



# JINDRAH IMAGES

DAILY | JAMMU | VOL NO: 10 | ISSUE NO: 287 | PAGES: 12 | PRICE: Rs 2/- | RNI NO: JKENG/2013/49471 | POSTAL REGD. NO. JK-497/22-24 | dailyjindrahimages.com/Epaper.php | jindrahimages123@gmail.com

## Major security breach in LS as two men jump into chamber; Speaker orders probe

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, DEC 13

On the 22nd anniversary of the terror attack on Parliament, a major breach of security was witnessed again in the Temple of Democracy on Wednesday when two men jumped into the Lok Sabha chamber from the Visitors' Gallery above and caused smoke, leading to chaos and commotion in the House where proceedings were underway.

The men, who were identified as Sagar Sharma and Manoranjan, lunged into the Lower House of Parliament, chanting something, around 1:30 pm, when the Zero Hour was in progress.

Sagar, who was the first to jump, then moved from the rear of the chamber towards the chair in the front, climbing the chairs and tables of the MPs.

The intruders were immediately overpowered and thrashed by some MPs before being handed over to the Delhi Police, which arrested them.

Two others - a 42 year old woman Neelam and a 25-year old male Amol were also arrested for allegedly protesting in front



of Transport Bhawan with smoke canisters. Neelam resides in Hariyana's Hisar, while Amaol is from Maharashtra's Latur.

According to a UNI report from Lucknow Sharma is a resident of Ramnagar locality in the Alam-bagh area in the capital city of Uttar Pradesh. According to his family, he is an e-rickshaw driver.

"His sister has revealed that Sagar was working as an e-rick-

shaw driver for the last three months. She revealed that before that he lived and worked in Bengaluru," said an officer.

Sharma had a visitor pass to Parliament which was issued by Mysuru BJP MP Pratap Simha, sources said here.

Taking the security breach incident seriously, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla ordered a thorough probe.

He praised the security staff,

and MPs who caught the intruders after they jumped from the Visitor's Gallery into the chamber.

The Speaker called an all-party meeting at 4 PM to discuss the issue and said the matter has also been referred to the Delhi police for investigation.

He added that preliminary investigation suggests that the gas emitted from a canister used by the persons was to create sensation and was "harmless" and "not a cause of worry".

When the House resumed after 2 pm, Birla said the incident that happened "is a topic of concern for all of us & is serious as well...A high-level investigation is being done & accordingly, action will be taken".

"A comprehensive review will be done regarding the security in the house... The house was adjourned till 11:00 hours tomorrow", he said.

Delhi Police said all four arrestees were being grilled to ascertain their motive behind the protest and why they chose to hold it in and outside parliament. A massive manhunt has been

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

## Cold wave sweeps Kashmir, Sgr records coldest night of season at minus 5.3 degree Celsius



J1 NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, DEC 13

After an improvement in the minimum temperature, Kashmir Valley has once again witnessed the cold wave conditions Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir recording the coldest night of season at minus 5.3 degree Celsius.

Pertinently, Srinagar recorded a minimum temperature of minus 1.5 degree Celsius the previous night. However, the mercury plummeted again and thus the district was the

coldest place in the valley.

According to the news agency, the sub-zero temperature has been recorded across all the stations while Qazigund, the gateway of Kashmir, also recorded a low of minus 3.2 degree Celsius.

Gulmarg, a famous ski-resort, has recorded a low of minus 5.5 degree Celsius while Pahalgam, a famous tourist place, recorded a minimum temperature of minus 5.3 degree Celsius.

In Kupwara, the mercury settled at minus 3.7 degree Celsius while

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

## Amid delay in snowfall, intensified patrols, rigorous measures to counter infiltration along LoC in Kashmir: Officials

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, NOV 13

As the snowfall of the season has got delayed a little in Kashmir, security forces have intensified patrols and taken rigorous measures to thwart any possible infiltration attempt from across LoC.

A senior security official told the news agency that October was notably

active as security forces neutralized five terrorists along the LoC in the Macchil sector of Kupwara on October 26 while two militants were killed in an unsuccessful infiltration attempt in the Uri sector of Baramulla district in the same month.

"In June this month, 11 infiltrators were eliminated, and a

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

## Lt Governor Sinha chairs meeting to review implementation of PM SHRI Schools scheme



J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DEC 13

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha chaired a meeting to review the implementation of PM SHRI Schools (PM Schools for Rising India) scheme in the Union Territory.

On the occasion of Teacher's Day in 2022 Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi had announced PM-SHRI for the upgradation and development of around 14,500 schools across the country.

In Phase-I, a total of 233 Schools from J&K have been approved for PM SHRI Schools by the Ministry of Education. In the second phase, J&K UT has recommended 265 schools to the Ministry of Education, seeking its approval.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

## LG pays tributes to 2001 Parliament Attack Victims

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DEC 13

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday paid tributes to those who died in the terror attack on Parliament on this day in 2001.

Five heavily armed terrorists stormed the Parliament complex on this day 22 years ago, killing nine people. The terrorists were gunned down before they could enter the main building.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

## LG releases Jammu Yatri Bhawan Trust's Panchang 2024

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DEC 13

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha released Jammu Yatri Bhawan Trust's Panchang 2024, at Raj Bhawan on Wednesday.

The Lt Governor congratulated the editorial team, members of Jammu Yatri Bhawan Trust and Vidwat Parishad. The Panchang will provide information

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4



## Centre received 19.45 lakh public grievances so far this year: Jitendra Singh

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, DEC 13

The Centre received 19.45 lakh public grievances between January and November this year on the Centralised Public Grievance Redressal and Monitoring System

(CPGRAMS), the Lok Sabha was informed on Wednesday.

The CPGRAMS is a web-based portal where citizens can file their grievances pertaining to the ministries and departments of government

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

## SIA conducts searches at 5 locations in South Kashmir



J1 NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, DEC 13

The State Investigation Agency (SIA) Kashmir conducted searches at five locations in South Kashmir (three in Anantnag and two in Kulgam) in connection with an ongoing investigation of a terror funding case. The

searches were conducted in a case under FIR number 311/2023 of PS Anantnag registered on 19 November 2023 under sections 13,17,18,20,38 and 40 of the UA(P)A 120B, 121A, 121 of the IPC and transferred to the SIA Kashmir on 23-12-2023. "It is pertinent to mention

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

## Space becoming important component of india's economy: Dr Jitendra

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 13

Space is becoming an important component of India's economy, Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh said today.

Space StartUps attracted private investment amounting to more than Rs.1,000 crore in this Financial Year since April, he said.

The Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, said this during an exclusive interview



here at "Agenda Aaj Tak". "India's Space economy today stands at a modest \$8 billion, but our own projection is that by 2040

it will multiply manifold. But more interesting is that according to some international observers, for example the recent

ADL (Arthur D Little) Report mentions that we could have the potential of \$100 Billion by 2040," he said. Dr Jitendra Singh said

ISRO has so far launched more than 430 foreign satellites, earning more than 290 Million Euros from European satellites and over 170 Million US Dollars by launching American satellites.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, India has a rapidly rising number of Space sector StartUps since Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi initiated reforms in the Space sector. Within a short span of just about four years, the number of Space StartUps has gone up from a mere single digit to over 1180, with some of the earlier

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

## India rejects OIC's comments on SC verdict on Jammu and Kashmir

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, DEC 13

India on Wednesday strongly rejected the comments by the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) expressing concern over the Supreme Court's verdict upholding the 2019 revocation of Article 370 of the Constitution that gave special status to Jammu and Kashmir.

External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said the OIC's action at the behest of a "serial violator of human rights and an unrepentant promoter of cross border terrorism" makes its action even more questionable.

Though Bagchi did not name any country, it was clear that the reference was towards Pakistan.

"India rejects the statement issued by



the General Secretariat of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) on a judgement of the Indian Supreme Court. It is both ill informed and ill intended," Bagchi said. "That OIC does so at the behest of a serial violator of human

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4



## VBSY cum Block Diwas event marks transformative Day at Panchayat Kishanpur Kandi

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
KATHUA, DECEMBER 13

In an impactful and inspiring event held at Panchayat Kishanpur Kandi in Block Barnoti, the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra witnessed the active participation of key officials, including DC Kathua Rakesh Minhas and DDC Vice Chairperson Raghunandan Singh.

The event, which unfolded as part of the Block Diwas Proceedings, provided a platform to the community to voice their concerns and needs, many of which were promptly addressed on the spot.

The event, marked by enthusiasm and community engagement, showcased the commitment of local authorities to the principles of good governance and responsive administration. The departmental stalls were put up to facilitate direct interaction between the public



and government officials, fostering a sense of transparency and efficiency.

The Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) Van, known as the Viksit Bharat Rath, played a crucial role in disseminating valuable information and offering on-the-spot services to the attendees.

DC Kathua Rakesh Minhas highlighted the importance of such initiatives in bridging the gap between the administration and the public. He emphasized the need for active citizen participation in the development process and applauded

the community's proactive approach in expressing their grievances and demands during the Block Diwas Proceedings.

DDC Vice Chairperson Raghunandan Singh, addressing the gathering, urged the public to seize the opportunities presented by the ongoing Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra. He emphasized the significance of collective efforts in realizing the vision of a developed India by 2047. He encouraged citizens to actively engage with the various programs and services made available, fostering an environment conducive to progress and

prosperity.

The event served as a testament to the commitment of the local administration to fostering inclusive and sustainable development. The immediate redressal of grievances, coupled with the establishment of departmental stalls and the IEC Van, underscored the administration's dedication to facilitating direct communication channels and delivering prompt services to the community.

As the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra continues to unfold, it is anticipated that such events will leave a lasting impact on the communities they touch, contributing to the realization of a vibrant and developed India.

BDC Chairperson Barnoti, DDC Member Barnoti, CPO Kathua, ACD Kathua and other District and Sectoral Officers were also present.

## Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra DSWD Reasi empowers communities through awareness camps in Reasi

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
REASI, DECEMBER 13

To empower the local communities, the District Social Welfare Department Reasi organized awareness camps across 60 panchayats during the ongoing Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra. This initiative aimed to enlighten residents about the Central and Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory-sponsored schemes.

During these camps, officials from the Social Welfare Department diligently disseminated information on crucial schemes such as Old Age and Widow Pension, Scholarships, and Specially Disabled Pension. By creating awareness about these initiatives, the department seeks to ensure that eligible individuals benefit from the support available



to them. The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra serves as a vital platform for bridging the information gap and connecting communities with essential social welfare schemes. The commitment of the Social Welfare Department to the welfare of citizens was evident as they engaged with the public, addressing queries and providing valuable insights into the

application processes.

These awareness camps represent a proactive step towards building a more informed and inclusive society. The District Social Welfare Department Reasi remains steadfast in its commitment to fostering a sense of social responsibility and promoting the well-being of individuals through accessible government schemes.

## Mission Shakti, DHEW Jammu organises awareness campaign

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DECEMBER 13

District Hub for Empowerment of Women Jammu today organised an awareness programme on the women centric schemes at Village - Sohanjana of block Mandal Phallain in presence of Sarpanch Balbir Singh and Committee Members.

The motto of the camp was to aware the female population of the area regarding the women centric schemes and services of the Government for their Empowerment.

Sunil Kumar, Specialist in Financial Literacy of DHEW Jammu under Mission Shakti familiarized participants about the welfare schemes offered by the Govt. of India particularly for women & stressed on the need of gender sensitivity to promote equality among genders. The DHEW Jammu assured them to facilitate provision of assistance with the help of the concerned Departments and provided detailed information regarding various schemes like scholarship schemes, SMAS(State Marriage Assistance Scheme for poor and needy girls), Pension schemes for old age, widow and physically disabled persons.

Eligibility criteria of different pension scheme, procedure to avail the benefits of different Government services & documents required for the enrollment. Schemes like Ladli Beti and SukanyaYojana for providing financial security to the girls, self employment schemes etc. Emergency helpline numbers for women (181), child (1098), Elder line (14567) Drug De-addiction (14446) were also shared.

## DDC reviews progress under JJM, Capex, BADP & SSY at Baramulla

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
BARAMULLA, DECEMBER 13

The District Development Commissioner (DDC) Baramulla, Dr Syed Sehrish Aghar convened a meeting here to review the progress/ achievements of Jal Shakti department in providing drinking water to households and Panchayats across the district under Jal Jeevan Mission.

At the outset, Executive Engineer PHE Baramulla gave a detailed presentation and highlighted the major achievements of the PHE sector along with implementation of drinking water schemes under Jal Jeevan Mission. The DDC was informed that 81% works have been completed in the district so far with regard to providing drinking water to households and Panchayats under the Centrally Sponsored flagship programme.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Sehrish directed the officials to issue 'Har



Ghar Jal' certificates to Pani Simitis in those villages/areas that have been saturated. The DDC further directed the officers to collaborate closely to resolve any existing bottlenecks, aiming for the ambitious goal of achieving 100% saturation as outlined by the JJM.

Dr Sehrish also instructed the Executive Engineers responsible for Groundwater and Electro-mechanical projects in the north to meet their deadlines promptly.

Additionally, the DDC conducted a thorough review of both the physical and financial progress made by vari-

ous departments under District Capex Budget, Area Development Fund, BADP, and SSY and took a detailed appraisal from the concerned officers.

The DDC directed the concerned officers to achieve the targets set under the developmental plans for the financial year 2023-24 within the stipulated time frame.

Chief Planning Officer, Javaid Ahmad; Assistant Director Planning, Mohammad Maqbool Lone; Superintending Engineer JSD, Executive Engineers, Assistant Engineers and other concerned officers were present in the meeting.

## VBSY pioneers comprehensive implementation of government schemes in Rajouri District

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
RAJOURI, DECEMBER 13

The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY) is making significant progress in its mission to bring about transformation in Rajouri District, ensuring comprehensive coverage of government schemes and improving the lives of its residents. This visionary initiative is embarking on an extraordinary journey, reaching underserved areas and achieving remarkable implementation of various government programs and initiatives, thereby empowering communities and fostering lasting progress.

To effectively disseminate information and raise awareness about these initiatives, an Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) van has been deployed as a crucial component of the Yatra. This mobile communication platform has played a pivotal role in engaging with local communities



and equipping them with the necessary knowledge to benefit from government schemes.

One of the notable achievements of the VBSY is the successful implementation of various government schemes in Rajouri District. These schemes, aimed at improving the quality of life and providing essential services, have been executed on the ground with excep-

tion. The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra serves as a vital platform for bridging the information gap and connecting communities with essential social welfare schemes. The commitment of the Social Welfare Department to the welfare of citizens was evident as they engaged with the public, addressing queries and providing valuable insights into the

application processes.

These awareness camps represent a proactive step towards building a more informed and inclusive society. The District Social Welfare Department Reasi remains steadfast in its commitment to fostering a sense of social responsibility and promoting the well-being of individuals through accessible government schemes.

Today, the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra IEC vans traversed through the panchayats of Chakmathani in the Moughla block of Rajouri district.

The impact of the Yatra extends beyond mere statistics and can be seen in the improved access to

healthcare, education, and basic amenities, as well as the overall progress of Rajouri District. The meticulous planning and execution of this initiative have ensured its alignment with the core objective of holistic development, leaving a lasting and positive impact on the community.

The VBSY serves as a symbol of progress and collaboration, embodying the spirit of Viksit Bharat Sankalp. By bringing government schemes to the grassroots level and ensuring comprehensive coverage, it has created a platform for empowerment and upliftment. This transformative journey in Rajouri District stands as an exemplary model of effective governance, community engagement, and collective determination to build a better and prosperous India.

By bringing government schemes to the grassroots level and ensuring comprehensive coverage, it has created a platform for empowerment and upliftment. This transformative journey in Rajouri District stands as an exemplary model of effective governance, community engagement, and collective determination to build a better and prosperous India.

## Director SDD conducts field visit to Mulberry Farms/ Blocks/ Nurseries & Offices in South Kashmir

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, DECEMBER 13

The Director Sericulture Development Department (SDD), Ajaz Ahmad Bhat today conducted a comprehensive field visit to various Mulberry Farms/ Blocks/ Nurseries and Offices in South Kashmir to monitor and assess the functioning of department and for ensuring development of Mulberry Farms/ Nurseries for propagation of quality mulberry foliage.

Moreover, he also stressed that the Mulberry Plant material should be readily available to the Silkworm Rearing from said areas for the ensuing Silkworm Rearing Season.

The Director further emphasized the field functionalities of the Department to bring vast swathes of land available in these areas under Mulberry plantation by way of area expansion.

During the visit, Director held a detailed interaction with employees to have spot review of the current status vis-a-vis



mulberry plantation and status of cocoon production.

Emphasizing upon the critical role of Mulberry plants in the sericulture industry, he instructed the field functionaries to make necessary arrangements well in advance to meet the demand of Mulberry Plants for the ensuing silkworm rearing season and also exhorted upon them to gear themselves for developing more clusters in the near future.

The Director during his visit also inspected many offices of the Department in South Kashmir and issued on spot directions for renovation of all Office complexes across J&K. Besides, a proposal for construction of Office Building and allotment of land for District Sericulture Office Shopian has been furnished to the Dis-

trict Administration Shopian.

On the occasion, the Director also exhorted upon engineering Wings to complete the developmental projects and construction works within scheduled time line.

He further instructed the employees to work closely with local farmers, providing them with the technical support and expertise needed for the successful silkworm rearing. This collaborative effort is essential for the growth and sustainability of the sericulture sector.

He also directed them to leave no stone unturned for achieving bumper crop in the upcoming rearing season.

He reiterated his commitment to foster a phenomenal growth in sericulture so that the silkworm rearing communities living in the far flung areas across J&K in general and in South Kashmir in particular thrive and prosper leaps and bounds so that the socio-economic development of the region is strengthened further.

## Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra leaves lasting impact on Panchayat Dugga and Misrata in Bharderwah Block



J1 NEWS SERVICE  
DODA DECEMBER 13

The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra marked its presence in Panchayat Dugga and Misrata, situated in Block Bharderwah, District Doda, leaving an enduring impact through a comprehensive camp dedicated to the effective implementation of crucial government initiatives. The event garnered a warm welcome from PRI members, frontline workers, and the local community, with active participation from officers and officials representing relevant departments.

The Yatra kicked off with the arrival of the IEC Van, initiating an informative and engaging session. An introductory movie

set the tone, followed by participants collectively taking the Viksit Bharat Pledge. Throughout the Yatra, officers engaged with the public, disseminating information about government schemes and attentively listening to beneficiaries' experiences. The community exhibited enthusiastic involvement, with various government departments setting up stalls to highlight flagship initiatives, fostering awareness and community participation.

The occasion featured diverse activities, including firsthand accounts from scheme beneficiaries under "Meri Kahani, Meri Zubaani," a quiz competition for students, and a medical health checkup camp. Department representatives emphasized the significance of various schemes such as PM KISAN, Vishwakarma, Suraksha Bima Yojna, 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 numerous welfare, Self-Employment, and income generation programs.

