



# JINDRAH IMAGES

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## Confident army will wipe out Terrorism, must avoid 'mistakes': Rajnath Singh in Jammu

J I NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DEC 27

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Wednesday said he had full faith in the Indian Army that it will wipe out terrorism from Jammu and Kashmir, even as he urged the troops to not make any such "mistakes" that may hurt the citizens of the country.

It is the responsibility of the troops to win the hearts of the people while performing their duty towards the security of the nation, said Singh, who arrived in Jammu and Kashmir earlier in the day to review the security situation.

Singh is on a day-long visit to Rajouri and Jammu following a terrorist ambush in Poonch.

The minister's statement comes amid the outrage that sparked in the wake of three civilians being found dead in Poonch district on December 22 allegedly after they



were picked up by the security forces for questioning in connection with an ambush on two army vehicles that had left four soldiers dead a day earlier.

The defence minister, accompanied by Army chief General Manoj Pande and Lt Governor Manoj Sinha, flew to Rajouri district soon after his arrival in Jammu to review the security situation, especially in the twin border districts of Rajouri and Poonch where

terror attacks and infiltration attempts from across the Line of Control (LoC) have witnessed a spike this year.

Addressing the troops at a military garrison in Rajouri, the defence minister lauded the troops for their bravery.

"I believe in your bravery and steadfastness ... Terrorism should be finished from Jammu and Kashmir and you need to move forward with

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## Defence Minister Rajnath Singh meets families of three slain civilians, assures justice



J I NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DEC 27

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Wednesday assured justice to the families of three civilians who were found dead last week after being allegedly picked up by the Army following an ambush on two of Army vehicles in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district.

Singh, accompanied by Army chief General Manoj Pande and Lt Governor Manoj Sinha, reached Rajouri district this afternoon, where he met the families of the deceased and also visited the

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## AC gives amnesty to settle tax arrears of pre GST regime



J I NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DEC 27

The Administrative Council (AC) which met here under the chairmanship of the Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha approved a proposal of the Finance

Department for granting amnesty for settlement of Tax arrears pertaining to pre GST regime.

Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to the Lieutenant Governor; Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Princi-

pal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor attended the meeting.

This step is going to provide relief to the tax payers in the form of waiver of interest and penalty besides

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## Govt bans Masarat Alam faction of Muslim league Jammu Kashmir

J I NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, DEC 27

A faction of Muslim League Jammu Kashmir, led by separatist leader Masarat Alam Bhat, was on Wednesday declared a banned organisation by the government under the stringent anti-terror law.

The ban comes as a response to the outfit's involvement in anti-national and secessionist activities in Jammu and Kashmir, with the intent to create a reign of terror in the country, the Union Home Ministry said.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah, while announcing the ban under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, empha-



sised that the Modi government's message is clear that those who act against the unity, sovereignty, and integrity of the nation will face the full wrath of the law and will not be spared.

"The Muslim League Jammu Kashmir (Masarat Alam faction) is declared as an 'Unlawful Associa-

tion' under UAPA. This organisation and its members are involved in anti-national and secessionist activities in J&K, supporting terrorist activities, and inciting people to establish Islamic rule in J&K," Shah said in a post on 'X'.

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## Govt directs digital platforms not to carry Ads of fraudulent loan apps

J I NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, DEC 27

The government has directed social media and online platforms to ensure that they do not host advertisements of fraudulent loan apps, Union Minister Rajeev Chandrasekhar said on Wednesday.

Mr. Chandrasekhar said the IT ministry has made it clear to the platforms that they cannot carry advertisements of fraudulent loan apps as those are misleading and exploit people using the internet.

"One of the areas we are now cracking

down on is advertising of fraudulent loan apps that many platforms are carrying and we have, through yesterday's advisory, made it clear that no intermediary can carry advertisements of fraudulent loan apps because it will be misleading and exploits people who are using the internet," the Minister of State for Electronics and IT said on the sidelines of an event.

Jurisprudence and government approach on safe and trusted internet is evolving, he said adding that IT rules clearly specify 11 areas of prohibited content.

## Govt working to make cooperative strong part of rural life: PM Modi

J I NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, DEC 27

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said his government is working to make cooperatives a strong part of rural life, asserting that they are being scaled up massively in sectors like agriculture and fisheries after making a mark in fields such as dairy and sugar production.

In an interaction with beneficiaries of the ongoing 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra', he said the change in the lives of crores of beneficiaries of his govern-



ment's welfare schemes in the last 10 years has been a story of courage, satisfaction and dreams.

