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Lok Sabha approves 33% reservation for women in J&K Assembly

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, DEC 12

In a significant development, the Lok Sabha on Tuesday cleared a bill to reserve 33 percent seats for women in the Legislative Assembly of Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory. The Lok Sabha today passed The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Second Amendment) Bill- 2023 to provide 33% reservation for women in the assembly of the UT.

The proposed legislation, a copy of which is in possession of news agency, states that it will



come into effect only after an exercise of delimitation is undertaken after the Government of India

publishes its next census, the date for which has not been set. It means that the bill

would become operational only after 2029. Interestingly, the bill

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

GENERAL ZORAWAR SINGH MARTYRDOM DAY

Lt Governor unveils statue of General Zorawar Singh at Jammu University

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DECEMBER 12

Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha unveiled a statue of General Zorawar Singh, at University of Jammu, today and paid tributes to the great warrior and military genius on his martyrdom day.

He announced the decision of the government to set up a Chair in the memory of General Zorawar Singh in University of Jammu. The endeavour will inspire

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4



JK Govt has signed PPAs of 2500 MWs in ongoing fiscal: Official

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, DEC 12

Authorities have said that the Jammu Kashmir government in the ongoing fiscal has signed Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) for 2500 MW to double the existing power availability.

An official of the Power Development Department (PDD) informed the news agency that a high-level meeting was held under the chairmanship of Union Minister of Power, New and Renewable Energy, R. K. Singh and Lieutenant Governor of J&K Manoj Sinha to review the power

sector of J&K. "During the meeting, H. Rajesh Prasad, Principal Secretary to the Government, Power Development Department, presented a detailed overview of the department's recent achievements," the official said.

It was informed that J&K has taken many proactive steps to ensure sufficient availability of power as a part of both short term and medium term measures.

"In this direction, PPAs for 2500 MW have been signed during the current year, aiming to double the existing power availability

to UT in the coming years," reads the statement.

The Union Minister of Power said that a senior officer from the Ministry would act as the Nodal Officer, responsible for continuous monitoring of the power situation and addressing any gaps from the Central Pool to ensure an adequate power supply to J&K.

"Smart metering emerged as a key discussion point during the meeting," it reads.

The Union Minister directed the project implementing agency, RECPDCL to expeditiously

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

Some teachers in Govt schools possess below secondary level qualification: MoE

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, DEC 12

In Jammu and Kashmir a number of teachers at government-run schools teaching at different levels 'possess below secondary level qualification'—raising a question of providing quality of education to the students of public schools.

According to the current details shown by the Ministry of Education (MoE) available with the news agency, there were a total of '328 government teachers in Jammu and Kashmir' who were having the academic qualifications of below secondary level.

The official figures reveal that at least '236 teachers in the department with below secondary

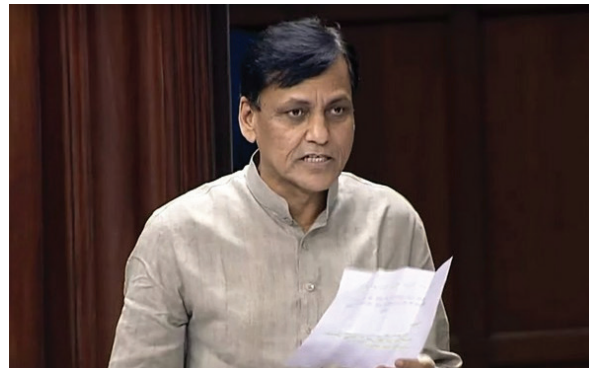
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Over 2900 Kanals of land belonging to Kashmiri migrants retrieved in J&K: Centre in Lok Sabha

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, DEC 12

The Centre on Tuesday in the Lok Sabha said that over 2900 Kanals of land belonging to Kashmiri Pandits have been retrieved from encroachment in Jammu and Kashmir.

In a written reply, Minister of State for Home Affairs, Nitiyanand Rai, as per the news agency said that the government has taken several measures to rehabilitate Kashmiri Migrants back into the Valley. He said that as



per the data provided by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir, 46,631 Kashmiri Migrant families comprising 1,57,967 individuals are registered with the Relief Organization (Migrant), J&K who had to migrate from the valley due to security reasons. "In addition, there

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

Night temperature improves as feeble WD affects J&K

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, DEC 12

While there has been no forecast of any major weather activity, the night temperature has improved across the Valley on Tuesday, but continued to settle below freezing point.

Director Meteorological department, Dr Mukhtar Ahmad told the news agency that the minimum temperature has recorded a slight improvement due to weak Western Disturbance (WD).

Earlier, the Meteorological Department had predicted light rains and snowfall from December

12 to December 12 under the influence of a weak western disturbance affecting J&K from today.

However, the MeT director said that dry and cold weather would most likely continue till 21st December over most places of J&K with possibility of brief spell of very light snow at isolated extreme higher reaches of north & north eastern parts of Kashmir during the night of December 16.

From December 21, the 40-day harshest winter period, known as Chilai-kalan will commence, which culminates on January 29 every year.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

Lt Governor releases Panchang Calendar 2024 and diary of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DECEMBER 12

Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha inaugurated online booking facility for passenger ropeway from Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Bhawan to Bhairon ji for

the convenience of the pilgrims.

The Lt Governor reiterated the commitment of the Shrine Board to provide better facilities and modern amenities to make the pilgrimage convenient and hassle-free.

The tickets for Passenger Ropeway are available through online portal www.maavaishnodevi.org which were earlier only available offline at the counters on first come first serve basis.

Initially, the online ceiling

is 2000 tickets per day for the pilgrims and will be scaled up gradually in the coming months. This initiative of Shrine Board will not only facilitate the pilgrims but also reduce annual expenditure of Shrine Board.

The Bhawan-Bhairon passenger ropeway has a carrying capacity of 800 persons per hour which remains operational for 8-10 hours in a day.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor handed over the appointment letter to renowned Para-archer Rakesh Kumar.

The Lt Governor

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

Shah Rukh Khan visits Vaishno Devi ahead of Dunki release



JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 12

Bollywood actor Shah Rukh Khan on Tuesday paid obeisance at Vaishno Devi temple ahead of the release of the film Dunki, which is set to release on December 21. According

to the news agency, the actor had earlier visited the shrine ahead of the release of his last two films Jawan and Pathaan, making this his third visit to the place.

A video has also gone viral on social

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

92% construction of AIIMS Jammu, 44% of AIIMS Awantipora completed: Centre



JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, DEC 12

The Centre on Tuesday in the Rajya Sabha said that 92 percent of civil construction of AIIMS Jammu and 42 percent of AIIMS Awantipora has been com-

pleted.

In a written reply to a question Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Dr Bharati Pravin Pawar, as per the news agency said that J&K government has also

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5 BSF jawans, civilian injured in Pak firing on LoC in Jammu since Oct 17: Centre

JI NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, DEC 12

The Centre on Tuesday informed the Lok Sabha that five BSF jawans and a civilian were injured during unprovoked firing by Pakistan Rangers in the last two months along Line of Control in Jammu. In a written reply, Minister of state for Home Affairs Nisith Pramanik, as per the news agency said that the BSF lodged a strong protest with Pakistan over a recent skirmish in Arnia sector of Jammu. He said that BSF also raised the recent ceasefire violation during flag meetings with Pakistan rangers.

"5 BSF jawans and one civilian were injured during the unprovoked firing by Pakistan rangers since October 17, 2023," he said. KNO

CS for improving quality of skill courses to enhance enrolment, placements

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 12

Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo Tuesday reviewed the impact and outcomes of the schemes and projects of the Skill Development (SDD) and Science & Technology (S&T) Departments under implementation here in the UT.

While reviewing the working of SDD the Chief Secretary impressed upon the Department to have a close peek into the viability of courses offered by the skill imparting institutions of the UT. He asked for taking measures to improve the overall enroll-



ment and placement of the students undergoing training there.

Dulloo observed that the skilling of youth holds the promise of bringing

gainful employment to them. He made out

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Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra Youth Services and Sports Department promotes grassroots sports in Reasi

J1 NEWS SERVICE
REASI, DECEMBER 12

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra marked an energetic celebration of traditional sports across 59 panchayats in Reasi district organized by Department of Youth Services and Sports. The initiative aimed at fostering community engagement and promoting the spirit of sportsmanship among local youths.

The event witnessed an array of dynamic sports activities that engaged and enthralled participants and spectators alike. Volleyball and Kabaddi, being perennial favorites, showcased the athletic prowess and teamwork of the participants. Simultaneously, the inclusion of traditional and indigenous games such as Santolia, Marbal, and Gilli Danda added a cultural essence to the sporting extravaganza.

Officers from the Department of Youth Services and Sports expressed



their enthusiasm about the overwhelming response and participation from the local communities. "The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra is not only about physical fitness but also about reviving our heritage through indigenous sports.

These sporting events served as platforms for fostering camaraderie, instilling values of sportsmanship, and encouraging a healthy lifestyle among the youth of Reasi district. Additionally, the initiative

aimed at identifying and nurturing local talent, paving the way for potential future athletes.

The Department of Youth Services and Sports extends its gratitude to all participants, local authorities, and community members for their enthusiastic involvement and support in making this event a grand success. Such initiatives will continue to be an integral part of our commitment to promoting sports at the grassroots level.

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra leaves resounding impact on people at 12 Panchayats of Udhampur district

J1 NEWS SERVICE
UDHAMPUR, DECEMBER 12

The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra kicked off with a resounding impact as it traversed today across 12 Panchayats in Udhampur district under the vigilant guidance of Deputy Commissioner Saloni Rai. The day unfolded with the arrival of the IEC Van, setting the stage for an inaugural movie screening and the administration of the Viksit Bharat Pledge, embraced with enthusiasm by participants in these Panchayats.

Throughout the Yatra, government officials actively engaged with the local community, imparting awareness about diverse government schemes and fostering valuable interactions with beneficiaries. The 'Meri Kahani, Meri Zubaani' segment



showcased firsthand accounts from beneficiaries, enhancing the event with their experiences of various schemes. A pivotal highlight included a medical health checkup camp addressing the community's healthcare needs.

The Yatra witnessed substantial participation from citizens, PRIs, officials representing diverse departments, and notable community figures, exemplifying a collective commitment to progress and development.

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra reaches Khour block



J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DECEMBER 12

As part of the nationwide campaign to spread awareness about different schemes launched by the Government of India, the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra reached Khour block today.

The yatra was organized under the guidance of Preeti Sharma, Assistant Commissioner Development Jammu and under the overall supervision of Dheeraj Sharma, Block Development Officer Khour (Nodal Officer VBSY Block Khour).

The yatra visited Govt High School Kotmaira Lower and Govt Middle School Sarmala Panchayat Kotmaira Pahariwala

Upper of Block Khour, where it was welcomed by the Vice Chairman DDC Jammu, Suraj Singh, along with other dignitaries and officials.

The yatra team interacted with the general public, PRI members, students and teachers and informed them about the benefits and features of flagship schemes such as MGN-REGA, PMAY(G), Swachh Bharat Mission (G), KCC, Ayushman Bharat Yojana Card, Har Ghar Jal Jeevan Mission, Jan Dhan Yojana, Umeed(NRLM), PM Vishwakarma, ICDS(Social welfare), Ladli Beti, Khelo India, One Nation One Ration, Pension Yojana and Digital Payment infrastructure.

The team also distribut-

ed pamphlets, posters and brochures related to these schemes and urged the people to avail the benefits of these schemes and contribute to the development of the nation.

The general public and PRI members appreciated the efforts of ACD Jammu and BDO Khour for organising the yatra and thanked them for bringing the yatra to their area. They also expressed their gratitude to the Government of India for launching such welfare schemes for the upliftment of the poor and marginalised sections of the society.

The yatra concluded with the singing of the national anthem and a vote of thanks by the BDO Khour.

DDC, SSP spearhead Road Safety Awareness Program

J1 NEWS SERVICE
DODA, DECEMBER 12

District Development Commissioner (DDC), Harvinder Singh and Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Abdul Qayoom today participated in an impactful road safety awareness program here at the TRC Pul Doda. The event aimed to enlighten participants on the significance of road safety, particularly targeting drivers and conductors.

The DDC inspected the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) stall, showcasing the commitment to disaster preparedness. In a noteworthy move, a medical checkup camp was hosted for drivers and conductors, underlining the holistic approach toward ensuring the well-being of those vital to the transportation sector.

The event witnessed the participation of various



officers, including SE R&B Doda, ACD Doda, ARTO, Dy SP Traffic, CEO, EO Municipal Council Doda, Xen PWD R&B, representatives from the Transporter's unions, Drivers and Conductors. This diverse representation emphasized a collective effort across departments to promote safer road practices and minimize the occurrence of road accidents. During the program, the DDC asked transport agencies to provide insurance options for travellers. This initiative allows commuters to claim

an insurance amount of Rs 2 lakh in case of any mishap during their travel, reinforcing the administration's dedication to safeguard the lives and promoting accountability in the transportation sector. Such measures, coupled with awareness programs and inspections, play a pivotal role in maintaining and elevating road safety standards in the Doda region. The DC Doda also directed the concerned officers to establish restrooms for the drivers who travel long distances in particular areas.

DC Shopian hands-over Abhinandan Patras to Pani Samitis of 4 Villages of district

J1 NEWS SERVICE
SHOPIAN, DECEMBER 12

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Faz Lul Haseeb today handed-over Abhinandan Patras among Pani Samitis of four villages of the district under Jal Jeevan Mission, marking a significant achievement of universal coverage of households with FHTCs.

The villages where the piped water with full functional tap water connections was provided and felicitated today include Chitragam, Qungnoo, Gatipora and Mujpathri villages.

645 Households, including 144 households of Chitragam, 106 households of Qungnoo and 395 households of Gatipora



and Mujpathri got benefitted by Jal Jeevan Mission scheme recently and are provided quality and adequate drinking water facility as per the norms of JJM.

Speaking on the occasion, DC congratulated the villages, represented by Pani Samitis Members, and Jal Shakti Department, JJM officials and other stakeholders for the commendable feat.

The DC on the occasion, stressed upon the executing agency of JJM works and IEC activities. He directed for immediate commissioning of 13 water supply schemes which are in the final stage.

It was also intimated that the work of water supply schemes are speedily going on and shall be commissioned within timelines.

Traffic awareness program held in Secondary, HS Schools across Doda district to promote road safety

J1 NEWS SERVICE
DODA DECEMBER 12

A mega traffic awareness campaign was today held at Government Higher Secondary School Boys Baderwah as part of a special drive launched in the district to imbibe among the students the habit of following traffic rules and observing road safety norms.

The Awareness campaign has been launched on the direction of the District Development Commissioner, Harvinder Singh, while the events are being supervised by Chief Education Officer Purshotam Gorla.

The School Principal Dr. Nazir Ahmed supervised the event which saw active participation of staff, students, and NCC cadets. The program aimed to enhance awareness among local vehicle and bike owners about the importance of adhering to traffic rules for a safer community. In conjunction with the traffic awareness initiative, NCC cadets organized a cleanliness drive, further contributing to the overall betterment of the community. Arif Rana, serving as both a teacher and NCC officer,



efficiently coordinated the entire program, ensuring its smooth execution and impactful outcomes.

Similar programmes were reported from GHSS Boys Doda, GHSS Girls Doda, and other Government Higher Secondary (GHS) and Government High (GH) Schools across the district.

During the awareness programs, students played a crucial role by taking out rallies holding placards and engaging with drivers of matadors, autos, and buses operat-

ing on different routes. Their efforts were dedicated to sensitizing drivers about responsible and safe driving practices. Additionally, a pledge to follow traffic rules was administered to students, reinforcing the commitment to fostering a culture of road safety. This collaborative effort reflects a proactive approach to instilling responsible behavior and upholding traffic regulations for the well-being of all residents in the region.

Director Agriculture, Enforcement team inspect various fertilizer dealers



J1 NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, DECEMBER 12

The Director Agriculture Production and Farmers Welfare Kashmir, Chowdhary Mohammad Iqbal on a surprise visit to district Shopian along with the team of enforcement officers inspected various fertilizer dealers and seized materials without specification/labeling on bags at Sugoo Imamsahab, Shopian.

He said that Agriculture department Kashmir has put all the concerned officers on job at all the districts of Kashmir division to curb the

menace of spurious pesticides in the division.

Director Agriculture impressed upon all the stakeholders to ensure that only the quality/genuine inputs (insecticides/pesticides/fertilizers) is made available to the farming community.

Iqbal said that the quality of an agriculture input plays a pivotal role in the overall success of an agriculture enterprise. He said a coordinated approach among the stakeholders is necessary for upholding the interests of the farming community of the region.

DCDC meet held at Bandipora

J1 NEWS SERVICE
BANDIPORA, DECEMBER 12

On the directions of Deputy Commissioner Bandipora and to discuss and strategize the growth and development of cooperative activities in the district, the Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Bandipora, Mohammad Ashraf Hakak Tuesday chaired District Cooperative Development Committee (DCDC) meeting at New VC Room, Mini Secretariat, here.

The ADCDC said that District Cooperative Development Committee plays a crucial role in fostering cooperation and coordination among different cooperative societies and organizations within the region.

He said it acts as a pivotal platform for promoting sustainable economic development, empowering local communities and enhancing the overall socio-economic landscape of Bandipora.

The ADCDC emphasized the need to prioritize cooperative activities to ensure the welfare of farmers, artisans, and other stakeholders in the rural and urban areas of Bandipora.

The Deputy Registrar Cooperative Societies Bandipora informed that the committee explored opportunities for skill development programs, training workshops, and capacity-building initiatives to empower cooperative members with modern techniques and knowledge.

He said that the department has framed strategies to improve market linkages for cooperative produce, helping local farmers and artisans access larger markets and garner better prices for their products. He informed that under J&K Cooperative Societies Act 1989, a total of 24 Cooperative Societies are functional within the district. He further informed that under J&K Self Reliant Cooperative Act 1999, there are 105 cooperatives registered in the district. The meeting discussed measures to promote financial inclusion by providing easy access to credit and banking services to cooperative members, thereby uplifting their standard of living. The ADCDC assured every possible support to the department to create an enabling environment for cooperative growth, fostering self-reliance, and ensuring overall socio-economic progress. The meeting was attended by Deputy Registrar Cooperative Society District Bandipora Adnan Nazir, Assistant Registrar Headquarters Bandipora, officers of different other concerned departments besides representatives from various cooperative sectors.

Power shutdown

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DECEMBER 12

Chief Engineer (Distribution) JPDCL, Jammu has informed that the power supply to Jourian, Troti, Muthi, Mara, Bakora, Rakh Muthi, PHE, BSF, Border Migrant, Sohal, Palwan and adjoining areas will remain affected on December 13 from 9 am to 1 pm.

Similarly, the power supply to City, Choudharynar, Gambhir, PWD and adjoining areas will remain affected on December 13 from 9 am to 3 pm. Meanwhile, the Superintending Engineer (Distribution) JPDCL, O&M Circle Kathua has informed that the power supply to Ghagwal, Jatwal, PGCIL and adjoining areas will remain affected on December 13 from 9 am to 12 noon.

Similarly, the power supply to Dyalachak, Pathwal, Dhali and adjoining areas will remain affected on December 13 from 11 am to 2 pm.