During the public outreach program, beneficiaries of various government-sponsored schemes expressed their gratitude to the Jammu and Kashmir UT government for the benefits received. Additionally, the health department organized a medical health checkup camp for the public, further enhancing the Yatra's impact on the well-being of the community. The event concluded on a successful note, with certificates distributed to students actively participating in the quiz competition, solidifying the Yatra's positive engagement with the local populace.

## VBSY continues in full swing at Kulgam, 07 more Panchayats covered



J1 NEWS SERVICE  
KULGAM, DECEMBER 13

The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY) continues in full swing in Kulgam district and has reached 07 more Panchayats, today.

These 07 panchayats include Nihama, Odura, Kakran, Pariwan, Samnoo, Nilloo and Harveit. The venues presented a festive look with colourful cultural events held besides presentation of success stories of beneficiaries, progressive farmers, entrepreneurs and an effective IEC campaign about centrally sponsored schemes.

On the occasion, the PRIs and field functionaries of stakeholder departments spread

awareness about government schemes. Audio-Video sessions through IEC Vans mounted LEDs remained key attractions for the locals.

Officers and officials remained busy in IEC activities at all the Panchayats of the block in an effort to reach the unreached population.

Welfare, employment, insurance, social security and income generation based schemes were highlighted by all departments who had installed stalls.

Block officers and officials from line departments, PRIs, students and locals participated in Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra programmes in aforesaid panchayats, fervently.



## Fostering tourism: DDC Doda inspects provision of amenities at Twin TRCs at Bhaderwah, historical Fort

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
DODA, DECEMBER 13

District Development Commissioner (DDC) Doda Harvinder Singh, inspected the maintenance and safety protocols at the BDA's TRC located in Sarna, Tourism TRC at Dandi and Bhaderwah Fort (Qilla). The Visit aimed to ensure that the public spaces are well-maintained and secure to guarantee a positive experience for all those visiting frequently to the facilities.

This scrutiny emphasized the importance of maintaining high standards of safety and cleanliness in spaces frequented by the public, aligning with the broader goal of promoting tourism in the region. During his visit, DDC Doda discussed the preparations for the upcoming Winter Carnival/ Festival. This festival promises to be a vibrant



celebration, and the DDC involvement in the preparatory stages underlines the administration's commitment to ensuring the success and safety of such community events. In another noteworthy visit, DDC Doda inspected the Bhaderwah Fort Qilla, emphasizing the importance of preserving and showcasing the region's rich heritage. This inspection

involved collaborative efforts with key Officers/ officials, including the CEO BDA Bhaderwah, ADC Bhaderwah, Tehsildar Bhaderwah, and BDO Bhaderwah, fostering a holistic understanding of the conditions of historical sites and their potential for cultural promotion. Following these visits, detailed reports were compiled by key officials,

including CEO BDA, ADC Bhaderwah, Tehsildar Bhaderwah, and BDO Bhaderwah. These insights provided DDC Doda Harvinder Singh with a comprehensive understanding of the current state of the inspected locations, enabling informed decision-making for the continued development and preservation of public spaces in the Doda region.

## Mega Block Diwas held at Kulgam

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
KULGAM, DECEMBER 13

In order to ensure timely resolution of issues and grievances of people, the District Administration Kulgam today organized a Mega Block Diwas at Kulgam.

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat presided over the grievance redressal camp and listened to the grievances and issues of people. People from Ashmuji, Aamnoo, Katrasoo, Modergam, Bogund, Kund and other areas participated in the grievance redressal camp and apprised the DC about their issues and developmental requirements of their areas.

People and public representatives demanded Augmentation of Power LT network, development and widening of Aamnoo road, repairs of exit entry entrance road stretches of bus stand Laroo and



also flagged other local demands and issues.

Dr Bilal after giving patient hearing to the public addressed some of the immediate nature of grievances on the spot and assured that rest of the genuine issues and grievances will be addressed in a time bound manner.

He also said that timely redressal of issues is his top most priority, and

also directed the officers of executing agencies to expedite the pace of work projects so they can be dedicated to the public.

ADC Viqar Ahmed Giri, ACR, Mir Imtiaz Ul Aziz, ACD Mohammad Imran, ACP Sharjeel Ali and other officers, officials and a large number of public and public representatives were present during the camp.

## Rescue & Rehabilitation Campaign on Child Labour concludes at Shopian

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SHOPIAN, DECEMBER 13

On the directions of the Deputy Commissioner Shopian, Rescue and Rehabilitation Campaign on Child and Adolescent labour was conducted in the District Shopian from 20th November, 2023 to 10 December, 2023 in hot spot areas of the district.

The campaign was aimed to eradicate child labour in the district. District Child Protection Officer, Ibrar Ahmad acted as Nodal Officer for the conduct of campaign.

The Child Welfare Committee Shopian, officials of Assistant Labour Commissioner Shopian, Police officials Shopian headed by SHO Shopian, Special Juvenile Police Officer of District Shopian and Human Welfare Voluntary Organization Shopian took part in this campaign.

During this campaign, four children who were engaged in child labour, were rescued and freed. The Child Welfare Committee Shopian declared all the rescued children as children in need of care and protection under the provisions of Juvenile Justice Act 2015.

People were also made aware about the child labour issues and laws and were urged to report or inform the Child Welfare Committee Shopian, DCPO Shopian, or department of Labour in case they find any child labour in the district.

## VBSY uplifts public spirit in Doda District for a better future

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
DODA, DECEMBER 13

The ongoing Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra is making a huge difference in the life of the people of District Doda. The special initiative aims to bring positive changes in the area by spreading awareness about the government programs assess the impact on the ground level. The Yatra covered rural areas across Doda, Khellani, Bhaderwah, Gundna, Jakyas, and Chilly Pingal blocks to facilitate the overall development of the region.

The Yatra has left a strong impact on many villages, including Paryote A, Paryote B, Hanch, Jijote, Dugga, Misrata, Bhalwana, Barshalla, Bhatyas, Chanyas Bhatoli, and Mano. Residents in these areas evinced



great enthusiasm where government officials organized cultural events, sports activities, and showcased government initiatives on big screens.

They highlighted schemes like PM KISAN, Vishwakarma, Suraksha Bima Yojna, 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 many others related to welfare, employment, and income generation.

The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra not only celebrates the rich culture of the region but also gives government departments a chance to showcase their programs. This event includes pledge ceremonies, health checkups, quizzes, and cultural activities. People in various villages came together to celebrate, and the Prime Minister's messages about government programs were shown on big screens. This collective effort encourages everyone to participate in the country's progress.

## Samba: Grand cultural event organised to pay tributes to Padamshri Padma Sachdev

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SAMBA, DECEMBER 13

The District Administration Samba, in collaboration with the Social Welfare Department, organized a grand cultural event on December 13, 2023, to pay tribute to Padamshri Padma Sachdev Ji, the first modern woman poet of Dogri language and a prominent advocate of the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao campaign.

The event, titled "Uttarvahini," took place at the Bari Brahmana, District Samba and witnessed the presence of esteemed dignitaries, artists, writers, students, and media persons.

Ms. Yasha Mudgal, the Commissioner/Secretary to Government, Cooperative Department, graced the occasion as the chief guest. The event began with a captivating talk show that shed light on



the remarkable life and influential works of Padma Sachdev Ji. This was followed by mesmerizing live performances by local artists, who recited and sang some of the renowned poems and songs penned by Padma Sachdev Ji. The audience was spellbound by the soul-stirring verses that beautifully portrayed the rich culture and heritage of Dogri language and literature.

Further, a thought-provoking panel discussion on the "Journey of Empowering Women in Transformation Group Commu-

nities" was conducted, which emphasized the achievements and challenges faced by women in various fields and sectors. The distinguished panelists shared their personal experiences and valuable insights on overcoming barriers and stereotypes to foster progress and empowerment for women in society.

The event culminated with a captivating cultural performance by school girls, showcasing their exceptional talents and skills in diverse art forms.

## JAKEDA organises one day workshop on Solarization and Expansion Plan for NISA at Jammu

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, DECEMBER 13

The workshop on "Solarization and Expansion Plan for New and Innovative Solar Application (NISA) in the City of Jammu" was held today here in the Country Inn & Suites - Radisson, Jammu, marking a significant step towards sustainable energy achievement in the region.

The event, organized by Jammu & Kashmir Energy Development Agency (JAKEDA) in collaboration with Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH and AHASolar Technologies Ltd., brought together key stakeholders, industry experts, and policymakers to discuss and strategize the implementation of the Rooftop Solar PV System and NISA under the Jammu Solar City Mission 200 MW. The workshop has not only provided a platform for valuable discussions but has also witnessed a groundbreaking moment with the launch of JAKEDA's WhatsApp Chatbot, innovative mode for providing information to the Consumer.

A highlight of the event was the launch of JAKEDA's WhatsApp Chatbot by Shri

Ajay Gupta, Technical Member, JERC; Dr. P R Dhar, CEO - JAKEDA; Sudershan Kumar Director-Skill Department, Shafiq Ahmad, Additional Secretary, Department of Science and Technology; Nupur Sharma, Energy Advisor, GIZ India and Mr. Pulkit Dhingra, Director- AHASolar Technologies Ltd.. This innovative tool is designed to streamline communication, providing a user-friendly interface for consumers, EPC companies, JAKEDA, and MNRE on a single platform.

Now, consumers can initiate interaction effortlessly by simply sending a message "hi" to 7600103082 via WhatsApp. This user-friendly feature on our newly launched WhatsApp Chatbot ensures a hassle-free way for consumers to connect with us, fostering a more responsive and engaging experience in the realm of solar energy adoption.

The team from GIZ Project Team and AHASolar Technologies Ltd. presented the work carried out under the technical assistance by GIZ on Solarization of Jammu City and Potential Assessment



under the New and Innovative Solar Applications (NISA) Project.

The factsheet provided the information about the GIZ support to Jammu with a) development of Solar Atlas to segregate the type of roofs in the city of Jammu; b) Potential Assessment of government building, c) development of local implementation network and finally a) Dashboard to monitor progress of the implementation. This was followed by the Open discussion sessions facilitated stakeholders in sharing opportunities, challenges, and insights on rooftop solar

adoption. The dedicated session on Virtual Net Metering (VNM) explored innovative business models, challenges, and solutions aligned with government policies and regulations.

CEO, JAKEDA briefed about the National target set by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India with the regards to Renewable energy to be achieved by 2030 and with regard to saturation of Rooftop solar in all the Decter which includes Domestic / Government/ Industrial / Commercial Sector. He also briefed how to include New and Innova-

## GDC Marh organizes reception of Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra Rally

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, DECEMBER 13

Government Degree College Marh, in collaboration with BDO Office, Department of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj and Government Middle School, Dhateryal, today organised reception of Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra. The participants received the Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Van, which started its journey from Jharkhand, travelling across different parts of the country and reaching Govt. Degree College Marh. The campaign showcased a significant commitment to rural development and community empowerment. The collaborative effort aimed to promote the Prime Minister's vision to actively involve the youth of the country in formulation of national plans, priorities and goals of the country.

Principal of the College Prof. Dr. Rakesh Kumar Koul, welcomed all the dignitaries, local public and officials controlling stalls put up by different government departments and expressed gratitude for this collaborative effort.

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav  
**TENDER NOTICE**  
Invitation of Tenders through E-Procurement system  
Sr. Divisional Material Manager, N Rly., Store Branch DRM Office, Firozpur for and on behalf of President of India, invited tenders through e-procurement system for the supply of the following items:-

S.N.	Tender No.	Description	Quantity	Due Date
01.	94235977	Manufacturing , fabrication and supplying retroreflective sign boards	334 SQM	10.01.2024

NOTE:-Above tenders with detailed description are uploaded on IREPS site i.e. [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in). The firm, who desires to participate against e-tenders, is advised to electronically register themselves on the above website for which they would require to have a class III digital certificate form certifying Agencies authorized under IT Act-2000 by Govt. of India. Manual offers against e-tenders will not be accepted.  
Tender Notice No.: 06/2023-24 Date: 12.12.2023 3916/23  
**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav  
**E-Tender Notice**  
No. 350-2023-24-ADEN-JUC Date: 12.12.2023  
Sr. DEN-III/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) with closing date 02.01.2024 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against these tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through only payment modes available on [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft Banker Cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed. For more information logon to [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)

Tender Type	Tendering Section	Bidding System
Open	Works	Single Bid System

Date of Uploading Tenders	Bid Starting Date	Bid Closing Date/Time
12.12.2023	19.12.2023	02.01.2024/15:00 Hrs

S.N.	Tender No	Details of Tender				
1	350-2023-24-ADEN-JUC	Misc. works in connection with provision of 6 mtr wide covered FOB at Jalandhar City station on SNL-ASR section under ADEN/JUC.	Advertised Value	Earnest Money	Validity of Offer	Period of Completion
			74,18,730.30/-	1,48,400.00/-	60 Days	06 Months

Similar nature of work:- "Any civil Engineering Work other than track work"  
Note 1. Before bidding, bidders to check for any corrigendum issued against tender.  
**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE** 3908/23

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav  
**E-TENDER NOTICE**  
Tender Notice No:- 770-W/169/WA-1/FZR/348-2023-24-ADEN-LDH acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) with closing date: 03.01.2024 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against these tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through only payment modes available on IREPS portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed.

Tender Type	Tendering Section	Bidding System
Open	Works	Single Bid System

Date of Uploading Tenders	Bid Starting Date	Bid Closing Date/Time
10.12.2023	20.12.2023	03.01.2024

S.No.	Tender No.	Details of Tender			
1.	348-2023-24-ADEN-LDH	Reconditioning of inspection pit no 2,3,4,5 and 8 in Diesel Shed Ludhiana in the jurisdiction of ADEN-LDH	Advertised Value (Rs.)	Validity of offer	Period of completion
			19707627.43	60 Days	06 Months

Note: Before bidding, bidders to check for any corrigendum issued against tender.  
Tender Notice No:- 770-W/169/WA-1/FZR/348-2023-24-ADEN-LDH  
**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE** 3902/23



## FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

## Major security breach...

launched to trace some more people said to be involved with the incident.

Forensic teams have reached the spot to collect samples of evidence for further probe into the security breach incident.

According to sources, the Delhi Police Special Cell and Crime branch, and Central probe agencies are investigating the matter.

Replying to the queries of media persons, an NDRF official said "Our technical team is working on this issue and investigating the exact nature of the yellow smoke".

Reacting to the incident, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said the security breach that took place in Parliament is a very serious matter. "We demand that the Home Minister Amit Shah should come to both the Houses and give a statement on this," Kharge said.

Kharge wrote on X, "The question is, how did two people come inside such a big security department and release gas from a canister there?... We hope that the government will take this very seriously and we demand a thorough investigation into the entire incident."

Speaking to reporters outside Parliament, the Leader of Congress in the Lok Sabha, Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, said, "This is certainly a security breach because today we observed the death anniversary of people who sacrificed their lives in 2001."

Samajwadi Party (SP) MP Dimple Yadav also raised concerns and said, "All those who come here, be it visitors or reporters, don't carry tags. So, I think the government should pay attention to this. I think this is a complete security lapse. Anything could have happened inside the Lok Sabha."

Demanding an urgent investigation into the security breach in Parliament, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said the security of the temple of democracy cannot be compromised.

"Today's breach in Parliament, on the solemn anniversary of 2001 attack, is an affront to our democratic values... An urgent investigation is vital to uncover who were the attackers, how did they get in, what were their motive. Action must be swift and strict."

## Cold wave sweeps Kashmir...

in Kokernag, a minimum temperature of minus 2.1 degree Celsius was recorded.

The night temperature has recorded a dip amidst the forecast of dry and cold weather conditions till December 22, which marks the beginning of 40-day harshest winter period, known as Chillai-kalan will commence, which culminates on January 29 every year. Chillai-Kalan is followed by 20-day long Chillai Khurd.

Director Meteorological department, Dr Mukhtar Ahmad in a detailed forecast informed that the weather conditions are expected to remain mainly dry till December 15 while generally cloudy weather with possibility of light snow over higher reaches is expected from December 16 and December 17.

According to the MeT Director, the weather would again remain mainly dry from December 18-December 22. "Overall, dry and cold weather would likely continue till 22nd December over most places of J&K," he said.

Furthermore, he said that shallow to moderate fog likely to continue at many places of Kashmir division.

## Amid delay in snowfall...

substantial amount of arms and ammunition was recovered from them," the official said.

As winter approaches, there is a concern that terrorists might try to infiltrate. The official added that the Army and Border Security Forces have increased patrols in areas along the LoC in districts including Baramulla, Kupwara, Bandipora, Poonch and Rajouri.

"This proactive measure aims to counter potential infiltration, aligning with the government's directive for security forces to intensify vigilance on identified infiltration routes," he said.

The official stated that, utilizing extensive training, advanced surveillance systems, and meticulous planning, they implement a multi-layered defense mechanism to thwart potential infiltrations.

Also, he said that they employ a combination of routine patrols, the latest gadget technologies, and intelligence gathering to acquire crucial information about any suspicious activities near the LOC.

"This intelligence is swiftly analyzed and responded to, ensuring the swift neutralization of infiltrators before they can breach Indian territory. The soldiers consistently risk their lives to uphold the nation's integrity around the clock," he added.

"Prior to the snowfall in Kashmir's border regions, the risk of terrorist infiltration from across the border rises. The Army and BSF jawans are maintaining a vigilant stance, implementing rigorous measures along the Line of Control in North Kashmir to prevent any potential infiltrators," the official added.

## Anand Marriage Act...

tehsildars concerned shall be the registrar of such marriages within their respective territorial jurisdiction, as per a government notification issued.

Sikh couples can apply for registration within a period of three months after solemnising their marriage but face late fee if formalities are completed after the expiry of the deadline, reads the notification issued by the department of law, justice and parliamentary affairs on November 30.

## Centre received 19.45 lakh...

of India or states/UTs.

"CPGRAMS receives about 20 lakh grievances on average every year from the public. In the year 2023, CPGRAMS portal has received 19.45 lakh citizen grievances (up to November 30) and about 19.60 lakh grievances, including backlog grievances, have been disposed of," Union Minister Jitendra Singh said in a written reply.

He said the government has formulated a 10-step reform to ensure effective redressal of public grievances.

This includes enhancing the capacity of CPGRAMS

with the help next generation AI-enabled technology, breaking language barriers by making CPGRAMS available in all scheduled languages, establishment of data strategy unit for root cause analysis of grievances and bringing systemic reforms and benchmarking performances of ministries and departments among others, the minister said.

Ministries and departments have disposed of more than one lakh cases per month for the last 16 months continuously, he said.

The pendency of cases of public grievances in central ministries and departments stands at an all time low of 0.63 lakh cases, Singh said.

