protein per day. In that case, it can be dangerous to your health, so supplement your diet with added protein. However, a diet that is extremely high in protein can also strain your liver and kidneys and cause osteoporosis because it causes your body to lose calcium. So, yes, protein can aid in weight loss.

Protein's Weight Loss Advantages

Keeps You Satiated: According to studies, protein is a satiating macronutrient. It helps you stay full for longer and in the process and also reduces your portion sizes.

Preserves Lean Mass: Protein is beneficial if you go into a caloric deficit diet. However, it only happens if you exercise alongside your low-calorie diet. Still, if you are consuming protein often, it helps preserve your body's lean mass during these periods.

It Increases Food's Thermic Effect: Your body needs time and energy to digest your meal, break it down, and transform it into energy. Therefore, the expense of breaking down food, essentially the thermic effect of food, is relatively high in protein.

Protein Does Not Get Stored as Fat: Protein makes it hard for your body to

store that excess energy as fat, which is helpful for those trying to lose weight. However, something noteworthy is that protein comes in a package. So when you're eating something high in protein, you're also eating all the other things, be it saturated fats, fibre, or sodium. For example, a good-sized steak will offer you a good amount of protein, approximately 30 grams, in one serving. However, it will also deliver a good amount of saturated fats alongside. On the other hand, a serving of lentils will provide you with an ideal amount of protein and fibre without having any sodium or saturated fats. It is why it is of utmost importance to choose carefully what you put inside your body.

The HealthifyMe Note

Protein has many benefits for those who want to lose weight. Not only does it help you stay full for longer, but it also means that you consume less throughout the day. In addition, it preserves your lean body mass and increases the thermic effect of the food you are eating. Finally, protein consumption also helps make it more difficult for your body to store the excess food as fat.

Foods to Try

You can incorporate several foods into your daily routine to ensure that you have the correct amount of protein in your diet. Here are a few foods you can introduce to help your weight loss journey:

- Poultry and seafood
- Dairy foods, but in moderation (around 1-2 servings a day)
- Legumes like beans, lentils, soybeans, and their products (tofu, tempeh, etc.)
- Nuts and seeds
- Whole grains like quinoa, brown rice, etc.
- Vegetables like corn, broccoli, asparagus

Limit your consumption of red meat, and stay away from processed food and cold cuts entirely. These usually come with a package of saturated fats and excess sodium content.

Note

Protein has excellent benefits for those who are looking to lose weight. However, it is vital to remember that you shouldn't just eat protein but consider a balanced meal. To get to a healthier you, ensure eating more protein-rich meals and regular daily exercise.

Summary

Keep one thing in mind as you navigate your weight loss journey. Up the protein, but keep it moderate. As is the case with everything, don't go insane. The best approach is to keep things in moderation and get frequent exercise. Always remember to be flexible, pay attention to experts' advice, and most importantly, your body.

COURTESY: HEALTHIFYME

BJP's Triumph: From Heartland Glory to the Valley's Story – Celebrating Wins and Paving the Path for Progress!

J1 NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, DEC 4

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) clinched significant victories in the assembly elections held on December 3, 2023, securing triumphs in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Chhattisgarh. This resounding mandate reflects the unwavering trust and support of the people in the BJP's vision and leadership.

To celebrate these monumental wins, exuberant festivities unfolded at the BJP party headquarters J-53, Jawahar Nagar, Srinagar. Party leaders and supporters converged in an atmosphere brimming with enthusiasm and joy, marked by firecrackers, sweet distributions, and resounding slogans echoing the sentiment, "Teen Pe Bazi Mari Ha Ab Kashmir Ki Bari Ha" (We have



won three; now it's Kashmir's turn).

Expressing gratitude to the voters for their overwhelming mandate, the BJP leadership acknowledged the responsibility bestowed upon the party to uphold the trust placed in them. These victories underscore the BJP's commitment to inclusive governance, development, and progress in every

region it represents.

Looking ahead with determination and optimism, the BJP sets its sights on serving the people of Kashmir. The party aims to engage with the populace, understand their concerns, and strive to bring progress and development to the region, aligning with the ideals of a united, prosperous India.

Keshav Chopra calls on Lt Governor JKUT



J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 4

Chairman Samvedna Society and Social Activist Keshav Chopra called on Lt Governor JKUT Manoj Sinha and briefed him about the activities and work done by the Society for the needy sections, Patients, Youths, Divyang Jan's, Women's. Keshav Chopra also lauded the LG administration for organising Cricket Matches in Jammu and said that the People of Jammu

and Kashmir are grateful to LG JKUT Manoj Sinha and his team for these events. Keshav Chopra also briefed Lt Governor about the future endeavours of the Society and said that Samvedna is committed to work for the common masses.

The Lt Governor said that the top priority of his government is to ensure that basic facilities and services are delivered to the common man in an efficient and time bound manner.

Prominent political and social activist Dr. Naqeeb Raja joins Apni Party



J1 NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, DECEMBER 4

A prominent political and social activist from Srinagar's Chanapora constituency, Dr. Naqeeb Raja, formally joined Apni Party today during an event at the party headquarters in Srinagar.

On this occasion, the party president, Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari, along with other esteemed party leaders, gave a warm welcome to the new entrant. According to a press release issued here, Syed Mohammad Altaf

Bukhari, while extending a warm welcome to Dr. Naqeeb Raja into the party fold, said, "I wholeheartedly welcome you to Apni Party, and I am sure your joining will further strengthen the party cadre in the constituency."

He added, "It gives me immense pleasure to see experienced political and social activists and leaders aligning themselves with the Apni Party in every corner of Jammu and Kashmir. This is a clear-cut indication that people trust the party's unambiguous agenda and policies.

I am confident that together we can lead Jammu and Kashmir towards new levels of prosperity and development."

Besides the party president, the prominent leaders present on the occasion included the party's general secretary, Rafi Ahmad Mir, media advisor Farooq Andrabi, youth provincial president Kashmir Khalid Rathore, party in charge of Chanapora constituency and ward member Mohammad Ashraf Dar, zonal president Chanapora Aijaz Ahmad Khan, and others.

Poster making competition organized by GDC Ramgarh on Wildlife Conservation Day

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 4

Govt. Degree College Ramgarh celebrated Wildlife Conservation Day on 4th of December, 2023. During the celebrations, poster making competition was held. The whole event was organized by Dept. of EVS, GDC Ramgarh. The event was organized under the able supervision and guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Geetanjali Andotra, the principal of the college. The organizing committee of the event commemorating to be held during Wildlife Conservation Day included Dr. Aditi Khajuria, Prof. Brham Dutt and Prof. Sandeep Kumari.

Ms. Akanksha Kangothra, faculty in Dept. of EVS, gave insight on the Wildlife Conservation and its importance. The goal of Wildlife Conservation is to ensure the safety or survival of Wild Species and to educate the people on living sustainably with



these species. The poster making competition was adjudged by Dr. Aditi Khajuria, Prof. Brham Dutt and Prof. Sandeep Kumari. The first position was secured by Ms.

Jagmeet Kour of Sem-III, the second position was secured by Reema Sharma of Sem-I and the third position was secured by Komal Devi of Sem-I.

Devender Seth inaugurates NR Boutique in Trikuta Nagar, Jammu



J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 4

Vishal Khatri Sabha J&K President Devender Seth today inaugurated Neelam Raghu Vaid's NR Boutique in Trikuta Nagar, Jammu. The boutique promises to mix modern and classic styles in both Indian and Western fashions. Neelam Raghu Vaid, the boutique's owner, is excited to offer high-quality clothes and accessories. "We've handpicked items for people who want elegant, comfy, and timeless fashion. Whether you're after a fancy evening outfit or something casual, NR Boutique has you covered," said Vaid. "We've clothes for women and kids, and we'll even help you find the perfect outfit. Shopping at NR boutique is a pleasant experience, with the latest fashion always in stock," she added.

Seth congratulating Vaid appreciated her

efforts for taking such a big step and gave his best wishes to her. He expressed his hope that the boutique will soon become a popular destination for fashion lovers in Jammu. He said that such initiatives will help in the development of the city and will generate employment opportunities. He also said that the boutique should provide quality products at reasonable prices so that the citizens get the best value for their money. He also urged the citizens to help in the development of the city and make it a better place to live. He said that it is our duty to make Jammu a beautiful and vibrant place to live. He said that boutique will be a great addition to the city and will be beneficial to the citizens. Customers can enjoy the latest trends in fashion, from traditional and ethnic to Western wear, at the boutique.