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra: KCC Cultivating Success for farming community in Bani

JI NEWS SERVICE
KATHUA, DECEMBER 12

In the serene and remote Panchayat of Gatti, nestled in the heart of Block Bani, a success story is unfolding, echoing the transformative impact of the Kisan Credit Card (KCC) initiative. Meet Nisar Ahmed, a dedicated farmer who has not only weathered the challenges of his agrarian pursuits but has also flourished, thanks to the government's foresight in introducing the KCC.

Nisar Ahmed's journey to prosperity was recently shared as part of the "Meri Kahani Meri Zubani" segment during the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, shedding light on the posi-

tive changes the KCC has brought to his life and the lives of many others in his community.

For Nisar, who calls the remote Panchayat Gatti his home, agriculture has always been more than just a profession; it's a way of life. However, the unpredictable nature of farming, coupled with financial constraints, often posed significant challenges. Before the introduction of the KCC, Nisar, like many other farmers in his region, struggled to secure the necessary funds for agricultural inputs, machinery, and other essential resources.

The Kisan Credit Card, a visionary initiative by the government, changed



the game for Nisar and his fellow farmers. The card provided them with easy access to credit, enabling them to invest in their farms and enhance productivity. Nisar Ahmed expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the Prime Minister for prioritizing the financial well-being of farmers through the KCC.

With the newfound handholding and support,

Nisar was able to adopt modern agricultural practices, purchase quality seeds, and avail technical insights from the agriculture department. The results were remarkable. Nisar not only increased the yield of his crops but also managed to cultivate two crops in a year successfully, a feat previously deemed unattainable.

"The Kisan Credit Card has been a game-changer for us. We are now not just cultivating crops; we are cultivating success," Nisar Ahmed shared during the Meri Kahani Meri Zubani segment.

The success story of Nisar Ahmed serves as a testament to the transformative power of targeted

government initiatives. The KCC has not only empowered farmers economically but has also instilled a sense of hope and confidence in rural communities across the nation.

As the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra continues to unfold, stories like Nisar's inspire and underscore the commitment of the government to the holistic development of the nation, particularly in the rural heartlands where the essence of India's growth lies. Nisar Ahmed's journey from struggle to success epitomizes the vision of a Viksit Bharat, a developed and flourishing India where every farmer can realize their full potential.

VBSY ensures services to last man in queue, governance at people's doorsteps in Reasi

JI NEWS SERVICE
REASI, DECEMBER 12

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, an instrumental platform for citizens to access government services conveniently, continues to make strides in facilitating public welfare. The specially designed Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) van reached Kyala Suketar, Shadole, Bangankote and Dhansal today, marking another milestone in its mission. This campaign has become a beacon for the community, providing essential services and disseminating crucial information about various Government of India initiatives tailored for the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

The day witnessed an array of offerings aimed at benefiting the public, including free health camps, Aadhar updating facilities, and sanctions of loans under the PM SVANidhi scheme. The IEC van became a hub for disseminating awareness regard-



ing pivotal Central Government welfare schemes like Mudra loans, Stand Up India, Start Up India, Ayushman Bharat, PM Ujjwala Yojana, and more.

A significant number of individuals availed themselves of free screenings for prevalent diseases such as Diabetes, Tuberculosis, and high blood pressure, underscoring the importance of accessible healthcare initiatives.

The event was enriched by the heartfelt testimonials of beneficiaries, sharing personal experiences and reviews of their encounters with various government schemes. Alongside these engage-

ments, the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra incorporated sports activities, cultural presentations, and drone demonstrations, fostering an inclusive and vibrant atmosphere.

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra remains committed to its core objective of reaching out to communities, creating awareness, and delivering the benefits of welfare schemes, including sanitation, financial services, electricity access, LPG cylinder distribution, housing for the underprivileged, food security, nutritional support, healthcare accessibility, and clean drinking water.

Transformative wave sweeps through district Doda: Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra empowers locals

JI NEWS SERVICE
DODA, DECEMBER 12

The district Doda is witnessing great enthusiasm and passion amid the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra which unfolds into outreach camps at the designated Panchayats.

This initiative, spanning across the blocks of Ghat, Khellani, Marmat, Bhaderwah, Gundna, Jakyas, and Changa, aims to raise awareness about government initiatives for the holistic development of the region.

The yatra has left an indelible mark on numerous panchayats, including Khellani, Malhori, Ghat Arnora, Bhabhore, Chinchora, Jalga, Pershulla A and Pershulla B, Gondow A and Gondow B, Achhair and Chantbala where residents displayed overwhelming enthusiasm and passion.

Each panchayat witnessed the warmed welcome of viksit Bharat Sankalp yatra van, vibrant cultural programs, sports activities, and the showcasing of the government-sponsored schemes on big LED screens

The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra not only highlights the rich cultural heritage of the region but also provides a platform to different government departments to showcase their flagship schemes and services. The event, featuring pledge ceremonies, health checkup camps, quiz competitions, and cultural activities, received a warm welcome at all designated panchayats.

The Frontline workers and local residents gathered to celebrate the Prime Minister's vision being conveyed on big LED screens at all the venues.

VBSY witnesses massive turnout of people in Kupwara district

JI NEWS SERVICE
KUPWARA, DECEMBER 12

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY) is witnessing a massive turnout of people in frontier Kupwara district making a transformative impact.

More than 93, 532 people have participated in the programme which was kick started in the district on Nov 21.

9 Panchayats of Block Kralpora of Kupwara district were covered today under VBSY which included Aloosa, Batpora A, Batpora B, Kralpora A, Kralpora B, Kralpora C, Dardepora-D, Dardepora E and Dardsun A.

With this, 241 Panchayats, out of total 385 Panchayats of the district have been covered till date under VBSY.

All Panchayats where VBSY was organized today presented a festive look



with huge crowds thronging the venues of VBSY for instant enrollment in Government Schemes.

From Free Medical Checkups to Zero-Balance Bank Accounts, Aadhar Updates and ABHA IDs, beneficiaries of all ages are taking instant benefits. Local beneficiaries, progressive farmers and successful entrepreneurs shared their positive experiences under 'Meri Kahani Meri Zubani'.

As part of the campaign, the IEC vans reached different Panchayats today

amid a warm welcome by the Officers, PRIs and people. These Vans conveyed the message of the Prime Minister's vision of making India a developed nation by 2047.

The people took the pledge and expressed their commitment for the cause.

Representatives of the line departments also presented their stalls and showcased schemes run by the government for the public welfare. They also distributed pamphlets and brochures to the people.

DDC Kupwara reviews progress under R&B, RDD sectors



JI NEWS SERVICE
KUPWARA, DECEMBER 12

The District Development Commissioner (DDC) Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan today convened a series of meetings of concerned officers to review the performance of Roads & Buildings (R&B) department and Rural Development Department (RDD).

While taking meeting of the R&B department, DDC stressed upon the concerned officers to speed up the pace of execution of works and ensure completion of all ongoing works by the end of this month. She exhorted them to improve the expenditure and asked them to submit the progress on a weekly basis to her office.

It was informed that expenditure of Rs.181 lakh has been incurred under various sectors by November 2023. Besides, 302 works have also been allotted for the execution. Under ADF Grants, it

was informed that 263 works were allotted in all 6 R&B Divisions of the Kupwara district out of which 100 works stands completed and expenditure to the tune of Rs.194.53 lakh have been incurred so far.

The DDC also took a detailed review of R&B works going on in different departments including Health and Education.

The DDC also reviewed the progress of major infrastructure projects of GMC Handwara, GDC Vilgam, Handwara Bungus road, Transit Accommodations at Kulangam and Nutnussa.

The meeting was attended by ADDC Kupwara, SE R&B, JD Planning, CEO, CMO, DIO, CEO LBDDA, Executive Engineers of all Divisions and other concerned officers.

In a separate meeting, the DDC reviewed the progress made under various schemes of the Rural Development Department during which she impressed upon the offi-

cers to ensure completion of all ongoing works by the end of the current month.

ACD Kupwara, Mudasir Ahmad gave a detailed PowerPoint presentation and briefed the DDC about the progress achieved by the RDD under various schemes including ADF, SSSY, ABDP, APDS, MGNREGA, PMAY (G) and SBM-G. The DDC directed the officers to start execution of all pending works within 4 days positively. She asked them to submit the list of works having LoI, Land or any other issue to her office so that these can be cleared at an earliest.

Regarding PMAY (G), the DDC directed the BDOs to process Geo-tagged photographs for release of the 2nd installment to the beneficiaries. They were also asked to speed up FTO generation of the PMAY (G) beneficiaries. The meeting was attended by ACD Kupwara, XENREW, BDOs and engineering staff of RDD.

Progress on Jal Jeevan mission projects reviewed in Samba



JI NEWS SERVICE
SAMBA, DECEMBER 12

Deputy Commissioner Samba, Abhishhek Sharma today presided over a crucial review meeting that set the future course for effective implementation of the Jal Jeevan mission.

Senior Officers, including Mission Director G.N. Itoo, Consultant Manish Bhatt, and representatives from different departments, attended the meeting virtually.

The meeting commenced with a comprehensive presentation by the Superintending Engineer of the Hydraulic Circle Jammu, discussing the progress of civil, electromechanical, and drilling works related to Tube wells and Bore-wells under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM). The DC Samba conducted a thorough review of each scheme and set the deadline for completion of the projects by the end of December 2023, with the aim of achieving 100% district saturation by the 26th of January 2024. He stressed the urgency

to expedite the drilling of balance Tube wells in areas facing water stagnation and design discharge issues. He urged both civil divisions and contractors to increase efforts and meet the assigned targets on time, instructing the contractors to augment their manpower.

Emphasis was placed on accountability and quality control. The Assistant Executive Engineer was tasked with completing the Household Tap Connection (HGJ) certification for all villages within finalized schemes. The DC set 20th December 2023 as the deadline for geotagging of assets and Public Water Sources (PWS). The respective Independent Support Agencies (ISA) were asked to strictly adhere to their Terms of Reference.

To ensure transparency and accountability in all operations, the Third Party Inspection team has been assigned the responsibility of closely monitoring ongoing activities at various sites and submitting weekly reports with test results.

DC Reasi flags off 5-Day Residential Trekking expedition to Patnitop

JI NEWS SERVICE
REASI, DECEMBER 12

District Development Commissioner, Vishesh Mahajan, today flagged off a 5-day residential trekking expedition of boys and girls to Patnitop. The voyage has been organized by the District Youth Services and Sports Department. The camp is scheduled to commence from the 12th of December, 2023, and will culminate on 16th of December, 2023, at the picturesque Patnitop.

Speaking on the occasion, the DDC said such camps aim to encourage outdoor activities and foster a spirit of adventure among the youth. The trekking camp is designed to provide an immersive experience in the lap of nature, allowing participants to explore the breathtaking landscapes and enrich their understanding regarding ecology and environmental conservation. Partici-



pants will engage in various activities, including guided treks, team-building exercises, and interactive sessions focusing on environmental awareness and sustainable practices.

The camp intends to instill values of resilience, leadership, and camaraderie among the students, empowering them to become responsible global citizens. DDC expressed his enthusiasm for this initiative, emphasizing the importance of such experiences in shaping the holistic development of the youth. He highlighted

the significance of outdoor activities in nurturing a deeper connection with nature while simultaneously honing essential life skills.

The DDC extended gratitude to all the supporting partners and stakeholders whose contributions have made this residential trekking camp possible.

ACR Anshumali Sharma, Chief Agriculture Officer Harbans Singh, District Youth Services and Sports Officer Tersem Singh and teachers were also present on the occasion.

GDC Marh live telecast of PM's initiative Viksit Bharat@2047

JI NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DECEMBER 12

Government Degree College Marh enthusiastically participated in the live telecast of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, initiative, "Viksit Bharat@2047: Voice of Youth under the guidance of college Principal Prof (Dr.) Rakesh Kumar Koul.

Addressing the participants, the Principal of the college emphasized the significance of the Prime Minister's vision, which seeks the active engagement of the youth in shaping the nation's plans, priorities, and goals. He stressed that students need to work hard and come with their innovative ideas to solve the problems of society.

The event was organized for faculty and students in the Conference Hall of the college where the live streaming of the formal launch of the Viksit Bharat @2047 by Prime Minister was witnessed.

After witnessing the



launch of Viksit Bharat @2047 by Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, an interactive Session and panel discussion was also organized among the Principal, Faculty and students.

The post event Session was thrown open by the Principal of the College. He provided a holistic overview of the forthcoming journey of the country in attaining the feat of a developed nation by 2047. He interacted with the students and responded to many questions ranging from the future of India vis a-vis new trends in technology, future of AI, need of skill-based courses. The problems of the rural areas such as solid waste management, its

proper collection, transport, treatment and disposal was also discussed. Youth should come up with inventive ideas for major challenges such as waste management, cleaning of local water bodies which are a key aspect to achieve environmental sustainability and social progress.

Anjana Chib (HOD EVS) and Madhvi Parasher (HOD Botany) explained that the only solution of waste management is to reduce consumption and adopt a zero waste lifestyle. A Viksit Bharat club was also formed by the students headed by Anjana Chib and Ravi Kumar PTI in which 55 students joined the group.

FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

Lok Sabha approves...

wouldn't affect the powers of Lieutenant Governor to nominate two members to the Legislative Assembly, if in his opinion, women are not adequately represented in the House. The provision empowering the LG to nominate two women as MLAs has not been scrapped from The Jammu & Kashmir Reorganisation Act-2019.

The bill was being brought as "The Constitution (One Hundred and Twenty-Eighth Amendment) Bill-2023, cleared by the Parliament in September this year for granting political reservation to women in Lok Sabha and state assemblies, was not applicable to the Assembly of Jammu & Kashmir UT. KNO

Lt Governor unveils...

students and researchers to build a strong, prosperous J&K which was dreamt of by General Zorawar Singh, he said.

The Lt Governor attended the commemorative event organized by General Zorawar Singh Memorial Educational and Charitable Trust, and J&K Ex-Services League and lauded their efforts to highlight the contribution of General Zorawar Singh in India's history.

He reiterated the resolve of the UT Administration to honour the valour and sacrifice of immortal heroes of J&K.

"History of great personalities like General Zorawar Singh, Brig Rajinder Singh, Maqbool Sherwani will be taught to the students in schools of J&K. Their life, courage, conquest is a lesson about patriotism, discipline, self-confidence and it will inspire students to achieve the goal of making India a Developed Nation," the Lt Governor said.

He directed the J&K Academy of Art, Culture and Languages to prepare a monograph on the life of General Zorawar Singh in Tamil Language.

It is the duty of every citizen to uphold and protect the unity and integrity of the nation. Young generation must strive to become worthy heirs of great leaders who struggled and sacrificed to build a new destiny of the country. With those ideals, values and civilizational strength we should focus on building a brighter future, he said.

Maj Gen Goverdhan Singh Jamwal (Retd.), Lt Gen RK Sharma (Retd.) and Thakur Gulchain Singh Charak, former Minister also spoke on the occasion.

Padam Shri SP Varma, President Gandhi Global Family; Prof. Umesh Rai, Vice Chancellor Jammu University; Sh Ramesh Kumar, Divisional Commissioner Jammu; Sh Anand Jain, IGP Jammu; Sh Devinder Singh Kaluria, Chairman General Zorawar Singh Memorial Trust and Trustees-Ms Riya Kaluria and Diksha Kaluria; prominent citizens and students in large number were present.

JK Govt has signed PPAs...

implement smart metering, ensuring end to end solution including integration with MDM, enabling pre-paid functionality & other smart features so that the benefits of the technology are effectively passed on to the consumers.

The Ministry also directed CPSUs engaged in the RDSS implementation to promptly award and initiate the execution of all projects entrusted to them, recognizing the intended impact of RDSS works in transforming J&K's power sector.

J&K LG apprised the union minister about continuance of obsolete wires and other network elements especially in rural areas which cause undue power interruptions.

At the same time, the minister called for a comprehensive proposal for the same and assured sufficient funding for system revamping. KNO

Some teachers in...

level qualification were teaching students at Primary level from classes' I-V.'

Similarly, at Upper Primary level from classes VI-VIII, at least '79 teachers were not possessing the requisite qualifications to teach the students'.

Likewise at Secondary level from classes IX-X, 'at least 10 government teachers teaching classes IX-X were having below secondary level qualification.'

The official figures also state that at Higher Secondary level, 'there were 3 such teachers who were possessing below secondary level qualification and were teaching classes XI-XII.'

Principal Secretary School Education Department Alok Kumar and Director of School Education Kashmir (DSEK) Tassaduq Hussain Mir were not available to speak about the matter. KNO

Over 2900 Kanals...

are several Kashmiri Migrant families who have migrated to other parts of the country. 5,675 Kashmiri Migrants have been provided government employment. In order to provide accommodation to the Kashmiri Migrants who are provided government employment in the Kashmir valley, 6000 transit accommodation units are constructed, out of which 880 flats have been completed," he said.

He said that the Government of Jammu and Kashmir has launched an online portal in August, 2021 wherein Kashmiri Migrants can lodge online grievances with regards to encroachment, change of title, Mutation and distress sale and till date, 2924 Kanals and 19.55 Marlas land has been retrieved. He also said that so far, 160856 domicile certificates, 2035 Resident of Backward Area (RBA) certificates, 902 EWS certificates and 31672 migrant certificates have been issued. KNO

Night temperature...

Chillai-Kalan is followed by 20-day long Chillai Khurd. Pertinently, under the influence of a feeble WD, the night temperature improved across Kashmir with Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir recording a low of minus 1.5 degree Celsius.

In Qazigund, the mercury settled at minus 2.6 degree Celsius while Kokernag recorded a low of minus 2.3 degree Celsius.

Kupwara in north Kashmir recorded a low of minus

2.4 degree Celsius.

In Gulmarg, the mercury settled at minus 3.5 degree Celsius while Pahalgam shivered at minus 1.5 degree Celsius.

Meanwhile, the weatherman has stated that shallow to moderate fog likely to continue at many places of Kashmir division. KNO

Lt Governor releases...

congratulated the Para-archer on his appointment as an Assistant Coach in the Shrine Board Sports Complex. He said the remarkable performance of Sh Rakesh Kumar in the international events is a source of inspiration for many aspiring athletes.

The Lt Governor also released Panchang Calendar 2024 and diary of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board. Sh Anshul Garg, Chief Executive Officer, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board briefed the Lt Governor on the action taken report on recent decision of the Board including construction of new Vaishnavi Bhawan, establishment of medical college at Kakryal, passenger Rope-way from Tarakote to Sanjhichhat, widening of track from Sanjhichhat to Bhawan and new langar facility at Bhairon ji.

Members of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board including Dr. Ashok Bhan, Dr. Neelam Sareen, Sh Suresh Kumar Sharma and Sh Raghu K. Mehta; Padma Shri Prof. Vishwamurti Shastri, Member, SMVD Gurukul; Dr. Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to the Lt Governor and senior official of Shrine Board were present.

Shah Rukh Khan visits...

media, which shows Shah Rukh, along with his bodyguards and managers, walking along the cobbled path of the shrine in Jammu.

In the video Khan can be seen in black puffer jacket with the hoodie on.