"Redressal of public grievances was also one of the thrust areas of the special campaign conducted by the government on institutionalising 'swachhata' and reducing pendency in government offices from 2 Oct-31 Oct. About 5,21,958 (99.4%) public grievances have been disposed of during the special campaign in 2023," he added. (Agencies)

## Centre received 19.45 lakh...

here that Zaffar Hussain Bhat @Khursheed @ Khursheed Kashmiri son of Sunnallah resident of Liver, Pahalgam, Sirgufwara, Ananatnag, is a close associate of Ghulam Nabi Khan @ Amir Khan, Dy Chief of Hizbul Mujahideen (HM) and both are notorious designated individual terrorists under the UAPA, declared Proclaimed Offenders and having Red Notices of Interpol issued against them in several terror funding cases of the NIA including the famous Jammu Kashmir Affectedes Relief Trust (JKART) case," the officials said.

Khursheed Kashmiri is also wanted in Sanjay Sharma murder case of the SIA for his role in arranging and delivering the weapon of offence and also other arms and ammunition consignments at different locations in Jammu and Kashmir through his network of associates, the spokesman said.

"Hizb Ul Mujahideen with active connivance of Mohd Yusuf Shah@ Syed Salahudeen, Chief of HM and the United Jihad Council and handlers of 'Hizbul-Mujahideen' (HM) and 'Lashkar-E-Taiba' (LeT), proscribed terrorist organisations in India, have worked out a detailed terror-funding plan of systematically and regularly financing of their active, arrested terrorists, families of killed terrorists and their associates, belonging to these proscribed terrorist organizations @ INR 15000 per member so as to sustain terrorism in the J&K," he said.

"Zaffar Hussain Bhat @Khursheed Kashmiri with his associates spread across the Kashmir are raising, collecting, receiving, transporting, distributing and delivering the terror money to active and arrested terrorists of HM and their kiths and kin to further terrorist, unlawful, subversive and secessionist activities in Jammu and Kashmir and other places of India and also to disturb the communal harmony, spread disaffection towards India and challenge the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country by waging war against India," he added.

The statement issued to KNO reads that Zaffar Hussain Bhat uses VoIP based encrypted messaging applications to communicate with his associates to plan, control and execute their movements and also to share the lists of the beneficiaries of these terror funds.

"During today's searches some crucial digital and documentary evidence like Cell Phones, Pen drives, SIM cards, data cards, bank documents, passports etc relevant to the ongoing investigation were recovered and seized," the spokesman said, adding that on 19 November 2023, a close associate of Khursheed Kashmiri namely Majid Aziz Lawey, son of Abdul Aziz Laway of Liddermatta has already arrested with terror fund to the tune of Rs 5 lakhs in this case.

## Space Becoming...

ones having turned into lucrative entrepreneurs.

"Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has broken taboos of the past by opening the Space sector to public-private-participation. From just 1 Startup in the Space sector in 2014, we now have 190 Space Startups," he said.

Dr Jitendra Singh gave full credit to PM Modi for enabling India's Space scientists to vindicate the dream of their founding father Vikram Sarabhai by "unlocking" India's Space sector and providing an enabling milieu in which India's huge potential and talent could find an outlet and prove itself to the rest of the world.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, Dr Vikram Sarabhai, the first Chairman of ISRO and the founding father of India's Space Programme, always insisted on ISRO playing a meaningful role "nationally" and said it was a vindication that during the nine years of the Government led by Prime Minister Modi, the youth talent of India, which was waiting to be explored, got new wings.

"India was always had the huge talent pool and passion to dream big, but finally it was PM Modi who gave them a perfect outlet," he said.

Dr Jitendra Singh said India's space missions are designed to be cost effective, building upon human resources and skills.

"The Russian moon mission, that was unsuccessful, cost Rs.16,000 crore, and our (Chandrayaan-3) mission cost just around Rs.600 crore," he said, adding, "Our cerebral resource is much, much more than our material resource finance."

Dr Jitendra Singh said India's Space missions have leapfrogged in the last nine years under the leadership of PM Modi, especially in the last four years, and are being hailed world over.

"Even though the USA and the then Soviet Union had started their Space journey long before us and America also landed a human being on the surface of Moon in 1969, it was nevertheless our Chandrayaan that brought home the evidence of water on the surface of the Moon," he said.

Dr Jitendra Singh said India's Space Technology is virtually touching every person's life, with application of Space Technology in different sectors like Disaster Management, SVAMITVA, PM Gati Shakti, Infrastructure such as Railways, Highways & Smart Cities, Agriculture, Water Mapping, Telemedicine and Robotic Surgery.

Referring to Ms. Nigar Shaji, Project Director, Aditya L1 Mission, ISRO and Ms. Kalpana Kalahasti, Associate Project Director, Chandrayaan-3, ISRO, both of whom

## EOW- CB Jammu charge-sheeted Proprietors of M/S Sai Agro Food industry for fraud



JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DEC 13

Economic Offences Wing - Crime Branch Jammu produced 224 page charge-sheet against accused husband-wife duo - Munish Verma S/o Batuk Nath and (ii) Babita W/o Munish Verma both residents of D-45/24 Ramapura, Nai Basti, Luxa Varanasi U.P in case FIR No. 40/2023 U/S 420, 120-B IPC P/S EOW, Crime Branch, Jammu before the Hon'ble Court of law for judicial determination for hatching criminal conspiracy and cheating the complainant-M/S Mahajan Agency through Sunny Dogra S/o Dwarka Nath R/o H.No. 160/6 Nanak Nagar Jammu of Rs 3.25 Lakhs after luring them to place an order for supply food products.

The case stems its origin from a written complaint lodged by Sunny Dogra S/o Dwarka Nath R/o H. No. 160/6 Nanak Nagar Jammu, sales representative of M/s Sai Agro Food industry, alleging therein that complainant - M/s Mahajan Agency trading firm deals in purchase and sale of FMCG (Fast Moving Consumer Goods) products including Namkeens, Snacks, fryums etc. in Udhampur for more than 30 years. In 2020 Mr. Sunny Dogra who is the sales representative of M/s Sai Agro Food industry - a sole proprietorship firm registered in Varanasi in the name of accused Mrs. Babita but operated and managed jointly by Mrs. Babita and her husband Mr. Munish Verma, lured M/S Mahajan Agency on the pretext of placing an order of 500 cases/units of

the product and cheated it of an amount of more than Rs. 3, 25,000.

Thus Mr. Munish and Mrs. Babita jointly hatched this fraudulent scheme to lure innocent traders/Businessmen like complainant into placing orders for the products and extracting money.

On receipt of the complaint a Preliminary Verification was conducted and during the course of enquiry the allegations were prima-facie substantiated, leading to the registration of formal case under the relevant sections of law for in-depth investigation. During the course of investigation all material evidence in the form of documentary record was collected from concerned quarters besides statements of complainants & witnesses were recorded and it was found that the accused persons deliberately and with criminal intention have cheated and duped the complainant (M/s Mahajan Agency) of their hard earned money on the pretext of providing material (Food Items) and offences U/S 420, 120-B IPC are established against the accused for cheating the complainant. The accused managed anticipatory bail from the Hon'ble Court but did not comply with the orders of the Court to cooperate in the investigation despite several notices, thus prompting Crime Branch to contest bail to which the Hon'ble Court ordered cancellation of their bail. Accordingly raids were conducted to arrest them and the final report has been presented before the Hon'ble Court.

## CUJ organizes event on Significance Collaborative Research in Social Sciences



JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DEC 13

The Department of Educational Studies, Central University of Jammu organized the second session of Shiksha Shastrarth, a distinguished platform dedicated to fostering intellectual discourse in the field of education. On this occasion, Dr. Pawan Kumar Burman, Associate Dean of Research at Central University of Jammu (CUJ), delivered a lecture on 'Research, Publication, and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)'. The event commenced with the welcome address by the Head of the Department Prof. Asit Mantry where he commended the historic role of the ancient Indian practice of scholarly debates and dialogues known as Shastrarth in the field of intellectual pursuits and social progress and its role as an inspiration for this modern platform by the name of Shiksha Shastrarth (A forum for academic Discourses) connecting students, scholars and the faculty members alike. During his interaction with the research scholars and faculty members, Dr. Pawan Kumar delved into various significant areas crucial for cultivating a culture of healthy research within academic circles. Some of the notable highlights include the emphasis on

the role of collaborative efforts, academic autonomy, and integrity, interdisciplinary partnerships, etc. He also stressed the role of the innovative concept of Ph.D. Sandwich Programmes, emphasizing their value in providing scholars with diverse research experiences. This approach involves periods of study at different institutions, contributing to a well-rounded and globally informed research perspective. The session was very productive and finally concluded with question-answers focused on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR). Scholars engaged in a meaningful dialogue with Dr Pawan, gaining valuable insights into the nuances of IPR in the context of academic research.

The event included the gracious presence of the Dean of Students Welfare, Prof. Ritu Bakshi, and faculty members Prof. J. N. Baliya, Dr. Aman, Dr. Ravi Vanguri, Dr. Mohan, Dr. Aarushi, and Dr. Anil along with the research scholars. The organizational effort behind the success of the event was provided by the Co-curricular Committee of the Department consisting of Dr. Kiran, Dr. Yadram, Mr. Arvind Kumar, and Ms. Shivali Khajuria. The program concluded with a formal vote of thanks by Dr. Yad Ram.

The Lt Governor also directed to prepare a comprehensive five-year plan to reduce the distance of schools for children. He said new schools should be sanctioned with a focus that children should not have to travel long distance.

The Lt Governor directed the School Education Department for inclusion of life history and contributions of inspirational icons like General Zorawar Singh, Brig Rajinder Singh, Maqbool Sherwani and other prominent personalities in schools' curriculum.

The Lt Governor also directed the department to ensure Vocational training and Skill development programmes in schools as well as inclusion of Indian Philosophy in all the Universities of the Union Territory.

Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; RK Goyal, Additional Chief Secretary, Home Department; Shaleen Kabra, Financial Commissioner, Revenue; Dr Mandeep Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor and Administrative Secretaries attended the meeting-(KNO)

News Agency - KASHMIR NEWS OBSERVER PVT. LTD.

## LG pays tributes to...

Five Delhi Police personnel, a Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) official, two Parliament watch and ward staff and a gardener lost their lives in the attack.

"Tributes to the martyrs who sacrificed their lives during the 2001 Parliament attack," Sinha said on 'X'.

He said the nation will always remain indebted to their exemplary courage, valour and supreme sacrifice.

## LG releases Jammu...

about religious rituals, auspicious occasions and festivals.

Padam Shri Prof Vishwa Murti Shastri; Pawan Kumar Shastri, President Jammu Yatri Bhawan Trust; Gurdas Sharma, General Secretary of the Trust; Raj Kumar and Koushal, Trustees; Sharat Sharma Member Jammu Yatri Bhawan and Dr Laxmi Dutt Shastri of Vidwat Parishad were present on the occasion.

On the occasion, the members of the Jammu Yatri Bhawan Trust also sought the intervention of the Lt Governor for increasing the frequency of train from Jammu to Dehradun from weekly to daily basis.

The Lt Governor assured the members of the Trust that the matter would be taken up with the concerned authorities for appropriate action.

were sharing stage with him, Dr Jitendra Singh said, "India's Space programme is witnessing a big change as Women are now leading the Space projects."

On ISRO's future plans, Dr Jitendra Singh said India's first unmanned "Gaganyaan" mission is undergoing a series of preliminary tests.

"Before the manned Gaganyaan mission, there will be a test flight next year, which will carry 'Vyommित्र', the female robot astronaut," he said.

ISRO's Gaganyaan project envisages demonstration of human spaceflight capability by launching a human crew to an orbit of 400 km and bringing them back safely to earth, by landing in Indian sea waters.

Referring to the Deep Sea Mission project, Dr Jitendra Singh said that a vehicle called MATSYA will carry three persons to a depth of 5,000-6,000 metres for exploration of deep-sea resources like minerals. This mission, he said, is expected to be realised in the next three years.

"If an Indian travels to Outer Space about the same time as another Indian explores the deep sea 5 kms below, that may be a mere coincidence," he said.

## India rejects OIC's...

rights and an unrepentant promoter of cross border terrorism makes its action even more questionable. Such statements only undermine OIC's credibility," he said.

Bagchi was responding to a media query.

On Tuesday, the General Secretariat of the OIC expressed concern over the Supreme Court verdict in a statement, the General Secretariat also reaffirmed its solidarity with the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Supreme Court had on Monday upheld the Centre's August 5, 2019 decision to abrogate Article 370. (Agencies)

## Lt Governor Sinha...

A total 20 Master Trainers have been trained at New Delhi, one each for the district.

"PM SHRI Schools will provide leadership to other schools in their respective areas by providing mentorship. Focus will be on learning outcomes of every child in every grade while promoting critical thinking, communication, collaboration and creativity in all schools," the Lt Governor said.

Alok Kumar, Principal Secretary School Education Department gave a detailed presentation on the guiding principle for selection for the schools under the



### Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra make its mark at Draman Panchayat in Block Bhoond

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
KATHUA, DECEMBER 13

The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, a pioneering initiative aimed at fostering developmental pace in rural and urban landscape was officially inaugurated at Panchayat Draman in Block Bhoond, Kathua district today.

The event, presided over by DDC Chairman Col. (Retd) Mahan Singh, witnessed a significant turnout of individuals, members of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and enthusiastic students.

The event unfolded near the Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) Van, also known as the Viksit Bharat Rath, which served as an informative hub showcasing a myriad of government initiatives and schemes. The display underscored the government's commitment to a holistic approach encapsulated in the spirit of 'Jan Bhagidari' or people's participation.

One of the highlights of the event was the groundbreaking demonstration of drone technology for agricultural innovation.

The Viksit Bharat Yatra showcased the potential of drones in revolutionizing



agriculture, providing a glimpse into the future of farming practices. The live demonstration captivated the audience, particularly the farming community, inspiring them to explore and adopt modern agricultural techniques.

Speaking at the event, Col. (Retd) Mahan Singh, expressed his enthusiasm for the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra and its potential to drive rural development. He emphasized the importance of technology in agriculture and commended the government's efforts to empower farmers with innovative solutions.

The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra aims to create awareness, disseminate

information, and encourage active participation in government programs at the grassroots level. By focusing on a 'whole-of-government' approach, the initiative seeks to bridge the gap between governmental policies and the rural population, fostering a collaborative effort for sustainable development.

The event concluded with a sense of optimism and determination, as attendees pledged their commitment to the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra's objectives. The Yatra is set to traverse various regions, bringing the message of rural development and modernisation to communities across the Nation.

### Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra: Commissioner Secretary FCS&CA visits Bandipora

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
BANDIPORA, DECEMBER 13

Commissioner Secretary, Food Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA), Zubair Ahmad, on Wednesday visited Bandipora district as part of Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY), a transformative journey aimed at fostering development and progress across the Nation. District Development Council Chairperson, Abdul Gani Bhat, Vice Chairperson Kowsar Shafeeq, Deputy Commissioner, Dr Owais Ahmad, ADDC, Mohammad Ashraf Hakak, DDC members, BDC members, PRIs and other senior officers were present on the occasion.

Commissioner Secretary said that Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, launched by Prime Minister, is a proactive initiative to bridge the developmental gaps and ensure that every corner of the nation flourishes through various centrally sponsored welfare schemes. "The Yatra aims to bring together government officials, local leaders including DDCs, BDCs, PRIs, and communities to chart a course of action for inclusive and sustainable development of every



nook and corner of the country", he maintained.

Commissioner Secretary said that VBSY reflects government's commitment of leaving no area behind in the march towards a stronger, developed and more vibrant India. Subsequently, Commissioner Secretary administered pledge, urging officers and the public to commit to the nation's integrity and progress. On the occasion, the DC informed the Commissioner Secretary that during the ongoing VBSY all 151 panchayats besides all 43 Urban Local Bodies have already been covered by the Information Education and Communication (IEC) Van comprising cent percent coverage of the district. Dr Owais informed that during the yatra, several schemes including Jal Jeevan Mis-

sion, Ayushman Bharat Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, Jan Dhan Yojana, PM Awas Yojana, PM PRANAM Yojana and Urea Subsidy Scheme were showcased. The DC said the yatra still continues across different areas of the district to further disseminate information and awareness regarding different flagship schemes of the Central Government.

On the occasion, a live demonstration of various centrally sponsored schemes was also held.

Earlier, the Commissioner Secretary inspected various stalls installed by different departments. He also handed over authority and sanction letters to various beneficiaries pertaining to welfare and income generation schemes.

### Maintenance works at PHE Sitlee Water Treatment Plant to affect supply

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, DECEMBER 13

Public in general is hereby informed that the water supply to Manda Reservoirs shall remain partially affected on 15-12-2023 & 16-12-2023, due to some urgent maintenance works on Sitlee Manda 600 mm

dia. Rising Mains. The areas affected will include Panjirthi, Karan Nagar, Rehari, Jain Bazar, Moti Bazar, Pacca Danga, link road, Afghan Mohalla, Dogra Hall, Kachi Chowki, Ustad Mohalla, etc. and adjoining areas. Public is advised to use water judiciously during the above said period.

### Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra: Transforming lives & bridging gaps at Pulwama



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
PULWAMA, DECEMBER 13

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, a transformative journey aimed at reaching every corner of the Nation, has successfully traversed 184 panchayats till date, leaving a lasting impact on the lives of the people in the region.

The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY) has gone beyond mere outreach; it has become a beacon of change, ensuring that no one is left untouched by its influence. It has diligently saturated the District with Information Education Communication (IEC) vans, reaching even the most remote areas. The objective is clear to make the benefits of Government schemes known to every individual, leaving no one behind in the process.

Beneficiaries of various Government schemes shared heartfelt testimonials about the positive impact these initiatives have had on

their lives. The VBSY has, in essence, deeply transformed communities, bringing about a positive shift that resonates with the ethos of inclusive development.

Highlighting the commitment to awareness, vibrant cultural programs were organized throughout the district, showcasing the rich heritage and diversity of the region. Furthermore, drone demonstrations added a captivating touch to the Yatra, illustrating the role of Drone Technology in advancing agriculture.

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra throughout the district echoed a powerful message, 'No one is left behind'. The Government's commitment to reaching the last person in the line is not just a slogan but a reality embodied by this remarkable journey. The Yatra continues to inspire and empower, leaving an indelible mark on the hearts and minds of the people it touches.

### Bhupinder Kumar reviews functioning of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Aushadhi Kendras across J&K

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, DECEMBER 13

Secretary Health and Medical Education, Bhupinder Kumar, today reviewed the functioning of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Aushadhi Kendras (PMBJAK) across Jammu and Kashmir.

Secretary said that the objective of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Aushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) is to provide safe, efficacious and quality medicines at an affordable price to reduce out of pocket expenditure on healthcare. He impressed upon the Healthcare Practitioners to generate prescriptions in generic names for benefit of common masses

through this noble initiative.

State Drugs Controller highlighted the status of 264 Jan Aushadhi Kendras including 188 in government sector and 76 in private sector kendras operational in J&K.