Shiv Sena holds protest demanding to push Rohingyas out of Jammu



J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 4

Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit, expressing deep concern over the increasing criminal cases in the state, trafficking of women, drug smuggling, kidnapping, called for a thorough investigation of Rohingyas and Bangladeshis residing illegally in Jammu and Kashmir and demand to push them out of Jammu.

Led by Manish Sahni, president Shiv Sena J&K, the Shiv Sainiks gathered at Indira Chowk in Jammu city held a strong demonstration holding placards reading "Rohingyas Quit Jammu", "Throw out women trafficking", "Rohingyas presence Sound alarm for security" protest strongly.

State Chief Manish Sahni said that Rohingyas are infiltrating the Indian and traveling thousands of

KM to reach the sensitive area of Jammu is a matter of deep investigation. He said that it has been proved that the crime figures of the country and state where Rohingyas reach increase.

In Jammu also, cases of crime, theft, kidnapping, drug addiction and trafficking of women have increased in the last few years. Recently, Jammu and Kashmir Police arrested three women from Bathindi, which revealed that they were brought to Kashmir for trafficking.

Even before this, a case of selling women and getting them married to local people had come to light in Kashmir, the domicile of that woman was also made.

Sahni said that Jammu and Kashmir is a sensitive area, bringing foreign women here and marry them with local people can prove to be part of a

well-planned conspiracy and a serious threat to the country's security. Sahni said that some local people are also helping them knowingly or unknowingly and out of greed for money, should also be investigated.

Sahni has demanded the Jammu and Kashmir Police and Intelligence agencies to identify the Rohingyas and Bangladeshis and push them out of the border of Jammu and Kashmir and the country. Sahni said in a warning manner that if the police administration does not take any concrete action, then Shiv Sainik will drive them out of Jammu in its own style. On this occasion, Meenakshi Chhibber, Rakesh Gupta, G I Singh, Balwat Singh, Raj Singh, Mangu Ram, Rajinder Sehgal, Pooja Devi, Jagbir, Vishal Singh, Sohan Lal and many others were present.

Badyal distributes warm clothes among students of GHSS Bhatodi



J1 NEWS SERVICE
KATHUA, DEC 4

GHSS Bhatodi zone Malhar distt. Kathua today principal Romesh Chander Badyal distributed warm clothes, sweater to the most deserving students of the institution from 1st to 11th classes.

As the cool weather is prevailing in this area so keeping in view the weather

conditions sweaters were provided needy students.

Earlier shoes were also distributed to the poor students in this session 2023-24.

The expenditure was met out of school mutual benefit fund the total no of students benefited were 55. All the staff members were present during this event.

Congress secured 10 lacs votes more than BJP, vote share is intact: Congress

JAMMU, DEC 4

Congress has secured ten lac votes more than BJP in the final vote count of four states and its vote percentage too remained the same as compared to last assembly elections, in the three states where it lost to BJP in the final tally of MLAs.

Quoting the official figures of Assembly results of four states, JKPC Media Incharge & Senior Vice President Ravinder Sharma said that BJP got 4.80 Crore votes whereas Congress secured 4.91 Crore votes in the final count of votes in four states. Similarly the Congress vote percentage has remained intact and has not gone down as being projected, although BJP won with a marginal edge in vote percentage, in three states of M.P., Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan.

Reacting to the poll outcome of just concluded Assembly elections in

four states, he said that Congress lost 3 states but ended up getting up more than 10 lakh votes more than BJP!

Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh experienced a marginal defeat by 2% and 4%, respectively.

In MP BJP got 48% but remember that Congress also got 40.5%.

He said that in Madhya Pradesh Congress got 1,75,64,353 votes and BJP 2,11,13,278 in this elections, while in Rajasthan Congress got 1,56,66,731 votes and BJP 1,65,23,568. In Telangana Congress got 92,35,792 votes and BJP- 32,57,511. In Chhattisgarh Congress got 66,02,586 votes and BJP 72,34,968., he said quoting figures, which reflect marginal edge for BJP over congress.

Ravinder Sharma has hailed the rank and file of Congress Party for fighting the Assembly elections in four states with great enthusiasm and said

Congress cadres of these states fought well and they deserve all applause. He also thanked the people for voting in favour of Congress Party especially in Telangana who despite the hectic campaign of BJP and BSR exercised their franchise in favour of the secular party, adding that party accepts the peoples' verdict with humility and respect, however congress shall analyze the result.

These Elections were fight between the Secular and divisive forces in the Country in which Congress Party fought with great vigor and vitality, it will continue its fight against communal, fascist forces and their agenda. He said that Congress party will also continue to remain steadfast to serve the people to the best of its ability, party said.

He further said that BJP has nothing to sell in J&K as it has brought miseries to each and every section of people.

Sham Lal Gupta hails BJP's dominance in State Polls

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 4

The recent landslide victories secured by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh have been heralded as a pivotal turning point, setting the stage for a resolute trajectory toward the 2024 general elections. This triumph, as heralded by BJP's Sham Lal Gupta, Chairman of the Anticrime Bureau (ACB) NGO, resonates as a testament to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's indispensable leadership, steering Bharat towards prosperity across various facets of the nation's growth.

Gupta, in his reflections on the electoral successes, fervently underlined the unwavering support demonstrated by the populace, showcasing a decisive dismissal of divisive politics. He emphasized the populace's aversion to the Congress party's direct attacks on Sanatan Dharma, noting that these rebuffs only fortified the BJP's resolve to work tirelessly for the welfare of

the people. According to Gupta, this strong backing is propelling Bharat toward global recognition as an economic powerhouse, rooted in its cultural ethos.

The comfortable victories in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Chhattisgarh were attributed to the electorate's preference for development agendas over divisive rhetoric. Gupta highlighted the electorate's yearning for progress and their unequivocal rejection of the Congress' narratives. The resounding electoral outcomes resolutely signal the nation's inclination toward development, repudiating any politics rooted in animosity or division.

Drawing attention to noteworthy individual performances in Chhattisgarh, Gupta underscored the significance of these state elections as a pivotal precursor to the impending Lok Sabha elections in 2024. He reiterated that the triumphs bear witness to the pro-people policies of the Narendra Modi-led government, ensuring that welfare schemes designed

for the underprivileged are reaching them effectively.

In light of the evolving political landscape, Gupta's insights reflect a prevailing sentiment that underlines Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership as pivotal for Bharat to actualize its full potential and emerge as a formidable global force. The BJP now stands poised as a frontrunner for the impending 2024 elections, fortified by its recent electoral victories and bolstered by a platform centered on progress, unity, and inclusive development.

The stage is undeniably set for a significant political metamorphosis, wherein the BJP's track record and commitment to national welfare stand as cornerstones, positioning the party as the frontrunner to lead Bharat into a new era of growth, progress, and global recognition. The resolute mandate expressed by the populace in these states serves as a clarion call for a future characterized by progress, development, and unity under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Bharatiya Janata Party.

Declare Rajouri Day as Holiday: Vibodh Gupta

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 4

BJP leader calls on LG, submit 13 point demands, applaud Sinha for changing perception of J&K in the world Jammu Demanding declaring of Rajouri Day on April 13 as Holiday for Rajouri District, Former MLC and General Secretary of BJP, J&K Advocate Vibodh Gupta said that on 13 April 1948, Rajouri town was recaptured from the intruders by the heroic action of armed forces assisted by brave citizens of Rajouri we must consider the significance of this day by declaring April 13 as Holiday. Advocate Vibodh Gupta today called on to Hon'ble LG Manoj Sinha and presented 13 point memorandum raising various development demands including declaring April 13 as Holiday in Rajouri, strengthening of VDC, creation of tehsil at Budhal and Doongi, operationalization of KV in Doongi, managing the sanction of project under AMRUT 2.0 for Rajouri, construction of span PSC Girder-Motrable Panjpeer to Badalmang Bridge, J&K Bank Branch at Doongi, opening of Degree College at Dhangri, sanc-



tioning bridge between Sangam Dugwell to New Bus Stand, Appointment of permanent Principal in GMC Rajouri, establishment of New Industrial Zone in Rajouri, sanction of Mother & Child Hospital in Old Hospital Building and timely completion of Akhnoor-Poonch Highway and expediting work on Thanamandi Surankote Road. During the interaction with Hon'ble LG, Gupta said that in order to tackle the recent surge of Pak sponsored militancy related incidents in Rajouri, the local VDC's need to be strengthened and new gun licences should be issued to the locals in these affected areas besides renewal of old licences on priority. He briefed Hon'ble LG that two new Tehsils in Budhal and Doongi areas of Rajouri were not made operational and it is the long pending demand of the people of these areas. He apprised that a Kendra