His manager Pooja Dadlani was also seen with him. Earlier, Shah Rukh visited Vaishno Devi on December 12 last year before the release of Pathaan, which marked his comeback to the big screen after four years. KNO

92% construction of...

accorded approval for the establishment of five medicities in the UT. He said that 92% of civil construction work of AIIMS Jammu has been completed, while 1450 faculty and non-faculty posts have been sanctioned out of which 549 have been filled up. He said that 01 MRI machines have been delivered at AIIMS Jammu, while 44% of civil construction work of AIIMS Avantipora has been completed.

The minister added that seven new medical colleges at Doda, Kathua, Rajouri, Anantnag, Baramulla, Handwara and Udhampur have been approved till date. "As per the scheme guidelines, planning, execution and commissioning of the projects and operation and recruitment of staff for the approved Government Medical Colleges is the responsibility of J&K. Establishment of Trauma care facilities has been approved for four hospitals including MMAM District Hospital Anantnag, Trauma Hospital Ramban, Doda, District Hospital Udhampur and District Hospital Kupwara," he added.

He also said that approval has been accorded by J&K for the establishment five Medicities of which 2 each will be set up in Jammu and Pulwama and one in Srinagar. KNO

CS for improving quality...

that the relevant courses and rigorous training of the students could change the landscape of fetching them the desirable jobs. He asked for preparing these Institutes to be hubs of imparting right kind of skill sets which are in demand in the market bolstered with incubation and mentorship to safeguard the future of the students.

He even advised them to track the pass outs of these institutions for taking feedback from them besides studying the kind of challenges they face in securing employment for them. He also asked for carrying out a survey toknow about the skill gap between our population and the needs of industries out there.

The Chief Secretary took this occasion to ask the Department to work out a plan for optimal utilization of Centers of Excellence established here. He asked them to take full benefits from the schemes like PMKVY, STRIVE and SANKALP to make our youth and marginal groups skilled for their empowerment.

While remarking that skill development is basically about learning by doing the Chief Secretary asked about the status of labs besides the kind of machinery and instruments available in skill institutions for learning of students. He enquired about the faculty in position there besides the plans of the Department to upgrade the curriculum and quality manpower in these institutes.

In his presentation the Commissioner Secretary, SDD, Saurabh Bhagat informed the meeting about the achievements and schemes in progress in the Department. He made out that the Department is offering all services online to its enrolled students. He added that out of the intake capacity of 15638 in it is and 3500 in our polytechnics the Board of Technical Education (BOTE) is able to fill around 95% of them.

He further informed that the Department has established 2 Centers of Excellence at ITI Kathua and Budgam in collaboration with Industries imparting automobile related training to 800 trainees of 27 ITIs. Besides he revealed that a Centrally Sponsored Scheme STRIVE is implemented in 7 ITIs, VTIP in 2 it is, CIIT scheme under polytechnic sector at Jammu and Baramulla for introducing Industry 4.0 here.

Regarding the working of Science & Technology (S&T) Department the Chief Secretary stressed on reserving more efforts for completing the solar energy projects under implementation in the UT. He called for providing right advice to Industries in shifting to solar power. He asked for having collaboration with PDD to complete the projects like PM KUSUM and Grid connected Solar Rooftop projects here.

The Commissioner Secretary informed the meeting about the status of these projects under implementa-

MGSB commemorates General Zorawar Singh's Death Anniversary with Floral Tributes

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 12

The Maharaja Gulab Singh Brigade, a distinguished organization committed to preserving and honoring the rich history of Jammu and Kashmir, solemnly observed the death anniversary of the legendary General Zorawar Singh on 12 Dec, 2023. The event, held at the office of the brigade, witnessed a poignant tribute as members of the brigade gathered to pay homage to the fearless warrior.

Amidst the solemn atmosphere, floral tributes were offered by the members of the Maharaja Gulab Singh Brigade, symbolizing their deep respect for General Zorawar Singh's contributions to the defense and expansion of the region. The ceremony served as a poignant reminder of the sacrifices made by the valiant soldiers who have played pivotal roles in shaping the history of Jammu and Kashmir.

Speaking on the occasion, Sh. Rajay Jamwal, President of the Maharaja Gulab Singh Brigade, reflected on the unparalleled valor of General Zorawar Singh. He under-



scored the importance of remembering and honoring the brave leaders who have left an indelible mark on the history of the region. Sh. Jamwal emphasized the need to preserve the legacy of General Zorawar Singh and instill his spirit of bravery in the hearts of future generations.

Adding further insights, Sh. Anil Singh Rakwal, Working President of the brigade, provided a historical perspective on General Zorawar Singh's significant role in extending the borders of Jammu and Kashmir into Tibet. Sh. Rakwal highlighted the strategic brilliance and military prowess of General Zorawar Singh, who played a crucial role in safeguarding the territorial integrity of the region.

The event served as a platform for members of

the Maharaja Gulab Singh Brigade to come together in unity, expressing their shared commitment to honoring the legacy of General Zorawar Singh. Tarsem Singh, Atul Sharma, Diwakar Singh (Vice President), Gaurav Chadha (Secretary) and S Ranjeet Singh (Secretary) were also present on the occasion. The commemoration not only paid homage to a remarkable military leader but also reinforced the importance of preserving and promoting the rich cultural and historical heritage of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Maharaja Gulab Singh Brigade remains steadfast in its dedication to commemorating the heroes of the past, ensuring that their stories of courage and sacrifice continue to inspire and resonate with generations to come.

Langeh terms SC's verdict on Art 370 historic

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DECEMBER 12

Neelam Langeh, President J&K BJP SC Morcha and former Legislator, today lauded the Supreme Court's verdict upholding the abrogation of Article 370, calling it a "historic moment" for the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

In a statement issued here today, the former Legislator said for more than seven decades, the people of Jammu region, especially several communities, were deprived of their fundamental rights due to this controversial Article. "Several political parties like National Conference, PDP, and others misled the people and used Article 370 as a tool for their vested interests," he added.

Langeh lauded the bold decision of the Modi government to abrogate Article 370 on August 5, 2019, calling it a courageous and decisive step that was long overdue. He said, "The Modi government's commitment to national integration and the well-being of the people of Jammu and Kashmir is truly commendable. Under their leadership, J&K has witnessed unprecedented



development across various sectors, including infrastructure, healthcare, education, and tourism. This clearly demonstrates the positive impact of removing Article 370 and the immense potential of Jammu and Kashmir to thrive within the framework of the Indian Constitution."

"Today, the Supreme Court has delivered justice to the people of Jammu and Kashmir. The dream of 'One Nation, One Constitution' has finally been fulfilled. This verdict paves the way for a brighter future for the region, free from discrimination and injustice," he said.

The senior BJP leader expressed his confidence that the abrogation of Article 370 will bring about positive changes in Jammu and Kashmir, leading to greater integration with the rest of India, social and economic development, and a more secure environment for all citizens.

Muslim neighbours perform last rites of Kashmiri Pandit man in Kulgam

JNEWS SERVICE
KULGAM, DEC 12

Muslim neighbors performed the last rites of an elderly Kashmiri Pandit in Kulgam district, exemplifying the Valley's tradition of upholding communal harmony and brotherhood.

Mohan Lal Koul, an 84-year-old resident of Cheyan Adigam in Devsar, according to

news agency passed away Tuesday morning after a brief illness.

Upon learning of his death, the Muslim community in the village made special arrangements for the last rites.

Locals said that they had been living together for decades and shared a strong bond.

"It is our duty to help neighbors irrespective of their religion. We have been helping them

NSS SMVDU volunteers participate in Nat'l Adventure Camp at Manali



JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 12

NSS SMVDU, Katra volunteers participated in a 10-day National Adventure camp at Manali. The camp was organized by the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Mountaineering and Allied Sports (ABVIMAS), Manali, and funded by the Regional Directorate, NSS New Delhi. A total of 67 participants, including 04 from SMVDU, embarked on a challenging 95km trek, reaching an altitude of 10,100 feet. The camp focused on enhancing mountaineering skills, covering aspects like mountain manners, hazard management, and engaging in activities such as rock climbing, rappelling,

472 calls received, 284 structures gutted in Srinagar till Nov this year: Fire services dept

JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, DEC 12

Srinagar district witnessed over 472 fire calls, which resulted in eight injuries and the gutting of 284 structures until November 2023, official reports from the Fire and Emergency Services (F&ES) revealed.

As per data accessed by the news agency, the damaged property in these incidents is estimated to be worth crores of rupees.

The data highlighted the concerning frequency of fire-related emergencies in Srinagar, prompting the F&ES to intensify awareness efforts. Speaking during an awareness-cum-award ceremony, Deputy Director F&ES Commandant Srinagar, Aqib Hussain Mir said the department is committed to educating the public on fire safety.

He said a campaign launched last year involved successful awareness programmes across various parts of the valley. "The primary objective of these initiatives is to inform people about fire safety measures, guide them on responding to incidents in their areas, and empower them to save lives," he said. Understanding the Dos and Don'ts during a fire emergency is crucial, he added.

and river crossing. Beyond physical challenges, the camp aimed to develop social awareness and leadership skills. The success of the event was credited to ABVIMAS' expertise and the volunteers' enthusiasm, showcasing teamwork and camaraderie. The NSS volunteers who participated in the camp were Abhishek Sharma, Dhiraj, Sumegha, and Shreya Gupta. NSS coordinator Dr. Rajiv Kumar and co-coordinator Dr. Kamaldeep congratulated the volunteers for completing the National camp. Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Pragati Kumar appreciated the efforts of NSS volunteers and congratulated them for bringing laurels to the University.

tion here. He informed that the 200 MW Jammu Solar City Mission involving 50000 households of the city is currently under implementation here.

Besides he revealed that for the promotion of Agriculture sector PM KUSUM for providing solar pumps to agriculturists is implemented by the S&T department.

He said that 4000 solar pumps above 15 HP capacity are aimed by the Department to cover under it. Besides for general public JaKeGA has scheme for providing solar power units of varying capacities for use in domestic sector with provision of attractive subsidy on the same. KNO

SKUAST Kashmir empowers Rural Youth with Skill Development Training programs

JI NEWS SERVICE
PULWAMA, DECEMBER 12

The Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST) Kashmir celebrated the successful conclusion of four one-week skill development training programs held at Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Pulwama today.

The training programs covered diverse skill areas, including sheep farming, mushroom production, horticulture nursery raising, and fodder production, aiming to empower rural unemployed youth. The valedictory function witnessed the participation of over 120 enthusiastic trainees.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, Dr. Basharat Qayoom was the chief guest of the occasion. He commended the efforts of KVK in skill upgrading and technology dissemination.

While speaking about the Holistic Agriculture Development programme, the DC said that there are around 29 schemes in HADP which can be availed by the farmers. He assured continued support for the proper implementation of HADP



programs and applauded the substantial female participation in the training.

He also emphasized the untapped potential in sectors like agriculture, fisheries, and horticulture in District Pulwama. He announced the District Administration's commitment to sponsoring future training programs conducted by KVK to further harness this potential.

Prof. M.A.A Sidique,

Director Education, SKUAST-K, emphasized the pivotal role of extension services and successful technology transfer from lab to land in the development of the rural economy.

Prof. D.M. Makhdoom, Director Extension SKUAST-K, highlighted SKUAST-K's initiatives in uplifting the morale of unemployed rural youth by transforming them into

employment generators.

Certificates were distributed among all participants, recognizing their successful completion of the training programs. The event showcased the commitment of District Administration and SKUAST Kashmir and in fostering rural development through skill enhancement, contributing to the overall socio-economic growth of the region.

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra Reaches Block Marheen Bani, Panchayats spreading PM Modi's vision for a developed India

JI NEWS SERVICE
KATHUA, DECEMBER 12

The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY) reached new milestones as the VBSY Van traversed through Marheen and Bani Panchayats.

The public outreach campaign touched Chak Gopala, Chak Bhagwana, Devochak, Hariipur, Fatehpur, Sitti, Sandroon, Kardoh, Lahri, Banjal Bhatwal, Bhatodi, and Sadrota-A. The VBSY Van, a mobile unit carrying the essence of the development journey, screened a special video message from Prime Minister Narendra Modi, emphasizing his vision of making India a developed nation by 2047.

In the video message, Prime Minister Modi urged citizens to take a pledge to work collectively for the progress and prosperity of the country. The VBSY Van served as a platform for the people to connect with the Prime Minister's vision, fostering a sense of commitment and unity among the residents. During the event, representatives of the line departments were present to explain the procedures for availing benefits of



government schemes and programs aimed at public welfare. The attendees received informative pamphlets and brochures, and their queries were addressed by the department representatives.

One of the highlights of the event was the provision of free healthcare services under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, benefiting numerous attendees. In recognition of the vital contribution made by Progressive Farmers to the agriculture sector, they were given the platform to share their stories of transformation, encouraging further growth and innovation in farming practices.

The event was not just an informative gathering but a practical application of government initiatives, ensuring that the ben-

efits reached those who needed them most.

Apart from these crucial activities, various departments took the opportunity to showcase their achievements and educate attendees about different schemes operating in their jurisdictions. The VBSY, known for its inclusive approach, drew massive participation from women, highlighting their active role in the development process.

The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra continues to resonate with citizens across the nation, fostering a spirit of collaboration, development, and progress. As the journey progresses, it brings the vision of a developed India one step closer, reflecting the government's commitment to the comprehensive growth of the nation.

Total Hip replacement surgery conducted at DH Shopian

JI NEWS SERVICE
SHOPIAN, DECEMBER 12

A case of total hip replacement was today performed at District Hospital (DH) Shopian, a first of its kind surgery in the district hospitals of South Kashmir.

The surgery was performed by an expert team of orthopedic doctors including Dr. Alamgir Jhan, Dr. Ishad Ganeil, Dr. Altaf and Dr. Abdul Hai, and Anaesthesia and critical care support was provided by Dr. Atif Nabi Shah, Dr. Irfan and Dr. Pragma.

Paramedical team of Javed, Aijaz, Shakir, Faisal assisted in the conduct of the surgery.

The surgery costs about Rs 1.5 lac in private setup but was done under AB-PMJAY free of cost.

Dr. Rubina Maqbool, MS DH Shopian said that this surgery was first of its kind in the district hospitals of South Kashmir. She said the management is trying its best to provide improved and latest healthcare services to the public.

Triumphantly advancing, Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra encompasses 87 Panchayats across District Samba

JI NEWS SERVICE
SAMBA, DECEMBER 12

Continuing its impactful journey, the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra today reached and engaged with communities in Panchayat Channi Manhasan in Block Vijaypur, Panchayat Rajpura in Block Rajpura and Panchayat Paper Avtara in Block Nud.

Locals and Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) warmly embraced the Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) Van, expressing wholehearted enthusiasm for the initiative. Residents seized the opportunity to listen to the Prime Minister's messages through the IEC Van and actively participated in the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Pledge.

The event featured lively cultural performances by school children, themed "Dharti Kahe Pukar Ke," resonating with the essence of Viksit Bharat. Additionally, the program included "Meri Kahani Meri Zubani," where beneficiaries share their inspiring success stories. To improve accessibility



to government services, departmental stalls are strategically set up, offering on-the-spot delivery of services to attendees. This successful day marks

a significant milestone, extending the coverage to an impressive 87 panchayats in District Samba. The ongoing Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra in Samba

continues to showcase exceptional success, fostering community engagement and promoting the principles of development and progress.

DC Doda urges Agri officers to bring up Sustainable Concept Note on each scheme meant for Farmers' welfare

JI NEWS SERVICE
DODA, DECEMBER 12

Deputy Commissioner Doda Harvinder Singh has urged the Agriculture and allied departments to bring up a Sustainable Concept Note on each of the farmers welfare schemes to develop Agriculture as a major sustainable livelihood activity, especially in the rural areas of the district.

He advocated for the increase in the quality, quantity, and area of cultivation for the popular crops of the district, which can in turn improve the income of the farmers and generate employment opportunities in the district. The development of sale points/ Mandis, cold storage, food processing units, and agro industries were also discussed as a critical boost in the development of the agriculture sector. The DC impressed upon the officers to introduce best and novel techniques in the farming suitable to the district to improve the yield.

These directives came during a meeting held in the mini Meeting Hall of the DC office complex today. The meeting discussed the achievements



under the Agriculture and allied Sectors, besides the implementation of the Holistic Agriculture Development Program (HADP) by the Agriculture and allied departments. The DC reviewed the progress under PM Kusum Yojana, Vegetables Development Programme, Apiculture and Mushroom Development Programme, Organic Farming, Post Harvesting and Marketing Infrastructure Development, Farm Mechanisation, Promotion of Flowers and Medicinal Plants, ATMA, SMAM, PMDP/ MIDH, NFSM, PKVY, Rain fed Area Development and UT Capex, besides, HADP. Key departments, including Agriculture,

Horticulture, Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, Sheep Husbandry, Floriculture, and Apiculture were focal points of discussion. The district heads provided detailed insight into agriculture development schemes, highlighting their advantages. The Deputy Commissioner asked each implementing department to achieve the desired targets by effective implementation of the schemes and handholding of the farmers. Further, the discussion centred on increasing the production of Geographical Indication (GI) tagged Rajma and creating a laboratory for its certification.

Further interactions involved assessing prog-

ress made in the promotion of lavender and medicinal plant farming. The sheep husbandry department's performance in mutton and poultry production was also discussed.

The meeting also discussed in detail the Agriculture Credit Linked Schemes. The DC instructed the LDM and district heads to increase the sponsorship of cases to boost the agro sector and agro entrepreneurship in the district.

The meeting was attended by the CAO, CHO, CAHO, DSHO, AD Fisheries, AD Planning DC Office, AD Floriculture, LDM and other concerned officers.

VBSY receives cordial salutation at Mohalla and Dhalkhankote Panchayats

JI NEWS SERVICE
DODA, DECEMBER 12

The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra made its mark in Panchayat Mohalla and Dhalkhankote, within the precincts of Block Gundna, District Doda as it orchestrated a camp to promote implementation of key government initiatives. The PRI members, frontline workers, and the local community warmly greeted the teams during the event. The officers and officials from the relevant department actively engaged with the locals and delivered varied services.

Taking off with the arrival of the IEC Van, the event unfolded with



the screening of an introductory film, followed by the Viksit Bharat Pledge by the participants. The officers engaged with the public, disseminating information about government schemes and listening to the experiences of beneficiaries. The community demonstrated fervent involvement, with the government departments set-

ting up stalls to showcase their flagship initiatives, fostering awareness and participation. The occasion also featured firsthand accounts from scheme beneficiaries under "Meri Kahani, Meri Zubaani," a quiz competition for students, and a medical health checkup camp.

Departmental representatives also highlight-

ed the significance of the schemes like PM KISAN, Vishwakarma, Suraksha Bima Yojana, Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana, Ayushman Bharat, Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, Jan Dhan Yojana, PM Awas Yojana, JJM, Poshan Abhiyaan and various welfare, employment and income generation programs.,

MVD hosts free eye checkup camp for Transporters, Drivers & Conductors at Sailan Talab Udhampur



JI NEWS SERVICE
UDHAMPUR, DECEMBER 12

The Motor Vehicles Department (MVD) Udhampur, in collaboration with Rotary Eye & ENT Hospital Udhampur, conducted a free Eye screening/check-up cum awareness camp for Commercial Vehicle Transporters, Drivers, and Conductors at Sailan Talab, Udham-

pur. The event witnessed Deputy Commissioner Udhampur, Saloni Rai, as the chief guest, and Senior Superintendent of Police Joginder Singh as the guest of honor.