It was informed in the meeting that Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Aushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) is an initiative of Union Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, to provide quality medicines at affordable prices to the masses through dedicated outlets known as Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Aushadhi Kendras (PMBJK).

In J&K, 264 Jan Aushadhi Kendras are providing nearly 821 molecules

which are available at 50-90% lower price as compared to the market. Since, April, 2023 to 30th October, 2023 (07 Months) medicines worth Rs 30.62 crore have been dispensed from these stores which inter-alia indicates that end users have been benefited to the tune of Rs. Rs 183.72 crore. The Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir has registered an increase of nearly 25% in sale of medicines for the same period as compared to the last year.

Secretary directed to ensure 24x7 functioning of Jan Aushadhi kendras especially in secondary and tertiary level public health institutions besides availability of all categories

of drugs and molecules in these kendras. He stressed upon the participants to hold periodic review of this scheme and take appropriate corrective measures to ensure that the objectives enshrined therein are accomplished to the entire satisfaction of stakeholders particularly end users who are struggling to negotiate the ever increasing expenditure incurred towards medical treatment.

Among others the meeting was attended by Principals Government Medical Colleges, Director Health Services, State Drugs Controller, J&K (Nodal Officer, PMBJAK) J&K, and representatives from PMBI and CMOS.

### DC Doda Boosts Spirit of Local Artisans in Bhadarwah



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
DODA DECEMBER 13

In a noteworthy initiative, Deputy Commissioner Doda, Harvinder Singh, undertook a significant visit to Bhadarwah to inspect privately-run handicraft and skill institutes. The primary objective was to encourage local artisans and weavers, fostering the promotion of traditional handicrafts to enhance their earnings and the tourism industry in Bhadarwah.

During the visit, DC

Harvinder Singh engaged in positive interactions with the workers, artisans, and coordination members of the handicraft institute. He assured them that the district administration Doda stands firmly with them, addressing any financial issues that may arise.

Accompanying the Deputy Commissioner were key officers, ADC Bhaderwah Dilmir choudhary, AD Handicrafts Mohd Asraf, BDO Bhaderwah Anoop Kumar, and Teshildar Bhadewah.

### Weekly Block Diwas: Deputy Commissioner holds public outreach camp in Gurha top area in Block Rajouri

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
RAJOURI, DECEMBER 13

Demonstrating a proactive and community-centered approach to address public concerns, Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal, today chaired a highly impactful public outreach camp in the Gurha Top area of Rajouri block under the aegis of weekly block Diwas.

The event facilitated a constructive dialogue where both the public and their representatives discussed a wide range of issues, including the pressing need for road repairs, the upgradation and adequate staffing of government institutions, addressing water scarcity, and bolstering healthcare infrastructure, among other crucial topics. Specific issues which were raised during the event were sanctioning of a dispensary, speedy implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission, PDD issues, sanctioning of handpumps, low voltage etc.

Government officers utilized this opportunity to inform the public about



various schemes and programs aimed at improving the community's well-being, encouraging active participation and the utilization of available benefits.

The Deputy Commissioner reaffirmed the commitment of the district administration to delivering quality essential services directly to the people. He expressed gratitude for the collaborative efforts of all stakeholders in achieving government objectives and encouraged them to continue their hard work for the common good.

Furthermore, Deputy Commissioner Vikas Kundal assured the public that their grievances and concerns had been carefully documented and would be addressed through a staged approach, with concerned departments

playing a crucial role in resolving these issues.

During the public outreach camp, the locals also expressed appreciation for the commendable efforts of the district administration in implementing schemes under the Jal Jeevan Mission, recognizing the significant impact and positive changes brought about by these initiatives.

The Deputy Commissioner also actively sought feedback regarding the implementation of various government schemes in the area, displaying a strong commitment to ensuring the efficient execution of these programs for the benefit of the community. This proactive approach reflects the dedication of the administration to continuous improvement and

accountability in delivering essential services to the people.

Furthermore, the Deputy Commissioner urged the public to take full advantage of the various agriculture and allied sector schemes introduced by the government. Recognizing the potential of these schemes to uplift the agricultural sector and improve the livelihoods of farmers, the DC emphasized the importance of active participation and awareness among the farming community. By availing themselves of these schemes, farmers can access financial assistance, technology support, market linkages, and other resources that can significantly boost their agricultural productivity and income.

Recognizing the impor-

tance of providing safe and clean drinking water to every household, the DC directed the concerned officer to expedite the implementation of JJM schemes in the region. This directive emphasizes the significance of prioritizing water supply projects and ensuring timely completion to fulfill the objectives of the mission. By streamlining the efforts and focusing on the swift execution of JJM schemes, the District Administration aims to enhance access to clean water and improve the overall well-being of the residents in Rajouri District.

Additionally, the Deputy Commissioner assured the residents of the area that a dedicated power feeder would be provided to address their electricity needs. Recognizing the significance of reliable and uninterrupted power supply for the overall development of the region, the DC emphasized the commitment of the Government to ensuring adequate infrastructure and resources.

Throughout the event, swift and decisive actions

were taken to address some issues on the spot, making the Weekly Block Diwas in Thandikassi a resounding success with the discussion and resolution of numerous public issues. The public praised the Block Diwas initiative and commended the district administration's tireless efforts to find practical solutions to their concerns.

This initiative has proven to be an effective platform for fostering direct interaction between the general public and district authorities, resulting in enhanced satisfaction and more efficient service delivery, embodying the Government's commitment to the welfare of its citizens.

The event was attended by the DDC Member Rajouri, Sai Abdul Rashid; CPO, Mohammad Khurshid; ACD, Vijay Kumar; CAO Sohan Singh; CAHO, Dr Khalid Hussain; DSWO, Abdul Rahim; DTO, Dr Khalid Hussain; Tehsildar Rajouri, Varinder Sharma; EXEN Jal Shakti Rajouri, Ashwini Sharma and other district and sectoral officers.

### Mega Awareness Rally on Nasha Mukht Bharat organised in Mahore



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
REASI, DECEMBER 13

The District Administration Reasi spearheaded an awareness rally in Mahore, District Reasi. The rally was conducted by the Social Welfare department as part of the National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction.

The event witnessed active participation from various segments of society, including youth, students, the general public, and employees. The rally was spearheaded by Deputy Commissioner Reasi, Vishesh Paul Mahajan, who engaged with the

youth, absorbing their perspectives on the subject and sharing insights on combating the drug menace.

Emphasizing the administration's commitment, DC Reasi pledged comprehensive support for victims of drug abuse. He urged the youth to collaborate in identifying those affected and encouraged their active involvement in sports. On the spot, he directed concerned authorities to initiate immediate steps for the construction of a playground, fostering increased youth engagement.



## EDITORIAL

## Hold assembly polls, restore statehood

The Apex Court of the country has upheld the Centre's August 5, 2019 decision to abrogate Article 370, which had bestowed special status on Jammu and Kashmir. The Court has also validated the BJP-led Modi government's step to bifurcate the erstwhile state into the union territories of J&K and Ladakh. The decision has disappointed the Kashmir-based political parties and politicians who had pinned high hopes on the Supreme Court for a favourable decision in their favour in the form of restoration of Article 370 and Statehood. Nothing has happened as per their wishes and desires. The Chief Justice of India (CJI) has rightly observed that Article 370 was a temporary provision and the President was empowered to revoke it in the absence of the Constituent Assembly of the erstwhile state. The verdict has come as a 'victory' for the BJP which had been fighting against it for several decades. The judgement, described by Prime Minister Narendra Modi as a 'resounding declaration of hope, progress and unity for our sisters and brothers in J&K and Ladakh,' is expected to put an end to the prolonged debate on the contentious Article. More importantly, it should pave the way for the restoration of J&K's statehood and the resumption of the long-delayed electoral process. The Kashmir valley-based politicians, though upset and disappointed, have asserted that their struggle for the restoration of Article 370. It could be seen as a mere solace and face saving action as they have virtually been pushed to the wall. They have gradually lost their relevance as Jammu and Kashmir has not seen any major electoral exercise for the past ten years. They have been rendered politically redundant. The Supreme Court has asked the central government to restore statehood 'at the earliest' and hold Assembly elections by September 30 next year. The Centre had told the SC more than three months ago that it was prepared to conduct elections 'anytime now' in Jammu and Kashmir, even though it had stopped short of specifying a time frame for converting the UT back into a state. If the verdict on Article 370 has disappointed the politicians, it is the direction from the Supreme Court that Assembly elections should be conducted in Jammu and Kashmir by September 30 next year has brought a ray of hope for them. The Government of India must not wait till September 2024 to hold the polls in J&K. If it feels appropriate, the government can work out a timeline coinciding with the Lok Sabha elections, which are due in April-May. If the restoration of statehood is done before the commencement of the electoral exercise, it will send out a positive message to various political parties and the voters. In recent years, the Centre has been largely successful in bringing down the number of terror incidents in J&K. Law and order situation has also improved significantly. Now, the fillip provided by the SC verdict should spur the government to take more confidence-building measures to ensure long-term peace and development in the state-turned-UT. For this, all stakeholders including political parties must be taken on board before the conduct of next assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir.

## On Pakistan Army's Account of the Dera Ismail Khan Terrorist Attack

NILESH KUNWAR

## The Attack

Barely one month after the brazen suicide terrorist attack on the Pakistan Air Force [PAF] air base at Mianwali in which three 'non-operational' were damaged, the barely 10 month old Tehreek-e-Jihad [TJP] has targeted an army 'base camp' in the Darban area of Dera Ismail Khan district in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa's [KP] killing 23 Pakistan army soldiers. In this horrific incident, TJP reportedly used an explosive laden vehicle along with a group of six terrorists, all of whom were [in the words of Pakistan army's media wing Inter Services Public Relations [ISPR] were "effectively engaged and sent to Hell."

## ISPR's Narrative

As per ISPR, a group of six terrorists tried to storm the base camp but "The attempt to enter the post was effectively thwarted, which forced the terrorists to ram an explosive-laden vehicle into the post, followed by a suicide bombing attack." ISPR's account goes on to state that "The

resulting blasts led to the collapse of the building, causing multiple casualties; 23 brave soldiers embraced 'Shahadat' [martyrdom]."

From ISPR's account one gathers that on not being able to gain entry into the Pakistan army post, instead of abandoning their attempt, the terrorists' called their planners for assistance and a vehicle packed with enough explosives to demolish a building reached the spot pronto.

## Questions Arise

While there should have been no reasons to doubt ISPR's account, its narrative raises several questions. Firstly, if the terrorists had an explosive laden vehicle so handy, then why didn't they use it for this attack in the first place? Secondly, since terrorists engage in 'hit and run' attacks, keeping an explosive laden vehicle as 'backup' doesn't make sense.

Lastly, unlike the armed forces and law enforcement agencies which follow a policy of 'graduated response', terrorists the world over believe

in ensuring 'overkill' by applying maximum force ab initio. Hence, ISPR's claim that terrorists used an explosive-laden vehicle to facilitate entry of the suicide squad into the post when their attempt to do so was "effectively thwarted" isn't compelling enough.

## Damage Assessment

The Express Tribune has posted a 1 min 45 sec long post-attack video of the building purportedly targeted by the explosive laden vehicle [https://tribune.com.pk/story/2449762/at-least-23-soldiers-martyred-in-dkhan-attack-ispr]. In this video a large cavity in the wall and blown out windows is visible which supports the claim of an explosive laden vehicle being used. However, after seeing the video it's apparent that ISPR's contention of the building having collapsed due to the blast killing 23 soldiers is completely untrue.

Firstly, in the video it can be clearly seen that expect for the damaged windows and a large hole in wall, the building is intact. Secondly, an over-

head tank on top of the building that supposedly collapsed is clearly visible and intact- which would not have been the case had the roof collapsed. Lastly, had the roof of the building really collapsed, its interiors would be flush with sunlight just like its surroundings. However, what one sees through five windows and one large opening are dark interiors which clearly indicate that the roof of this building is intact.

## Damage Control?

ISPR has only given information regarding fatal casualties. However, The Express Tribune has quoted a state-run rescue service official named Aizaz Mehmood saying that several people were wounded and in critical condition and this puts a big question mark on ISPR's pompous "all six terrorists were effectively engaged and sent to hell" claim. So, it's obvious that ISPR is trying to play down the inordinately high fatalities due to terrorist action by peddling the building collapse story to cover up the reality.

This is not the first time

the Pakistan army's media wing has been economical with the truth. Just last month it claimed that only "non-operational" aircraft were damaged by TJP terrorists during the Mianwali airbase suicide attack and the security forces suffered no casualties. If true, then this rare occurrence should certainly make it to Ripley's 'Believe it or Not!' Similarly, in February 2022, while ISPR claimed that all Baloch Liberation Army fighters who had forced their way into the Frontier Corps camp in Panjgur had been eliminated, Pakistan's then Interior Minister Sheikh Rashid admitted on TV that 4-5 attackers were still alive and engaging Pakistani security forces.

And who can ever forget the then ISPR chief Maj Gen Asif Ghafoor claim after the February 27, 2019 air combat that Pakistan had taken two Indian Air Force [IAF] pilots into custody. While Wg Cdr Abhinandan was produced before the media, DG ISPR maintained that the other IAF pilot was undergoing treatment in a Combined Military Hospital, but backtracked within just a

few hours.

## Respecting Fallen Soldiers

In combat situations it's the wish of every soldier that if death comes, it should be from the enemy's bullet and not due to an accident like his vehicle falling into a gorge or a building or roof falling on him. So, soldiers killed by TJP terrorists being shown as having died as the result of a roof collapse just to downplay the incident and save the Pakistan army's top brass from embarrassment, is to say the least, an unpardonable and downright disgusting act.

But for an army that refused to accept the mortal remains of its own soldiers killed in combat during the 1999 Kargil War, disregarding sentiments of the near and dear ones of deceased soldiers is no big deal. Nevertheless, Rawalpindi must not forget that while a soldier's death in fighting terrorists can conveniently be attributed to roof collapse, truth cannot be buried indefinitely.

**Dead soldiers do deserve respect.**

## Introspection into The Advent and Journey of Sufism in Kashmir

MIR MOHSIN

"Sufism is truth without form" : Ibn-el-Jalali

In a bid to shun materialism and worldliness, Muslims, impressed by the idea of western esotericism, paved the way for the genesis of Sufism, or "TASAWWUF," which is popularly believed to be Islamic mysticism." The Sufism soon found the main purpose behind creation of Sufism was in search of the internal dimensions of Islam focusing primarily on its purification and further bolstering the devotion of Allah in his disciples. This is done through establishing a connection between Muhammad and the seeker through 'Bayah' or pledge given by the seeker to any Sufi Shaikh.

While the first stage of Sufism developed in early Umayyad period (661-749 CE), it rose to popularity in 12th century spreading across the Muslim world panning from South and central Asia to Balkan and the African regions. The establishment of Delhi Sultanate marked the prominence of Sufism in India and was not just con-

finned to religious preaching but intertwined with the Indian culture especially yogic postures and various art forms including music and dance. A liberal form of Sufism called Beshara or "Mast Qalandar" grew increasingly popular and it comprised majority of wandering monks who were called Babas.

The Sufism soon found its roots across all frontiers in India, including the mountainous state of Kashmir." It left a deep impact in history of Kashmir and broadening the views of not only the Muslims of Kashmir but also the Hindus residing in the valley. Sufism was introduced in Kashmir by Suhrawadi saint Hazrat Bulbul Shah after introduction of Khanqah and Silsilah order. While Islam had made inroads in the Valley long ago, Sufism blended with the bhakti movement presented a different approach in the 14th century across the valley which was quite different to one preached in Persian society. This modern form of Sufi order indigenously came to be known as Rishism. Sufi Rishis including Sayyid Ali, Mir Muhammad, Ismail Shami, Sayyid Jamaluddin Bukhari

and Muhammad Hamadani reached Kashmir and propagated their ideologies which soon engulfed entire Kashmir in form of preaching from wise saints who had divine connection with Allah. It wasn't long before Sufi saints had been started to be addressed as "Pirs" or "Rishi". The syncretism and amalgamation of communities in Kashmir led to linking of Sufism to Rishi order and finally Kashmiriyat as a whole thus bonding the community and presenting a unique instance in the history of both Kashmir and Sufi movement.

The impact and astuteness of the movement can be deciphered from the legends of Rishi Kashyap from whose name Kashmir has been derived to name the land of implausible beauty. "Kashmiri Sufism, with its shades of Buddhism and Shaivism, presents a drastic contrast in its teachings compared to those from Central or SE Asia." The major impact Sufism had on the Kashmir locals was birth of a composite culture with convergence of humanism, spirituality and tolerance and soon became a symbol of socio-religious entity across the valley.

All fragments of society divided and secluded by walls of religion and teachings soon mingled due to prominence of Sufism. This was responsible for bringing political and cultural stability in region. The influence of Sufism acted as a catalyst for spreading of Islam. Such profound was the reach of Pirs that they not only advocated rights of Muslims but also acted as mediators in issues of Buddhist and Hindu followers. One such instance is that of Hazrat Bulbul Shah converting Buddhist prince Rinchana to Islam, when he was not allowed to convert to Hinduism after his marriage to daughter of King Ramchandra. Apart from preaching communal harmony and strengthening the religious diversity across Kashmir, enrichment of the society through medium of philosophy, arts, ethics and jurisprudence was also under taken. Books like Tarikh-i-Kashmir and Zakhiratul Mulk clicked a resonance not only with locals but also the Kashmiri diaspora.

Pious Sufi principles like Saadah (salvation), Ikhlas (purity), Tawheed (oneness of God) gained popularity instill-

ing devotion towards Allah/God. The simplicity, equality and religious harmony propagated by Sufi saints led to the inevitable rise of Sufism in Kashmir. Kashmir had transformed into land of composite culture during the booming period of Sufism where Muslims attended gatherings of Hindu Pandits and Hindus visited holy shrines of saints. The ethos of Sufism got deep embedded in the concept of Kashmiriyat and proved decisive in shaping up the modern-day valley and its welcoming nature to tourists and travelers from across the globe considering the fact that the founders of Sufism in Kashmir too were once foreigners who roamed from place to place spreading their ideologies and learning to the masses. The advent, rise and propagation of Sufism should serve as a case study for the entire society proving that virtues which uphold cultural harmony and brotherhood among masses will always be wholeheartedly accepted by the society and be decisive in shaping up the next generation and eons to come.

## Chennai bears the brunt of cyclone Michaung

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN

Tamil Nadu, is at the receiving end of the North East Monsoon from October to December every year. Cyclones, tornadoes and tidal waves attacking the 1076 km long coastline is a routine event during this period. The Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), a research and development organisation under the Ministry of Earth Sciences based in Hyderabad keeps the nation abreast of all aberrations taking place on the sea surface as well as underneath the sea including tsunami waves.