Vidyalaya was sanctioned for Doongi, Rajouri, and a principal was also appointed. He urged Hon'ble LG to ensure that KV's are operationalised at the earliest. Vibodh said that a project under AMRUT 2.0 has been sent to Delhi for approval. He urged him to take up the issue with the Union Minister for Jal Shakti to prioritise the work and expedite the execution of this project for the welfare of the people. Demanding intervention of Hon'ble LG into construction of 160-metre span PSC Girder Motrable Panjpeer to Badalmang Bridge, Vibodh said that it was sanctioned by the Ministry of Road, Transport and Highways, Government of India in 2016 to alleviate traffic congestion in Rajouri city from the heavy vehicular movements but the project could not be completed due to objections raised by the Army Station HQ Rajouri. He requested

Hon'ble LG to intervene and ensure the successful completion of this critically important project for the benefit of the public. Demanding J&K Bank Branch at Doongi and Degree College for Dhangri, Vibodh said that Doongi area of Rajouri is situated adjoining to the Line of Control (L.O.C), and the residents of this area have endured significant hardships during the past and they deserve to be given J&K Bank branch. He added that people of Dhangri have been persistently requesting the establishment of a Government Degree College for their area from a long time and the demand is genuine to be fulfilled. Vibodh also requested to sanction a bridge between Sangam Dugwell to the New Bus Stand with approach road to Vedanta Bridge besides posting of Permanent Principal in Government Medical College Rajouri. He also

demanded to establish a new industrial zone in Rajouri, equipped with modern facilities.

"There is also need to sanction a Mother & Child hospital for Rajouri and this can function at the old building of the Rajouri Hospital", he demanded. He has also demanded timely completion of the Akhnoor-Poonch highway as per the DPR as this road besides being lifeline of the entire population of the area, has immense strategic importance.

He further requested Hon'ble LG to issue direction to concerned agencies and officials to expedite the work on Thanamandi - Surankote road via Buffleaz. Expressing satisfaction over the visionary approach of Hon'ble LG towards changing the perception about J&K in the rest of world, Vibodh said that they are grateful to LG for tireless efforts in engaging with the people of J&K towards early solution of their various problems.

He said that Hon'ble LG has inspired renewed confidence and brought positive changes on the ground through his initiatives. He thanked Hon'ble LG for his tireless efforts in championing their cause.

J&K will have to initiate work on widening of blind curves to avoid road mishaps: Tony

JNEWS SERVICE
SUCHETGARH, DECEMBER 4

Taking a strong stance on road safety, JKPC General Secretary and DDC Suchetgarh, Taranjit Singh Tony today initiated development work on widening blind curves in the border village of Suchetgarh constituency. This move comes amidst alarming statistics highlighting the prevalence of fatal road accidents in the region.

Addressing the gathering here today, the senior Congress leader said every year, hundreds of lives are lost on our roads. Tragically, this figure often surpasses the number of lives claimed by terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir, he said, adding that we cannot turn a blind eye to this silent tragedy any longer.

He emphasized the need for the J&K government to take immediate and decisive measures to curb this growing menace. "Widening blind curves is a crucial step in mitigating road accidents," he said. "But this is just the begin-



ning. We need a comprehensive plan that addresses reckless driving, poor road infrastructure, and inadequate emergency response systems."

Lauding the initiative undertaken in Suchetgarh, the leader hailed it as a pioneering example for the entire region. "This is the first of its kind in Suchetgarh Block," he pointed out. "It proves that true leadership prioritizes the well-being of its people over political posturing."

Drawing a stark comparison, Tony highlighted the difference between "educated" and "less-educated" representation. "Those who previously represented Suchetgarh never even considered this critical

issue. This stark contrast underscores the importance of electing individuals who possess the vision and knowledge to address our challenges effectively," he added.

In a passionate appeal to the public, the senior leader urged people not to fall prey into divisive politics. "Choose leaders based on their qualifications and commitment to your safety and security. Only then can we build a brighter future free from the fear of losing loved ones on our roads."

Prominent among those who were present include Sarpanch Shashi Bhagat, Tilak Raj Bhagat, Roshan Bhagat, and youth leader Mandeep Choudhary.

NIT Srinagar gets over Rs. 1 Cr funding for 52 R&D Projects from JKST&IC, SERB, NBHM

JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, DEC 4

In a significant move to boost its research and development initiatives, the National Institute of Technology (NIT), Srinagar has got funding exceeding Rs. 1 crore from three prominent agencies of the country like JKST&IC, SERB and NBHM.

The Jammu and Kashmir Science, Technology, and Innovation Council (JKST&IC), the Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB), and the National Board for Higher Mathematics (NBHM) have collectively granted financial support to NIT Srinagar, marking a significant milestone for the institute's commitment to advancing research and development in the region.

The Institute has received approval for 49

Research and Development projects from the JKST&IC, 2 projects from the SERB, Department of Science and Technology, and one project from NBHM-DAE India.

JKST&IC recently sanctioned 49 R&D projects from NIT Srinagar, as recommended by the Technical Committee, for sponsorship during the fiscal years 2023-24 and 2024-25.

The initial installment for these 49 projects, amounting to Rs. 67,68,800, approximately 40% of the sanctioned grant for the first year, will be disbursed to NIT Srinagar for further distribution among the respective Principal Investigators (PIs) of these projects.

In addition to this accomplishment, three faculty members, namely Dr. Amit Kumar, from the Electronics and Communication Engineering (ECE)

department, Dr. Sandeep Samantaray from the Civil Engineering Department, have secured prestigious SIRE (SERB International Research Experience) fellowships for a three-year duration. Furthermore, Dr. Mehraj Ahmad Lone from the Department of Mathematics has obtained a prestigious project from the National Board for Higher Mathematics (NBHM) under the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE).

Dr. Amit's project, titled 'Design and Implementation of 5G MIMO/Array Antenna with Spatial Diversity and Beam-forming,' will be funded by SERB DST, Government of India, under the 'Empowerment and Equity Opportunities for Excellence in Science (EMEQU)' for three years.

The project, with a total budget of approximately 30

lakhs, aims to enhance the performance of existing 5G MIMO antennas by implementing parameters.

Dr. Samantaray's project, titled 'Assessing the Impact of Sediment Load on Riverbank Erosion and Predictive Analysis of Suspended Sediment Load in the Jhelum River Basin,' will be funded by SERB DST, with a total budget ranging from 30 to 35 lakhs over the next three years.

Similarly, Dr. Mehraj Ahmad Lone's project, titled 'Minimal Surfaces and Their Construction by Different Techniques,' has received approval from NBHM-DAE India. The total funding for the project is Rs. 15,97,400 for a three-year duration.

Director NIT Srinagar extended his heartfelt congratulations to the faculty members who secured prestigious projects for the

Institute. The director highlighted their role in providing a crucial platform for young faculty to delve into cutting-edge research conducted in universities and institutions across the globe.

"This funding injection is poised to propel NIT Srinagar's R&D endeavors, allowing the institute to further enhance its academic and research capabilities," the director said.

The director said the support from these esteemed agencies underscores the recognition of NIT Srinagar as a hub for innovative and impactful research initiatives.

"The faculty members will also meet the expectations of the agencies and deliver quality outputs from the research that will be beneficial to society, particularly for J&K," the director added.

Delegation of Yuva World Brahman Federation calls on Lt Governor



JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 4

A delegation of Yuva World Brahman Federation under leadership of their President Advocate Dakshesh Sharma calls on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan. During the interaction with the Lt Governor, the members of the delegation commended the steps initiated by the UT administration and the Government of India for boosting the pace of development in J&K. They said that the UT administration led by the

Lt. Governor has instilled the feeling of equitable development and one ness among people of all communities. The members of World Brahman Federation J&K chapter briefed the Lt. Governor about the activities of organisation in detail. Further demands pertaining to the Brahman Community including constituting the Brahman Kalyan Board, Scholarships to Brahman Scholars, Pujaris and also steps should be taken for rehabilitation of demolished temples particularly in Kashmir as well as in Jammu. The Lieuten-

ant Governor gave patient hearing to them and assured that every possible effort will be done to meet the grievances raised by the members of the World Brahman Federation J&K. All the members of the delegation expressed deep sense of gratitude to Lt. Governor by offering a statue of Goddess Mahakali. Others who were present are Radhey Shayam Sharma BDC Rajpura, Sarpanch Ajeet Raj, Sarpanch Arpan Pangotra, Acharya Sita Ram Shastri, Atul Raina Executive member J&K High Court.