Over 150 Transporters, Drivers, and Conductors actively participated in the camp, where they received comprehensive eye checkups and were educated on the signifi-

cance of adhering to traffic norms. The Assistant Regional Transport Officer, Ramesh Kumar, eye specialists from Rotary Eye Hospital, members of transport unions, and commercial drivers and conductors, were present at the camp.

In her address, DC Saloni Rai emphasized that the camp aimed to facilitate the eye checkup

of road operators, raising awareness about regular eye examinations for safe driving and accident prevention. She also provided insights into Road Safety Parameters, urging drivers to abstain from drugs and intoxicants for their safety and that of passengers. The DC encouraged drivers and conductors to prioritize their health through routine checkups.

EDITORIAL

Unity eludes opposition camp

It is turning out to be a challenging task for the opposition parties to come on a common platform especially against the backdrop of BJP's victory in three state Assembly elections. Opposition parties are facing a challenging task of keeping all constituents of the Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (I.N.D.I.A) bloc together against the backdrop of the simmering differences among them over several key issues. What is important is the timing as it is happening just ahead of the Parliament elections which are scheduled to be held in April-May next year. These parties had decided to join hands with a sole motive of defeating the BJP in the parliamentary elections and dislodging its government at the Centre. In a fresh instance, former chief minister of Jammu and Kashmir and National conference vice president Omar Abdullah castigated the Congress government in Karnataka for banning all forms of head cover during recruitment examinations. 'Why the government is taking such decisions where only Muslims are being targeted' he questioned and sought the intervention of the Congress high command. This is not for the first time when Omar Abdullah has raised the issue which has the potential of affecting the unity of INDIA bloc. Earlier Omar had said, 'All is not well with the INDIA alliance'. He had said that the situation within the opposition INDIA alliance was not good. 'All is not well with the INDIA alliance. Some internal squabbles, which should not have been there, can be seen, especially in the five states where elections are being held', Omar had said, adding 'We have seen how the Samajwadi Party and Congress are fighting each other. Both are saying that they will contest all the seats in UP. This is not good for the INDIA alliance. Maybe after these state elections, we will meet again and will try to work together'. This is despite the fact that the leaders of different political parties have sought to downplay differences that cropped up among constituents of I.N.D.I.A. In five states where the assembly elections are conducted, the decision of some of the constituents of the I.N.D.I.A to fight against each other in these elections raises the serious issue of growing fissures among them. 'If INDIA alliance did not want to share seats in the state elections, then they should have cleared it beforehand. I have been participating in the meetings, and the topic of whether the alliance is for assemblies or not, came up again and again, but there was no decision. And now the result is in front of everyone', Omar had said recently. The People's Democratic Party (PDP) president Mehbooba Mufti has already stated that no decision has been taken yet over contesting elections in Jammu and Kashmir in an alliance with other parties when asked if her party would contest the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly polls, whenever they are held, in an alliance with the National Conference (NC) and Congress. There is no doubt that the BJP is facing anti-incumbency in different states and it is the great opportunity for the opposition parties to corner the Saffron party but the growing differences among INDIA bloc constituents will only give an edge in Lok Sabha polls.

The fall and fall of international law: A Chronicle from Covid to Palestine

RAUSHAN TARA JASWAL

The Covid pandemic and vaccine nationalism, Russo-Ukraine war, and the latest flare up between Israel and Palestine are dire symptoms of a failing international order which needs to be restored urgently, writes Raushan Tara Jaswal.

AS a child, the idea of the United Nations, international law and international relations—all with the common goal of world peace—was fascinating to me.

These incidents motivated me to work in conflict-ridden situations, advocating for human rights, especially at the grassroots. As people tried to dissuade me from this ideal, I became more determined.

However, in the aftermath of a few recent incidents, the disillusionment with the efficacy of international law and organisations has grown more profound. These instances have ranged from the Covid pandemic, the Taliban gaining legitimacy in Afghanistan, the Russian invasion of Ukraine, and recently, the massacre of thousands of innocents in the Gaza Strip (Palestine).

Introduction to international law left an indelible imprint on my mind as a child, fortified later by the writings of Khaled Housseini, the Afghanistan and Syrian crises during my high school years, and the Rohingya crisis during my law school years.

The abject apathy of the international community is a jarring experience for a young, aspiring believer of international law and its apparent normative force, and the recent incidents are indicative of the demise of the importance of international law.

A commonality runs through these incidents, which are sought to be examined through a critical lens and provide a viable, implementable solution. There needs to be a collective awakening that binds the international community, ideally that

shocks the conscience of individuals, civil society and governments to the gross violation of human rights that leads to global change.

The unravelling threads

The Covid pandemic was a startling halt to the world as we knew it. With the national governments being a few steps behind the coronavirus and the havoc it wreaked, hope was pegged ardently on the World Health Organisation (WHO) to show the way.

However, WHO, too, was dominated by the novelty of the virus. This, coupled with the conflicting interests of various nations and the worldwide shutdown—disseminating information, collecting resources and mobilising governments to act accordingly proved arduous.

Not only did the WHO fail to garner consensus on the method to curtail the spread of the virus, but there was also a strategic undermining of the WHO's advisories and recommendations.

During this time, there was a rise of nationalistic politics worldwide, leading to the withholding of R&D information and vaccine hoarding. The intention was to 'protect their own', which often came at the cost of the population of other, more vulnerable nations as a direct threat to global solidarity.

Lacking enforcement mechanisms, international law and institutions are at a moment of reckoning, especially in their inability to maintain global order and peace considering quantifiable 'kerfuffles' worldwide.

With almost seven million deaths worldwide, Covid brought to the surface the lack of efficacy of international organisations, often devoid of enforcement or binding value.

No country for human rights: Afghanistan

While the world was reeling under Covid, simultaneously, another transition was happening

in Afghanistan. Power in a country that has been suffering a long civil war and then an external war with multiple States (because of North Atlantic Treaty Organisation or NATO), changed hands and was restored to the Taliban in 2021.

There was a swift withdrawal of all foreign and allied powers and the withdrawal of all NATO forces and all deployed members of international organisations that were present in Afghanistan.

The Taliban have since imposed a harsh interpretation of Sharia in the country. Apart from restrictions on women's rights, freedom of the media and freedom of expression and battling with a global pandemic, extreme poverty, inadequate food supply and lack of economic opportunities have made it incredibly hard for the nation to succeed.

As women's rights in public life were limited with restrictions on schooling and prohibition of participation in politics, other civil and political rights have also been stripped—especially on movement, dress code and work.

The gross violation of human rights in Afghanistan has been prevalent for decades with no resolution. At least earlier, the aim was to investigate and maintain the illusion of upholding human rights.

Now, the illusion stands shattered with the Taliban regime gaining legitimacy in international legal fora. With no measures of accountability in the domestic fora or international law, the women, minorities and dissenters in Afghanistan have been left to their own devices, highlighting a dire situation for the citizens of Afghanistan.

Ukraine: Toothless sanctions

The challenges of the Global South are often overlooked and undermined due to the lack of economic weight in the global economy. However, recently, this apathy has

also been seen in the light of the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

The Russian aggression has continued for almost two years without any end in sight. With declarations of condemnation and a few economic sanctions, the international community has stood by watching the assault on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine by Russia.

This war has seen some of the grossest violations of international law and international humanitarian law with absolutely no accountability. Despite the highest courts in the world—the International Court of Justice and International Criminal Court—ordering a halt in the Russian operations and the arrest of the Russian President, Vladimir Putin, and a general international consensus on the futility of this war, the war continues to rage on.

This showcases the failure of international law and institutions to effectuate real change at the grassroots. The countermeasures such as sanctions are red herrings considering the more than 30,000 deaths and counting.

Ukraine, to date, has not been able to resume its daily life. In light of the Russian-Chinese cooperation and friendship and both enjoying the Veto Power in the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), any effective sanctions such as the deployment of armed forces by other nations on the ground under Article 2 (4) of the United Nations Charter (Charter) is impossible.

Palestine: Voyeurism over a genocide

Another blow to international law has come in the past month due to the escalation of the Middle Eastern crisis between Israel and Palestine. While the two have been historically at odds with one another, the coordinated attack on October 7 of this year by Hamas on Israel has led to an all-out offensive in the region.

Israel, in response to this attack, has claimed 'self-defence' under Article 51 of the UN Charter and has been responsible for more than 11,000 Palestinian deaths already, and counting.

Israel has used the aegis of the basic tenets of international law to justify its offensive. However, all is not what it seems. Political considerations aside, the Israeli Defence Forces (IDF) has committed gross violations of well-established principles of international human rights law, humanitarian law, criminal law, and customary international law in their attacks in the Gaza Strip.

The indiscriminate retaliation by Israel is against the doctrine of proportionality, an essential requirement for the exercise of self-defence under Article 51. The mass civilian casualties in Gaza are indicative of war crimes as well as crimes against humanity, as per the Rome Statute (criminal law).

Geneva Conventions (humanitarian law) also indicate in an international armed conflict, no harm shall be caused to civilians or civilian property, especially institutions such as hospitals.

However, claims of hospital bombings and civilian casualties, including more than 4,000 children, have raised serious questions about the IDF's indiscriminate attacks not toeing the international law line.

Israel has also cut water, power and fuel supply to the region and stopped most of the humanitarian aid (only 20 trucks of food and essential supplies were allowed), amounting to the collective punishment of 2.3 million people.

Both the Ukraine war and the current escalation between Israel and Palestine have polarised. In the absence of a consensus, the scope for international law to be effective falls flat on its face.

However, there has been some traction in the International Criminal Court to declare the present ongoing attack as 'genocide', and proceed-

ings are underway in the International Court of Justice.

With a lack of unanimity among the international community and a lack of ensuring enforcement, even if the court(s) declared a ceasefire or any other form of effective Order, its implementation would remain profoundly wanting.

Conclusion

These recent instances raise fundamental questions about international law and organisations' efficacy, use and importance. Riddled with the inefficacy of enforcement, claims of them often also being disproportionate to the Global South, 'veto power' of the Big-5 at the UNSC, inadequate representation of vulnerable communities, and international law in its present format may have run its course.

In light of the rise of unilateralism and nationalist politics and disregard for multilateralism, there is a dire need for peace, justice and collaboration worldwide.

As the world burns with different simultaneous crises, an urgent and unwavering need is felt for a renewed commitment to existing structures of international law.

With rising distrust in such institutions, multilateral cooperation and adherence to basic tenets of human rights need to be the call of the hour.

The respect for internationally recognised human rights would foster some change and solidify the needs of the international organisations for years to come.

It may even subvert calls for a new world war—the goal for which the United Nations was set up in the first place.

Raushan Tara Jaswal is currently an Assistant Professor at O.P. Jindal Global University and a practising advocate at the Supreme Court of India. She has an LL.M from the University of Cambridge as a Commonwealth Shared Cambridge Trust Scholar.

PMJAY: View from the frontlines

BY NACHIKET MOR AND SHUCHIN BAJAJ

Just over five years have now passed since the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY), launched in 2018, came into being. During this period, it has issued over 27 crore insurance cards and has financed over 5.75 crore hospital admissions with an average payout of about Rs. 12,250 per admission, with almost 27,000 empanelled hospitals nationwide. This is an impressive track record and needs to be celebrated. However, any program or scheme, no matter how well-designed and executed, has both strengths and weaknesses. Five years is an excellent time to review some of them so that the scheme builds further on its strengths and works towards filling any gaps that may exist.

Of the 27,000 hospitals that are empanelled and about 20,000 that are active, 15,000 are in the public sector. While this has not yet been formally evaluated, anecdotal evidence suggests that these public sector hospitals outperform those not part

of the scheme. One of the challenges of the public sector, not just in India but globally, is its non-responsiveness. Starting in the 80s with the UK, governments worldwide, including Thailand, Turkey, and, most recently, Vietnam, have moved to finance the public sector based on outcomes. They have gradually moved away from automatic financing based on annual expenditure budgets. This change has allowed them to improve the performance of the public sector, and it is not surprising that something similar is being seen in India when PMJAY pays the government hospitals based on outcomes. Over time, the full power of this can be realised if all financing to the public sector moves in this direction, including at the primary care level.

Given its funding limitations, PMJAY has not yet moved towards total health system financing in any part of the country, but its move towards paying hospitals on a package basis and not on a procedure-by-procedure basis has shown beneficial impacts. For example, increasing the

length of stay after a successful surgery in a hospital is often due to poor infection control at hospitals. A fixed package approach has persuaded hospitals to pay particular attention to this and control it so patients can be discharged quickly.

The low package rates offered by PMJAY have come in for much criticism. However, there is global evidence which suggests that merely because package rates are low, it does not mean that quality needs to be low. Hospitals and entire health systems can respond to controlled pricing by innovating, bringing down costs, shedding unnecessary frills, and keeping quality high. When Japan moved to a fixed-price regime, Switzerland enacted its comprehensive health care legislation, and Germany instituted strict price controls, there was a fear that their health systems would be unable to cope. These proved unfounded.

As a negotiating strategy, the approach adopted by PMJAY has been optimal—start at the lowest point and then revise prices upwards selectively based on actual experience (not

lobbying). If they had initially started with higher package rates, these rates would have become sticky, and any downward revisions would have proved impossible.

Significant Room for improvement

While the scheme has many empanelled hospitals, over 25% are inactive, and the number varies significantly across the country—ranging from over 500 active hospitals per crore population in Karnataka to only about 60 per crore in Bihar. As a direct result, hospitalisations under the scheme have been mainly concentrated in the southern States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Kerala and range from almost 16,000 admissions per lakh population in Kerala to only about 600 in Bihar. The case of Uttar Pradesh is particularly noteworthy—at over 18,500 cards per lakh population, it has issued nearly as many cards as Kerala's 21,500. However, it has only about 1200 hospitalisations per lakh population compared to Kerala's 16,000.

These large differentials are a reflection of

the lack of availability of hospitals in lower-income States. This can also be seen from the fact that in over 200 districts of India, all based in the north and the northeast, total C-section rates are well below 10%—these low rates are now the principal reason why pregnant women and their newborns are dying in these districts. In order to address this, there is a need to build and staff more public sector hospitals in these districts and, where appropriate, devise incentives for the private sector to set up facilities in these remote regions. The UDAN ("Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik") scheme of the Ministry of Civil Aviation, which has done something similar with private airlines, could provide an excellent learning model. The highly successful Advanced Market Commitment (AMC) schemes that spurred vaccine development in the Indian private sector could also provide helpful lessons.

Putting aside concerns relating to low rates, while the move towards package rates within PMJAY has been a helpful development, it still falls within the

ambit of what is referred to as a fee-for-service payment model. The danger of insurance schemes funded in this way, as the US discovered with its own version of PMJAY, Medicaid and Medicare after it was too late, is that it leads to massive price inflation in the healthcare sector. The only durable way to address this is, with adequate funding, to move towards total health system financing based on population norms, as Thailand has done with the public sector and Israel has done with the private sector.

Over time, stable structures like the National and State Health Authorities, which now run these schemes, have evolved, albeit with varying levels of capability. These schemes have also successfully built navigation capability, allowing them to purchase services from the private sector without getting embroiled in one or the other corruption scandals.

Research suggests that in several Indian States, including Delhi, Goa, Kerala, and Himachal Pradesh, current government expenditures are already adequate to finance

all the necessary healthcare. If, in these States, the independent State Health Authorities could be given charge of the entire State health budget, they would have sufficient funding to implement district-level total health systems financing strategies and take responsibility for overall district and State-level health outcomes.

The durability of tax-financed purchasing schemes for health like PMJAY both at the Central and State levels speaks to the continued political and mass appeal of such an approach towards financing healthcare. Over time, stable structures like the National and State Health Authorities, which now run these schemes, have evolved, albeit with varying levels of capability. These schemes have also successfully built navigation capability, allowing them to purchase services from the private sector without getting embroiled in one or the other corruption scandals. This durability, stability, and ability to navigate is rare in the healthcare sector in India. It has set the stage for the next big move in the health-

care sector in India—the complete transfer of State health budgets to their State Health Authorities, which will pay the public sector and, where necessary, the private sector, based on defined outcomes and do away entirely with automatic-budget-based financing of the public sector.

There is also the opportunity to develop and launch schemes like UDAN and AMC, which will carefully fill gaps in the availability of hospital care in the more remote parts of India. More than two decades of experience with tax-financed insurance schemes in India has indicated that the availability of insurance schemes is a necessary but insufficient condition for a robust supply response from the hospital sector.

(Dr. Nachiket Mor is a Visiting Scientist at The Banyan Academy of Leadership in Mental Health, Chennai. Dr. Shuchin Bajaj is the founder of Ujala Cygnus, a chain of low-cost hospitals operating in the underserved parts of the country.)

DC reviews functioning of MC Reasi & Katra

JI NEWS SERVICE
REASI, DECEMBER 12

Deputy Commissioner Reasi Vishesh Mahajan today convened a meeting to review the functioning of the Municipal Council Reasi and Municipal Committee Katra.

The meeting evaluated the operational efficiency and performance of the Municipal Bodies Reasi and Katra. Executive Officer, Municipal Council, Reasi and Committee Katra encompassed a detailed analysis of ongoing projects, administrative processes, town profile, beautification works and other key initiatives undertaken by the Municipal Bodies. The DC gave necessary instructions on enhancing civic amenities, optimizing resource allocation, and ensuring streamlined governance for the benefit of the Reasi and Katra community. After taking a detailed review of major projects at the town level, the DC fixed the timelines for completion of vital projects.

During the meeting, various unit heads presented progress reports, highlighted achievements,



challenges, and future plans within their respective domains.

To ensure a cleaner environment for residents, Mahajan during a meeting, directed the Executive Officer (EO) of Municipality Reasi to relocate the current garbage dumping ground situated at the bus stand to an alternate location. He directed EO's to make dedicated cleaning teams for each ward within the towns for neat and clean wards.

While taking the review of MC Katra, DDC Mahajan highlighted the imperative to elevate the cleanliness standards in Katra town by suggesting the implementation of installation of underground dustbins. Emphasizing the importance of this proposal, DDC Mahajan articulated that the primary objective is to envision a Katra town

completely free from garbage and dustbins.

DDC said that modern technology structures installed for the beautification of Katra, Public toilets and urinals be made neat and clean and movement towards no single use plastic in Katra town should be the endeavour.

The District Development Commissioner Reasi, asked to be Executive Officer (EO) of Municipal Katra, chart a plan aimed at revolutionizing the Katra street lighting system. The proposal is to focus on the installation of solar panels to power street lights, marking a significant step towards sustainable and eco-friendly infrastructure.

The meeting was attended by ADDC, CPO and Xen RandB Katra in addition to the EOs of both the Municipal Bodies

DC Rajouri conducts inspection of GMS Chingus



JI NEWS SERVICE
RAJOURI, DECEMBER 12

Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal, undertook a significant visit to the Government Middle School Chingus. The purpose of the visit was to inspect the infrastructure of the school and engage with both students and staff, fostering a collaborative environment for educational growth.