Modi said it has been a great source of satisfaction for him to see the self-confidence of people when he

interacts with them. During the yatra, he said one crore people have been given 'Ayushman' card, a health insurance scheme run by the government for the poor,

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## Poonch Ambush | Security forces initiate fresh searches along IB, LOC



J I NEWS SERVICE  
POONCH/JAMMU, DEC 27

Fresh searches were launched along the border with Pakistan in Samba and Poonch even as cordon and search operations continued for the seventh straight day on Wednesday to track the terrorists involved in last week's ambush that killed four soldiers in Jammu and Kashmir, officials said.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has flown to Rajouri to visit ground zero on Wednesday along with Lieutenant Governor

Manoj Sinha and Army chief Manoj Pande to review the security situation following the terror attack.

"Security forces are continuing the cordon and search operation to track down the terrorists involved in the ambush on Army vehicles," a senior official said.

The operation includes sniffer dogs, surveillance equipment and aerial mechanisms. Additional forces have been deployed to plug seven infiltration routes amid area domination operations

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## Kshitij 2024: Unveiling the Future of Techno-Management Excellence

J I NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DEC 27

Kshitij is Asia's largest Techno-management symposium organized by the students of IIT Kharagpur. Since its inception in 2004, it has continued to grow, nurturing the core principles of science and technology and inspiring young minds from various parts of India to showcase their excellence in both scientific and managerial spheres. Time draws near as the curtains for Kshitij 2024 are all set to open from January 19th to 21st, 2024.

Get a glimpse of the exciting events that happen at Kshitij on our official website: www.ktj.in Embracing our motto "Think || Create || Enjoy," Kshitij 2023 featured guest lectures by Ex-ISRO chairman Dr. K Radhakrishnan, Founder of Skyroot aerospace Mr. Pawan Kumar Chandana and Mr. Ashneer Grover,



exhibitions by Tech-Mahindra and ISRO, and free workshops by prominent companies such as Microsoft, Google and Groww. The 20th edition drew over 60,000 participants with a total prize pool of Rs. 45 lakhs. Numerous competitions

like Robowars, Sandrover, India Innovates, Source Code etc. covering several domains were conducted. Gamefest showcased esports clashes with a prize pool of Rs. 80,000. The event also featured electrifying EDM and mega per-

formances by Vanmoon, Swattrex, Aseem Sharma, and Shilpa Rao.

The next edition of Kshitij is all set to happen from 19th to 21st January 2024. Get ready for an exhilarating exhibition of creativity, talent and competitive atmosphere.

## Suspicious object detected, destroyed on Srinagar-Baramulla road in J&K



J I NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, DEC 27

Security forces averted a major tragedy on Wednesday with the timely detection of an improvised explosive device (IED) planted by terrorists along the Srinagar-Baramulla highway in Jammu and Kashmir, officials said.

Traffic on Srinagar-Baramulla road was suspended temporarily

after a gas cylinder was detected by the roadside at Lawaypora on the busy highway during routine patrolling by security forces in the morning, they said.

A bomb disposal squad was rushed to the spot which destroyed the suspected IED through a controlled explosion without causing any damage, they said.

The traffic has been restored on the road.

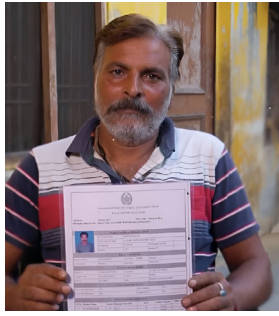
## VBSY unmask Poonam Singh's extraordinary triumph breaking the chains of poverty with PMGKAY

J1NEWS SERVICE  
KATHUA, DECEMBER 27

Poonam Singh, an auto driver from Village Chak Sona Nupa in Kathua experienced firsthand hardships brought upon her by the COVID-19 pandemic. However, his life took a remarkable turn when he found solace and support through the PMGKAY scheme initiated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Poonam Singh's story showcases how this unique initiative brought hope and stability to his life, proving the transformative power of government welfare programs.

Living in Chak Sona Nupa, Poonam Singh, like many auto drivers, relied heavily on his daily earnings to support his family and meet their basic needs. However, the sudden outbreak of the pandemic left him with very few passengers on the streets, jeopardizing his abil-



ity to make ends meet. The dearth of income made it increasingly challenging for Poonam Singh to provide for his family, and they faced tremendous uncertainty and hardships.