GDC Surankote hosts one-day international seminar on "My Constitution My Pride"

JNEWS SERVICE
SURANKOTE, DEC 4

The Department of Political Science, NSS unit, and Women Development Cell of GDC Surankote jointly organized a noteworthy one-day international seminar centered on the theme "My Constitution My Pride," along with a valedictory function. The meticulous coordination of this seminar was under the adept leadership of Principal Prof. (Dr.) Rani Mughal. The event was honored by the presence of son of soil Jenab Sheikh Zulfaqr Azad (JKPS) Dy. Director Police Academy who served as the chief guest, along with esteemed guests of honour including Prof. (Dr.) Jasbir Singh Principal SKCGDC Poonch, Advocate Tabassum Mughal from Malaysia, Prof. Ghulam Abbas HOD Botany GDC Poonch, Prof. Asadullah Khan HOD Chemistry GDC Poonch, Mr. Bashir Mughal and Arif Hussain Kazmi. Besides, Dr. Khalil Ahmed HOD Urdu of GDC Poonch, Prof. Khaliq Ahmed HOD Sociology GPG Rajouri, Prof. Aafia Zaman and Prof.

Waseem ul Haq duo from GDC Poonch graced the occasion as special guests.

The program kicked off with a traditional lamp lighting ceremony conducted by the distinguished guests. NSS volunteers led by Dr. Syed Wajahat Hussain presented the College Tarana. Dr. Musarat Jabeen delivered the opening address extending a warm welcome to the esteemed dignitaries. Prof. Adnan Ali Shah skillfully hosted the entire event. Prof. Fatima NSS officer presented a comprehensive report on the diverse activities conducted under the initiative "My Constitution My Pride."

Jenab Sheikh Zulfaqr Azad (JKPS) Dy. Director Police Academy delivered an expert talk emphasized the importance of aim, belief and expectations and all these things are to be controlled by faith. During challenging times, one must always be calm, energetic and in total control of self. On should not be prisoner of past and desires as they are going to fail you in every ground. It is important for the students in particular to have



clarity of thought, passion for perfection and there must be a voice a positive thought to cancel your negative thoughts.

Advocate Tabassum Mughal in her brief address discussed about the preamble of the constitution. She outlined the fundamental values, objectives and guiding principles upon which our

constitution is based. Prof. (Dr.) Jasbir Singh in his short speech discussed his tenure in the college especially the NAAC accreditation. He emphasized that there should be a healthy teacher relationship. He also emphasized that students must adhere to the values and respect their teachers. Dr. Ghulam Mustafa lecturer Urdu show-

ed his poetic talent by reciting verses dedicated to respected Principal Prof. Dr. Rani Mughal encapsulating her personality through Urdu poetry.

In her presidential address, Principal Prof. (Dr.) Rani Mughal emphasized that for our rights we should not usurp the rights of others and advocated unity rather than division. She underscored that we must focus more on our duties than our rights. She also thanked teaching as well as non-teaching members for the success of month long "My constitution My pride" activities and the grand valedictory function of the year. The Program culminated with the felicitation ceremony in which mementos and certificates were given to the participants and the dignitaries. Pertinent to mention that Amrit Vatika and Girls' common room were officially inaugurated by Jenab Sheikh Zulfaqr Azad and Advocate Tabassum Mughal respectively in presence of other august guests. Dr. Abdul Karim HOD Computer Applications presented the formal vote of thanks.

CUJ, SBI Bank organize program to Empower Students for Banking Examinations

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 4

Central University Jammu (CUJ), in association with the State Bank of India (SBI), successfully organized a program for graduating students, focusing on strategies and skills essential to crack banking examinations. The Training and Placement office of CUJ under the patronship of Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor organized the program in the university auditorium.

Mr. Sanjeev Mahajan, Regional Manager, Mr. Rahul Gupta, Chief Manager HR along with their team from SBI shared their expertise and insights on the intricacies of banking examinations, offering valuable tips and techniques to enhance students' preparation.

The session featured interactive discussions, allowing students to engage with SBI representatives, ask questions, and gain a deeper understanding of the banking industry's recruitment



processes. Practical aspects of exam preparation were addressed through the facilitation of mock tests and practice sessions, aiding students in familiarizing themselves with the examination pattern.

Senior Officials from SBI provided comprehensive information on career pathways within the banking sector, shedding light on potential opportunities and growth prospects.

Prof. Yashwant Singh, Registrar CUJ expressed enthusiasm and said that we are delighted to associate with the State Bank of India in this endeavor to equip our graduating students with the skills and knowledge needed to succeed in banking examinations. This effort reflects

our commitment to ensuring the holistic development and employability of our students."

Mr. Aushutosh Verma, Chief Manager SBI bank said that we feel proud during this session to provide guidance to the graduating students.

Ms. Swati, Manager HR said that "our aim is to contribute to the development of a skilled workforce by providing guidance and resources to those aspiring to build a career in the banking sector."

This program is a testament to the shared commitment of Central University Jammu and SBI to empower the next generation with the tools needed for success in the dynamic field of banking.

Marengo CIMS Hospitals Ahmedabad has emerged as a preferred center for liver transplants in Western India

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 4

Marengo CIMS Hospital Ahmedabad performs successfully the most complex organ transplants and is recognized for its optimized clinical and survival outcomes. The healthcare provider is one of the few hospitals to offer heart, lung, liver, kidney, and bone marrow transplants under a single roof. With a significant number of liver transplants under its belt, Marengo CIMS Hospital has emerged as a preferred destination in western India for this high-end surgery. The team of liver transplants in the hospital is led by Dr Punit Singla, Clinical Director, Liver Transplant & Surgical Gastroenterology, Marengo Asia Hospitals.



of liver damage. The liver is a vital organ responsible for various functions such as detoxification, metabolism, and the production of proteins. Chronic alcohol abuse can lead to several liver conditions such as fatty liver diseases, alcoholic hepatitis, liver cirrhosis etc.

Assessing the factors that lead to end-stage liver diseases that result in the patients requiring transplants most of the time is alcohol consumption. Besides leading to serious health issues, alcohol consumption is a major cause

liver may be a reversible condition, alcohol abuse can lead to an irreversible stage where nothing else but a transplant remains the only option for a patient. Alcoholic hepatitis is another factor that leads to a transplant. Inflammation caused by excessive alcohol intake can lead to liver failure. There could be an occurrence of jaundice, abdominal pain, and fever that could herald the start of liver failure."

Liver damage can also be caused by factors like viral infections (hepatitis B and C), non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD), autoimmune hepatitis, cirrhosis, and certain genetic conditions.

Liver transplantation is a complex but effective treatment for end-stage liver disease. The success of the procedure depends on various factors, including the patient's overall health, the availability of a suitable donor, and post-transplant care. Liver transplants can offer numerous benefits to patients with acute

liver failure. The surgery is a life-saving treatment for people who suffer from end-stage liver disease for improved quality of life, increased longevity, restoration of liver functions, psychosocial benefits, prevention of further complications, and above all, an opportunity for a fresh start.

Patient survival after deceased donor liver transplant largely mirrored that of graft survival, exceeding 90%. Currently, more than 1800 liver transplants (LT) are performed in India annually. In 2020, over 30 percent of patients listed for transplants had alcohol-related liver disease, more than any other single diagnosis. Most candidates for liver transplantation have irreversible cirrhosis caused by years of heavy alcohol consumption. Other types of liver disease are on the rise, like nonalcoholic fatty liver disease, which is related to obesity, diabetes, and/or metabolic syndrome.

CLAT 2024 Exam Analysis: Surprising Ease and Updated Patterns

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DECEMBER 4



2023 CLAT 2024 had an updated exam pattern with 120 questions and the revised paper pattern had cast clouds of uncertainty however, against everyone's expectations CLAT 2024 paper was easy to moderate. 105+ is a good number of attempts and 90+ is a good score for Top 3 National Law Schools.

Talking about section analysis, The English section was easy. The questions were literature-based and to the point and could be solved by elimination. There were no vocab questions. The General Knowledge: section was easy and maximum questions were passage-based. A few Why questions and questions on world affairs and political events like G 20, Gaza strip, ISRO, and Jallianwala bagh

The Quantitative Aptitude section was easy to moderate and had basic case lets. Questions based

on the population survey were relatively lengthier. There were questions about Ratio & proportion. The Legal Reasoning section was easy with short passages on the Juvenile Justice Act, Void and voidable Marriage, Personal data protection bill etc. One question was case-based and the section mostly had questions on current legal knowledge

The Logical Reasoning section was easy to moderate with a little confusing passage on "production efficiency". The length of the passages was surprisingly short with few questions on inference, strength, and weakness in this section.