During an interaction with the students, Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal imparted valuable words of wisdom, encour-

aging them to dream big and aspire towards achieving their desired goals. He stressed the importance of hard work and dedication as the driving forces behind realizing these dreams. While interacting with the school staff, the Deputy Commissioner emphasized the critical role they play in shaping the educational landscape of the region. He asked them to provide quality education, highlighting its transformative impact on the lives of students. Recognizing the educators as the backbone of

the education system, he expressed the expectation of the community for a commitment to excellence in teaching.

Overall, the visit served as a reaffirmation of the dedication of the administration to promoting education as a means of empowerment and societal progress. The event underscored the collaborative efforts required from all stakeholders, including students, educators, and administrative bodies, to achieve the common goal of providing quality education to the youth.

Empowering Stories unfold in District Anantnag through 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra'



JI NEWS SERVICE
ANANTNAG, DECEMBER 12

In a remarkable journey of transformation and empowerment, the 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra' has been weaving inspiring stories across the picturesque landscapes of District Anantnag. This initiative spearheaded by a coalition of the general public aims to empower individuals and communities by fostering sustainable development and inclusive growth.

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra has been engaging with local communities, highlighting stories of resilience, innovation, and empowerment. The initiative focuses on creating a platform for individuals and groups to share their journeys, challenges, and successes, fostering a sense of community pride and motivation.

The Yatra has also brought attention to innovative projects and initiatives that contribute to the development and progress of District Anantnag.

The Yatra has witnessed the launch of various skill development programs aimed at enhancing the employability of local residents. Vocational training centers have been established to impart skills in areas such as agriculture, handicrafts, and technology. Special emphasis has been placed on empowering women through initiatives that promote entrepreneurship and skill-building. Several success stories have emerged from women who have

overcome challenges and established their own enterprises.

Mobile awareness units also played a pivotal role in disseminating information about the ongoing Yatra, ensuring that more people are informed and engaged in the journey towards development.

The Yatra has played a pivotal role in infrastructural development, with the inauguration of roads, bridges, and other essential facilities. This has not only improved connectivity but also opened up new avenues for economic development.

Efforts to preserve and promote the rich cultural heritage of District Anantnag are evident through various cultural events and artistic initiatives. The Yatra recognizes the importance of cultural identity in fostering a sense of pride and belonging.

The District Administration has expressed its gratitude to the general public of Anantnag for their unwavering support and active participation in the 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra'. The success of this initiative is a testament to the collective strength and resilience of the community.

The Yatra continues its journey with renewed vigor, pledging to reach even more remote areas and communities. The organizers remain committed to fostering sustainable development, inclusivity, and positive change in District Anantnag.

DRAC approves 16 Rent Assessment Cases at Poonch

JI NEWS SERVICE
POONCH, DECEMBER 12

Additional Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Tahir Mustafa Malik today presided over a meeting of the Rent Assessment Committee (RAC) here in the Meeting Hall of the DC office Complex.

During the meeting, detailed discussions were held with the concerned departments operating from rented accommodations in the district, as well as the owners of these buildings. A total of 18 cases pertaining to different departments were brought under discussion, out of which 16 cases were approved by the committee, while 2 cases were deferred for further review.

The rent assessment cases discussed by the committee included those related to the Agriculture Department, Education Department, FCS & CA, Poonch Campus University of Jammu, FCS & CA, Animal Husbandry, Agriculture, Labour Procurement Department, Handloom Department, ICDS Department, and Horticulture department.

Addressing the meeting, the Additional Deputy Commissioner urged the officers to ensure the timely payment of rent to the respective land and structure owners, while also emphasizing the importance of maintaining the safety and security of government and rented accommodations.

GDC Chatroo celebrates inaugural ceremony of Viksit Bharat Initiative: A Vision for India's Development @ 2047

JI NEWS SERVICE
KISHITWAR, DECEMBER 12

Government Degree College Chatroo today celebrated the launch of transformative "Viksit Bharat" initiative, a comprehensive development program envisioned by the Indian government. Under the dynamic leadership of the college Principal Prof (Dr) Ved Kumar, alongside dedicated faculty members and over 50 enthusiastic students, the event marked a significant stride towards India's holistic progress.

ARTO Reasi spearheads successful Helmet Safety awareness and Enforcement Drive

JI NEWS SERVICE
REASI, DECEMBER 12

In a commendable effort to prioritize road safety, Team ARTO Reasi conducted a robust awareness and enforcement drive simultaneously at Katra and Reasi. The central theme of the campaign aimed to instill the crucial message: "No fine, No 2w movement - come with helmets and take your 2-wheeler."

During the campaign, 25 bike riders in Reasi and 40 riders in Katra were successfully persuaded to prioritize their safety by wearing helmets. The



campaign's impact extended to Baba Dhansar, where an enforcement drive resulted in the inspection of 16 vehicles. Among these, five were found to be operating in violation of various provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act.

adhering to road safety regulations.

Team ARTO Reasi urges all citizens to prioritize their safety on the road and adhere to traffic regulations for a secure and responsible driving experience.

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra completes its journey across 151 Panchayats of Udhampur



JI NEWS SERVICE
UDHAMPUR, DECEMBER 12

The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra has concluded its journey, covering 151 out of the 236 panchayats and 17 Blocks in Udhampur District.

Spearheaded by Deputy Commissioner Udhampur, Saloni Rai, the campaign utilized the Viksit Bharat Infor-

mation, Education, and Communication (IEC) Van, traversing the district. Additional 12 panchayats were visited today, garnering a warm reception from residents and PRI members. Various cultural events were organized upon the arrival of the vans, showcasing enthusiastic public support for the flagship initiative.

YBSY advances its reach across District Poonch

JI NEWS SERVICE
POONCH, DECEMBER 12

The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY) expand its reach to Panchayats of Hari Budha, Gunthal Upper, Gagrinar, Bhatidar and others of the district Poonch as per notified schedule.

During the event, representatives of various line departments were present to explain the procedures for availing benefits from government schemes and programs aimed at public welfare. The attendees received informative pamphlets and brochures, and their queries were addressed by the departmental representatives.

In the video message, Prime Minister Modi urged citizens to take a pledge to work collectively for the progress and prosperity of the country. The VBSY Van became a platform for the people to connect with the Prime Minister's vision, fostering a sense of commitment and unity among the residents.

One of the highlights of the event was the provision of free healthcare services under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, benefiting numerous attendees. In recognition of the vital contributions made by Progressive Farmers to the agriculture sector, they were given the platform to share their stories of transformation, encouraging further growth and innovation in farming practices.

DC Kathua reviews implementation of PM Vishwakarma Scheme



JI NEWS SERVICE
KATHUA, DECEMBER 12

Deputy Commissioner Kathua, Rakesh Minhas, led a comprehensive review meeting today to assess the progress and implementation of the Prime Minister Vishwakarma Scheme in the district. The meeting was aimed to ensure effective execution of the scheme and to address any challenges faced in the process of its implementation.

The PM Vishwakarma Scheme, a visionary initiative by the government, focuses on fostering skill development and promoting entrepreneurship among artisans, craftsmen, and traditional workers.

Under the scheme, wide ranging measures are undertaken to provide training, financial support, and market linkages to empower skilled workers and boost the growth of traditional industries associated with 18 different trades.

Speaking at the meeting, the DC said that this initiative is set to empower and provide invaluable support to the artisans and craftspeople, commonly known as Vishwakarma, who form a vital part of the informal or unorganized sector of the

economy. Taking cognizance of the poor registration of Vishwakarmas in the district, the DC called upon the need to rope in BDOs, CDPOs and EO MCs to increase the number of registrations ensuring no eligible is left out.

While discussing the bottlenecks, the DC exhorted the District Coordinator, CSC to adopt people friendly and hassle free registration mechanism to facilitate the marginalized community of Vishwakarmas. He also directed all stakeholders to submit action taken reports regularly for constant monitoring and evaluation.

The DC further underscored the importance of conducting sensitization and awareness camps to ensure that every eligible artisan and craftsman reaps the benefits of this transformative scheme.

The DC also emphasized the significance of the PM Vishwakarma Scheme in empowering the skilled workforce and preserving traditional crafts. He underscored the need for a collaborative effort from all stakeholders to ensure the successful execution of the scheme, thereby contributing to the economic development of the region.

ACD Doda reviews progress of RDD works



JI NEWS SERVICE
DODA, DECEMBER 12

To discuss an action plan for the efficient and timely execution of developmental projects and schemes in the district, Assistant Commissioner Development Doda, Phulail Singh today chaired a meeting of the BDOs and Engineering staff here in the meeting hall of ACD Office.

ACD reviewed the progress under District Capex Budget, CD & Pyt, MGNREGA, PMAY, Construction of Panchayat Ghars, and other developmental activities.

While reviewing the Block wise progress of MGNREGA and PMAY-G, the ACD directed the BDOs to ensure timely payments, quality check, aadhar seeding, shelf of works, digitization of MGNREGA Plans, Geo tagging of assets, transaction reconciliation, delay monitoring, NREGA Mobile Monitoring System (NMMS).

Further BDO's were directed to complete the targets as per the deadlines set by the higher authorities.

While reviewing the progress of District Capex Budget and CD & Pyt, the ACD directed engineering staff to complete the billing process of all the works being executed in the district within a week's time. The BDOs were directed to process with their dealing assistants, AEEs, AEs, and JEs were also present in the meeting.

December 2023.

While reviewing the progress of tendering, XEN Rew intimated that poor response of bidders has been observed in respect of some works. The ACD directed to float the tenders of such works from Panchayat level to Block level in order to ensure timely execution and completion of works in the district. He further directed to blacklist the contractors who have not taken the allotments or the works haven't been started yet inspite of serving of final notices.

Reviewing construction of Panchayat Ghars, Community Soakage pits, Segregation sheds, IHHL, Aspirational Panchayat Portal, ACD directed the BDOs to complete the targets and ensure community benefits.

While reviewing the progress of Gram Panchayat's Own Sources of Revenue, (OSR), reluctance on the part of the Gram Panchayat to mobilize own revenue has been seen as a principal reason of low OSR and ACD directed BDO's to collect tax on houses and market places and ensure mobilization of own revenue at panchayat level.

The meeting was attended by Assistant Commissioner, Panchayat Doda sh. Ashfaq Khanji, XEN Rew Doda Er. Pankaj Sharma, All Block Development Officers along with their dealing assistants, AEEs, AEs, and JEs were also present in the meeting.

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra Urban, reaches Batote

J1 NEWS SERVICE
BATOTE, DECEMBER 12, 2023

The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY) Urban, a Nation wide campaign to spread awareness about the various developmental Schemes and initiatives of the Government of India, reached Batote of district Ramban today.

Executive Officer, Municipal Committee, Batote, & Tehsildar Batote, Sh. Vijay Kumar Sharma along with BDC Chairman, Batote, Sh. Rajeshwar Bhagat, Member DDC Batote, and Sh. Jagvir Dass, welcomed the Yatra Van in Batote. A grand rally of locals, officers and officials from various departments, & students was also organised that passed through the main Bazar and culminated at Dak Bunglow, Batote.

Speaking on the occasion, Executive Officer, MC Batote while addressing the gathering highlighted the achievements and benefits of the various flagship



schemes of the Government of India towards the ultimate goal of Vikshit Bharat.

On the opening day of the yatra in the district a large number people joined the yatra which focused on attaining saturation of government's flagship schemes.

The focus of the Yatra was also to reach out to people, create awareness and provide benefits of welfare schemes like sanitation facilities, essential financial services, electricity connections, access to LPG cylinders, housing for the poor, food security, proper nutrition, reliable healthcare, clean drinking

water, etc.

As part of the yatra, various government departments set up stalls at each location to provide citizens on the spot services like free health check ups, facility, distributions of Plant Saplings by the forest department, Agricultural & Horticulture related

Scheme awareness and loans under PM SVANidhi yojana. Scores of people benefitted from these camps during the period. During the programmes participants took the Viksit Bharat Sankalp pledge to make India a developed and self-reliant nation by the year 2047.

Vedios of beneficiaries of various departmental schemes under Meri Kahani Meri Zubani were also played and cultural programmes organised along with online Quiz.

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on November 15, 2023 from Jharkhand. The yatra will cover over 2.55 lakh Gram Panchayats and over 3,600 urban local bodies by January 25, 2024, touching every district of the country.

Among others, Sh. Khursheed Yousuf, District Nodal Officer I&B, along with officers from various departments attended the day long event.

Nitish fortifies Party's social media strategy in Nowshera meeting

J1 NEWS SERVICE
NOWSHERA, DECEMBER 12

The Social Media Department of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) today organized a meeting at Lamberi Mandal in the Nowshera constituency. The meeting was chaired by Nitish Mahajan, Co-Incharge of the Social Media Department, BJP J&K, aiming to review and enhance the party's digital outreach and engagement.

The meeting was attended by Kundan Sudan, Co-Convenor, Social Media Department, District Nowshera, Ram Chandra Mandal Vice-President, Bhaskar Sharma Vice-President, Anil Sharma Social Media Convenor Lamberi Mandal, Manmohan Sharma Booth President, and social media associates Dilip Kumar, Sukhdev Kumar, and Neeraj Kumar participated in the deliberations.



Nitish Mahajan emphasized the crucial role of social media in modern political discourse and highlighted the need for a comprehensive and innovative digital strategy to connect with a broader audience, especially the youth. He underscored that social media is not just a communication tool but a platform to set positive narratives and inform every household about the Modi-led BJP government's accomplishments over the past nine years.

Encouraging the team to actively engage with beneficiaries of various government schemes, Nitish Mahajan stressed

the importance of utilizing social media to disseminate information about these initiatives, thereby amplifying the party's visibility and impact at the grassroots level.

The meeting culminated in a resolution to adopt more dynamic and effective social media strategies to strengthen the party's presence and influence across Jammu and Kashmir.

Nitish Asserted that BJP's Social Media Department remains committed to leveraging digital platforms to foster deeper connections with the electorate and propagate the party's vision and achievements.

Kesri welcomes SC verdict on Art 370

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 12

Shiv Sena Hindustan J&KUT President Pt Rajesh Kesri today welcomed the Supreme Court decision on Article 370 abrogation. In a handout issued here, Kesri said Supreme Court upholding the constitutional validity of abrogation of Article 370 in J&K reflects the culmination of the ongoing process of integration over 70 years. He said verdict also brought relief to West Pakistan refugees, Gorkhas and Valmikis. He said, "after the abrogation of Article 370, the rights of the poor and deprived have been restored, and separatism and stone pelting are now things of the past. The bonds of unity have strengthened, and integrity with Bharat stands reinforced.

GKPD welcomes SC judgement to uphold repeal of Article 370

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 12

11th December 2023 marks a red letter day for the Kashmiri Pandit community. A process that started on 5th August 2019 with the abrogation of Article 370 was brought to its logical conclusion on this date as the Honourable Supreme Court of India declared the abrogation of the suspect Article 370 as constitutionally valid and permanent.

On behalf of the Kashmiri Pandit community, GKPD would like to offer its profound gratitude to the Honourable Supreme Court of India. We are also grateful to our beloved countrymen from all sections of society who have supported us in this journey.

This judgement which comes on the heels of the

historic Jammu Kashmir reorganization/amendment bill reserving two seats in the legislative assembly for the displaced people of Jammu and Kashmir fills us with optimism that our collective voices are being heard. Our profound thanks to our visionary Prime Minister Modi ji and Home Minister Amit Shah ji. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Honourable Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul ji who in a separate ruling has recommended the setting up of a truth and reconciliation commission, which has been a long-standing demand of the Kashmiri Pandit community. The process of healing has to start and our intergenerational trauma needs urgent redressal. It was a proud moment for our community when

Member of Parliament Sh. Vivek Tankha ji spoke so eloquently on behalf of the community in the Rajya Sabha as the Jammu and Kashmir reorganization/amendment bill was being debated. He not only corrected the figures related to the number of displaced people but also requested that all descendants of the Kashmiri displaced community should be given the opportunity to avail the seat reservations in the Legislative assembly as is the case for POJK displaced people. Our profound thanks to Sh. Tankha for talking about our trauma and genocide. He has also filed a case history of how the Government of India would always consult the KP community on strategic matters but now had ignored them for the last thirty three years.

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Mahindra launches cutting-edge BLAZO X m-DURA Tipper and BSV Range of Construction Equipment at EXCON 2023

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 12

Mahindra's Truck and Bus Division (MTBD) and Construction Equipment Division (MCE), a part of the Mahindra Group, today launched its latest offerings at EXCON 2023, demonstrating their commitment to innovation and reliability. The "Naya India ka Naya Tipper" Mahindra BLAZO X m-DURA and new CEV5 range of Construction Equipment's are set to redefine the standards in their respective categories, offering advanced features and compliance with the latest industry norms.

At the MTB stall OD67 at the Bangalore International Exhibition Centre (BIEC), Mahindra's entire range of BSV construction equipment like RoadMaster and EarthMaster, as well as the extensive

truck range like BLAZO X m-DURA 35 Tipper, BLAZO X 28 Transit Mixer, FURIO 10 Fuel Bowser with 6KL and Loading OPTIMO Tipper were on display. Mahindra also demonstrated the new concept - LiftMaster compact crane, with loading and hauling capacity, which aims to provide a versatile solution for construction needs. Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Jalaj Gupta, Business Head - Commercial Vehicles, Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd. said, "Our consistent efforts to introduce cutting-edge products and technologies, coupled with its emphasis on local manufacturing, exemplify the company's strong support for the Make in India initiative. The introduction of the Blazo X m-Dura Tipper and New CEV5 range of construction equipments at EXCON,



reaffirms Mahindra's commitment towards the commercial vehicle and construction equipment segment, and the company is poised to continue leading the way with its innovative and customer-centric approach. While m-DURA tipper is poised to become the most reliable

partner among our customers with its proven and sturdy aggregates, the New CEV5 range is the outcome of agility of our engineers who have made these products ready, much before the timeline defined by govt."

Customer Welfare Programs such as Mahindra

Saarthi Abhiyaan aim to provide 1100 scholarships for Truck Driver's Daughters, by direct bank transfer of INR 10,000 and a certificate in recognition of this achievement.

MTBD's service network has expanded to 400 plus touch points, including 80 3S dealerships and over 2900 Roadside assistance service points and Spares network of over 1600 retail outlets on key trucking routes across India.

Below are details of the key products on display: BLAZO X m-DURA: A New Benchmark in Tipper Technology

The BLAZO X m-DURA heralds a new era in tipper technology in India. With its well-proven, robust, and dependable aggregates, this range, available in 28T and 35T GVW categories, sets new standards for performance and durability.

GDC Kathua felicitates NSS Volunteer Vishal Gupta



J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 12

Today Principal GDC, Kathua Prof Seema Mir felicitated NSS Volunteer Mr Vishal Gupta who participated in National Integration Camp 2023 w.e.f 29th- 05th Dec 2023 at Kalyani University at Nadia in West Bengal.