During the ongoing Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, Poonam Singh's story came to light. He seized the opportunity to express his gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the government for the PMGKAY scheme. This scheme, aptly named PM Gareeb Kalyan Anna Yojana, acted as a lifeline for Poonam Singh and numerous families across

India by ensuring access to essential food supplies during the pandemic.

Amidst his heartfelt testimonial, Poonam Singh eagerly narrated how PMGKAY had transformed his life. With no other source of income, the financial burden became increasingly difficult to bear. However, the free ration received through the scheme provided him with much-needed relief and stability.

Expressing his gratitude, Poonam Singh acknowledged that he never anticipated such extensive support from the government. The PMGKAY scheme not only diminished the worries of daily food expenses but also allowed him to redirect some of his limited funds towards other critical needs of his family.

Poonam Singh's story serves as an inspiration to countless others who have found respite through the PMGKAY initiative. PMGKAY

not only provided free food grains to the vulnerable sections of society but also instilled a renewed sense of hope and resilience in those who were pushed to the brink. The scheme stands as a testament to the government's unwavering commitment towards the welfare of its citizens, especially during challenging times.

Poonam Singh's success story exemplifies the transformative impact of the PMGKAY scheme on the lives of individuals like him. Through the provision of free ration, the initiative not only alleviated the immediate burden of securing sustenance but also empowered countless families to rebuild their lives, one meal at a time.

Poonam Singh's heartfelt gratitude towards Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the government signifies the deep-rooted impact of thoughtful welfare programs.

## DDC releases 02 reports of evaluation studies on PMAY-U and NSAP in Udhampur

J1NEWS SERVICE  
UDHAMPUR, DECEMBER 27

District Development Commissioner, Udhampur Saloni Rai today released 02 reports of Evaluation Studies on Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana - Urban (PMAY-U) and National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) being implemented by Housing & Urban Development Department and Social Welfare Department respectively, in her office chamber.

While briefing the media persons, the DDC stated that conducting of evaluation studies of the developmental scheme/programs/projects which are being implemented by the different department is of immense importance to access the process and strategy adopted to achieve the objectives of various schemes as per



guidelines. The planning Development & Monitoring Department J&K has entrusted the District Statistics & Evaluation offices at district level to conduct evaluation studies of the projects/schemes identified by the District Development Commissioner (Chairman, District Level Technical Committee on Evaluation). Further, she emphasized that evaluation studies play a pivotal role in the analysis of physical financial status, impact of the scheme and identification of the prob-

lems/bottlenecks being faced by the implementing agency and their remedial measures.

District Statistics & Evaluation Officer, Udhampur informed about the findings & observations and problems faced by the beneficiaries for attaining the benefits of both the schemes.

While releasing the Evaluation studies, the DDC appreciated the efforts of DSEO Udhampur and his staff associated with the conduct of these studies and expressed

that these studies will be useful to the implementing agencies, planners, policy makers, researchers and academicians for their future endeavors.

Among others, Additional District Development Commissioner, Ghan Sham Singh, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Joginder Singh Jasrotia, District Statistics & Evaluation Officer, Darshan Kumar and concerned staff members of DSEO Office, Udhampur were present in the release ceremony.

## Bhaderwah Embraces Winter Magic: Launch of the Enchanting Five-Day Vibrant Bhaderwah Festival at the historic Bhaderwah Fort

J1NEWS SERVICE  
BHADERWAH, DECEMBER 27

The 5-day Vibrant Bhaderwah Winter Festival commenced at the historic Bhaderwah Fort, drawing locals and tourists to immerse themselves in the district's cultural richness and natural beauty. The festival amalgamated with the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra and Public Darbar initiative launched by the UT Administration in District Doda which was also witnessed by Commissioner Secretary GAD, Sanjeev Verma.

Artists from Art, Culture, and Languages, along with the Natrang group Jammu, captivated the audience with performances, including local folk dances like Dikku, Saraji Kudd, and more. Display stalls featuring centrally sponsored schemes, SHGs, FPOs and diverse local cuisines added fur-

ther to the attraction.

The festival's allure was heightened by flying a hot air balloon and a specially installed modern day Air-conditioned cineplex launched today for the entire 5 day festival at the open area near Bus Stand. Tourists and local people thronged these attractions on the sidelines of the festival. Further, the Bhaderwah Fort has been illuminated with colourful lights which enhanced the picturesque ambience of the festival.

Commissioner Secretary GAD Sanjeev Verma, in his address, commended the Tourism Department, District Administration Doda, JKAACL and BDA for organizing impactful promotional events to uncover the natural and cultural diversity of Doda. He emphasized the potential of promoting homestays in the District for rural tourism and sus-



tainable livelihood.