"CLAT 2024, despite its revised pattern causing initial uncertainty,

surprisingly offered a relatively easy paper with 120 questions. The updated sections, featuring literature-based English, passage-centric GK, and manageable Legal Reasoning, alongside easy-to-moderate sections like Quantitative Aptitude and Logical Reasoning, present high chances for students to excel, promising favorable scores. To guide aspiring law students, parents, educators understand the post-CLAT landscape and review the previous year's exam trends we will be organising a one-on-one counselling session titled "What Next After CLAT 2024, on 11th December 2023 at 4 PM at our Legal Edge Jammu centre in Gandhi Nagar, Jammu or call 9596925362

said Aakash Kohli Centre Head at LegalEdge by Toprankers, Jammu.

This one-to-one session will guide aspiring law aspirants about their options and paths after the CLAT 2024 examination. Featuring eminent speakers and seasoned professionals in the field of law, the event will offer invaluable insights into the various career avenues available, strategies for further studies, and practical advice to navigate the post-CLAT journey.

LegalEdge by Toprankers has been consistent in delivering results like AIR 1, 2, 3 in 2021, 2022 and 2023 whereas AIR 8, 9 and 15 in AILET PG 2023 and AIR 28, 65, 82 in CLAT PG 2023.

CPS celebrates 19th Annual Day with Grandeur

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 4

Crescent Public School today marked another successful year with its Annual Day celebration at General Zorawar Singh Auditorium, University of Jammu, showcasing the incredible talents and achievements of the students, faculty, and staff of both its branches; Janipur and Chak Bhalwal. The celebration was divided into two parts.



The first part presented by students of classes 2 to 10 was based on the theme "Aisa Desh Hai Mera". The celebration reflected the school's commitment to imparting value-based education to its students. The evening was lined with a vibrant cultural program featuring dance, music, and drama performances that captivated the audience.

J&K BJP president, Ravinder Raina graced the occasion as chief guest while Advocate Monika Kohli, Senior Additional Advocate General, J&K and Ladakh High Court, Jammu was the guest of honour. Inaugurating the function by lighting a ceremonial lamp, Raina was all praise for the hard work and sincere efforts put in by students to present a gala cultural event.

Parents, teachers, and students alike revelled in the festive atmosphere, fostering a sense of community and pride. The Annual Day celebration provided a platform for students to showcase their diverse talents and skills, reinforcing the School's ethos of fostering well-rounded individuals. The cultural presentation comprised various dance forms from almost all the states of India.

Among the major highlights of the event was the recognition of outstanding teachers who have served for more than ten years in Crescent Public School.

Dr. Bhavna Kaushal, the principal of the School, expressed gratitude towards the entire school community for their unwavering support

and commitment. "This Annual Day celebration signifies the culmination of a couple of successful academic years that were a testament to the collaborative spirit which motivated us to keep imparting quality education even through the Corona pandemic," said Dr. Kaushal.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by Director (Academics) Mrs. Mobeen Syed, followed by a song by the teaching staff and the national anthem.

Bushan Bodhi, Chairman DDC Jammu and former MLA from Raipur, Domana as chief guest, the special guests blessing the little angles were Naseeb Singh Langeh, Sarpanch, Seri and Rajdev Singh, Sarpanch, Bhalwal.

All the dignitaries praised the great enthusiastic effort put in by the young Crescentians. Director (Academics) Mrs. Mubeen Syed formally welcomed the chief guest and the special guests.

The main highlights of the ceremony were the international dance forms from across the globe.

The vote of thanks was proposed by Administrative Coordinator Mrs. Alpana Dhar. After that the winners of a lucky draw organised on the occasion were declared. The show stopper was a grand finale dance wherein nearly 180 students performed. The show concluded with national anthem.

Among others, the twin celebration was attended by Chairman Mr. Arshad Choudhary, Vice Chairman Mr. Imran Arshad, Managing Director Mrs. Tasneem Kouser, Director (Academics) Mrs. Mobeen Syed, Joint Director Dr. Ambreen Choudhary, Director of Ceremony Principal Dr. Bhavna Kaushal, parents and members of the press.

Navigating the Revised NEET UG 2024 Syllabus: Expert Guidance and Strategic Insights from Aakash BYJU'S

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 4

The recent revision of the NEET UG 2024 syllabus by the National Medical Commission (NMC) has generated a palpable mix of anticipation and concern among aspiring medical students. As candidates gear up for these changes, Aakash BYJU'S, India's leader in test preparation services, has unveiled a comprehensive guide to aid students in navigating the transformed Revised NEET (UG) 2024 Syllabus.

Nabin Kaarki, National Academic Director - Medical, Aakash BYJU'S, emphasized the need to address the apprehensions faced by aspiring medical students amidst the evolving

NEET UG 2024 syllabus. "In light of the changes, aspirants find themselves at a pivotal moment, necessitating astute adoption. The balance between reduced content and the intensity of competition makes it necessary for candidates to adopt a strategic blend of resource gathering and focused practice," he stated.

Kaarki further highlighted the importance of embracing this transformation, stating, "Success in this transformed landscape requires not only diligence but also a profound shift in approach. Aspirants must use trusted study materials, engage in rigorous practice, and assimilate the experience of experimental learning. The key lies in the synergy of old founda-

tions and new insights, ensuring a comprehensive grasp of the revised syllabus. Anchoring oneself in a disciplined study routine while embracing the opportunities these changes present is essential."

The revamped syllabus introduces notable alterations across various subjects, redefining the preparation landscape: Physics: · Class XII: "Experimental Skills" is the only new addition, with no deletions from the existing syllabus. · Class XI: "Physical World" has been removed, with no new topics included. Chemistry: Class XII: "Principles Related to Practical Chemistry" is newly included, while "The Solid State," "Surface Chemistry," "General Principles & Processes of Isolation

of Elements," "Polymers," and "Chemistry in Everyday Life" have been deleted. Class XI: No new topic has been added, but "States of Matter: Gases & Liquids," "Hydrogen," "The S-Block Elements," and "Environmental Chemistry" are no longer there in the syllabus. Botany: · Class XII: "Biodiversity and Conservation (Sacred Groves)" is a new addition, while chapters such as "Reproduction in Organisms," "Strategies for Enhancement in Food Production", and "Environmental Issues" have been excluded. · Class XI: "Morphology of Flowering Plants" (Malvaceae, Cruciferae, Leguminosae, Compositae, Gramineae) is a new inclusion, whereas "Transport in Plants" and "Mineral Nutrition" have been removed.

OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER SOCIAL FORESTRY DIVISION, JAMMU SHORT TENDER NOTICE

Tender Notice: e-NIT No:11of 2023-24/NH Ring Road-Phase-II(Planting) Dated:01-12-2023.

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

S/N	Name of work	Adv. Cost (₹. In Lacs)	EMD @ 2% in Rs.	Class of Contractor	Cost of Tender Document	Time of Completion	Receiving /Opening Authority
01	Planting of Bagged plants (9880 Nos) in pits of size (45X45X45 cm) with Water Harvesting Structure (WHS) around each plant at Ring Road Strip Plantation from Strip 11 to 16(4820 Nos) and 17 to 24 (5060 Nos) of Phase-II Ring Road-Jammu of Social Forestry Division, Jammu for the Year 2023-24 under National Highway.	2.899	7774/-	D-Class	Rs. 500/-	07 Days	Tender Opening Committee
02	Procuring/carring& providing in the pits well decomposed & clean FYM	0.988					
Total		3.887			Rs. 500/-	07 Days	

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:- www.iktenders.gov.in

Position of funds : Budgeted
Position of AA : Accorded & Position of TS : Accorded

Publishing Date.	01-12-2023
Download Start Date.	01-12-2023 from 02:30PM
Bid Submission Start Date.	01-12-2023 from 02:30PM
Bid Submission End Date.	07-12-2023 upto 11:00AM
Date of opening of Technical Bid.	07-12-2023 at 02:00PM (in the Office of Regional Director, Department of Social Forestry, OPP. NITCO Lane, Jammu).
Date of opening of Financial Bid (online)	07-12-2023 at 2:30 PM (in the Office of Regional Director, Department of Social Forestry, Opp. NITCO Lane, Jammu).

The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the Departmental Website:- <https://jktenders.gov.in>.