Tamil Nadu is one of the States enjoying top priority in the 24/7 control room of the INCOIS which is monitoring all three oceans and issuing alerts about impending cyclones, tidal waves and tsunamis. The institution routinely holds mock drills to check the preparedness of the States along the East and West Coasts to face natural disasters.

The INCOIS also acts as the regional warning centre for all countries that lie along the Indian Ocean Rim as well as the

Arabian Sea. It offers free services to Pakistan, West Asian Nations and African countries as a humanitarian gesture. But it has to be mentioned with disappointment that Tamil Nadu pays scant regard to the alerts issued by this internationally reputed institution.

The Dravidian party that rules Tamil Nadu always ignores warnings from INCOIS as Stalin and his sidekicks are busy demolishing Sanatan Sharma. Since 2006, cyclones and flash floods have become a regular event in the annual calendar of the State. The State Government has not learnt even a single lesson from the disasters which are ravaging Tamil Nadu. It is found that the DMK spends a lot of time safeguarding secularism and pluralism but the same care should be shown in preventing the State from natural disasters.

The flash floods and the resultant mishaps including loss of human lives are the fallout of the failure of local bodies to fortify the metropolis from floodwaters caused by the overflow-



ing or release of surplus water from the six reservoirs that feed the city of Chennai. The Israeli technologists who visited the metropolis were aghast to see the profligacy of the State's politicians and bureaucrats and the failure to harvest the rainwater. Nearly 90 per cent of the rainwater received by the State is wasted in the Bay of Bengal. The DMK and Stalin could have made the Centre interlink the major rivers in south India so that Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Puthussery and Telangana could get an uninterrupted supply of water.

The rainwater and stormwater drainages in Chennai and other major cities in the State

have not yet been cleaned. The clogging in canals that act as carriers of surplus water is the main cause of floods and water logging. These issues could be resolved by locally available technology. Dr Sundara Rama Prabhu, head of the Department of Physics, IIT-Madras developed a nanotechnology-based solution to resolve this issue. Prabhu had claimed that the stormwater and drainage water being carried through Kooum, the most polluted river in the country and meandering through Chennai could be recycled and reused at a cost of Rs 100 crore. However, the state administration is not impressed with the cost of the project as those in corridors of power would not consider any innovations that are less than Rs 2000 crore!

Once the fury of North East Monsoon is over, it is time for Kaveri politics. Tamil Nadu insists that Karnataka should release Kaveri water as per the decisions of the Supreme Court and the Kaveri Water Dispute

Tribunal. But for that to happen, Karnataka should get copious rainfall in its catchment areas. If the South West Monsoon fails (which is certain to happen) Tamil Nadu will start fretting and fuming for more water from Karnataka. Other than asking for Central assistance and water from Karnataka, has the Tamil Nadu Government done anything to address these "burning" issues?

The DMK has wielded power at the Centre during 1996-1998, 1999-2003 and 2004 - 2013. The general public should have a right to know what the DMK has done for the State during these periods. It is fine if the leaders in Chennai succeed in their efforts to amass wealth but they should show some kind of compassion to the people who voted them to power. Demolish Sanatana Dharma but reduce the burden of the poor. Hundreds of people in Chennai suburbs and neighbouring districts have lost their houses and belongings in Cyclone Michaung's fury.

**(The writer is a special correspondent with the Pioneer, views are personal)**



## 26 farmers flagged off on an exposure tour to Ludhiana



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, DECEMBER 13

Director Sheep Husbandry Department Jammu Dr. Naseem Javaid Chowdhary today flagged off a group of 26 farmers on an exposure tour to Ludhiana (Punjab) to learn processing of Wool and Pelt and its effective Marketing. The tour has been hosted under the Holistic Agricultural Development Programme (HADP).

The Director advised the farmers to take maximum benefits from this tour and learn best practices of Wool & Pelt from the experts during their stay at Ludhiana w.e.f. 13-12-2023 to 15-12-2023.

Further, the Director underlined that the objective of such exposure tour is to make farmers aware of the latest technological intervention in the field of Wool & Pelt to achieve the targets and goals. The Farmers were advised to replicate the new technology in their respected areas that they will learn during the visit and further share it with other fellow members/farmers. He said under the Holistic Agricultural Development Programme (HADP) special attention has been given to the capacity building of farmers and to achieve this target a number of programs have been devised.

Dr. Pritam Manhas, Principal Training Class Kartholi a Team Leader and Dr. Vijay Kumar Officer Incharge Training Class Kartholi also accompanying the farmers during the exposure visit. Those who were present on the occasion included Dr. Surinder Gupta Deputy Director (Central), Dr. Anil Kumar Kaul (APO Jammu/Wardwan), Mr. Satish Sharma (Deputy Director F&F), Dr. Nasir Altaf Zargar, Technical Officer, Dr. Pankaj Sharma Store Officer and Mr. Asheesh Sharma, Publicity Officer Sheep Husbandry Department Jammu, besides officers/officials of the Department.

## District Admin Doda addresses community concerns at Udhyanpur at Weekly Block Diwas camp

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
DODA, DECEMBER 13

The district administration Doda organized a public outreach program at Government High School Udhyanpur in Block Dali-Udhyanpur here under the aegis of weekly block Diwas. The program aimed to connect with local residents and understand their issues, demands, and grievances to ensure timely solutions. District Development Commissioner Doda, Harvinder Singh, alongside various district officers, led the initiative to engage with the community directly.

During the event, several government-sponsored scheme stalls were set up to showcase various welfare programs. The Deputy Commissioner inspected the stalls, emphasizing the importance of these schemes in uplifting the community. The event also witnessed the presence of senior district and sector officers and other officials, who addressed the public grievances and created awareness about different welfare schemes available for individuals and the community.

Numerous concerns were raised by the public,



touching upon critical matters such as water and electricity supply, the need for electric pole installations, transformer upgradation, better school infrastructure, improved road connectivity, and healthcare center enhancements. Notably, members of PRIs, BDC Chairpersons, DDC Councillors, Sarpanchs, Panchs, and the general public actively participated in these discussions, ensuring a holistic representation of community concerns.

During his address, the DC highlighted the need for winter preparedness for road connectivity and urged the PDD department to replace wooden poles to ensure uninterrupted electricity

supply. Additionally, he emphasized completing execution works within the stipulated time and enhancing connectivity to local tourist spots to boost tourism in the district. The DC also stressed the importance of punctuality in school hours and addressed issues related to staffing for schools.

The Block Diwas event witnessed significant community participation, offering residents a direct platform to voice their concerns to district officers. This initiative reflects the administration's commitment to ensuring efficient and responsive governance, striving to deliver government services and benefits promptly to the people of Doda without unnecessary delays.

## Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra: IEC Van traverses through Panchayats of Budhal, Khawas Blocks in Rajouri

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
RAJOURI, DECEMBER 13

The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra IEC Van today traversed through the Panchayats of Khawas and Budhal Blocks. The yatra made its mark in Udhna, Gadyok Dalheri, Kotecharwal, Narla, Badhal-B, Bai Nangle, Badhal-A, Pangalar, Sawari Kote-A, Sawari kote, Rehan-A and Tralla Gujran Panchayats and introduced the public to PM's vision of Viksit Bharat.

This 72-day outreach and awareness campaign aims to promote government schemes and ensure the successful implementation of flagship programs within a specific timeframe. The program intends to provide the benefits of these schemes to all the intended beneficiaries. The primary objective of the yatra is to disseminate vital information and create awareness about various government schemes, ensuring that every deserving individual or community is well-informed and included.

A key aspect of the yatra is to facilitate direct interaction between the government and the beneficiaries. By sharing personal stories and experiences, this program provides a platform for individuals to voice



their needs, concerns, and aspirations. This two-way communication not only helps the government gain a better understanding of the ground realities but also enables the identification and enrollment of potential beneficiaries based on the information gathered during the yatra.

The Viksit Bharat Yatra focuses on a range of schemes targeted at both urban and rural areas. In urban areas, the yatra highlights schemes such as PM Svanidhi, PM Vishwakarma Yojana, PM Mudra Yojana, PM Ujjwala Yojana, Start-up India/Stand-up India, Ayushman Bharat, PM Awas Yojana (Urban), SBM (Urban), PM eBus Sewa, AMRUT, PM Bhartiya Jan Aushadi Pariyojana, Ujjala Yojana, Subhagya Yojana, Digital Payment Infrastructure, Khelo India, RCS: UDAN, Vande Bharat Trains, and Amrit Bharat Station scheme. In rural areas, the focus is on schemes such as Ayushman Bharat PMJAY,

PMGKAY, DAY-NRLM, PM Awas Yojana Rural, PM Ujjwala Yojana, PM Kisan Samman, PM Vishwakarma, KCC, PM Poshan Abhiyan, JJM, and SVAMITVA.

The 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra' stands as a firm commitment by the government to build a prosperous and equitable India. By promoting government schemes, creating awareness, and directly engaging with beneficiaries, the yatra aims to bring about positive change at the grassroots level, paving the way for an inclusive and developed nation.

As this yatra continues its journey across the country, it is expected to impact the lives of millions, ensuring their access to essential services, financial assistance, healthcare, housing, and more. The enthusiastic participation of the public demonstrates their collective commitment to building a brighter and more prosperous future, in line with the government's vision.

## VBSY in panchayat Bhalwana and Barshalla receives cordial salutation

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
DODA, DECEMBER 13

The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra made its mark in Panchayat Bhalwana and Barshalla, within the precincts of Block Gundna, District Doda, as it orchestrated a camp to ensure the comprehensive implementation of key government initiatives. The PRI members, frontline workers, and the local community warmly greeted the teams during this event, where officers and officials from the relevant department actively participated.

Commencing with the arrival of the IEC Van, the event unfolded with the screening of an introductory movie, followed by the participants collectively taking the Viksit Bharat Pledge. Throughout the Yatra, officers engaged with the public, disseminating information about government schemes and listening to the experiences of beneficiaries. The community demonstrated fervent involvement,



with various government departments setting 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.

Emphasizing schemes like PM KISAN, Vishwakarma, Suraksha Bima Yojna, Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana, Ayushman Bharat, Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, Jan

Dhan Yojana, PM Awas Yojana, JJM, Poshan Abhiyan, and various welfare, Self employment, and income generation programs, department representatives highlighted their significance. The Yatra garnered widespread participation from the public, PRIs, notable citizens, and officials across different departments. Adding vibrancy to the event, a lively cultural program entertained the audience, earning appreciation, and certificates were distributed to students who partook in the quiz competition.

## Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra resonates across Reasi, reaches 5 Panchayats



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
REASI, DECEMBER 13

The ongoing Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra Van has successfully reached 5 Panchayats of Gran Baeotian-B, Lar, Judda-B, Bandhan, Banna-A in the Reasi district, marking a significant milestone in promoting awareness about various welfare schemes in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. The Yatra, a collaborative effort of multiple departments including Agriculture, Sheep Husbandry, Handicraft, Social Welfare, Handloom, and Horticulture, has been instrumental in disseminating crucial information to local communities. Throughout the Yatra, awareness camps organized by the participating departments have played a pivotal role in educating the community about the diverse welfare initiatives undertaken by the Jammu and Kashmir administration.

Residents had the opportunity to engage directly with representatives from these departments, gaining insights into schemes designed to uplift various sectors. The Prime Minister's messages were

conveyed to the people during the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, emphasizing the government's commitment to inclusive development and the overall progress of the region.

The Yatra also showcased the rich cultural heritage of the area, with captivating cultural programs that added a vibrant touch to the event. In addition, drone demonstrations provided a modern perspective on technology and its applications for the benefit of the community.

An exciting component of the Yatra was the on-the-spot quiz sessions, encouraging active participation from students. This initiative not only tested knowledge but also fostered a spirit of curiosity and learning. The collaborative efforts of various government departments, coupled with the enthusiastic participation of the community, have made the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra a resounding success in Reasi district. The event continues to be a catalyst for positive change, fostering awareness, engagement, and empowerment.

## Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra: Yasha Mudgal participated yatra at Samba



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SAMBA, DECEMBER 13

Three more panchayats of Samba witnessed successful conduct of Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra thus bringing the total coverage to 90 Panchayats in the district. The Yatra continued its influential journey, actively engaging with the communities of Panchayat Gurwal in Vijaypur block, Panchayat Supwal in Samba block and Panchayat Naran in Ghagwal block.

Local residents and Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) warmly welcomed the Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) van, expressing enthusiasm for this transformative initiative.

A grand event was organized in Panchayat Naran of Ghagwal block where in Commissioner Secretary, Cooperatives, Yasha Mudgal, also participated.

During the event, Mudgal together with other officers listened to Prime Minister's message through the IEC van, and actively participated in the Viksit Bharat Sankalp pledge. She felicitated women and sports achievers of the block and distributed Abhinandan patra among pani samiti.

The event showcased vibrant cultural performances by school children on the theme of 'Dharti Kahe Pukar Ke,' epitomizing the essence of Viksit Bharat.

Additionally, the program included 'Meri Kahani Meri Zubani,' where beneficiaries enthusiastically shared their inspiring success stories.

To enhance access to government services, departmental booths were strategically placed to provide on-site services to attendees.

Commissioner Secretary inspected the stalls and interacted with beneficiaries of various schemes.

Speaking at the event, Yasha Mudgal emphasized that the primary objective of Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra is to ensure that every citizen avails the benefits of various government flagship schemes for their welfare. She highlighted the importance of awareness through the IEC Van and bringing the schemes to the doorsteps of citizens. She urged upon all to take advantage of these government schemes and actively contribute towards developmental journey of India.

## SKUAST-K conducts awareness programmes on Soilless cultivation across Kashmir Valley

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, DECEMBER 13

Sher-i-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology-Kashmir, conducted five one day awareness programs across Kashmir Valley on "Soilless cultivation to secure the vegetable demand of urban and peri-urban population".

The programmes were conducted at Sopore, Anantnag, Pulwama, Tangmarg and Wadura in collaboration with the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME). The awareness programs organised by the Division of Vegetable Science, Faculty of Horticulture, are an inno-

vative and sustainable farming methods that can help secure the vegetable demand of urban and peri-urban populations. Progressive farmers and youth from rural areas and adjoining areas attended the awareness programmes. Every programme was targeted at fifty participants comprising rural youth and progressive farmers.

Experts threw light on soilless cultivation methods which offered numerous advantages that contribute to maximizing yields and promoting sustainability in agriculture. By providing controlled, efficient, and environmentally friendly growing conditions, soil-

less cultivation has the potential to help meet the growing demand for fresh, nutritious vegetables while reducing the ecological impact of traditional farming, the participants were told.

Addressing the programmes, Program coordinator and Associate Professor, Division of Vegetable Science SKUAST-K, Dr Shahnaz Mufti said that the rapid urbanization and population growth in urban and peri-urban areas have increased the demand for fresh and nutritious vegetables. She said Soilless cultivation offers a viable solution to achieve these goals. By eliminating the need for tradition-

al soil-based agriculture, soilless cultivation allows vegetables to be grown in controlled environments, making it possible to produce high-quality crops consistently, regardless of climate or space constraints, she added.

The Program coordinator acknowledged the efforts and support of the Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-K, Prof. Nazir Ahmad Ganaie, Nodal Officer, MSME, Prof. H. R. Naik and Dean Faculty of Horticulture Prof. Shabir Hussain Wani and Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) for having supported and sponsored the awareness programme.

## Subsidized Heli Services set to resume again in Hilly Districts of Jammu division

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, DECEMBER 13

Helicopter services are being resumed to provide respite to the people of hilly districts of Jammu Division during the winter season. Today, Divisional Commissioner Ramesh Kumar convened a meeting with Deputy Commissioners of Poonch, Rajouri, Doda, Kishtwar, and other stakeholders to assess the preparedness for this much-anticipated revival.

The Div Com instructed Deputy Commissioners to appoint Nodal Officers and conduct joint inspections with Global Vectra Helicorp's technical team

to facilitate the readiness of designated helipads in their respective districts. The discussion delved into the finer details of initiating services, including notifying timings and fare schedules to all designated locations.

Taking a significant step forward, the Div Com appointed Joint Director Tourism as the Nodal Officer to facilitate seamless coordination with the service provider - Global Vectra Helicorp. The Joint Director Tourism has been tasked with establishing a dedicated counter and assembling a team for efficient ticket booking at TRC Jammu.



## Billawaria inaugurates awareness camp cum workshop at Gangyal

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DEC 13

J&K Bank in collaboration with Dogra Sewa Sambhal Trust (Regd.) organised an awareness camp-cum-workshop at ward 56 Gangyal which was attended by a large number of people.

The awareness camp was organised to educate about the entire range of digital products of the bank. The Awareness camp was inaugurated by former Deputy Mayor Jammu Baldev Singh Billawaria.

Appreciating the J&K Bank role, former Deputy Mayor described such awareness camp-cum-workshop as a major step towards the well-being of the people and urged the people to avail the many benefits extended to them especially towards the Bank.

Former Deputy Mayor



Baldev Singh Billawaria asked bank employees to talk to customers in the local language. He said, when you have staff who do not speak the regional language and who demand citizens to speak in a particular language then you have a problem. People who cannot speak the local language should not be assigned the role of dealing with customers, Billawaria said.

Former Deputy Mayor Billawaria said that these banks need a lot of help in digitalization. The former Deputy Mayor praised the banking sector for smooth-

ly carrying out the integration process and providing services to customers even during the difficult times of the pandemic.

The Digital Marketing team gave a comprehensive presentation about the entire range of digital products of the Bank along with their benefits and processes. On the occasion, on-spot registration and activation of the Bank's easy, fast and secure app mPay was also done on the mobile phones of many residents.

J&K Bank officials advised the participants to be more conscious while

transacting through online mode and not to share their ATM and credit card details with anyone under any circumstances, to protect themselves from cyber frauds.

Bank officials briefed the participants about key credit facilities, subsidy benefits and schemes including Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, Stand-up India, Prime Minister's Employment Generation Program (PMEGP), and Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE). Informed and educated.

The participants were also provided education about the benefits of government sponsored and social security schemes like Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) and Atal Pension Yojana (APY), Ladli Beti Yojana.

## CS Dulloo inaugurates Mata Bhaderkali Asthapan's Stone Work Sanctum Sanctorium at Thalwal



JJ NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DECEMBER 13

Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo today inaugurated the stone work Sanctum Sanctorium of Mata Bhaderkali Asthapan at Thalwal, Mandal here.

He was accompanied by the Commissioner Secretary Mining, Rashmi

Singh; Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner, KK Sidha, and other concerned. The ceremony witnessed the presence of Moti Lal Malla, Head of Mata Bhaderkali Asthapan Trust, ex-legislator of J&K Assembly, Ajay Bharti, and representatives and heads of various Pandit Organizations. The

event marked a significant moment as the Chief Secretary was felicitated by Mata Bhaderkali Asthapan Trust and other Pandit organizations, expressing pride in his esteemed position.

Atal Dulloo expressed gratitude for the warm reception and emphasized the cultural and spiritual

significance of the newly inaugurated Sanctum Sanctorium.