In an effort to spread the message of Unity in Diversity among the youth of the country, The NSS Regional Directorate of West Bengal took the mega initiative of hosting the National Integration Camp 2023. The camp is being organized by NSS Regional Directorate West Bengal under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Govt. of India in collaboration with NSS Regional Directorate New Delhi. The volunteers from different States and

Union Territories namely Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chattisgarh, Jharkhand, Jammu Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttarakhand, Gujarat, Kerala and West Bengal participated in the camp. A team of eight volunteers from J&K territory participated in the camp and One volunteer was from GDC, Kathua who participated in the camp. During this camp, volunteers also had got a chance to visit historical places in West Bengal like Dakshineswari Temple and Belur Math and the headquarter of Ramakrishan Math and Rama Krishan Mission which was founded by Swami Vivekanand Ji, the youth Icon of India. The participating volunteer today met with Prin-

icipal GDC, Kathua and shared his experience. Mr Vishal Gupta also stood first and third in Rangoli and Debate competition in the National Integration Camp. Principal Prof. Seema Mir congratulated him for being a part of this National Integration Camp and bring laurels for the college and state. She also appreciated the efforts of NSS program officers Prof Manmohan Singh and Prof. Neha Bhandral for preparing volunteers for selection in these camps. Senior Most faculty members Prof Pawan Kumar, HOD Geography, Dr Kehar Singh, Dr Shivani Sharma, Dr Kulbir Singh, Dr Pinki and Dr Jogbinder Singh Soodan, Director Physical and Sports education also congratulated volunteer and NSS Program officers for this achievement.

AAP calls for opposition unity against ruling dispensation's deceptive policies



J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 12

The Jammu AAP in a meeting held here, while discussing delayed selection of Chief Ministers in the recent elections held in MP, Rajasthan & Chhattisgarh, in a press release issued here said that ignoring credentials of existing Chief Minister in MP or that be in other two states, the picking of lesser known figure Mohan Yadav can safely be surmised as "MODI HAI TO MUMKIN HAI" or it has become a culture in ruling dispensation widely accepted as "SAB KA MALIK EK" because none has spine to speak truth for fear of getting side lined, isolated or eclipsed in the Party or before the masses as it happened with Kalyan Singh in UP. Ousting of a 4 times CM & winning record 163 seats in MP & installing unknown figure Mohan Yadav, clearly make rounds among the masses that it is not the mandate earned by Shiv

Raj Chauhan but it is vividly a manipulated one otherwise it could have been disgraced to the voters, this was stated by Sr. AAP leaders in a meeting held here under the chairmanship of S. Deep Singh, Founder & National Council Member which was prominently attended by enthusiasts & workers namely S/ Sh. Ram Singh Chauhan, Kuldeep Kumar Rao, Amit Langer, Agya Kour, Rajesh Pangotra, Talvinder Singh, Romesh Lal Bhagat, Sushma Malotra, Neha ji, Parmveer Singh, Adv. Dalvinder Bhagat, Adv. Arvind Bhandral, Adv. Zahid Bhatti, Er. Prithpal Singh, Suresh Bhagat, Ashni Matto, Davinder Singh Bhau, Barkeet Hussain from Poonch, Karanjeet Atri, Asif Gill, Omparkash Sharma from Akhnoor, S. Amrik Singh, Gurpreet Singh, Parshotam Gupta & others.

The meeting stressed for working earnestly in view of latest directions of Apex Court to conduct Assembly elections & restore the state status

in J&K before September 30, 2024 and resolved to work jointly, put in the efforts to awaken the masses about the hatred & divisive policies of ruling dispensation irrespective of caste, creed & colour, without falling in their trap of hollow nationalism, development and false slogan of "Beti Padhao- Beti Bachao", "Back to village" & so many other deceptive slogans. The AAP leaders re-iterated that BJP wins because opposition fails to high lights their false & baseless propaganda in all walks of life. The AAP leaders apprehended that in Rajasthan Vasundhara Raje Scandia may face utter disgrace like Shiv Raj Chauhan in MP because in BJP the dictum "SAB KA MALIK EK" prevails and nobody has spine to raise finger, they asserted. The meeting at the end exhorted upon the rank & file to grid up their loins to expose the false promises of ruling dispensation in befooling the masses for their electoral gains.

Shiv Sena leaders pay tribute to General Zorawar Singh on his martyrdom day



J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 12

Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit paid tribute to Dogra Military Commander Zorawar Singh on the martyrdom day at General Zorawar Singh Auditorium campus of Jammu by University.

Shiv Sena leaders led by president J&K, Manish Sahni present In a program organised by General Zorawar Singh Trust in the General Zorawar auditorium premises at Jammu University.

Where Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir Manoj Sinha was present as the chief guest, inaugurated the statue of General Zorawar Singh and offered flower tribute

along with prayers.

While Paying his heartfelt tribute to General Zorawar Singh, Sahni said that General Zorawar Singh, one of the world's greatest military commanders, made the country and the Dogras proud with his unmatched bravery and military strategy. He is a source of inspiration for the coming generations. He said that he was such a brave warrior that even his enemies used to call him the King of Lions.

On this occasion Dignitaries of Jammu including the sixth generation of General Zorawar Singh and Trust Trustees Riya and Diksha Kularia, Trust Chairman Davindra Singh were also present.

Modi govt reaching doorsteps of people through different modes: Dr. Manyal

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 12

Claiming that the Narendra Modi government is reaching doorsteps of people through different modes across the country, Jammu and Kashmir BJP general secretary and former minister, Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal, said that "Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra" is one such effective mode in the present era of technology. He was addressing large gatherings at the venues of this yatra in block Rajpura and Panchayat Sanoora of the Samba district.

Dr. Manyal said that in the "Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra", LED fixed vans are reaching the people in panchayats in rural and wards in urban areas of the Union Territory. The LEDs display various schemes of the union government and make people aware about the same. During the



two days, this yatra has attracted a large number of people, including women and children, who displayed keen interest in watching and listening about numerous schemes and programmes. Various government departments like Rural Development, Agriculture, Horticulture, Sericulture, Social Welfare, Health, Banks, Self Help Groups, have their stalls showcasing the achievements of their departments for the benefit of the people, he added.

Dr. Manyal said that the BJP government under PM Narendra Modi has done a lot in the fields of development and public welfare during the last about ten years. The "Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra" is one of the modes to reach people and act as a bridge between the government and the people, which presents a true and detailed picture of achievements of Modi government through the LED medium. He said that through this mode, the Modi

government is, actually, reaching the doorsteps of the people in cities, towns and villages at panchayat and ward levels and sharing with them whatever has been done for farmers, women, youth, the poor, marginalised sections, interacts with the beneficiaries and identifies such people who could not apply for any scheme and helps them to get registered as fresh beneficiary for future benefits.

He had high appreciation for a colourful cultural event with the message of drug free India, which attracted attention of the people.

Dr. Manyal, on this occasion, also handed over the Svamitava cards to property owners in rural areas.

ACD Samba, SDM Ghagwal, BDO Rajpura, BMO Nud and officials and staff members of different departments were present at the venues.

BSP J&K president Darshan Rana reaches Jammu, vows to strengthen party in J&K

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 12

Darshan Rana, who has been appointed as the new president of J&K Bahujan Samaj Party, was warmly welcomed by the party workers on reaching Jammu.

Party workers took out a grand rally from Railway Station Jammu to Ambedkar Chowk, where Darshan Rana paid tribute to Baba Saheb Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar and said that every possible effort will be made to convey the policies of Bahujan Samaj Party to the people.

He thanked the National President of the Bahujan Samaj Party and former Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Mayawati and said that he would work with hard work and honesty to fulfill the responsibility entrusted to him by her and Bahujan. The movement will be



taken forward, he said adding that even today we have such backward families in Jammu and Kashmir who are not being heard, hence his efforts will be to provide these families their rights and work for the betterment of every section of the society.

During this, he also paid tribute to the former president late Somraj, and said that following the path shown by him, work will be done to strengthen the

Bahujan Samaj Party in Jammu and Kashmir.

On this occasion, he appealed to the party workers to be fully prepared for the upcoming elections in Jammu and Kashmir.

A large number of workers including Charanjeet Chargoitra, Hari Chand Thappa, Sashi Bushan Thappa, Gourav Tilak Raj Bhagat, Raja Singh, and Bishan Das Bhagat were present on the occasion.

Raja Sabha Question Hour 5 Medi-cities, 7 colleges approved in JKUT: Minister

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 12

The Minister of State for Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Dr. Bharati Pravin Pawar while replying to a question by MP Raja Sabha Er. Gulam Ali Khatana stated that approval has been accorded by UT of J&K for the establishment of five (05) Medicities at Jammu (02), Pulwama, (02) and Srinagar (01) while seven medical colleges at Doda, Kathua, Rajouri, Anantnag, Baramulla, Handwara and Udhampur have been made approved in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir. The Minister of State for H&FW Under Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojna (PMSSY), establishment of two All India Institutes of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), one at Vijaypur in Jammu and another at Awantipora in Kashmir have been approved for the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir (UT of J&K). 92% of civil construction work of AIIMS, Vijaypur, Jammu has been completed. Faculty/non-faculty posts have been sanctioned for AIIMS, Vijaypur, Jammu, out of which 549 have been filled up. 01 MRI machine has been delivered at AIIMS Vijaypur, Jammu.

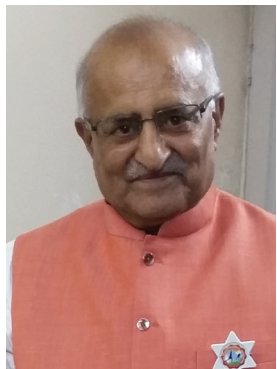
Forty four per cent of civil construction work of AIIMS Awantipora, Kashmir has been completed. Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) of 'Establishment of new medical colleges attached with existing district/referral hospitals', setting up of 07 new medical colleges at Doda, Kathua, Rajouri, Anantnag, Baramulla, Handwara and Udhampur in UT of J&K have been approved till date on cost sharing in the ratio of 90:10 between the Centre and State and all of these are functional, he said.

The Minister further said that as per the scheme guidelines, planning, execution and commissioning of the projects and operation and recruitment of staff for the approved Government Medical Colleges is the responsibility of UT of J&K. Under National Programme for Prevention and Management of Trauma and Burns Injuries, establishment of Trauma care facilities has been approved for four (04) hospitals including MMAM District Hospital, Anantnag, Trauma Hospital, Ramban, Doda, Government District Hospital, Udhampur and District Hospital, Kupwara.

As informed by the UT of J&K, approval has been accorded by UT of J&K for the establishment of five (05) Medicities at Jammu (02), Pulwama, (02) and Srinagar (01).

MP Gulam Ali Khatana has asked for the current status of the newly established AIIMS and Government medical colleges (GMCs) in Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) the availability of trained staff to operate medical equipment in these AIIMS/GMCs the number of MRI and CT Scan machines available in AIIMS/GMCs in J&K the number of referral cases from District Hospitals and new GMCs to AIIMS/GMCH Jammu/Srinagar the number of trauma centers between Batote and Doda in Jammu and Kashmir the current staff position in J&K AIIMS/GMCs, whether there are any ongoing plans to address potential staff shortages in these medical institutions and the status of Medi-cities in Jammu and Kashmir?

TMF Chairman welcomes landmark Judgement of SC on Article 370, 35A



JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 12

Team Mask force chairman vijay sharma in a statement to Media welcomed the historical & landmark judgement announced by CJI D.Y.Chanderehood on 11th December 2023 which date would be marked as Red letter date in the life Of India(Bharat). The SC judgement have delighted majority of people and disappointed a few including Gupkar comprising of few parties constituted for the purpose of restoration of Article 370. With the pleasant, unambiguous and historic judgement coming out from Supreme Court upholding the authority of the President of India to render the contentious Article invalid. 23 Petitioners moved the Supreme Court against the abolition of Article 370. The judgement is victory of people, not just BJP. The government is only a trustee which is supposed to act in the interest of the people and her Nation. What is favourable or what is adverse is determined from the nation point of view. It is favourable judgement from the nation point of view because the integration of Jammu & Kashmir to India has received the stamp of approval from the Apex court said Sharma chairman TMF.

Female Cricket Team flagged off from Kupwara to Pune by Indian Army

JINNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, 12 DEC

Indian Army in collaboration with a Pune based NGO, ASEEM foundation is conducting a Capability Building Tour (CBT) from Kupwara to Pune wherein shortlisted woman Cricketers of Kupwara will be exposed to world class cricket environment. The tour comprises of 16 players which are the outcome of Kupwara women T-10 cricket championship started by Indian Army for Kupwara girls to showcase their skills in cricketing field and to boost the spirit of sports among women of Kupwara.

The aim of this 14 days tour starting from today to 26 Dec 23 is to give exposure to the young girls and to provide opportunity to hone their skills and interact with teams from Maharashtra and various national and Ranji players.



The tour to Pune will not only provide an opportunity to showcase the world class cricket environment to girl players but will also help them learn from women team outside the state. It will enrich the experience of Kupwara girl as maximum of them will be going out of the district for the first time. National level stadiums have been reserved for the schedule of matches and team will also visit places of tourist interest.

The first edition of this championship was played in the year 2021 with participation of only 6 teams. However, with persistent

effort of Indian Army for upliftment of woman in Kashmir, the number of team in second edition increased from 6 to 14 in year 2022. This year saw a fabulous increase in teams participation from 14 to 20.

Indian Army remains committed to engage, uplift and empower woman of Kupwara to become physically strong and excel in all facets of life including sports. Such opportunities as well interaction of woman with other parts of country enriches the horizon and helps in shaping a society with positive attitude.

NSS unit of GDC Marheen organizes Intra-College Group Discussion Competition



JINNEWS SERVICE
KATHUA, DEC 12

Intra-college Group Discussion Competition was organized by NSS unit of Government Degree College Marheen on the theme of Futuristic Perspectives of Indian Youth under the banner of Viksit Bharat @2047. Event was Organized under the supervision of NSS Program Officer Prof. Arun Dev Singh. Two groups of NSS volunteers partici-

pated and expressed their views, ideas, thoughts, plans, priorities of youths to bring India into the top countries of the world by 2047 and emphasized that today's India's GDP is at 5th number in the world and planning to be at top before 2047. Dr Anupam Gupta, worthy principal of the college focused upon while addressing the students that Indian Government has mission to inculcate the spirit of entrepreneurship among the youth

of India and motivated the students to come up with new ideas, thoughts and planning so that our country shall also be again become a Golden Sparrow in the world. She urged the students to build up confidence and enthuze to make India progressive and prosperous. The faculty members were present on the occasion: Dr. Munisha, Dr. Shallu, Dr. Barneet, Dr. Rajni, Prof. Preeti and Dr. Reemi and others.

Purnima lauds SC verdict on Art 370 as triumph for Nat'l Unity, Integration

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 12

Adv Purnima Sharma Spokesperson BJP J&K and former Deputy Mayor today hailed the verdict of the Supreme Court for upholding the constitutional validity of the 2019 abrogation of Article 370, terming it as a historic moment for the country in general and J&K in particular.

In a statement issued here today, the senior BJP leader said "This is a watershed moment in our nation's history. The Supreme Court has reaffirmed the sovereignty and integrity of India, and laid to rest any lingering doubts about the legitimacy of the abrogation of Article 370." She emphasized the



long-standing demand of the BJP and the people of Jammu and Kashmir for the removal of Article 370, which she called a "discriminatory and outdated provision that hindered the full integration of the region with the rest of

India." "The abrogation has paved the way for a brighter future for Jammu and Kashmir. It has opened doors for equal opportunities, development, and prosperity for the people of the region. Investments are flowing in, infrastructure is improving, and the overall socio-economic landscape is undergoing a positive transformation," she added.

The senior BJP leader expressed gratitude to the Supreme Court for its "wise and decisive" judgment. "This verdict is a testament to the strength of our democracy and the rule of law. It paves the way for a united and prosperous India, where all citizens enjoy equal rights and opportunities," she added.

EOW CBJ charge-sheets two in Medical College admission fraud

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 12

Economic Offences Wing - Crime Branch Jammu produced 134 page charge-sheet against accused - 1) Sudarshan Kumar S/o Satish Kumar R/o H No. 39 Putki District Dhanbad State Jharkhand and 2) Rahul Kumar S/o Sanjeev Kumar R/o Loyabad District Dhanbad State Jharkhand in case FIR No. 39 /2023 U/S 420, 120-B IPC P/S EOW, Crime Branch, Jammu before the Court of law for judicial determination for their involvement in hatching criminal conspiracy and cheating /duping the complainant - Hemant Kumar Bhat S/o Brij Lal Bhat R/o H No. 114 Sector Upper Roop Nagar Jammu of his hard earned money to the tune of Rs 5 Lakhs after luring him on the pretext of providing admission in MD Course in respect of

his daughter in Karnataka Medical College under management quota.

The case owes its origin to a written complaint lodged by one Hemant Kumar S/o Brij Lal Bhat R/o H No. 114 Sector Upper Roop Nagar Jammu, alleging therein that he was lured, cheated and duped by accused Sudarshan Kumar and other representatives of Global Learning and Education Consultancy Bangalore on the pretext of providing admission in MD course for his daughter in Karnataka Medical College under management quota. He was offered admissions in KLE (Karnataka Lingayat Education Society) Belgaum, St. Johns, Bangalore and Kampegowda Institute, Bangalore for which the management fees would be Rs 30 lakh and to confirm the seat, he had to pay Rs 5 lakh immediately and the bal-

ance amount was to be paid after securing the admission.

On receipt of the complaint a Preliminary Verification was conducted and during the course of enquiry the allegations made were prima-facie substantiated leading to the registration of formal case under the relevant sections of law for in-depth probe. During the course of investigation oral/documentary and circumstantial evidences were gathered and the offences U/S 420, 120 RPC are fully established against the accused (1) Rahul Kumar S/o Sanjeev Kumar and (2) Sudarshan Kumar S/o Satish Kumar C/o Global Learning Education Consultancy 26, 27, 6th Main Mico Layout BTM 2nd stage Bangalore and the charge-sheet has been produced in the Court of law for judicial determination.

BJP committed to serve needy people: Kavinder Gupta

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 12

Bharatiya Janata Party is committed to serve the needy people. The party believes in attending to the issues and the grievances of the public in a time bound manner and remains connected with the people of all sections through multiple channels.

People who have various problems of individual or societal concern approach party leaders through these channels and the party leadership dedicates itself to resolve the issues presented, said Kavinder Gupta.

Kavinder Gupta, former Dy. CM and senior BJP leader accompanied by party Spokesperson &

former MLA Adv. Ranbir Singh Pathania and Shailja Gupta, J&K BJP working committee member, listened to the public grievances at BJP headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu. While conducting grievance redressal at BJP headquarters, Jammu, Kavinder Gupta, said that senior leaders of Bharatiya Janata Party are available for the

public meeting at party headquarter on routine basis, where the presented issues are taken up with the appropriate department officials for their early redressal. He said that only BJP has made sure that it remains available to the public for 365 days in year, this commitment has led to the build up of strong faith of people in BJP's policies,

and Prime Minister Narendra Modi led government.

RS Pathania said that BJP believes in the policy to serve the people through all means. He insisted that for BJP, government is the way to serve the people and not to enjoy the power corridor, which has been consistently proven by Modi government.

Shailja Gupta, remained

present and diarized the issues presented. She said that senior party leaders listen to the issues of public daily at the party headquarter and many people visit the party leaders to present their issues. Numerous individuals and deputations from Trikuta Nagar, Beli Charana, Nowshera, Bhari, Doda, Gandhi Nagar, Kunjwani, Anantnag

and other parts of Jammu & Kashmir visited the party office.