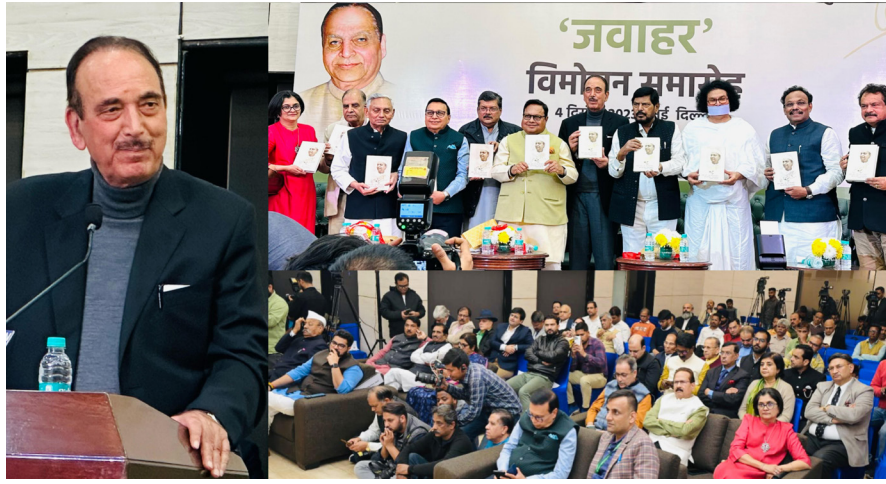
- The price bids uploaded on the website in time will be opened on 07-12-2023 at 02:30 PM in the Office of Regional Director, Department of Social Forestry, Opp. NITCO Lane, Jammu. In case of date of opening of the bid being public holiday, the same will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.
- Bids must accompany cost of tender document as shown against each work in the shape of Treasury Challan for the amount shown against the work above to be deposited in Govt. Treasury under Account Head 0406-Forest. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of bids.
- In light of Govt. Notification issued by Finance Department Civil Secretariat Vide No. A/24(2017)-651 dated:-07-06-2018, the bidder must upload the copy of Latest challan/receipt on account of cost of tender documents remitted in the treasury concerned and for that the bidders must write an application to be addressed to treasury officer concerned requesting therein for remittance of amount as cost of tender documents towards M.H.0406-Forest. Sd/-

Divisional Forest Officer
Social Forestry Division
Jammu

No: DFO/J/11/NH(Ring-Road)Phase-II (Planting)
Dated: 01.12.2023

DIP/J-12097/23
Date: 4-12-23

Azad releases hindi version of book on 'Jawaharlal Darda'



JI NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, DEC 4

Democratic Progressive Azad Party chairman & Former Chief Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad on Monday released the hindi version of book on Jawaharlal Darda at Constitution Club, New Delhi and termed him as one of the greatest politicians of Indian sub continent and a real freedom fighter who devoted his life to country. The book was released at constitutional club of India where Azad was the chief guest on the occasion. The former chief minister of Jammu and Kashmir said that his teachings must be followed so that the people live with respect and dignity and share the mutual interests irrespective of caste and colour. He said

the teachings of Gandhi shall be propagated and invoked as did by Darda. "In our times, agreeing to disagree was our guiding principle but disagreeing never meant losing person or showing hatred towards the person," he said. Darda popularly known as Babuji, was an Indian freedom fighter and a senior politician. He was the founding editor of Lokmat group of newspapers. He was a pioneering journalist and a prominent politician of his time. Azad said that Darda was a great politician who worked to integrate the nation and strictly followed the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi. He said Darda apart from being a politician, he was also a true freedom fighter, social activist and a journalist

who through his services and writings enlightened the people and nation. The DPAP chairman said that being close to him, he knew how sincere and visionary was Darda and how he positively impacted millions of people in the country. Azad said that Darda was writing and working to keep the country united and people from all walks of life respected him for his thought process. He said Darda was a true Gandhian who devoted his life and energy in spreading and promoting his ideology of humanity. Among those who were present on the occasion were senior journalists, Members of Parliament from INC, BJP, TMS, AAP, BSP, Shiv Sena, NCP, RPI, Forward Block and some independent MPs.

CUJ Faculty, Students visit SMVDU



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 4

The School of Biotechnology and the School of Energy Management, SMVDU along with the Department of Environmental Sciences, Central University Jammu collaborated to organize a one day visit for the M.Sc. students and faculty from Department of Environmental Sciences to visit the various labs of the School of Biotechnology and the School of Energy Management, SMVDU. The main objective of the visit was to provide a scientific platform to exchange the information on the research work being carried out in the two schools of SMVDU. The students visited the Bioinformatics Facility, Plant Tissue Culture, Molecular Biology and Microbiology Research Labs, Central

Mass Array facility and the ICMR funded Centre for Advanced Research at the School of Biotechnology. Research Scholars from Biotechnology shared their knowledge with the students and explained about the various techniques and processes being carried out in their respective Labs. Students were taken to specialized sections and got a chance to understand the functioning of all the latest and updated instruments regularly being used at SoBT, SMVDU. The students showed their interests and actively participated in the visit. The visiting faculty members from Central University, Jammu included Prof. Richa Kothari, Prof. Deepak Pathania, Dean (Research & Development) Prof. Sunil Dhar, Dean Life Sciences, Dr. Pankaj Mehta and Dr.

Dinesh Kumar. Dr. Ratna Chandra, Head School of Biotechnology, Dr. VV Tyagi Dean (Research & Development) and Head School of Energy Management from SMVDU along with Prof. Richa Kothari, Head Department of Environmental Sciences, CUJ took the initiative in organizing the educational visit while Dr. Vinod Singh coordinated the event from SMVDU. It was an interactive forum for exchange of new knowledge and opportunities for stimulating young minds. The faculty members also interacted with the Vice Chancellor, SMVDU, Prof. Pragati Kumar. The Hon'ble Vice Chancellor appreciated the efforts of faculty members involved and emphasised on having more such collaborative events between the two universities.

Reasi Police arrests 2 drug peddlers, FIR registered, recovers heroine

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 4

Continuing the drive against drug abuse launched by District Police Reasi. Police arrested 02 notorious drug peddlers and recovered 3.31 gm Heroin (Chitta) from their possession. Police party of Police Station Reasi apprehended one person namely Kulbir Singh S/O Lt. Rattan Singh R/O Dharan Tehsil Thakrakote District Reasi and from his possession 1 gram heroin/Chitta recovered. In this regard, case FIR No. 218/2023 U/S 8/21/22 NDPS act registered at P/S Reasi and investigation initiated to unearth the forward and backward linkages.



Sr. Superintendent of Police Reasi Amit Gupta -JKPS conveyed that Reasi police is committed to eradicate the menace of drug abuse from the area. SSP further added that people from all sections of the society should come forward and join hands with Police to strengthen anti-narcotics drive of District Police and also inform police on dedicated anti drug helpline number 9070907017 regarding any information pertaining to drug abuse and drug peddlers/addicts in their areas and identity of caller shall be kept secret.

During the investigation a backward link is zeroed and further raids were conducted at in which main drug peddler namely Nasir Ahmed S/O Mohd Ghani R/O Badori, Bari Brahmana arrested and 2.31 gm Heroin recovered from his possession. The whole operation is led by SHO Reasi Insp. Vijay Sharma under the supervision of Dy.SP Hqrs. Reasi Sh. Neeraj Padyar-JKPS. While sharing the details

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra enters Week Two in Jammu city; continues to bring Govt services to people's doorsteps

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 4

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY), a unique initiative to bring Government services at people's doorsteps entered its second week in Jammu city today. VBSY camps were today organised in Rajinder Park and Parade Ground in the heart of the city. As part of nationwide campaign, the specially designed IEC (Information, Education, Communication) van created awareness about various programmes, schemes and initiatives of the Government of India to improve people's lives, especially in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir Under the IEC campaign, camps were organised to offer services like free health checkup, issuing of LPG connections



under PM Ujjwala Yojana, on-the-spot facility to get new aadhaar cards issued and existing ones updated. Jammuites also came forward to get new Ayushman Bharat health cards issued, and loans sanctioned under PM SVANidhi scheme. On the occasion, Viksit Bharat Sankalp pledge to make India a developed and self-reliant nation by the year 2047 was administered to the audience. Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra aims to cover over

2.55 lakh Gram Panchayats and over 3,600 urban local bodies by January 25, 2024, touching every district of the country. It was launched by Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on November 15, 2023. The objective is to reach out to public to create awareness and attain saturation of welfare schemes on sanitation, essential financial services, electricity, access to LPG cylinders, housing for the poor, food security, proper nutrition and reliable healthcare.

Altaf Bukhari visits residence of Imran Raza Ansari to condole demise of his grandmother

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, DEC 4

Apni Party President Syed Mohammed Altaf Bukhari today visited the residence of Imran Raza Ansari, prominent politician, to condole the demise of his grandmother.

As per a press release, Altaf Bukhari was accompanied by senior Apni Party leaders during his visit to the residence of Imran Raza Ansari at his residence in Hassanabad Rainawari in Srinagar.