The Mata Bhaderkali Asthapan Trust and associated organizations extend their heartfelt appreciation to Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo for gracing the event and acknowledge his dedicated service to the community.

significance of the newly inaugurated Sanctum Sanctorium.

## HDFC Bank & Indian Dental Association signs a MoU to boost oral healthcare infrastructure in country

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DECEMBER 13

HDFC Bank, India's leading private sector bank and Indian Dental Association (IDA) have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to offer seamless and hassle-free funding to freshly graduated dentists for setting up their dental practices. This will help to boost the oral healthcare infrastructure in the country. The loans extended under this initiative will be guaranteed by Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE), a joint initiative by the Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME), Government of India and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI).

The MoU was signed by Ms. Gayatri Rao Korde - Zonal Head & Senior Vice President, HDFC Bank along with Mr. Sumit Yagnick - Senior Vice President, Business loans, HDFC Bank and Dr. Ashok Dhoble - Hon. Secretary General, IDA in the presence of the Chief Guest Shri. Sandeep Varma - CEO, CGTMSE, Mr. Rajeev Kumar, Executive Vice President - HDFC Bank, Mr. Faisal Sara, Executive Vice President - HDFC Bank, Mr. Raghavendras-



wamy Mynampati - Zonal Head, HDFC Bank, Dr. Kashmira Hadkar - Project Head, IDA and other senior officials from HDFC Bank and IDA.

According to a report by World Health Organisation (WHO), there are two dentists per 10,000 population in India. This partnership was the brainchild of Late Mr. Nilesh Samant, former Zonal Head, HDFC Bank and his efforts were instrumental in bringing the three organisations together on a common platform. This uniquely curated initiative will further aim at enhancing the oral healthcare infrastructure and boosting healthcare finance in the country. This is inline with the National Oral Health Policy of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.

IDA has over 75,000 registered dentists and close to 25,000 new dentists graduate every year.

With this MoU, HDFC Bank and IDA along with CGTMSE will work together to facilitate easy access to finance to empower freshly graduated dentists to set up their dental practice. Eligible dentists can avail a loan amount up to Rs 10 lakhs with a repayment tenure of 1-5 years. Under this scheme, dentists will have the benefit of the finance being made available basis minimum documentation and without any collateral/security and previous financial track record. Speaking at the ceremony, Ms. Gayatri Rao Korde - Zonal Head & Senior Vice President, HDFC Bank said, "We are happy to join hands with IDA and CGTMSE in what we believe can be a transformative collaboration. A nation of our size needs more dentists and easier access to oral healthcare infrastructure. Through this initiative we are helping to bridge the gap by

encouraging dental practitioners especially fresh graduates to set up clinics across the country including rural locations." Dr Ashok Dhoble - Hon. Sec General, IDA said, "In a profession like ours, which requires high initial capital to set up a dental clinic, this collaboration with HDFC Bank will go a long way in encouraging young dentists to start their own practice. We are delighted to collaborate with HDFC Bank and CGTMSE to help the professional grow and expand its reach across the length and breadth of our country and thus contribute to our vision of 'Optimal oral health for all'."

Shri. Sandeep Varma, CEO CGTMSE & the Chief Guest said, "We are happy to be associated with HDFC Bank and IDA and back this arrangement with a guarantee mechanism. This collaboration will fund even those dentists who are new to credit. We are also confident about the scalability of the initiative by leveraging technology and use of digital channels. This will help complete the process seamlessly and also make it accessible to a greater number of dentists resulting in creation of further opportunities in the dental and allied sectors."

empowering, educating, and celebrating the spirit of progress with the resonance of a recorded message from the Prime Minister.

After the Viksit Bharat Pledge, the yatra unfolded with 'Meri Kahani Meri Zubani,' a platform where the beneficiaries of various schemes shared their transformational experiences.

The enriching sessions, including Satat Krishi Activities witnessed interaction with progressive farmers on Natural Farming and the Soil Health Card initiatives.

Further, the achievements like 100% digitisation of land records, ODF+ status, and the saturation of Jal Jeevan

Mission, distribution of Golden Cards were celebrated as benchmarks of success.

On-the-spot services, crucial health camps for TB and Sickle Cell Anaemia screenings in Tribal Areas, besides enrollment drive for PM Ujjwala and MY BHARAT volunteers provided immediate access to essential services.



India's first listing on NSE Social Stock Exchange today in the presence of Shri. Ashishkumar Chauhan (MD & CEO, National Stock Exchange) along with Dr. R Balasubramaniam (Chairman, Advisory Committee, Social Stock Exchange, SEBI), Shri Ramesh Swami (Founder Director, Unnati), Shri. Ashwani Bhatia (Whole Time Member, SEBI) and other dignitaries during their visit to NSE.

## VBSY Van makes mark at Dharterial and Marh panchayats

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DECEMBER 13

As part of the ongoing Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, a special VBSY Van today reached Panchayats Dharterial and Marh of block Marh today. The VBSY Van was accorded a warm welcome by the members of the Swagat Committee, Block Development Officer Marh, Tehsildar Marh, Block Medical Officer Marh, PRI Members of Panchayats along with prominent persons of Panchayats in presence of the Chairman Block Development Council Marh, Surinder Kumar.

The VBSY Van displayed the message of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his vision to make India a developed Nation by 2047. The people of the Panchayat took the Sankalp Pledge to contribute towards the development of the country and to uphold the values of the Constitution. The

## Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra commences in BT I & BT II of Block Kishtwar; Engages Community with PM's Message

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
KISHTWAR, DECEMBER 13

The ongoing Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra today commenced its journey in the block Kishtwar to engage the vibrant communities in BT I and BT II Panchayats.

The 'Bharat Viksit Van' arrived amidst warm welcome, kick starting an eventful day



empowering, educating, and celebrating the spirit of progress with the resonance of a recorded message from the Prime Minister. After the Viksit Bharat Pledge, the yatra unfolded with 'Meri Kahani Meri Zubani,' a platform where the beneficiaries of various schemes shared their transformational experiences.

The enriching sessions, including Satat Krishi Activities witnessed interaction with progressive farmers on Natural Farming and the Soil Health Card initiatives.

Further, the achievements like 100% digitisation of land records, ODF+ status, and the saturation of Jal Jeevan

Mission, distribution of Golden Cards were celebrated as benchmarks of success.

On-the-spot services, crucial health camps for TB and Sickle Cell Anaemia screenings in Tribal Areas, besides enrollment drive for PM Ujjwala and MY BHARAT volunteers provided immediate access to essential services.

On-the-spot services, crucial health camps for TB and Sickle Cell Anaemia screenings in Tribal Areas, besides enrollment drive for PM Ujjwala and MY BHARAT volunteers provided immediate access to essential services.

## GDC Neeli Nallah organises Essay Writing Competition on "Environmental Sustainability"

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
UDHAMPUR, DECEMBER 13

Government Degree College Neeli Nallah Udhampur today organised an Essay Writing Competition on the theme "Environmental Sustainability" here under Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra @2047.

The programme started with a keynote address by the principal of the college Prof. Hans Raj. A number of students took part in the essay writing competition with zeal and enthusiasm. Principal of the college asserted that such types of awareness programs create awareness among students regarding such burning issues.

"Under Viksit Bharat, India has 25 years to leverage the demograph-



ic dividends, so, we must put in all the resources to ensure that India will become a developed nation by 2047, when it celebrates 100 years of independence", he added.

Rimjim Sharma bagged 1st Position, Himanshi Sharma got 2nd Position and Suhani Rajput stood 3rd. They were awarded with certificates.

The convener of the programme was Dr. Sunil

Tanoch. The members of the organizing committee were Prof. Rekha Sharma, Prof. Shaista Yasmeen, Dr. Akhter Hussain, Dr. Zahoor Ahmad Mir, Dr. Mahima Bhagat, and Miss Swati Sharma.



## Through its G20 Presidency steered by PM Modi India displayed resolve to make climate action a collaborative process that 'leaves no one behind': Bhupender Yadav

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, DEC 13

Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change and Labour and Employment Shri Bhupender Yadav said today the world came together at COP28 in Dubai, UAE to display positive collaboration and camaraderie for an action-oriented approach towards a greener and healthier planet.

Addressing the COP28 closing plenary session in Dubai he said through its G20 Presidency steered by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi India displayed the resolve to make climate action a collaborative process that 'leaves no one behind'. At COP28, India extended the same spirit enshrined in the principle of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, he added.

Yadav said India con-



gratulates UAE's COP Presidency for its fairness, transparency and free exchange of thought. He said we support the proposal of the Presidency on the COP decision document while reiterating the fundamental principles enshrined in the Paris Agreement to take action for global good in accordance with national circumstances.

Yadav said India urges that the determination shown at COP is also sub-

stantiated with means to bring it to fruition. He said this must be based on the principles of equity and climate justice, which is respectful of national circumstances, and where the developed countries take the lead based on their historical contributions.

The Minister said India, under PM Modi, has already achieved its earlier NDCs set for 2030 and revised them upwards affirming continued com-

mitment. He said India will continue to walk this path with utmost responsibility, and show how economy and ecology can go hand in hand.

The Minister extended India's compliments to the Presidency for its efforts and leadership in organizing this Conference. He said that this was a historic COP in which on the first day itself, a decision regarding operationalisation of Loss and Damage Fund was finalised.

## DC Reasi spearheads Block Diwas camp at Sungri

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
REASI, DECEMBER 13

District Development Commissioner Vishesh Mahajan, in a proactive step towards grassroots development, led a Block Diwas meeting here at Sungari Panchayat in Mahore Subdivision today. The initiative aims to address challenges unique to hilly areas, fostering inclusive dialogue on essential services and community welfare. Residents shared concerns on issues like road connectivity, education, healthcare staff shortages, pending payments, PMAY scheme survey, water and electricity supply, hospital construction, PMGSY, PWD Roads, and the opening of a JK Bank branch. DDC Mahajan, responsive to concerns, issued on-the-spot directives for prompt issue resolution. Cultural programs showcased local talents, applauded by the audience. DDC Mahajan pledged to address banking concerns, particularly the absence of a JK Bank branch, aiming for expedited solutions. He stressed the administration's commitment to inclusive governance and announced the commencement of outstanding road initiatives by year-end.

Expressing dedication to education and healthcare, Mahajan declared an unwavering commitment to inclusivity, ensuring no resident is left behind in accessing education and essential services.

Inspecting department stalls, DDC actively engaged with diverse schemes and programs, promoting community empowerment. To enhance financial inclusion, Mahajan distributed six Kissan credit cards during the Sungari Panchayat Block Diwas.

The event saw the presence of BDC Chairperson, DDC Members, PO Poshan Mohd. Anwar Bandy, SDM Mahore, ACP Pardeep Kumar, ACD Anirudh Rai, CEO, Chief Agriculture and Horticulture Officer, PRI Members, and other concerned officers, highlighting collaborative efforts for community development.

## IIT Jammu's Dynamic Impact: Empowering Youth and Enhancing Rural Livelihoods

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, DEC 13

The Department of Continuing Education & Outreach at IIT Jammu, in collaboration with its Unnat Bharat Abhiyan cell, welcomed 95 students from High School Dharamkot of Billawar, Kathua, UT of Jammu and Kashmir on 12th December 2023. The students actively engaged in laboratory demonstrations at the Tinkerer's Lab, Central Workshop, and Physics lab, led by respective staff members: Mr. Israil and Mr. Gautam, Dr. Krishan Kumar and Mr. Aurl, and Mr. Sumit and Mr. Arjun. During the sessions, students posed numerous questions, all of which were patiently addressed by the staff.

Post their visit, Dr. Riya Bhowmik and Ms. Jeyoti Kaul interacted with the students and received a briefing about the aca-



demical and overall environment of the institute.

Later, Dr. Karan Nathani conducted an interactive session with the students, discussing the role of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in our daily lives. The final session before their departure was hosted by Dr. Badri N Subudhi.

Following this event, the Outreach team, comprising Prof. Rakesh Singh, Dr. Riya Bhowmik, and Ms. Jeyoti Kaul, visited the village of Panjgrain to felicitate five higher secondary students from local schools who successfully completed the Computer Literacy Program at IIT Jammu's Computer

labs. This program was organized by the social club (Kritash) and UBA.

The felicitation ceremony also acknowledged ten trainees, primarily homemakers, who completed the Skill Training Program in Screen Printing and are on the path to self-sufficiency. The ceremony took place in the presence of Mr. Thoru Ram, Sarpanch Panjgrain, and Mr. Akash, Branch Program Manager NRLM Nagrota. Discussions on improving livelihoods led to suggestions, and the sarpanch promised to provide them with a new computer desktop set, including a printer, from his unspent sarpanch fund.

### >> Weekly Block Diwas

## DC Ramban spearheads grievances redressal, resolves developmental hurdles in rural areas

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
RAMBAN, DECEMBER 13

Enhancing the reach and impact of weekly Block Diwas, Deputy Commissioner Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary today conducted a comprehensive tour across the Panchayats of Ramban and Gandhri Blocks, effectively bringing governance to the doorsteps of the people.

Traversing 16 kilometers on foot, the Deputy Commissioner, along with the team of officers, not only covered ground but conquered obstacles impeding the construction of the Pernote-Thalwa road, a crucial project being executed by the PWD department. In recognizing the challenging terrain, completion of this road promises enhanced ease of life to the local populace.

Education as Pillar of Prosperity: Highlighting education as a cornerstone of harmonious development, the DC impressed upon the residents to channel focused attention towards the education of their wards, with a particular emphasis on the education of the girl child. He emphasized education's pivotal role in fostering societal development and

national prosperity.

Grievances addressed at Pernote - A; In Panchayat Pernote -A, Deputy Commissioner Chaudhary lent a patient ear to the issues and demands voiced by residents, focusing on basic amenities and need-based development. This responsive engagement underscores a dedication to grassroots development. DC immediately directed the concerned officers for redressal of grievances.

Rural Development Inspection; While traversing, the DC meticulously inspected ongoing developmental works in Panchayats Batli and Pernote-A, undertaken by the Rural Development Departments. Directing Block Development Officers (BDOs), he emphasized the importance of maintaining the cleanliness of Amrit Sarovars and other water bodies for the preservation and conservation of

Infrastructural Enhancements, Considering the challenging topography, the DC directed concerned BDOs to provide durable pathways to every village, a move expected to significantly improve the lives of local residents. Furthermore, he mandated

an age-wise survey to assess the educational infrastructure requirements of the area.

Welfare Schemes, Visiting the home of Rehmatullah, a beneficiary of the PMAY-R scheme in Pernote, Deputy Commissioner Chaudhary commended the realization of a concrete house. Encouraging the community, he urged residents to actively avail themselves of government welfare schemes designed for their well-being and development.

Responsive Governance at Batli, Listening attentively to public concerns in Batli, the Deputy Commissioner issued on-the-spot directives to address grievances promptly, showcasing a commitment to prioritizing and resolving community issues.

Accompanying Deputy Commissioner Chaudhary on this impactful tour were officials including ACR Giasul Haq, DFO Batote, S. Kuldeep Singh Executive Engineer, PWD Ramban Abhishek Gupta, Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti, Rajeev Ghai, AD, FCS & CA Rahul Sharma, and BDO Ramban Tanzeel Ronyal, alongside DDC members and PRIs.

## NIT Srinagar faculty member bags prestigious mega project from SERB-DST

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, DEC 13

In a remarkable achievement, Prof. Kowsar Majid, a distinguished senior faculty member at Department of Chemistry, National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar, has bagged prestigious mega project from the Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB), Department of Science and Technology (DST).

The newly sanctioned project, titled "In Situ Kinetic and Mechanistic Studies of Electrochemical Water Splitting Reactions," is set to address critical challenges in the realm of sustainable energy by leveraging Metal-Organic Framework (MOF) based catalysts under the Competitive Research Grant (CRG) scheme of DST Government of India.

Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. Sudhakar Yedla congratulated Prof. Kowsar for bagging the prestigious SERB project. We are proud to have such dedicated faculty members who are making significant strides in advancing knowledge and addressing real-world challenges," he said.

Highlighting the insti-



tute's ongoing efforts to foster an environment conducive to research, Prof. Yedla emphasized that NIT Srinagar remains committed to supporting its faculty and providing them with the necessary resources to excel in their respective fields.

Prof. Kowsar expressed her gratitude to DST, Government of India, for the thoughtful consideration of her research proposal, ensuring substantial funding for the project. The support includes provisions for essential manpower in the form of a Research Associate, as well as access to high-grade chemicals and other necessary amenities, she said.

Expressing gratitude, Prof. Kowsar extended her thanks to the leadership of her institute for their unwavering support and encouragement throughout the process.

The backing from the institute played a crucial role in advancing this research endeavor, she added.

The said proposal is regarding understanding the kinetics and mechanistic aspects of the application of an important class of material that is MOFs (Metal organic frameworks). Metal-organic frameworks (MOFs), is considered a novel category of porous and well crystalline materials.

Prof. Kowsar said that this special class of material has created significant interest in the current years due to the fact that these offer practical implementations in different sectors, like hydrogen and carbon dioxide storage, catalysis and separation due to their superior porosity, great surface area and versatile framework.

"While a lot has been reported regarding the synthesis and applications of MOFs, kinetics and mechanistic approaches associated with the application routes of these materials is under examination and thus demands attention," she added.

Prof. Kowsar said with the steadfast support of institute, DST GOI, dedi-

cated research team, and collaborative partners, we are optimistic about making a substantial contribution to this domain.

"It is noteworthy that numerous scholars within my team have delved into this area, earning Ph.D. degrees for their commendable work. Our focus on Metal-Organic Frameworks (MOFs) and MOF-based catalysts for diverse applications has been a prominent research pursuit, leading to the successful placement of many scholars in prestigious positions across the country and internationally," she said.

In addition to publishing high-quality research papers in this specific field, Prof. Kowsar said our team has ventured into various research areas. I am pleased to share that one minor project proposed by our team has received approval for possible funding from JK STIC, for which we express our gratitude.

"Multiple research projects have been submitted for financial aid, and we anticipate further support from various sponsoring agencies for our allied research ideas in the future," she added.

## India can become hub for global financial services market: Dharmendra Pradhan

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, DECEMBER 13

AICTE, (under the aegis of the Ministry of Higher Education) and National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), under the aegis of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, the principal architect of the skill ecosystem in the country forged partnerships today with Bajaj Finserv Ltd., one of India's leading and most diversified financial services groups, to prepare young graduates for employment opportunities in the financial services sector.

Two MoUs were exchanged today between NSDC and Bajaj Finserv, and AICTE and Bajaj Finserv in the august presence of Shri. Dharmendra Pradhan, Union Minister for Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship; Prof. Rajive Kumar, Member Secretary, AICTE; Ved Mani Tiwari, CEO, NSDC and MD, NSDC International and Sanjiv Bajaj, Chairman & MD of Bajaj Finserv. The ceremony was also attended by Kurush Irani, President Group - CSR and Pallavi Gandhalikar, National Head - CSR of Bajaj Finserv.