DDC Chairman, Dhantnar Singh Kotwal in his address thanked Tourism Department for organis-

ing Bhaderwah Festival and promoting rich blend of diverse culture and accentuating Bhaderwah's appeal as a vibrant tour-

ist destination. He commended the collaborative efforts that showcase the region's rich heritage and potential.

Deputy Commissioner Doda, Harvinder Singh stated that various activities featuring diverse range of cultural, musical, literature and adventurous activities, including performances by celebrity singers, will undeniably elevate Doda district into an ideal tourist destination. He extended gratitude to the Tourism Department for organising the festival at such a mega level.

DDC Vice Chairperson Doda, Sangeeta Rani, SSP Doda, Abdul Qayoom, ADDC Doda, Pran Singh, CEO BDA Bhaderwah Bal Krishan, ADC Bhaderwah, Chowdhary Dil Mir, ADC Doda Dr. R. K. Bharti, Deputy Director Tourism Abdul Jabbar, Addl SP Bhaderwah, Vinod Sharma and other officers/officers of the Tourism Department and District Administration were present on the occasion.

## Awareness Programme on improving Gender Diversity held at GCW Udhampur

J1NEWS SERVICE  
UDHAMPUR, DECEMBER 27

Career Counselling and Guidance Cell Govt. College For Women in Collaboration with Human Resource Management Department and Reserve Bank of India organised a One Day Awareness programme for Improving Gender Diversity in Banking Sector especially RBI under Viksit Bharat program.

A large number of students and faculty members of GCW Udhampur participated in the event. The programme was inaugurated by Prof. Anjali Mahajan, Principal GCW Udhampur in presence of Dr. Ravinder Kumar, Convener Career Counselling and Guidance Cell, Rohit Rawat, Assistant Manager RBI Jammu, Zeenat Chugh, Assistant Manager

RBI Jammu, members of career counselling and guidance cell and other faculty members.

Rohit Rawat and Zeenat Chugh were the main speakers at the occasion.

Prof. Anjali Mahajan Principal GCW Udhampur in her message appreciated and applauded the efforts of career counselling cell for organising such type of programmes to aware students about career options and facilitating environment especially for women.

The programme started with the welcome address by Dr. Ravinder Kumar in which he briefed about the working of the Career Counselling Committee of GCW Udhampur as well as the need for organising such kind of programmes in the college.

## GDC Marh organised Two day's workshop on Mental Health and Psychosocial well being

J1NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DECEMBER 27

Under the initiative Manodarpan, Psychological Counselling Cell, GDC Marh organised two days workshop on Mental Health and Psychosocial well being in the college for students and faculty under the guidance Principal Prof. (Dr.) Rakesh Kumar Koul.

While speaking on the occasion, the Principal stressed that psychological well being and Mental Health Awareness is the need of the hour, it is the corner stone of our overall well-being, its significance cannot be overstated and hoped that students of the college will definitely come-up with their concerns got benefitted from the workshop.

On first day the resource person of the event was Dr Shabila Wani, Department of Psychology, GDC Billawar, discussed in detail about mental wellbeing which is very important to become fully functional human being. She also talked about factors of Psychological well being such as Secure Childhood, Emotional Health (EQ), Social Support System and



Socio-Economic status, Seasonal Affect Disorder (SAD). She highlighted the importance of connection with nature, kindness, gratitude and contentment and exhorted the students to spend time with nature.

On Second day Dr. Piyali Arora, Department of Psychology, GDC Udhampur was the resource person. She spoke about the signs of Psychological Disturbance among young Adults and ways to help. She gave a detailed power point presentation about challenges of college life such as career selection, academic load and parental expectations. She talked about mental health disorders, anxiety disorders such as social phobia, panic disorders and obsessive compulsive

disorders and explained that these should not be considered as stigma and encouraged the students to talk about them freely. She also discussed with the students about sensitive issue of Suicide and urged them to show interest and be supportive to the victim. Proceedings of the programme was conducted By Madhvi Parasher (HOD Botany) while Imitaz Shahid (HOD Zoology) presented the formal Vote Of Thanks. The programme was organised by Dr. Shakun Sharma (HOD Sociology) and coordinated by Anjana Chib (HOD EVS), Ram Dayal (HOD Maths), Dr. Balwinder Saini (HOD Chemistry), Dr. Sheetal Sharma (HOD Dogri) and Ravi Kumar (PTI) were also present in the workshop.