Bukhari met the bereaved family members especially Imran Raza Ansari and expressed his solidarity with them.

He prayed for the eternal peace of the departed soul, and courage to the bereaved family members to bear this irreparable loss.



The Party President was accompanied by General Secretary, Rafi Ahmed Mir, Provincial President, Kashmir, Mohammed Ashraf Mir, Senior leader, Former Mayor Srinagar Municipal Corporation, Junaid Azim Mattu, State Secretary

Muntazir Mohiuddin, Provincial Secretary, Najeeb Naqwi, Youth Wing State Secretary, Tanveer Husain Pathan, Youth Wing District President Srinagar and Incharge Khanyar Constituency, Mohsin Zaffar Shah, Irfan Zargar, and others.

Cong fully prepared for upcoming challenges, 2024 General Elections: Wani

JI NEWS SERVICE
GOOL, DEC 4

Congress is fully prepared for the upcoming challenges especially 2024 Lok Sabha elections, it will continue to fight for people's rights and will leave no stone unturned to seek redressal of their grievances.

BJP has nothing to sell to the people of J&K as it has failed people of J&K on all fronts besides depriving them of their identify & rights, denying them of their basic democratic rights of choosing their own representatives.

J&K Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) Chief Vikar Rasool Wani made these comments while addressing a well-attended

Congress Workers meeting of Gool Tehsil in Banihal segment of Ramban District in which Senior Leaders of PCC and DCC were present. Addressing the meeting, JKPC Chief Vikar Rasool Wani urged the Party workers to gear up for the upcoming challenges especially 2024 Lok Sabha Elections and will leave no stone unturned to further strengthen the party at grass roots, as people have expectations from Congress and want to get rid of BJP, which is responsible for the hardships especially lack of development, extreme unemployment and various other issues confronting people. JKPC Chief slammed the J&K Govt for the peak unemployment

besides expressing concern over the various local issues concerning people especially electricity tariff being charged to public forcefully despite the poor supply of electricity. He said people are feeling unheard and unrepresented in absence of the popular Govt and laid emphasizes over restoration of democratic process in the J&K to ensure that people elect their representatives, who could ensure redressal of their grievances at appropriate forum. Congress will continue to fight against BJP's anti people and divisive policies, adding that the poll verdict in three States have further strengthened the party's resolve to fight against BJP's communal and divisive agenda.

Dr. Vikas Sharma gets prestigious NAHEP Fellowship to visit Korea

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 4

Dr. Vikas Sharma S/O Harbans Lal Sharma and Pushplata Sharma, R/O Channi Himmat, Jammu has been awarded prestigious fellowship under the National Agricultural Higher Education Project - Institutional Development Plan (NAHEP-IDP) for his exposure, short visit to Jeju National University, Republic of Korea. NAHEP fellowship is an initiative of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) that aims to promote excellence in higher education and research via international training of Scientists of SKUAST - Jammu in Overseas Institutions.

During his visit to Korea, Dr. Sharma will participate in an intensive training at Phenomics Laboratory of



ICT Based Training Program on "Materials Characterization Techniques" starts at SMVDU



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 4

ICT based one week training programme on "Materials Characterization Techniques", inaugurated at School of Physics, SMVDU in collaboration with NITTTR Chandigarh. The faculty members, technical staff, M. Tech. students and Ph. D. Research scholars from SMVDU and nearby institutes/colleges are participating in the program. The primary objective of this STTP is to impart basic and practical knowledge of the advanced tools used for material characterization in research organizations and academic institutes. The training program includes a number of demonstrative experimental techniques

which shall be carried out by experts in the field of synthesizing and characterizing materials. The participants also come across quizzes, assignments and discussions during session breaks. The main coordinators of the training programme are Dr. Pankaj Sharma, Prof. Ashok Kumar, from NITTTR Chandigarh and Dr. Pankaj Biswas and Dr. Kamni Pathania are the local coordinators from School of Physics, SMVDU, who extend their gratitude towards Prof. Pragati Kumar, Honorable Vice Chancellor for his valuable support in organizing the training programme at SMVDU remote centre and Dr. S. K. Wanchoo, Head, SoP and Dean FoS, SMVDU for facilitating the program.

CB Jammu charge-sheets retired Principal for cheating on pretext of arranging Govt Job

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 4

Economic Offences Wing - Crime Branch Jammu produced charge-sheet against accused Davindra Singh Soodan S/o Sh. Keher Singh R/o Ward No. 14 near Rattan Palace Kathua (the then Principal, Higher Secondary School Panorma in District Rajouri) in the Court of law for judicial determination in case FIR No. 78/2023 U/S 420/IPC P/S Crime Branch Jammu for cheating and duping the complainant of his hard earned money on the pretext of arranging a Govt. Job under SRO-43 in favour of the complainant's daughter. The case stems its origin from a written complaint lodged by Sh. Ghulam Sadeeq S/o Sh. Anayat Uallah R/o Darhal Rajouri, alleging that accused Davinder Singh was working as a Principal in Panorma Pvt. Academy in Rajouri and in the year 2016 his daughters were studying in the same School where he used to visit and meet the accused. The complainant talked to the accused that his wife was a Govt. teacher who had expired long back and to absorb his daughter as Govt. Employee in place of his wife under SRO 43. The accused told him that he would process her case for which money was needed. Complainant was assured that he would get the appointment done. In



order to get the job for his daughter under SRO 43 the complainant paid Rs. 1,54,000/- to the accused. Thereafter accused Davindra Singh Soodan left without arranging job in favour of complainant's daughter nor did he return money thus cheated the complainant deliberately and intentionally. On receipt of the complaint a preliminary verification was initiated and during probe the allegations were prima facie substantiated, leading to the registration of formal case for indepth investigation. During the course of investigation relevant record was seized, statement of witnesses recorded, Scientific, Circumstantial and other material evidence was gathered and offences U/S 420/IPC P/S Crime Branch Jammu were established against the accused for having cheated and duped the complainant of his hard earned money. Charge sheet was produced in the Court of law against the accused persons for judicial determination.

Jeju National University of Korea and the programme is expected to provide him with valuable insights and exposure to the latest developments in identification of anticancer drug targets using phenomics and machine learning. The prestigious award is conferred to Dr Vikas Sharma on the recommendation of selection committee headed by Vice Chancellor SKUAST - Jammu.

Working as Associate Professor in the Division of Biochemistry, Faculty of Basic Sciences, SKUAST - Jammu, Dr. Sharma has 77 full length publications to his credit and guided 09 Ph.D and 07 MSc. students as a Major Advisor. He is recipient of many National and International awards, recognitions from various Govt. Organizations for his contributions in the field of Science.

DC, Mission Director JJM review progress of Jal Jeevan Mission Schemes in District Rajouri

JJ NEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI, DECEMBER 4

In a significant step towards ensuring access to clean drinking water in rural areas, Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal, chaired a meeting to assess the progress of the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) schemes. Mission Director JJM J&K, G N Itoo and Chief Engineer Jammu, Er. Hamesh Manchand and SE Mechanical, Bodh Raj also joined the meeting through video conferencing.

Acknowledging the significant advancements made in Rajouri, the meeting highlighted the approval of 293 JJM schemes, with active work underway on 275 schemes. The meeting also reviewed the status of the components of the electric substations under JJM works. During the meeting, the Deputy



Commissioner emphasized the critical aspects of maintaining high-quality work, ensuring timely project completion, and implementing effective supervision to achieve the ambitious goals of the Jal Jeevan Mission.

To expedite the implementation of these schemes, the DC directed officers to adopt a results-driven approach and strictly adhere to set timelines. With focused efforts and unwavering dedication, the mission is rapidly transforming into a reality, promising a healthier and happier life for the residents of the region.

Addressing the schemes where work has not yet

commenced, the Deputy Commissioner directed officers to promptly address any issues hindering the initiation of such projects. Emphasizing the need for immediate action, he underscored the importance of kick-starting these schemes at the earliest to ensure swift resolution.

Furthermore, Deputy Commissioner stressed the importance of adopting a holistic approach towards water management. He highlighted that the objective of the mission is not solely focused on providing access to clean drinking water but also on preserving and sustainably utilizing this vital

resource. This approach reflects the commitment of the District Administration to ensuring a comprehensive and long-lasting impact on water supply and management in the region.

The meeting witnessed the participation of the Managing Director of Jal Jeevan Mission through video conferencing, underscoring the collaborative and inclusive nature of the mission's implementation.