Speaking at the ceremony, Shri. Dharmendra Pradhan, Union Minister for Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, said, he is glad to witness the signing of MoUs of NSDC and AICTE with Bajaj Finserv to prepare young graduates for employment opportunities in the financial services sector and the launch of a Certificate Program in Banking, Finance, and Insurance. The partnerships forged today will build competencies at scale in the financial sector and empower our youth to participate in the transformation happening in the financial and digital space. The Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of Viksit Bharat, the Voice of Youth program launched yesterday



elicits the ideas of youth for a developed India, the role of skill development, and the financial sector in the making of a developed India. As Hon'ble PM has said, we are living in a world in which just having a degree is not enough and under his leadership, we are building a superhighway of knowledge and competencies. Our youth will play a key role in making of a Viksit Bharat driven by knowledge, competencies, skills, and the right attitude.

Prof. T.G. Sitharam, Chairman, AICTE expressed, the signing of MoU with Bajaj Finserv will further usher to new collaboration in education and industry-academia linkages. It will strengthen AICTE's vision to bridge a gap between Industry and Academia. This partnership will roll out immense opportunities of education, internships and job trainings for students in finance, banking and insurance sector.

Ved Mani Tiwari, CEO, NSDC and MD, NSDC Internationalsaid, India's financial sector has seen significant growth and development in recent years. We have witnessed huge advancements in banking, insurance, fintech, and other financial services. With this, At NSDC, our dedication lies in empowering youth by offering diverse opportunities through skill development initiatives. And partnering with Bajaj Finserv marks a strategic move towards aligning our skilling endeavours with the industry's changing in the financial sector. And I am certain, through the initiative, Bajaj Finserv will greatly broaden the horizon of its CPBFI program.

Sanjiv Bajaj, Chairman & Managing Director, Bajaj Finserv Ltd., said, India is entering an interesting phase of growth, matched by its promising demographics. However, the country faces a shortage of skilled workers, and the private sector has the opportunity to be one of the first responders to the situation. At Bajaj Finserv, we have identified youth skilling as a significant pillar of our social impact programmes. Our partnership with NSDC and the Ministry of Education will help us make a difference to young people by providing them with greater access to skilling which opens infinite possibilities of success. It will also build economic resilience and an inclusive workforce for the future, in line with the theme of Kaushal Bharat, Kushal Bharat.

Under the partnership, Bajaj Finserv will take forward skilling initiatives to build the capabilities of 20,000 candidates through its Certificate Program in Banking, Finance & Insurance (CPBFI), a 100-hour programme developed in collaboration with industry experts, training partners, educational institutions and psychological health institutes. CPBFI currently runs across 350+ colleges in 23 states, 100 districts and 160+ towns. It is aimed at nurturing skills, knowledge and attitude among graduates and MBA aspirants especially in tier 2 and 3 cities, enabling them to seek employability and take the right decisions related to their long-term careers in the financial services sector.

Both the partnerships focus on creating dynamic curriculum development that adapts to the

ever-evolving landscape of finance, banking, and insurance and weave together the latest industry trends, technological advancements, and best practices into the curriculum. The partnership with NSDC will be elevated on Skill India Digital (SID)—comprehensive information gateway for all government-led skilling and entrepreneurship initiatives, ensuring that students are not just academically equipped but thrive in the practical realities of these sectors.

Through strategic industry partnerships will also be undertaken with esteemed banks, financial institutions, and insurance companies to foster invaluable opportunities for the students. These partnerships provide access to internships, on-the-job training, and a firsthand glimpse into the real-world industry practices. This will bridge the gap between classroom learning and industry demands, paving the way for a seamless transition into professional roles.

In addition to imparting domain knowledge, the collaboration also aims to enhance the confidence of candidates through cognitively designed communication and workplace skills. To date, CPBFI has trained and benefited over 40,000 students from tier 2 & tier 3 towns since inception.

AICTE under the aegis of the Ministry of Education has designated Odisha as a priority state. Consequently, the initiation of youth skilling programs will begin in the first phase across ten districts of Odisha where students will receive a joint certification accredited by Bajaj Finserv and Skill India.

Photo Caption:- Kurush Irani, President Group-CSR, Bajaj Finserv (L) and Ved Mani Tiwari, CEO, NSDC (R) after exchanging MoU documents in the presence of Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan and Sanjiv Bajaj, CMD, Bajaj Finserv Ltd.



## J&K Bank commissions new CRM at SK Bridge in Poonch

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DECEMBER 13

Taking forward the ease-of-banking mission, J&K Bank today commissioned Cash Recycler Machine (CRM) inside the premises of its SK Bridge Branch in Poonch district. With the addition of 5th such machine in Poonch, the total tally of CRM machines in the Zone comprising of twin districts of Rajouri and Poonch reached 12.

The Bank's Zonal Head (Rajouri) Satish Kumar inaugurated the CRM in presence of Cluster Head (Poonch) Aneet Kanwal Singh Bagee amid a gathering of valuable customers including local businessmen and residents.

Speaking on the occasion, Zonal Head said, "As part of Bank's deepening digital footprint, the machine has been com-



missioned for the convenience of customers and people at large".

"The machines will specifically cater to the needs of the people especially local businessmen of the area by streamlining manual cash-management thus saving their valuable time and efforts", he added. The locals especially the trade and business community thanked the Bank for its customer-

friendly initiatives and commitment to facilitate better customer experience through technology-based solutions. Notably, the self-service terminal accepts and dispenses cash thereby easing the rush at the adjacent branches besides facilitating the customers with instant cash management mechanism during business hours.

## Mobile Sanskrit Gurukulam teaches Sanskrit to students of GGHSS, Rihari

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DEC 13



J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DEC 13

The world's first mobile Sanskrit Gurukulam is teaching in Government Girls Higher Secondary School Rihari Jammu. On this occasion, School principal Gold medallist Jyotish Prakash said that Mahant Rohit Shastri, head of Shri Kailakh jyotish avim Vedic Sanathan trust, is teaching free Sanskrit Devvani everywhere in villages and cities through Mobile Gurukulam. The main objective of the trust is There should be Sanskrit in every house.

On this occasion, Mahant Rohit Shastri of the Trust told that "Mobile Gurukulam" has been inaugurated on the occasion of Late Dr. Uttam Chand Shastri

Pathak's birth centenary. Used to be. This vehicle has been given by the secretary of the trust, Rakesh Gandotra.

Tilak Raj shastri and other school Staff were present on this occasion.

## VBSY inspires Model Higher Secondary School, Sawjian

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
POONCH, DECEMBER 13

The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, an initiative to inform and empower citizens about the Central Government's schemes and programs, visited Model Higher Secondary School in Sawjian Poonch today. The event attracted distinguished guests and local leaders. Additional District Development Commissioner Poonch, Sandesh Kumar, was the chief guest. Others present were Tabasum Nisar, Sarpanch Sawjian; Khalil Bandy, Block Development Officer Mandi; Nusrat Bhatti, Block Medical Officer Mandi; and Adil Shabir, CDPO



Mandi. Anwar Khan, Principal of the school, welcomed the guests and explained the aims and objectives of the Yatra.

The event started with the National Anthem, followed by the Viksit Bharat pledge, administered by Khalil Bandy.

Students from the school presented a cultural program, showcasing the diversity and talent of the community. The Primary Health Centre Sawjian also organised a

medical checkup camp. Sandesh Kumar, as the Chief Guest, appreciated the students' talent and distributed prizes to them. He also shared his thoughts on the Yatra and its role in creating a progressive and informed citizenry.

Nahida Iqbal Khan, Teacher, conducted the proceedings of the event. Khalil Bandy provided insights into the Yatra and its significance for national development.

## Power shutdown

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DECEMBER 13

Chief Engineer (Distribution) JPDCL, Jammu has informed that the power supply to Sattari, Nai Basti, Ashok Nagar, M.H. Mil. Cant., Sanjay Nagar, Shastri Nagar and adjoining areas will remain affected on December 14 from 12 noon to 4 pm. Similarly, the power supply to Chakroi, Kirpind, Pindi, Hansa, Satrayan, Flora and adjoining areas will

remain affected on December 14 from 8 am to 12 noon. Likewise, the power supply to Birpur Industry, Seora, Kanal and adjoining areas will remain affected on December 14 from 8 am to 2 pm. Similarly, the power supply to Ashok Nagar, Parts of Shastri Nagar, Part of Sanjay Nagar, Rani Talab and adjoining areas will remain affected on December 14 from 8 am to 1 pm. Meanwhile, the Executive Engineer, Electric Division-III (JPDCL) Jammu has informed that the power supply to Ganderwan LT line will remain affected on December 15 from 8 am to 1 pm.

## Office of the Executive Engineer, TLMD-III Division-III (JKPTCL), Udhampur

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

Tel No. 01992270287 Fax No. 01992270287

e- NIT No: TLMD-III/UDH/25 of 2023-24 Dated: - 05-12-2023

### 1. INVITATION:-

For and on behalf of the Managing Director, JKPTCL Jammu, the Executive Engineer, TLMD-III Division, JKPTCL Udhampur herein after referred as 'Employer', invites online e-bids from reputed firms or registered contractors/suppliers/service providers for "Hiring of vehicle (Scorpio/Mahindra Bolero or equivalent) along with fully skilled driver having renewed D/L for the Financial year 2023-24" under the jurisdiction of Executive Engineer, TLMD-III Division, JKPTCL Udhampur.

1. Bidders are advised to study the Bidding Document carefully. Submission of e-Bid against this SBD shall be deemed to have been done after careful/conscious study and examination of the procedures, terms and conditions of the Standard Bidding Document with full understanding of its implications.

2. The tender document is available at website <http://jktenders.gov.in>. Interested Bidders may view, download the e-Bid document, seek clarification and submit their e-Bid online up to the date and time mentioned in the table below:

A	Tender Document Sale/Download Start Date	05-12-2023: 03.00PM
B	e-Bid submission (start) date & time	05-12-2023: 03.00PM
C	e-Bid submission (end) date & time	26-12-2023; 4.30 PM.
D	Submission of Hard Copy of Tender Fee & EMD Instrument (End) date & time	26-12-2023; 4:30 PM.
E	Technical Bid opening date & time	27-12-2023; 2 PM.
G	Online financial e-Bid opening date & time (Only of the technically qualified Bidders)	Will be communicated to the Technically Qualifying Bidders.
H	Venue of opening of techno-commercial Bids	Office of the Executive Engineer, TLMD-III Division, JKPTCL Udhampur
I	Tender Value	1.00 lacs (One lac Only)
J	Cost of e-Bid document	Rs. 500.00 (Non-Refundable)
k	Amount of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Rs.2000.00 only

- The scanned copy of the Treasury Challan must be uploaded along with the e-Bids.
- Bidders must quote for all the particulars of the item in the Technical Bid and in the price schedule/BOQ of financial bid. The bids of Bidders who will not quote for all the particulars for any item in technical and financial bids shall be liable to be rejected at the discretion of the Employer keeping in view the interest of the JKPTCL.
- All the e-Bids must be accompanied by the scanned copy of EMD in the form of CDR/FDR/Bank Guarantee only from any Nationalized/Scheduled bank only pledged to Executive Engineer, TLMD-III JKPTCL Udhampur. No Interest shall be payable on Earnest Money deposited with the Department.

a. Hard Copy of original instrument of EMD shall be demanded from the successful bidder(s) after the opening of the financial e-Bids.

b. The date and time of opening of Financial-Bids shall be notified on Web Site <http://jktenders.gov.in>. This is conveyed to the technically qualified Bidder automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The Financial-bids shall be opened accordingly online on the same Web Site.

- The e-Bids will be electronically opened in the presence of Bidder's representatives, who choose to attend at the venue, date and time mentioned in the above table. An authority letter of Bidder's/OEM representative will be required to be produced.
- The JKPTCL reserves the right to cancel any or all the e-Bids/ the e-Bid process without assigning any reason thereof if any major lapse/deviation is found. The decision of the JKPTCL, will be final and binding.
- In the event of date specified for e-Bids opening being declared a holiday for JKPTCL office then the due date for opening of e-Bids shall be the following working day at the appointed time and place.
- All the required documents excluding Price Schedule/BOQ should be uploaded by the e-Bidders electronically in the PDF format, whereas Price Schedule/BOQ should be uploaded electronically in the same BOQ sheet provided with the SBD.
- To participate in e-bidding process, Bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' as per Information Technology Act-2000, to participate in online bidding.

Hard Copy of the Cost of Tender Document must be delivered to the Office of the Executive Engineer, TLMD-III Division, JKPTCL Udhampur in sealed cover. The sealed cover shall be super scribed as "COST OF TENDER DOCUMENTS AGAINST e-NIT NO: TLMD-III/UDH/25 OF 2023-24 DATED 05-12-2023"

DIP/J-4483-P/23

Date: 13-12-23

No:-TLMD-III/UDH/

-----sd-----

Executive Engineer, TLMD-III  
JKPTCL Udhampur

Dated: 05/12/2023



UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

## OFFICE THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) DIVISION UDHAMPUR

### SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER

e-NIT No. 163 of 2023-24 Dated 11.12.2023

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 each of the following works:-

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.	Construction of simple composting unit (organic waste unit) at Fruit and Vegetable Market Udhampur by way of providing and installation of composter Machine including Electrical works as per required specifications complete job.	19.65	600/-	@2% of advertised cost	90 Days	"B/C"	Horticulture

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	11-12-2023
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 12-12-2023 to 19-12-2023, 1800 Hrs
3	Date, Time and place of pre-bid meeting.	-
4	Bid submission Start Date	12-12-2023 from 900 Hrs
5	Bid Submission End Date	19-12-2023 up to 1800 Hrs
6	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	20-12-2023 on or after 1200 Hrs in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Udhampur.
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, Udhampur 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, Udhampur** 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](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The **Financial-bids of Responsive bidders** shall be opened online in the **Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Udhampur**. The date for same shall be intimated separately.

No:- \_\_\_\_\_

Dt:- 11.12.2023

Executive Engineer  
PWD (R&B) Division  
Udhampur

DIP/J-12534/23

Date: 13-12-23



## Škoda Auto India to hike prices by around 2% in 2024

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, DEC 13

Škoda Auto India has announced a price hike of around 2% across its range from January 1, 2024.

The hike will be effective on the entire range of Škoda Auto India vehicles -- the Kushaq SUV, the Slavia sedan and the Kodiaq luxury 4x4. The price correction is owing to rising supply, input and operational costs.

Škoda Auto India introduced the new Kushaq based on the all-new MQB-AO-IN platform specifically developed for India in July 2021. And the Slavia sedan in April 2022 based on the same platform. Both cars are now export-

ed to GCC and other right hand drive markets and are going to lead the company's entry into Vietnam in 2024. Both the Kushaq and Slavia have earned a full 5-stars for both adult and child occupants under Global NCAP's newer, stricter crash test protocols. With the Kodiaq having 5-stars for adults and children under Euro NCAP, Škoda Auto India have a 100% fleet of 5-star rated, crash-tested cars. The company has also expanded its network from 120 customer touch-points in 2021 to over 250 at the end of 2023. In line with its customer-centric approach, Škoda will continue to get closer to customers and offer its range of class-leading products.

## VBSY campaign advancing across Udhampur District



**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
UDHAMPUR, DECEMBER 13

The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra campaign is in full swing across Udhampur district, with enthusiastic participation from locals. The campaign traversed today across 11 Panchayat halqas viz Pattan Garh, Bain, Sansoo, Dhanori, Joffer, Lehair, Jib-A, Jandore-B, Rassian, Bilaspur, S.K Bair in different blocks as part of a nationwide initiative to inform and empower citizens about the Centre's flagship schemes.

During the outreach, various activities such as

Sankalp pledge ceremonies, sports events, awareness sessions by department officials, telecasting of the Prime Minister's message, screening of scheme-related movies, and cultural events were organized at all venues.

Experts from diverse departments and institutions, including Agriculture, RDD, Handloom, Animal Husbandry, NRLM, Horticulture and other allied departments, engaged in interactive sessions with locals, providing vital information on procedures to access government welfare schemes.

## Medi-cities, medical colleges are transforming J&K's health infrastructure: Suri

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, DEC 13

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) J&K Executive Member Raman Suri today said that enhanced healthcare facilities including new medical colleges, Medi-cities, and All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), sanctioned for Jammu and Kashmir speaks of the progressing face of progressing Bharat, especially Jammu and Kashmir. After this, the people of J&K will not have to travel distances to seek better healthcare facilities, which is a big achievement.

Raman Suri said that the Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare, Dr Bharati Pravin Pawar, while answering question of Rajya Sabha MP Gulam Ali Khatana in the Parliament, had shown a great picture of the developing healthcare facilities in Jammu and Kashmir. Establishment of five Medi-cities in J&K, seven medical colleges at Doda, Kathua, Rajouri, Anantnag, Baramulla, Handwara and Udhampur, and AIIMS, speak of the Union Government's priorities viz-a-viz Jammu and Kashmir.

Those who question Prime Minister Narendra Modi's achievements must know that the establishment of two All India Institutes of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), one at Vijaypur in Jammu and another at Awantipora in Kashmir, testify the gov-

ernment's resolve to provide people with better medical facilities, which in fact were denied to them for over 75 years.

Today, when AIIMS Vijaypur is almost functional and patients from Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Haryana, and Himachal Pradesh are seeking treatments here in Jammu, better road network that is connecting these states is also playing a major role in providing better medical facilities to the people. In addition, trauma care facilities have been approved for four hospitals including that for Anantnag, Ramban, Doda, Udhampur and Kupwara. This is the level of transformation that the Union Territory of J&K is experiencing.

The BJP leader said, five Medi-cities including two at Jammu, two at Pulwama and one at Srinagar, once operational, will add more facilities to J&K's infrastructure. Ever since BJP has taken over the reins of government at the Centre, Jammu and Kashmir has become its priority and beginning from roads, bridges, tunnels, railway lines to medical facilities besides safety and security of people, every possible step is being initiated by the government to transform J&K, which was gripped in militancy and false & frivolous campaigns of leaders, who were averse to development and prosperity of common people, Raman Suri added.

## Shiv Sena advised to stop harping on Art 370, pays tribute to martyrs of attack on Parliament

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, DEC 13

Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit, while reacting strongly to Dr. Farooq Abdullah's "go to hell" statement, said that Section 370 has become history but the needle of some politicians is still stuck on Section 370, which can prove to be a big hurdle in the path of opposition unity, it would be better to raise voice on public issues.

Talking to media at the party state office today, state chief Manish Sahni said that the decision of the Supreme Court has dealt a blow to the parties and leaders who earn their political mileage on Article 370. National Conference Chief, MP and former Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir Farooq Abdullah's statement of "go to hell" is the result of



this shock, although he has also clarified his statement after some time.