Issues related to installation and repair of streetlights, VDCs, Driving & Drug licenses, repair of lanes and drains, sanitation, revenue records, related to their respective areas as well as their individual concerns were presented before the senior party leaders.

WWF (NGO) & J&K Police organize awareness camp on menstrual hygiene at Polytechnic College, Nagam

J1 NEWS SERVICE
BUDGAM, DEC 12

Well wish foundation(NGO) in collaboration with Jammu Kashmir police organized an awareness camp regarding menstrual hygiene at polytechnic college Nagam Chadoora. In this awareness programme scores of girl students participated who were given detailed information about menstrual hygiene. Moreover in this programme the Wellwish foundation also distributed sanitary napkins among girl students.

While talking to Umar Rb (Chairman WellWish Foundation)

He said, At Wellwish Foundation, we believe in empowering communities through education and support. Our Menstrual Hygiene Awareness Programme is a testament to our commitment to fostering health and dignity. By



raising awareness about menstrual hygiene and distributing sanitary pads, we aim to break barriers, eliminate stigma, and create a positive impact on the lives of individuals in need. Together, let's champion a future where every person can manage their menstrual health with knowledge, dignity, and access to essential

resources." Said Umar Rb (Chairman WellWish Foundation)

While talking to organiser's of the programme they said " women is being given a special place by Almighty and it is the duty of men to take care of them and to let them live with dignity and honour".

"They further said that there is need of spread-

ing awareness about women related issues in the society and everyone should take steps towards empowerment and upliftment of women". The Wellwish foundation members also said that they will continue their efforts regarding different issues and will focus on the development of students and girl students".

Rohit Shastri meets with Kavinder Gupta, discusses ethical practices



J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 12

Mahant Rohit Shastri, president of Shri Kailash Jyotish Avim Vedic Sanathan Trust, Raipur Banatalab Jammu (registered), had a courteous meeting with Former Deputy CM, Kavinder Gupta in Jammu. During the meeting, Mahant Rohit Shastri presented the "Saras Sanskrit Bodh" Book and appealed to initiate the study and teaching of Sanskrit language from Class I in J&k schools across Jammu and Kashmir. He emphasized the commitment of his trust

to the preservation and enhancement of Sanskrit, a language deeply rooted in ancient Indian knowledge and literary tradition. It is noteworthy that special efforts are being made by Shrikailash Jyotish Avim Vedic Sanathan Trust, Raipur Banatalab Jammu (registered), under the leadership of Mahant Rohit Shastri, to start the study and teaching of Sanskrit language from the class I in schools about the SC verdict, as per news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO). "How can the BJP win people's hearts when their actions only serve to

'Let J&K go to hell', says Dr Abdullah on SC verdict



J1 NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, DEC 12

Upset over the Supreme Court verdict on Article 370, National Conference president and Member of Parliament Farooq Abdullah on Tuesday said that "Jammu and Kashmir should go to hell" as central government have downgraded the state to a union territory.

"Jammu and Kashmir should go to hell (Jammu Kashmir Jahannum Mai Jaye). What else should I say? You (central government) have taken the state there," said Abdullah told reporters when asked about the SC verdict, as per news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO).

"How can the BJP win people's hearts when their actions only serve to

create distance? he questioned.

Abdullah said that former Prime Minister Jawahar Lal Nehru shouldn't be held responsible for the introduction of Article 370.

He gave a historical context saying when Article 370 was enacted, Sardar Patel was present.

"I don't understand why the BJP holds such animosity towards Nehru. Nehru is not to blame. When Article 370 was introduced, Sardar Patel was present and Pandit Nehru was in America.....," he said.

Abdullah said that the Supreme Court has granted an extension until September for conducting election adding a layer of complexity to the situation. KNO

PTTI Vijaypur organizes Moot Court Mock Drill



J1 NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYPUR, DEC 12

Police Technical Training Institute (PTTI) Vijaypur organized a Moot Court Mock Drill proceedings under UAPA cases to aware cops how to appear and depose their statements before the Courts as prosecution witnesses. The proceedings were held at Moot Court PTTI Vijaypur under the supervision of Shri Haseeb-Ur-Rehman-IPS, DIG SIU Jammu Zone. On this occasion, mock drill of a UAPA case of District Poonch was conducted in which Police witnesses of the case appeared before the Moot Court and cross examined

by designated defense counsel. Speaking on the occasion, DIG SIU Jammu Zone emphasized upon CIOs/Investigating officers of the case to properly brief and guide the prosecution witnesses how to appear and depose of their witness in the Hon'ble Court. He expressed hope that such moot court trials would surely help Police personnel to understand court proceedings better and would also benefit CIOs/Investigating officers to refine their capabilities to fix investigation lacunas. Earlier, Shri Shiv Kumar-IPS, Principal PTTI Vijaypur welcomed the DIG SIU Jammu Zone and other Investigating Officers

of various districts.

Shri Zia-Ul-Haq (Dy.SP Outdoor), Shri Kuldeep Raj (Dy.SP Indoor/Tech), Shri Akshay Khajuria, Dy.SP, CIOs of different districts namely Shri Tilak Raj Bhardwaj, Shri Sunil Singh Jasrotia, Shri Sahil Mahajan, Shri Aijaz Choudhary and other officers/officials of PTTI Vijaypur were also present on the occasion. Senior Prosecuting Officers Shri Asif Iqbal and Shri Munish Kumar conducted the court proceedings and also briefed the Investigating Officers how to improve investigation in UAPA cases and record statement in the Hon'ble court during trial of cases.

NGO ACC provides dry ration for poor girl's marriage

J1 NEWS SERVICE
SUNDERBANI, DEC 12

The NGO Anmol Cultural Club (ACC) supplied dry ration for marriage of poor girl in village Devak of tehsil Sunderbani district Rajouri today.

According to information the villagers whose daughter's marriage has been fixed is finally is financially hard up and was worried a lot of meeting the expenses of her marriage. Father of the girl heaved a sigh of relief when the activities of NGO Anmol Cultural Club came to his help on this occasion and provided all the dry ration and other items for this occasion. Father of girl Des Raj Sharma thanked to the President of NGO Anmol Cultural Club Zorawar Singh Khalsa and his team for this great help. Singh said more than twenty poor and orphan girls marriages we supplied dry ration. We always want to do this work continue in our village our district and other districts of our Jammu and Kashmir.

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

OFFICE THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) DIVISION RAMNAGAR

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

E-NIT No. 10 of 2023-24 Dated 08.12.2023

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

S. No.	Name of Work	Advertised Cost (Rs. in lacs)	Cost of document (in Rs)	Earnest Money	Time Allowed for completion	Class of Contractor	Head of Account
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.
1.	Restoration/Improvement of Sinking portion on Thalora Pinger and Majalta link roads on km 10 th (RD 50-100) and Km 1 st (RD 300-500)	7.43	600/-	@2% of advertised cost	30 Days	"C/D"	Under ARD

Position of AAA:- Accorded
Position of T.S:- Accorded
Position of Funds:- Available

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

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	08-12-2023
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 08-12-2023 to 14-12-2023, 1800 Hrs
3	Date, Time and place of pre-bid meeting.	11-12-2023 at 1200 Hrs, Executive Engineer, PWD (R&B) Division, Ramnagar.
4	Bid submission Start Date	09-12-2023 from 0900 Hrs
5	Bid Submission End Date	14-12-2023 up to 1800 Hrs
6	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	15-12-2023 on or after 1200 Hrs in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Ramnagar.
7	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed.

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of e-challan through Treasury indicating Treasury Voucher No. & date, name of work duly crediting to 0059 (Revenue) favoring Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Ramnagar uploading a copy of treasury challan and EMD/Bid Security in the shape of CDR/FDR (The date of Treasury Challan/ Bid Security/Affidavits between date of start of bid submission and bid submission end date) duly pledged to Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Ramnagar as mentioned in the bid documents. The earnest money of the unsuccessful bidder shall be released only after submission of Treasury Challan.
- The electronic bidding system would not allow any late submission of bids after due date and time as per server time. Bidders may modify their bids by uploading their request for modification before the deadline for submission of bids. For this, the bidder need not make any additional payment towards the cost of tender document. For bid modification and consequential re-submission, the bidder is not required to withdraw his bid submitted earlier. The last modified bid submitted by the bidder within the bid submission time shall be considered as the bid. For this purpose, modification/withdrawal by other means will not be accepted. In online system of bid submission, the modification and consequential submission of bids is allowed any number of times. The bidders may withdraw his bid by uploading their request before the deadline for submission of bids; however, if the bid is withdrawn, the re-submission of the bid is not allowed. No bid shall be modified or withdrawn after the deadline of submission of bids.
- The date and time of opening of Financial-Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The **Financial-bids of Responsive bidders** shall be opened online in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Ramnagar. The date for same shall be intimated separately.

No:- EE/R&B/RN/1248-53
Dated:- 08.12.2023

Executive Engineer
PWD (R&B) Division
Ramnagar

DIP/J-12477/23
Date: 12-12-23

CUJ inaugurates UGC-MMTTC for NEP 2020 Sensitization, Orientation

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 12

In a significant stride towards aligning with the transformative vision of the National Education Policy 2020, the Central University of Jammu (CUJ) - UGC Malviya Mission Teachers Training Centre (MMTTC) proudly inaugurated its first FDP on the theme: Holistic Multidisciplinary Education. The main objective of MMTTC is to conduct Orientation and Sensitization Programmes for the faculty members of Higher Educational Institutions on core NEP 2020 themes. As a part of the Malviya Mission III institutions have been identified. The programme was conducted under this centre as per the guidelines of UGC.

To realize this vision MoE has sought the strengthening of synergy and integration between HRDC'S and PMMMN-



MTT centres keeping in view the optimal utilization of infrastructure, human and financial resources and renaming the centre for capacity building as Malviya Mission Teacher's Training Centre.

Vice Chancellor Central University of Jammu, Prof. Sanjeev Jain in his message expressed hope that in alignment with the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of Viksit Bharat, the centre will facilitate the transformative journey reflecting on the profound impact educators have in shaping our future. Prof. Jain emphasised that Central University of Jammu committed to nurturing

a cadre of inspired and empowered faculty members who will lead the charge in realizing the aspirations of NEP 2020.

Speaking at the inaugural session, Dr. Asit Mantry, Head Department of Educational Studies stated that teachers will play a leading role in nation building. He said that teacher fulfil the dreams of Vikshit Bharat realising the vision of Hon'ble Prime Minister

Dr. Neelika Arora, Director, CUJ-UGC- MMTTC centre apprised that the centre is mandated to offer various programs to improve the quality of teaching and empower faculty members through training, induction,

refresher and short-term programs to ensure their continuous professional development. The centre shall be organising a series of Faculty Development Programs (FDC), this being the first in the series.

Prof. Ritu Bakshi, Dean Student's welfare, Central University of Jammu, was the resource person for the first session. She spoke on the topic: Holistic Development as enriched in epics and man making education.

In the second session Dr. Richa Gupta, IIT Kharagpur delivered her lecture on the topic: Human values and their importance: Perspectives from Indian Knowledge systems. More than 100 participants from different institutions across the country participated in the program.

Dr. Akshay Kumar, Deputy Director, MMTTC centre presented the formal Vote of thanks.

OBC community was deprived of its rights due to Art 370: Braham Jyot

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 12

Braham Jyot Satti, BJP senior leader and incharge BJP OBC Morcha Jammu Kashmir welcomed the historical verdict of supreme court 's upholding the abrogation of article 370 by calling it the win of democracy.

In a press statement issued here today, he said Article 370, which granted special autonomy to the state of Jammu and Kashmir, had long been a contentious issue. Its abrogation on August 5th, 2019, was a bold and decisive move by the Indian government, aimed at fostering greater cohesion and bringing the region into the mainstream governance of the nation.

He said that India got independence from the British rule in 1947 but Jammu and Kashmir got independence on 5 August in 2019 because on this day unconstitutional Article 370 was abolished from Jammu and Kashmir and only the Kashmiri leaders and separatists were benefiting from Article 370 and they were running their anti-national agenda.

He said under the shelter of art 370, Jammu Kashmir was suffering from high militancy and terrorists activities but in August



2019 BJP article 370 abrogated from Jammu Kashmir and made JK is full-fledged territory of India which is true example of United India.

He said justice of honourable Supreme court said there was no prima facie case that the President's 2019 orders were mala fide (in bad faith) or extraneous exercise of power. While the court said the reorganisation of the erstwhile state into Union Territories in 2019 was a temporary move, it directed the Centre for the restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's statehood and for Legislative Assembly elections to be held by next year.

He said this verdict of supreme court is not less than blessings for OBCs because past ruling parties of Jammu Kashmir didn't love OBC samaj

and OBC community was deprived of its rights due to Article 370.

He said OSC previously SLC (Social Lower Caste) category was created by Sheikh Abdullah govt during 1981 to give benefits to those whose counter parts were granted reservation under SC category to the people of their choice not for OBC category.

He said that People from almost all professional and social strata in Jammu - OBCs, traders, displaced persons from PoK, refugees, backward classes, did not oppose the abrogation of Article 370 in August 2019 even OBCs were very happy after abrogation of article 370.

He said OBCs always stand with the nation's interest OBCs are nationalists people and always stand with our mother India.

He said For the first time, OBC community has been identified in Jammu and Kashmir. The OBC people regions who were deprived of their rights for years are being given their constitutional rights and all the provisions of the Constitution have been implemented in Jammu Kashmir including 890 provisions related to public welfare has been come in force.

'Watch O Suno Dogri' launched 'Fun quiz' to promote Dogri among youth

Jagmohan says don't hesitate, speak Dogri with pride

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 12

In a very significant move, Radio Commentator from Jammu developed a system to encourage people, particularly younger generation to stay glued to the roots and speak fluent Dogri/

Jagmohan Sharma, founder of Founder 'Watch O Suno Dogri', an organization working to make Dogri language said that it has been observed that youth and children has been distancing away from Dogri language and our aim to organize youth centric activities in a very unique and interesting manner for the last few years to encourage use of Dogri in day to day life.

Celebrating the completion of 20 years of constitutional recognition to Dogri, 'Watch O Suno Dogri', it has come up with a unique and interesting initiative, an open online 'Fun Quiz' expecting the effort will help inculcate love and affection towards



Dogri among the younger lot so that they don't hesitate and speak Dogri with pride.

Jagmohan Sharma, founder of "Watch O Suno Dogri", said that generally it is seen that today's youth and children feel more comfortable, proud and free to speak English or Hindi whereas they feel somewhat inferior or hesi-

tant in speaking Dogri.

He said Duggar children moving away from Dogri and not taking interest in it, which is a very serious matter.

Keeping this in mind, "Watch O Suno Dogri" has organized this 'Fun Quiz' in a very light and interesting manner, under which this online quiz is being organized from 1st December to 20th December.

Anyone can participate and answer these 20 questions just by sparing 20 minutes during the span of 20 days.

The result will be declared on 22nd i.e. 'Dogri Manyata Diwas' and the top 20 winners will be given fabulous prizes by 'Watch O Suno Dogri' as a token of love and regard towards Dogri.

The link to participate in this competition is available on the Instagram, YouTube and Facebook pages of "Watch O Suno Dogri" where anyone of any age group can participate without paying any fee.

IIT Jammu augments Sustainability: Successful Plantation Drive Enriches Campus Greenery



JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 12

In a dedicated stride towards fostering environmental sustainability and community involvement, the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Jammu has successfully orchestrated a Plantation Drive within its campus, thereby making a substantial contribution to the overall environmental well-being.

The concerted efforts of the institute's staff, characterized by their active and enthusiastic participation, have undeniably propelled this initiative into a resounding success.

of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi. The verdant expanse was graced with the introduction of approximately 90 saplings of the silver oak variety.

The primary objective of this thoughtfully executed Plantation Drive was to augment the green canopy enveloping the IIT Jammu campus, thereby making a substantial contribution to the overall environmental well-being. The concerted efforts of the institute's staff, characterized by their active and enthusiastic participation, have undeniably propelled this initiative into a resounding success.

Frustrate over end of 'blackmail' politics, Farooq resorted to hurling abuses: Kavinder

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 12

In a scathing attack on NC Patron Farooq Abdullah over his remark that J&K should go to hell (Bhaad Mein Jaaye Jammu Kashmir), senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister Kavinder Gupta said that use of abusive language by Farooq Abdullah shows the level of his frustration after SC's verdict on Article 370 ended scope of Kashmir based parties to 'blackmail' centre anymore.

In a statement issued to media persons, Kavinder said that Farooq Abdullah's response on SC judgment has ultimately brought the truth to fore that those people who under the guise of being people's rep-

resentative were actually satiating their own vested interests by remaining in power using blackmailing tactics.

He said that PM Narendra Modi's right step to abrogate Article 370 had shut their shops and now the endorsement of SC over the issue has furthered the cause leaving no scope for any party whatsoever to take undue advantage of either blackmailing or appeasement politics, and this is pinching the NC leadership, which has started resorting to hurl abuses on J&K and its people as these so-called well wishers of Kashmiris have been exposed on all fronts especially when not a single voice was raised in their favour in Valley after August 5, 2019 happenings.

"It was NC and its ilk in Valley which used to enjoy absolute power for three generations in J&K after conniving with subsequent dispensations in the centre especially the ones headed by Congress, and looted and usurped the resources for years together but now when they are sure that those days will not come back, the party leadership wanted J&K to go to hell", he said, adding that under the dynamic leadership of PM Narendra Modi no one can harm either the UT or its people.

The senior BJP leader emphasized that Modi government is fully committed to steer Jammu and Kashmir to new heights of progress, peace and prosperity and no power can stop this from becoming a reality.

SMVDU hosts Educational visit of GSS School, Sanasar



JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 12

SMVDU Katra hosted a visit for the female students from Govt. Higher Sec. School, Sanasar under an outreach activity program. The visit was organized to enhance knowledge/awareness among students about higher educational institutions under the PM Shri Scheme. NSS volunteers of the University accompanied the school team during the visit. NSS Coordinator, Dr. Rajiv Kumar, PRO Mr. Joginder Sharma, and workshop Supdt. Er. Deepak Byotra welcomed the school officials and

students and gave a brief introduction to the visitors about the University. Students were motivated to join higher educational institutes after completing their class 12th. During the event, the school team visited the central workshop, and academic area including labs, auditorium, etc. The students were also briefed about the admission process for various courses and informed about various facilities and achievements of the University by Dr. Mir Irfan Ul Haq, Associate Dean of International & Alumni Affairs. School students also showcased their talent

through cultural performances. More than 100 girl students along with their teachers and principal participated in the visit. Registrar, Sh. Ajay Kumar Sharma (JKAS) also briefed students about the opportunities and emphasized the need for more such collaborative events. Finance Officer, Sh. Neeraj Gupta (JKAS) was also present during the event. The Principal of the school, Mr. Rajesh Sharma thanked University authorities for hosting the visit. Vice Chancellor, Prof. Pragati Kumar appreciated the efforts of NSS volunteers in organizing the visit.

Langer welcomes SC verdict on Art 370, calls it a triumph for national unity

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 12

The Supreme Court verdict upholding the abrogation of Article 370 is a historic victory for national unity and integration.