Overall, the meeting served as a testament to the unwavering commitment of the District Administration to effectively implement the Jal Jeevan Mission. By provid-

ing rural areas with access to the basic necessity of clean drinking water, the mission aims to improve the quality of life for residents and uplift communities. With a unified and determined approach, the District Administration of Rajouri reaffirmed its commitment to the realization of the goals of the Jal Jeevan Mission ultimately paving the way for a brighter future in terms of clean drinking water accessibility.

The meeting was attended by CPO, Mohamad Khurshid; SE Hydraulics, Bharam Jyoti Sharma; Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Rajouri, Ashwini Sharma; Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Nowshera, Vipin Kumar; Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Mechanical and two retired consultants namely Manish Bhatt and B.K Arora and Range Officers.

Special Summary Revision

DC Samba sensitises students about enrollment process, Voters' Service Portal

JJ NEWS SERVICE
SAMBA, DECEMBER 4

Deputy Commissioner Abhishek Sharma, Samba, conducted a meaningful interaction with students from Pandit Prem Nath Dogra Government Degree College, Samba and Government Boys Higher Secondary School, Samba, here today.

The objective of the session was to inform the students about the Special Summary Revision 2024, which is a crucial exercise to revise the electoral roll with reference to January 1, 2024 as the qualifying date.

The DC enlightened the students about the essence of democracy and the pivotal role of voter registration in strengthening the democratic system. The discussion aimed to foster a high sense of civic aware-



ness among the students. Highlighting the contemporary modes of participation, DC Sharma briefed the students about the methods of self-registration through the online Voter's Service Portal. He stressed the importance of this digital mode and advised those who are not well-versed with online services to seek assistance from their respective Booth Level Officers (BLOs).

While inspecting the college premises, DC

noticed the requirement of infrastructural development. Accordingly, he instructed the Public Works Department (PWD) to expedite the completion of the pending boundary wall at Sh. Pandit Prem Nath Dogra Government Degree College. Moreover, he issued a directive for the complete fencing of the entire college area. These directives aim to enhance the security and overall infrastructure of the educational institutions within the district.

VBSY held at Kaprin & Imamsahib blocks of Shopian amid overwhelming public participation

JJ NEWS SERVICE
SHOPIAN, DECEMBER 4

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY) was today conducted at six Panchayats of Kaprin and Imamsahib blocks amid overwhelming public participation.

Two Panchayats of Mantribugh, Partabpora of Kaprin block and four Panchayats, Barbugh, Baskuchan, Dangerpora, Hendow of Imamsahib blocks attracted massive public participation.

Aimed at empowering all communities by ensuring the effective implementation of key government initiatives, the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra Vans traversed through panchayats fostering community engagement and disseminating awareness of Govt schemes and initiatives and to serve the underserved areas.

The yatra was warmly welcomed and received by



PRIs, senior citizens, officials and local residents. They were engaged with

Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) setups and listened atten-

tively to a recorded video message, emphasizing the significance of the campaign.

Participants also took the Viksit Sankalp Bharat pledge, affirming their commitment to holistic national development.

Under the banner of VBSY, students showcased their artistic talents through mesmerizing cultural performances; dance and music reflected the diversity and richness of the cultural heritage, fostering a sense of unity and celebration among the spectators.

The sports events on VBSY occasion attracted the audience and their cheers and applause echoed the success of these sporting endeavors.

Doda: District Committee discusses applications seeking Change of Land Use



JJ NEWS SERVICE
DODA, DECEMBER 4

Deputy Commissioner Doda Harvinder Singh today chaired a meeting of key officials of different departments to discuss the applications received online seeking change of land use.

The DC enquired about

uncontrolled conversion of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes on the one hand and keep up the developmental aspirations of the UT and the people on the other hand.

It was informed that this month, only one application was received online from the Bhadrawah area for the establishment of poultry farm, and all the required NOCs stand issued in favour of the applicant.

The committee approved the case received from the Bhadrawah area for the use of land for the Poultry Farming after thorough deliberations and discussion.

The meeting was attended by ADC Bhadrawah, ACR Doda, District Officer PCB, DFO Bhadrawah, and other concerned officials.

the status of NOCs being issued in the favour of the online applicants, the applications received online till date, besides their reporting and follow up status by the concerned departments.

It is pertinent to mention here that the new guidelines have been issued to regulate the

District Samba gears up for JKSSB Exam: Training Program Equips Supervisory Staff



JJ NEWS SERVICE
SAMBA, DECEMBER 4

To prepare for the upcoming JKSSB exam for Panchayat Secretary Recruitment, the District Administration Samba organized a detailed training program for supervisory staff. The program was held in the Conference Hall in the DC Office Complex Samba, under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner, Abhishek Sharma.

The training session was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Suresh Chander Sharma; Chief Education Officer Kewal Krishan and other members. The purpose of the program was to ensure the smooth and fair conduct of the examination. ADC Suresh Sharma explained the roles and responsibilities

of Center Observer Magistrates, Center Superintendent, Deputy Superintendent, and Invigilator Staff. He said that all the arrangements have been made to avoid any problems or malpractices during the examination. He also stressed the need to follow the rules and regulations strictly and maintain the quality of the examination process in their respective centers.

He informed that the District Administration has set up 21 examination centers across the district. He appreciated the cooperation and support from the Police, Education, and other related departments for the OMR examination test. The examination will take place on December 10, 2023, from 12 noon to 2 pm at the assigned examination centers.

DC inaugurates 30 day Waste-to-Resource Training Program in Bhadrawah

JJ NEWS SERVICE
DODA DECEMBER 4

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Doda officially launched a 30-day training program focusing on waste-to-resource creation through paper machine craft. The initiative falls under the District Skill Training Programme and is organized by the Department of Handicraft Doda.

Notable attendees included the Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Bhadrawah Chowdhary Dil Mir, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Bhadrawah Development Authority (BDA) Bal Krishan, Assistant Director (AD) Handicraft Mohammad Ashraf, Teshildar Bhadrawah, BDO Bhadrawah among others.

The event aimed to enhance skills and promote sustainable practices in crafting through innovative approaches. During the inauguration, the DC



inspected stalls showcasing the products of the Department of Handicraft Doda. Additionally, the DC engaged in positive interactions with the department's staff, assessing the proper functioning and

coordination necessary for the department's effective operation. This proactive involvement aims to ensure the department's optimal performance for the overall benefit of the region.

DC Kulgam flags-off group of 60 Girls for trekking expedition to Pahalgam



JJ NEWS SERVICE
KULGAM, DECEMBER 4

A group of 60 girl students was today flagged-off by the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat from mini-secretariat here for a trekking expedition to Pahalgam.

The event was organized by District Youth Services and Sports

Kulgam. DYSSO Kulgam, field staff of Youth Services and Sports besides parents of these trekkers were also present at the flag-off function.

These girl students belong to all six Zones of the district and are scheduled to explore the areas of Pahalgam during the six day trekking programme.

Deputy Register reviews working of PACS at Ramban

JJ NEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN, DECEMBER 4

Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Ramban, Priyanka Sharma today chaired a meeting with the Chairmen and Secretaries of Primary Agriculture Credit Societies as well as Managers of Cooperative Marketing Societies of Ramban and Banihal.

A detailed discussion was held regarding new initiatives to be taken in order to augment business of these Cooperative Societies.

Further, Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies (DRCS) stressed to focus on local products which can be collected, packaged & marketed from a common point which will be run by Primary Agriculture Credit Societies (PACS) OR CMS. All PACS must be ready to operate CSC centers and must apply for PMKSK after undergoing training from KVK so that they can apply for fertilizer license, she added.

In addition to this, DRCS informed that 13 printers have been received under the project of computerization of PACS and other hardware items will be provided soon.

Power shutdown

JJ NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DECEMBER 4

Chief Engineer (Distribution) JPDCL, Jammu has informed that the power supply to Bhalwal, Karwanda, Barn Patta, Ghaink and adjoining areas will remain affected on December 05 from 8 am to 12 noon.

Info Deptt condoles demise of Mother of Shabir Ahmad Bhat (AIO)

JJ NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, DECEMBER 4

The Officers and officials of Information Department Monday condoled the demise of Mother of Shabir Ahmad Bhat, Asstt Information Officer (AIO), who passed away on Sunday after a

brief illness. In this regard, a condolence meeting was held at the divisional Office Kashmir of Information department, Exchange Road, Kothibagh.

Deputy Director (PR), Bilal Mukhtar; Assistant Director, M Aslam Khan; Cultural Officer, Burhan Hussain, other officers and officials of the department

participated in the condolence meet. Expressing solidarity, the Officers and officials extended their deepest condolences to Shabir Ahmad on the demise of his mother. They prayed for eternal peace to the departed soul and courage to the bereaved family to bear this irreparable loss.