Sahni has advised those who continue to raise the slogan of Article 370 to leave their stubbornness and move ahead. Sahni said that Dr. Farooq Abdullah is the most senior leader active in the politics of Jammu and Kashmir, under his leadership all the opposition parties of Jammu and Kashmir are raising their voice on public issues with unity. We will have to move forward with the

demands of full statehood for Jammu and Kashmir, restoration of the democratic process and rights of the local people.

The youth of Jammu and Kashmir is becoming a victim of drug addiction, we are reaching the top on unemployment and inflation. On this occasion, President Women Wing Meenakshi Chhibber, General Secretary Vikas Bakshi, Vice President Sanjeev Kohli, President Kamgar Sena Raj Singh, Secretary Rajesh Handa, Mahindra Singh, Rajinder

Kumar were present.

Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit paid rich tributes to the brave soldiers who made supreme sacrifice in the terrorist attack on Parliament on 13 December 2001.

In a program organized at the party state office, party leaders and workers including state chief Manish Sahni paid tribute to the brave sons of the country.

Sahni said that the country's borders and identity are safe only because of the soldiers who have the courage to sacrifice for the country. The new generation should be prepared to serve the country by remembering such people. Salute to the martyrs who sacrificed their lives during the 2001 Parliament attack.. His service, bravery and sacrifice will always be remembered.

## DIG Dr. Sunil Gupta, IPS visits Reasi, conducts Formal Inspection for year 2021-22 of district Reasi



**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
REASI, DEC 13

DIG of Police DKR Range Dr. Sunil Gupta, IPS today on 13-12-2023 visited Reasi and conducted the Formal Inspection for the year 2021-22 of district Reasi. DIG of Police was received at DPO Reasi by SSP Reasi Sh. Amit Gupta and other officers where he conducted the inspection of records of various branches and was briefed about working of different units of DPO by concerned Incharge.

Thereafter, DIG visited District Police Lines Reasi where he was presented by The Guard Of Honour. During inspection, DIG

inspected different units in DPL including Kot, Stores, Barracks, Mess, Welfare Centre etc. The officer also inspected MT fleet of District Police Reasi at DPL. The officer interacted with the officers of District Police Reasi and reviewed their working and ascertained their requirements with respect to manpower, equipments and mobility. The officers who were also present during the inspection includes Master Popsy ASP Reasi, Sh. Neeraj Padyar DySP Hqrs. Reasi and Sh. Ajaz Ahmed DySP DAR Reasi

The overall functioning of district was found very good for the period under inspection.

## Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra VBSY reaches 101 Panchayats in Ramban District



**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
RAMBAN, DECEMBER 13

The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY), which was started on November 28, has covered 101 Panchayats of Ramban District.

The VBSY, a transformative initiative aimed at reaching the unreached and maximizing Government schemes' impact across the district, today unfurled across 4 Panchayats in block Batote of district under the aegis of Deputy Commissioner, Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary. The Yatra witnessed active participation from local residents. In an impressive display of enthusiasm and fervor. Youth, in particular, took centre stage, delivering stirring speeches on moral values and presenting captivating cultural programmes that added vibrancy and energy to the events.

The presence of community leaders further elevated the spirit of the event, encouraging active involvement in the journey towards the nation's advancement. As the Yatra made its mark across Dhalwas, Karma, Sana and Upper Sanasar of Batote Block, the residents outpoured a remarkable

response.

The officers of the line Departments underscored the importance of bringing government schemes closer to communities, igniting a spirit of development and reaching the unreached beneficiaries.

The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra aims to empower communities, foster unity, and encourage participation in initiatives that drive the country's development.

BDO, Batote, Kavita Bandhral and numerous other officers participated in the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra in different panchayats of block Batote.

The day's activities included playing a recorded message from the PM, showcasing a film on VBSY on IEC Vans which visited the Panchayats, Meri Kahani Meri Zubani, Viksit Bharat Sankalp pledges, free medical camps. The schemes which were promoted in mega event included, Ayushman Bharat, National Rural Livelihood Mission, PM Awas Yojana (Rural), PM Ujjwala Yojana, PM Vishwakarma, PM Kisan Saman Nidhi, Kisan Credit Card (KCC), PM Poshan Abhiyan, Jan Dhan Yojana, Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana, Jal Jeevan Mission and Atal Pension Yojana.

## Col Mahan visits Sialag Panchayat, reviews development works

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
BASOHILI, DECEMBER 13

In a commitment to grassroots development, Col Mahan Singh (Retd), DDC Chairman of Kathua, today visited the far-flung Sialag Panchayat in Bhoond Block and reviewed ongoing developmental projects.

BDO Bhoond Shalinder Kumar Pakhroo, Sarpanch Seema Devi, Pawan Bata-dia, Ex-Sarpanch Hans Raj, and other officials accompanied the DDC Chairman.

Col Mahan also reviewed the progress of projects undertaken under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes of the Modi Government, includ-



ing Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) for water supply, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) for housing, Pension Schemes for social security, and Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Yojana (PMKSNY) for farmer welfare. He also interacted with beneficiaries of these schemes to assess their impact and identify any challenges. Col Mahan actively

listened to the concerns raised by PRI representatives and residents. Issues related to road connectivity, drinking water supply, electrification, and improvement of school infrastructure were discussed at length.

The DDC Chairman assured the community of addressing the priorities with a focus on timely completion and quality

standards.

Col Mahan's visit demonstrated his commitment to inclusive development, ensuring that even the remotest corners of Kathua district benefit from government initiatives. He emphasized the importance of community participation in the development process, encouraging residents to actively contribute to shaping a brighter future for Sialag.

"It is crucial to understand the ground realities and aspirations of our people. By visiting remote areas like Sialag, we can ensure that development reaches everyone and address their specific needs," he added.

## New National Public HSS, Nowshera organizes its Annual Sports Day



**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
NOWSHERA, DEC 13

Today New National public Higher Secondary School, Nowshera organized its Annual Sports Day. The event took place in the spacious stadium of Nowshera. A temporary sitting arena was made for the teachers and students to sit and enjoy the day. Students of various classes participated in the sports day. The event started when the Chairman Prithvi Khokar and the Vice-chairman Anita Kohli of the school gave a green signal. The four houses of the school cheered for their respective members. After the green flag was flagged off, the students of the four different houses competed against each other in sports events like relay races, 100 metres race, volleyball, 200 metres race, 800 metres, 1600 metres race, shot put,

discus throw and many more. Kindergarten kids too participated in fun games like sack race, marble and spoon race, etc. A volleyball match of teachers and winner of volleyball match 12th class was also organised which teachers won easily. Apart from the non-participating students, the parents too cheered for their children. Points were given to the four houses depending on the performance of their representatives in the event. The event was managed by vice principal Deepak sharma with the cooperation of other staff members. The events of the day came to an end with the Principal declaring the Best Sports Man and Woman. In the end, the Principal thanked everyone for their presence and support, and congratulated the students for their exceptional performances.

## IGP Jammu Zone holds review meeting for crime, law & order in Jammu



**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, DECEMBER 13

Inspector General of Police, Jammu Zone, Shri Anand Jain, IPS reviewed the security and crime scenario and over-all functioning of District Jammu with all territorial SSSP all SDPOs and SHOs of Jammu district respectively. The disposal of cases registered during the current year and previous pendency was reviewed, discussed and instructions issued.

IGP Jammu Zone Shri, Shri Anand Jain, IPS was accompanied by DIG JKS Range Shri Shakti Pathak-IPS and received by SSP Jammu Dr. Vinod Kumar, IPS and his team of officers.

Later, threadbare discussion was held in a meeting regarding disposal of pending crime cases.

While elaborating, it was mentioned that maintenance of law & order, prevention of crime, speedy investigation and disposal of cases, adequate attention to public grievances on day-to-day basis, special attention to public importance cases, strengthening Police-Public rapport are of utmost importance. The steps taken on the counter insurgency front for better security and law and order.

IGP Jammu reviewed the crime, anti-terrorist operation; the general security scenario of Jammu district was discussed necessary steps to be taken to control the crime rate.

The main focus of the meeting was to improve the quality of investigation of theft, burglary, NDPS Act and other cases.

Besides, inquest proceedings, arrest of absconders and action taken under preventive measures were also reviewed.

With regard to the UAPA cases, the IGP stressed for improving the quality and techniques of investigation to ensure the conviction in UAPA cases. He directed for designating nodal officers who would be following the required process of UAPA cases to ensure that cases are submitted for judicial determination within prescribed period.

IGP while briefing the officers advised them for finalization of the pending cases/public complaints to give relief to the general public and directed I/Os for speedy disposal of cases assigned to them for conducting the investigation.

IGP Jammu stressed upon the officers and officials to work professionally in the field of investigation and other aspects of policing.

He also stressed upon the officers not to compromise with the quality of investigation and directed the officers to have effective supervision of the matters dealt by police in their jurisdiction. He stressed upon the officers to speed up the investigation of all the pending cases and reduce pendency.

The SSP Jammu Shri Vinod Gupta, IPS gave an elaborate Power Point Presentation on the prevalent security scenario of their district and overall position of the crime and its disposal. Besides, IGP Jammu was briefed about the arrangements made for enhancing the security, law and order arrangements.



# DDC Jammu chairs Block Diwas at Gurha Brahmana

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DECEMBER 13

The weekly Block Diwas public outreach programme was today held at Gurha Brahmana panchayat in Akhnoor block where the residents raised their issues and sought redressal of their grievances.

District Development Commissioner, Sachin Kumar Vaishya, accompanied by DDC Member Akhnoor, Sharda Bhau and district officers, the DDC gave a patient hearing to the concerns raised by Sarpanchs, Panches and the locals in the Community Hall Gurha Brahmana (East).

Topping the agenda were projects of Jal Jeevan Mission aimed to ensure improved and quality drinking water supply to the people. Improvement and blacktopping of pan-



chayat roads emerged as another key concern, highlighting connectivity issues.

Education, health, and power sectors also found their voice, with residents seeking solutions to specific problems. The DDC,

emphasising the importance of Block Diwas, pledged swift and appropriate action on all fronts.

Responding to the issues, the DDC assured time bound and quality redressal of the same. He assured the public of the

administration's proactive approach to improving their lives. He promised a swift and thorough evaluation of all grievances raised, prioritising those deemed feasible and meriting immediate attention.

He assured dedicated follow-up and swift resolution on other matters, leaving residents with a sense of hope and optimism.

Those present at the event included SDM Akhnoor, Chief Planning Officer, Uttam Singh and Block Development Officer, Rupinder Kaur besides other district officers.

Later, the DDC made a conducted inspection of Government Middle School Gurha Mandiala where he interacted with the students and found the performance of the school satisfactory.

# Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra empowers public in Khour block

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DECEMBER 13

The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra swept through Khour block in Jammu district today, leaving a trail of information and empowerment in its wake. The Yatra connected directly with the public, raising awareness about various government schemes.

The journey began at Government Middle School Pahariwala, then it moved to Government High School Narayana Lower Panchayat. The ambience reverberated with the Prime Minister's message, highlighting achievements of developing programs in Pahariwala and Lower Narayana.

SDM Khour, Anil Kumar Thakur, and departmental heads from various departments set up informative stalls brimming with pamphlets, posters, and



exhibits. The focus was on empowering the public, particularly women and Self-Help Groups (SHGs) organised by BDO Khour and NRLM. The people appreciated the district administration for bringing this valuable program to their doorsteps.

Students of GMS Pahariwala added a vibrant touch with cultural performances. Their songs and dances resonated with the message of maintain-

ing clean and green villages under the Swachh Bharat Mission and other key initiatives. The role of teachers in fostering these values was commended.

Sectoral officers shed light on various government schemes, including MGNREGA, 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.

To facilitate immediate action, stalls were set up for on-spot registration under PM Vishwakarma and other online services. J&K Bank Manager Khour, Sarpanchs and Panches, and Ex-MLA Dr. Krishan Lal also participated, adding their voices to the call for empowerment.

# VBSY Van spreads PM's message, empowers public in Miran Sahib Block

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DECEMBER 13

As part of the ongoing Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, a special van reached Kharian Panchayat in Miran Sahib block today, bringing a wave of information and inspiration. The van was warmly welcomed by the Swagat Committee, PRIs of the Panchayat, DDC member, Vidya Motan, BDO S Gurjeet Singh, and other officials.

The highlight of the event was a video message from the Prime Minister, urging citizens to pledge their commitment to the nation's progress and prosperity. The audience enthusiastically took the Sankalp, expressing their dedication to this cause. Following the welcome,



students of GHS Brij Nagar showcased their talent and enthusiasm through vibrant songs, dances, sports events, and skits. This cultural performance resonated with the audience, who appreciated the young artists with enthusiastic applause.

Adding to the event's impact, a health camp

organized by the health department offered free screening for TB and non-communicable diseases. Ayushman Bharat cards were also distributed among eligible beneficiaries, further strengthening healthcare access.

Representatives from various government departments had put up stalls to inform the

public about various welfare schemes and programs. Pamphlets and brochures were distributed, and officials readily answered public queries and addressed concerns.

The event also showcased the benefits of the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, enabling the public to avail free healthcare services.

# Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra IEC Van Hits 06 more Panchayats in District Kishtwar

JINNEWS SERVICE  
KISHTWAR, DECEMBER 13

The 3 number of Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra IEC Van today transversed its journey through 06 more Panchayats including BT I and BT II of block Kishtwar, Kuchal C and Horna of Block Mughal Maidan, Bhagna B and Bhagna C of Block Nagseni of district Kishtwar.

Witnessing an overwhelming community response throughout the Yatra underscored its significance as the Yatra received invaluable support from PRIs, including DDC and BDC members, Sarpanchs, Panches, Block Level officers, and other field functionaries, contributing significantly to its smooth execution. Central to the Yatra's success was the IEC Vans, disseminating the Prime Minister's message on Centrally Sponsored Schemes and their effective implementation. 'Meri Kahani Meri Zubani' provided a platform for beneficiaries to share their experiences, enriching the Yatra's essence.

A total of 40 events were conducted, and a number of 46 rural schemes were made to the public, with Sankalp taking part by



2683 individuals besides cultural events held under "Dharti Kahe Pukar Ke component".

The Health camps at 06 panchayats conducted during the Yatra catered to the community's health needs at their doorstep, screening 169 individuals for TB, 66 for Sickle Cell, and conducting NCD screenings of 263 participants.

Yatra facilitated the seamless saturation of various schemes including Ayushman Bharat Scheme, Jan Dhan, ODF, Digitisation of land Records, PM Kissan were saturated during the Yatra. Also a total of 35

Ayushman golden Cards were distributed among beneficiaries, 15 KCC cards distributed were among farmers, 25 beneficiaries were enrolled under PM Ujjwala scheme.

Pertinently, the Yatra aims to reach out to the unreached population, making them aware of various Government schemes such as Jal Jeevan Mission, Ayushman Bharat Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, Jan Dhan Yojana, PM Awas Yojana, PM Kisan Saman Yojana, Jeevan Joti Bima Yojana, along with the process to avail benefits.

# DSEJ mourns demise of best teacher award recipient Harpreet Singh

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DECEMBER 13

Director School Education Jammu, Ashok Sharma, has condoled the sad and untimely demise of Harpreet Singh who was serving as a teacher at High School Langate, District Kathua.

In his condolence message, Ashok Sharma described Late Harpreet Singh as an asset to the department who worked selflessly for the betterment of students and in the year 2022 he was awarded the best teacher award for his contributions as an educator. The staff and students of High school Langate will remember him for his dedication and helping attitude, he added.

While offering heartfelt sympathies and condolences, Mr Ashok Sharma prayed for the peace to the departed soul and patience for the near and dear ones to bear the irreparable loss.

# Women learn fruit and vegetable processing skills in Khour

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DECEMBER 13

A three-day training program on fruit and vegetable processing, organized by the department of horticulture in collaboration with NRLM UMEED, concluded today at Panchayat Taroti. The program was aimed at imparting skills and knowledge to local women on making value-added products from fruits and vegetables, such as pickles, jams and squash.

The concluding function was presided over by SDM Khour, Anil Kumar Thakur, who appreciated the efforts of the department and NRLM team. He said that the program was designed to foster entrepreneurship and self-reliance among the participants, who could use their skills to generate income and livelihood opportunities. He also emphasized the importance of such initiatives in empowering women and making them contributing members of society. The program was



attended by Chief Horticulture Officer Ashwani Sharma, Tehsildar Khour Monika Sharma, District Horticulture SMS Sandeep Gupta, HDO Khour Amit Saraf, Manager NRLM Namneet Kour, Sarpanch Taroti, Panches and others.

Over 150 local women participated in the program and learned the procedures for making various products from fruits and vegetables. The experts of the horticulture department shared the technology and methods for preparation, as well

as the benefits of subsidy up to 60% in installation of processing units under the supervision of horticulture officers. Manager NRLM played a key role in organizing the SHGs and local women to seek benefits of the schemes.

The participants expressed their gratitude to the organizers and the trainers for providing them with this opportunity. They said that they were eager to apply their skills and knowledge in their homes and markets. They also requested for more such programs in

the future to enhance their capacities and competencies.

Sarpanch Panchayat Taroti said that the program was a significant step towards empowering women through skill development and fostering entrepreneurship in the domain of fruit and vegetable processing. He thanked the department and NRLM for their support and cooperation. He also urged the participants to make the best use of their skills and products and to spread awareness among others.

# DC launches fourth Reading Hub-Library at Block Bunjwah

JINNEWS SERVICE  
KISHTWAR, DECEMBER 13

Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar, Dr Devansh Yadav today launched the Reading Hub-Library at Higher Secondary School Binoon, Block Bunjwah, in a momentous event attended by BDC Chairman Bunjwah Maryam Begum, DDC member Bunjwah Amena Banoo, CEO Prehlad Bhagat, EE PWD Kishtwar, along with other officers, officials, the Principal of the school and enthusiastic locals and students.

With today's launch - 4 Reading hubs have been completed in Kishtwar, Padder, Chatroo and Bounjwah.

Network of reading hubs serving as libraries, career counselling centers and a hub of activities under Mission youth will provide impetus to youths for taking their career to new heights.

The newly inaugurated



Reading Hub-Library has been developed under Untied Fund of DC Office Kishtwar and is equipped with digital and online resources, providing free access to students and exam aspirants.

Each center will have a digital library, 24x7 reading amenities, a database of BYJUs online resources and all major competitive exam books in all corners of the district.

Furthermore, these Reading Hub-Libraries

will function as Career Counseling and Guidance Centers for students. They will facilitate coordinated sessions conducted by the School Education Department and other stakeholders, ensuring proper guidance and counseling for students.

During his address, DC Kishtwar expressed the commitment to establish more such Reading Hubs in the days ahead. He emphasized the con-

tinuous efforts to bolster reading facilities and enhance competitive exam preparation in remote areas, aiming to facilitate underprivileged students aspiring for mainstream education and competitive examinations. This initiative aligns with the goal of providing equal opportunities for quality education and fostering an environment conducive to learning, especially in underserved regions.