This was stated by Sham Lal Langer, Convenor BJP Trade Cell, J&K, in a statement issued here today.

The senior BJP leader said "This landmark judgment lays to rest decades of political and legal uncertainty, paving the way for a brighter future for the people of Jammu and Kashmir. The abrogation was a necessary step to ensure full and equal participation of J&K in India's vibrant democracy, and the Supreme Court has decisively affirmed its constitutionality."

He highlighted the positive developments that followed the abrogation, including increased investment and economic growth, enhanced security, improved governance,



empowerment of J&K residents, etc.

"The Supreme Court's verdict is a resounding endorsement of the BJP's commitment to national unity and equal rights for all Indian citizens. We are confident that this decision will usher in a new era of peace, prosperity, and development for Jammu and Kashmir," he added.

Sham Langer also called upon all political parties to respect the Supreme Court's verdict and work together for the betterment of J&K and its people. "This is a time for unity, not division. Let us put aside our differences and come together to build a brighter future for all," he added.

IGP Jammu Zone felicitates officers/officials for working out Highway robberies cases in Jammu Province

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 12

Inspector General of Police, Jammu Zone, Shri Anand Jain, IPS visited Police Station Akhnoor and felicitates officers/officials who worked out number of Highway Robbery Cases took place in Jammu Zone. The officers/officials were awarded with Appreciation letter and Commendation Certificate Class-Ist in a simple function organized at Police Station Akhnoor are Sh. Mohan Lal Sharma, SDPO Akhnoor, Inspr. Hilaal Azhar, SHO Thanna Mandi (the then SHO Akhnoor), Inspr. Zaheer Mushtaq SHO P/S Akhnoor, PSI Pankaj Katoch, I/C Police Post Chowki Choura, PSI Arun Kumar, I/C Police Post Sidhra, HC Karan Singh, No.07/J of PS Akhnoor, HC Kuldeep Singh, No. 1262/J of PP Chowki Choura, Ct. Sanjay Kumar, No. 3198/J of P/S Akhnoor, Ct. Vijay Kumar, No. 1573/J of SP Office

(Rural) Jammu, Ct. Rahul Sharma, No.3367/J of SDPO Office Akhnoor, Ct. Sunny Sharma, No.3118/J of SDPO Office Akhnoor, Ct. Yashpaul, No. 3014/J of PP Chowki Choura

SPO Akshay Choudhary, No. 1785/J of P/S Akhnoor. Pertinent to mention here that number of highway robbery cases took place at different locations in Jammu district that has created a sense of fear and panic among the general public as well as drivers/commuters plying in late/week hours.

Accordingly, Special Team headed by Sh. Mohan Lal, SDPO Akhnoor was constituted to investigate one of the highway robbery cases registered under FIR No. 281/2023 U/S 392-IPC P/S Akhnoor.

During the course of investigation of the above said case, the other robbery cases registered in other Police Station of district Jammu viz P/S Domana, Jhajjar Kotli, Nagrota and Gangyal were



also thoroughly scrutinized by this Special Team in order to find out the Modus-operandi of these robbery cases.

The consistent resulted into identification of all accused persons, their apprehensions and recovery of vehicles & weapons used for committing crimes in many districts which ultimately earthed dozen of such robbery cases in Jammu Zone, the detail of which is as under:-

FIR No. 280/2023 P/S Domana, FIR No. 368/2023 P/S Nagrota,

plan was made. The CCTV footages from all the places of incidents as well as connecting roads to the places of incidents and Fast-tag data of all the tool plazas in between the places of incidents also helped in the apprehension of accused persons involved in these robbery cases.

The team has also analysed data of the last 10 years to find out the suspects in similar nature of incidents committed in the past. During the course of investigation, breakthrough was obtained by the team members as a result of which one habitual criminal namely Mohd Kabir was arrested along with one bike and sharp edge weapons and on his disclosure, 02 more accused were arrested and one car was also recovered.

It is worthwhile to mention here that continuous raids were conducted at different locations i.e. Bari Brahmana, Khanna

(Punjab), Neerojal, Thanamandi (Rajouri), Bathandi, Jammu and after screening of more than fifty houses, one house was identified and raided which led to arrest of two more accused persons.

In these robbery cases, 05 accused persons were arrested, out of which 04 belong to district Rajouri and district Doda and recoveries were made which include 02 Vehicles, 02 Bikes, 03 sharp edge weapon of offences (Tokas), 02 Mobile phones of the victims etc.

IGP Jammu Zone, Shri Anand Jain-IPS, has informed in this function that good work done by the Police shall be lauded and highlighted in future also in order to boast their morale.

Shri Shakti Pathak-IPS, DIG JKS Range, Shri Vinod Kumar-IPS, SSP Jammu, Shri Rahul Charak, SP Rural, Jammu and Shri Mohan Lal, Dy. SP SDPO Akhnoor was also present in this function.

Himani Sharma declared Qualified for Award of Ph.D

JINNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DEC 12

Himani Sharma has been declared qualified for the award of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Electronics & Communication Engineering by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), Katra. The researcher worked on the title, "HYBRID WIRELESS NETWORK (5G + VLC)" under the supervision of Dr. Rakesh Kumar Jha (On Leave), Associate Professor, School of Electronics and Communication Engi-

neering, SMVDU, and co-supervision of Dr. Sumeet Gupta, Associate Professor, School of Electronics and Communication Engineering, SMVDU. The candidate has published research papers indexed in IEEE Journals, and SCI Index Journals and has presented papers at International conferences at ICMEET Andhra Pradesh, ICRATE. The candidate has expressed her gratitude to the 5G and IoT Lab of SMVDU University for providing all the facilities and necessary support for carrying out her research.

**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE
1ST CLASS, R.S PURA**

Through
Balvinder Kumar
S/o Khazan Chand R/o Mehlowal V/S
Teh. RS Pura (Petitioner)
In the Matter of: Entry of the Birth Particulars of my daughter
Lakshita Devi D/o Balvinder Kumar Mother Rajni Devi whose
Date of birth is 08-10-2022.
Therefore kindly the B.D.O, R.S Pura may be directed to entry the
Birth Particulars and issued the Birth Certificate of my daughter.
Issued under my signature and seal

1. SHO P/S RS Pura
2. BDO
(Respondant)

Sd/-
EMIC
RS Pura

J&K Exhibitors sponsored by the JKTPO earn Spotlight at PITEX Amritsar -2023

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DECEMBER 12

The Jammu & Kashmir Pavilion set up by the Jammu and Kashmir Trade Promotion Organization (JKTPO) at the 17th Edition of the Punjab International Trade Expo (PITEX) 2023, held in Amritsar earned lot of appreciation due to display of genuine local artistry and unique products from Jammu & Kashmir. This event consistently offers an excellent platform for our local emerging entrepreneurs to showcase exceptional craftsmanship of local artisans, leaving a lasting impression on attendees.

With an allocation of 30 stalls, artists and entrepreneurs which includes 06 women entrepreneurs from all parts of Jammu and Kashmir, displayed genuine local artistry, turning our pavilion into a focal point for buyers and local customers. This year, PITEX 2023 witnessed a substantial footfall of over three lakh visitors from



various parts of India, neighbouring regions, and abroad. JKTPO's stalls attracted them to purchase clothes and dry fruits for the upcoming winter. Visitors admired the embroidered clothing from Kashmir. Exhibitors also expressed joy and satisfaction with the overwhelming response at the event.

PITEX 2023 featured 550 domestic and international exhibitors, with 14 Indian states and five international participants showcased their products. The event was visited by High Commissioners and Ambassadors and businessmen, from some Asian countries. The organization's representation at the fair, with a diverse array of

handcrafted items and traditional specialties, was truly spectacular.

The major attractions included Basohli Pashmina Shawls, Kani and Sozni clothes and stoles, dry fruits and dried vegetables, world-famous Kashmiri saffron, Phiran, and hand-embroidered garments with intricate Kashmiri patterns, Honey and Rajmash from Jammu region, handmade toys etc.

Visitors to the JKTPO stalls not only had the opportunity to witness these exquisite products but also engaged with the artisans themselves. The stories behind each creation and the dedication of craftspeople were shared with enthusiasm, creating a unique and immersive experience for attendees.

Punjab's local media engaged with several sellers who shared their success stories and highlighted the support they receive from the Jammu

and Kashmir government for promotion and livelihood enhancement. The significant response in terms of business leads generated holds the potential to translate into future orders, promising substantial business growth for them.

The JKTPO team expressed gratitude for the enthusiastic response received. The fair act as B2B and B2C provided a platform to bridge cultures and connect local artisans with a broader audience, contributing to the economic growth and empowerment of the region's skilled workforce.

JKTPO's involvement in PITEX 2023 proved highly successful, emphasizing their dedication to promoting and safeguarding the rich heritage and cultural diversity of Jammu and Kashmir. Their ongoing endeavours to strengthen and empower local artisans and businesses serve as a clear testament to their dedicated commitment.

Bhupinder Kumar reviews Addiction Treatment Facilities in Government Hospitals

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DECEMBER 12

Secretary, Health & Medical Education, Bhupinder Kumar, today reviewed the status of Addiction Treatment Facilities in Government Hospitals in Jammu and Kashmir.

Pertinently, 16 ATFs have been sanctioned for J&K being supported by Union Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment under Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyaan and coordinated and implemented by National Drug Dependence Treatment Centers, All India Institute of

Medical Sciences (AIIMS). These addiction treatment facilities are catering to treatment and rehabilitation of substance users.

Secretary appreciated the functioning of ATFs and impressed upon the stake holders to work with more zeal and dedication for mitigating the sufferings of victims of drug addictions. He directed the officers for initiating process of establishment of ATFs in the remaining four districts of Samba, Udhampur, Reasi and Ramban. He instructed the Principals and Chief Medical Officers to complete the process of

hiring of manpower within a month's time for addressing gaps of manpower.

While reviewing the functioning of New GMCs, he asked all the concerned to report the work done to the administrative department on weekly basis including major and minor surgeries.

Among others the meeting was also attended by Mission Director, NHM, J&K, Principal, Government Medical College, Srinagar, Jammu, Handwara, Kathua, Doda and Rajour besides Director Health Services Jammu and Kashmir.

Dulloo reviews operational preparedness of smart city projects

J1 NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, DECEMBER 12

Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo today took appraisal of the operational preparedness of all the ongoing and completed projects of the Smart City Mission (SCM) here in the twin cities of Srinagar and Jammu. The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, H&UDD; Principal Secretary, Finance; Commissioner JMC/SMC besides other concerned officers.

During this meeting the Chief Secretary asked for insights into the kind of facilities and projects to be made available under SCM at both Srinagar and Jammu. He observed that the facilities and infrastructure being raised under this mission ought to be maintained properly for reaping benefits accruing from them continuously.

He told both the CEOs of JSCL and SSCL to look into raising of assets that would make the operation and maintenance of such assets durable and long lasting. He stressed on working out a model after properly analyzing the recurring expenditure to



be made on such projects of public use. He asked for finding the resources that would sustain these projects for posterity.

He asked about the list of projects completed under the mission here at Jammu and Srinagar till now and ongoing ones with their anticipated dates of completion. He enquired about the usage of the projects dedicated to public and the pace of those under execution. He advised them to coordinate with the divisional administration for seeking earlier resolution of all the interdepartmental issues affecting their works.

Dulloo asked about the status of the work on the Tawi Riverfront Development and water transport project in Srinagar. He called for operationalization of IT based smart traffic management systems like ILTM and ITMS at an earliest. He called for com-

pleting all the projects of the mission by their stipulated timelines without any fail.

The Chief Secretary was informed by the Principal Secretary, H&UDD, Prashant Goyal that the smart city projects are completed by sharing of 50% revenue each by Centre and the UT besides arranging funding through PPP and convergence modes.

He further added that the Smart city projects includes creation of many kiosks, VMDs, advertisement decks, commercial spaces, e-buses, parking areas and public utilities that would fetch them revenue through ticketing.

It was also given out that the mission here is in a process of detailed out a plan to make the facilities and projects most beneficial and sustainable for the people of the UT for times to come.

DC Ramban reviews financial, physical achievements registered under PWD, PMGSY sectors

J1 NEWS SERVICE
RAMBAN, DECEMBER 12

Deputy Commissioner, Ramban, Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary today chaired a meeting to review the financial and physical achievements registered under PWD, and PMGSY sectors in the district.

Reviewing the progress of PWD (R&B), Division Ramban and Banihal, the Deputy Commissioner directed the stakeholder departments to work in close coordination to resolve the local issues hindering the pace of progress on developmental projects of public interest.

He directed the concerned Executive Engineers to take help from concerned SDMs and other administrative officers to resolve bottlenecks which impact the execution of work, especially developmental projects of social sector as reflected in 14 indicators of Aspirational Block.

The Deputy Commissioner further asked stakeholders to conduct joint



inspection of projects to take decision on-the-spot to resolve the issues, if any. He also directed both the departments to submit a detailed report of big projects sanctioned and taken up under Centrally Sponsored and other schemes of their respective sectors.

Reviewing the status of the ongoing road projects, the Deputy Commissioner asked the DFOs to personally monitor the forest clearance issues pertaining to the road and other social sector projects. He directed the executing agencies to ensure sustainable development of the district while planning and conducting surveys of developmental projects to preserve our forests and other natural resources and heritage of the district.

Reviewing the comple-

tion of developmental projects, the Deputy Commissioner directed all the executing agencies to achieve cent percent both physical and financial targets against given targets.

Taking stock of progress on developmental works of UT Capex, District Capex, Area Development Fund of DDC, BDC and PRIs, and other schemes, the Deputy Commissioner directed the officers to focus on completion of works well in time to achieve fixed targets.

Earlier, giving a PowerPoint presentation, the Executive Engineer PWD (R&B), Ramban informed the meeting that as many as 65 roads of 149 km are being executed in the Ramban Division, besides work on major building projects of crores of rupees is going on in divi-

sion including building of Government Higher Secondary School, Thetharka, Food Storage Godown building at Sangaldan, Construction of 300 mtr span Pre-stressed Double Lane (Balance Cantilever) Motorable Bridge over River Chenab, construction of Multi-Storey Bus stand at Ramban, construction of office Building-cum-car parking at Municipal Council, Ramban, Community Hall at Ward No 05 Ramban, Construction of Bal Ashram and Nari Niketan Building at Kanga, Ramban, construction of officers' residential quarter at Maitra Ramban, construction of Transit Accommodation and facilities for Tribal population at Dalwas, construction of Hostel at Government Polytechnic at Chanderkote, Ramban, restoration of Ghoda Gali, Gool, construction of 100-bedded ST Gujjar Bakerwal Hostel at Ramban, construction of office-cum-Laboratory Building in Divisional office of Pollution Control Committee at Maitra, Ramban, Development of Tulip Garden at Sanasar, and Development of Rani Talab at Batote, Winter preparedness.

Briefing about Phase-I, II and III of PMGSY Ramban, the Executive Engineer PMGSY informed that out of total 73 sanctioned projects including bridges, 48 projects have been completed, while work on the rest of the projects is going on in full swing.

The Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Banihal also apprised the meeting about progress on road and other infrastructural projects being executed under PWD and PMGSY sectors.

Among others, ADDC, Rajinder Sharma, ADC, Harbans Lal Sharma, CPO, Shakeeb Ahmad Rather, DFO, Batote, Kuldeep Singh, DFO, Ramban Rajan Singh, DFO Social Forestry Mahesh Thakur, Executive Engineer, PWD Ramban, Abhishek Gupta, and Executive Engineer PWD, Banihal, Iqbal Ahmed, Executive Engineer, PMGSY Ramban, Arvind Langeh.

DEO Poonch reviews Action plan for holding Polling station level Training, Awareness Programmes

J1 NEWS SERVICE
POONCH, DECEMBER 12

In preparation for the upcoming Lok Sabha Election-2024, the District Election Officer (Deputy Commissioner) Poonch, Yasin M. Choudhary today conducted a comprehensive review of the training, awareness, and demonstration programmes to be conducted at polling station level in the district.

The meeting was attended by Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Zaheer Ahmed Kaifi, Deputy District Election Officer, Gurbinder Singh, SDM Mendhar, Jahangir Khan, SDM Surankote, Rizwan Asgar, PO IWMP, Israr Ahmed, Naib Tehsildar Election, Zulafkar Ali Malik, besides DLMT & ALMTs and other concerned were present in the meeting.



Under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner, the training sessions are scheduled to commence from December 15, 2023 and will continue until February 29, 2024 across the district. The aim of these sessions is to equip

election officials and the general public with the necessary knowledge and understanding of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) and ensure the smooth conduct of the election process.

The Deputy Commis-

sioner directed all district-level master trainers and assembly constitution-level trainers to diligently educate the public about Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) and ensure the successful setup of training sessions at all polling stations.

The DC stressed the importance of providing comprehensive training and awareness to both election officials and the general public, particularly regarding the functioning and usage of EVMs. The Deputy Commissioner expressed his confidence that through effective training and awareness programmes, the district would witness a smooth and successful election

process.

The district-level master trainers and assembly constitution-level trainers have been entrusted with the responsibility of conducting training sessions across all polling stations in the district.

The District Election Officer further highlighted that the training and awareness campaign would extend beyond the polling stations, reaching every nook and corner of the district. He also stressed that to disseminate the information through various mediums, including print media, social media platforms etc. This multi-pronged approach will ensure that every eligible voter is well-informed about the election process and the significance of their participation.

J1 NEWS SERVICE
KISHTWAR, DECEMBER 12

The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, a transformative initiative, culminated its journey through Trigam block today, traversing all the 6 accessible panchayats. Spanning across the Trigam block, the Yatra covered Trigam A, Trigam B, Trigam C, Jangwas, Drab and Agral panchayats.

The overwhelming community response underscored significance of the Yatra. The campaign received invaluable support from PRIs, including DDC and BDC members, Sarpanches, Panches, BDO Trigam, Tehsildar Kishtwar, and other field functionaries, contributing significantly to its smooth execution.

Central to the Yatra's success was the IEC Van, disseminating the Prime Minister's message on Centrally Sponsored Schemes and their effective implementation. 'Meri Kahani Meri Zubani' provided a platform to the



beneficiaries to share their experiences, enriching the Yatra's essence.

Highlighting the whole impactful journey across 06 Panchayats an IEC Van was deployed to disseminate the message of Hon'ble PM besides varied activities were conducted, a number of rural schemes were made families to public, with Sankalp and cultural events held under "Dharti Kahe Pukar Ke component" besides also recognizing individual achievers including students.

The Health camps conducted during the Yatra catered to the community's health needs at their door step, screening individuals for TB, Sickle Cell, and conducting NCD screenings.

Furthermore, the

Yatra facilitated seamless saturation of various schemes, offering immediate on-the-spot services, while also creating awareness about government schemes. Government schemes including Ayushman Bharat Scheme, Jan Dhan, ODF, Digitisation of land Records, PM Kissan were saturated during the Yatra.

Also a total of Ayushman golden Cards were distributed among beneficiaries, KCC cards distributed among farmers, eligible beneficiaries were enrolled under PM Ujjwala scheme.

In alignment with VBSY, the sharing of insightful stories by beneficiaries under Meri Kahani Meri Zubani was recorded and added significance to the Yatra.