## Power shutdown

J1NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DECEMBER 27

Chief Engineer (Distribution) JPDC, Jammu has informed that the power supply to Ratnuchak, Birpur, Sainik Colony, MES and adjoining areas will remain affected on December 28 from 11 am to 2 pm.

Meanwhile, Superintending Engineer (Distribution) JPDC, O&M Circle Kathua has informed that the power supply to Vijaypur-III and adjoining areas will remain affected on December 28 and 30 from 10 am to 3 pm.

Similarly, the power supply to Smailpur and adjoining areas will remain affected on December 29 from 10 am to 2 pm.

Likewise, the power supply to Badhori and adjoining areas will remain affected on December 28 and 30 from 10 am to 2 pm.

Similarly, the power supply to Sarore, Sarore Adda, Bari Brahmana and its adjoining areas will remain affected on December 28 from 9 am to 2 pm.

Likewise, the power supply to VP-1, VP-3, Koulpur, Bandral and adjoining areas will remain affected on December 28 and 29 from 9 am to 1 pm.

## District-level NARCO Coordination Committee meeting held at Ganderbal



J1NEWS SERVICE  
GANDERBAL, DECEMBER 27

In order to review the measures taken by the enforcement agencies to curb the drug abuse and narcotic trafficking in the district, 18th District-level NARCO Coordination Committee (NCORD) meeting was held at the mini-secretariat, Ganderbal. The meeting was chaired by Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shyambir.

During the meeting, detailed discussion was held on the directions issued in previous NCORD meeting to curb the drug menace in the district.

The meeting also discussed the steps taken by concerned departments and agencies for making district Ganderbal drug free. Various issues per-

taining to incidence of drug addiction, areas of concern and hotspots of drug use were discussed threadbare.

The DC sought details about erecting banners/flex sign boards on the Panchayat Ghars/patwar khans which have been declared as Nasha Mukta Panchayats. District Social Welfare Officer and Excise Inspector were directed to ensure that the banners are erected on identified locations and keep a close liaison with the Panchayat members so that the said Panchayats remain Nasha Mukta.

The Rural Development Department was directed to share a standing schedule regarding the activities to be conducted in Panchayats and were directed to keep a close coordination with the Panchayat

representatives for monitoring continuous progress and ensuring that the declared Nasha Mukta Panchayats remain drug free.

Similarly, Executive Officer Municipal Council Ganderbal was directed to share the schedule of activities to be carried in the municipal wards of the district.

Furthermore, all stakeholder departments were directed to monitor any new drug addiction case in Nasha Mukta Panchayats declared so far and all the departments would ensure submission of action taken report about the respective parameters.

SSP Ganderbal stressed on the sustainability of the Nasha Mukta Status of already announced Panchayats.

Special emphasis was

laid on the involvement of PRI functionaries in ongoing activities under Nasha Mukta Panchayat Abhiyan so that remaining Panchayats are also declared Nasha Mukta at an earliest.

The meeting also reviewed the status of installation of CCTV cameras and computerized billing by retail medical shops in the district.

Assistant Drug Controller was directed to ensure 100 percent medical shops have CCTV cameras installed besides all shops shall switch to computerized billing.

Among others the meeting was attended by SSP Ganderbal, Nikhil Borkar, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Gulzar Ahmad, CMO, Tehsildar, Assistant Drug Controller Ganderbal and other concerned officials.

## Road show and Millet Mela held at Reasi to encourage production and consumption of millets

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
REASI, DECEMBER 27

Road show/Millet Mela was held today here at Duggar Dhani, Kheral Reasi. The event was organised in connection with "observance of International Years of Millets" to explore the potential of millets in transforming the agricultural scenario.

Such Melas are organized with aim for creating increased awareness about millets, promoting the agro based products from India on a global scale. The event was formally inaugurated by ADDC Reasi, Jyoti Slathia in presence of Chief Agriculture Officer, Reasi, Harbans Singh, District Agriculture Officer (Extension) Dharmari, Rajesh Verma, SMS-DL, Raghuvir Kochhar, District Coordinator JKNRLM, Jugal besides Sarpanch, Kheral, Noor



Fatima. The event included a road show campaign on the millets promotion and an exhibition. On the occasion chief guest inspected the various stalls displaying agriculture and allied activities.

ADD C Reasi requested all participants to join hands to promote and create awareness about millets leading to increased consumption and cultivation benefitting the farmers.

In his inaugural address, CAO Reasi reaffirmed the resolve of agriculture department to increase awareness regarding millet consumption. He urged everyone present on the occasion to promote millet consumption as it is chemical free and a healthier alternatives.

DAO Dharmari in his address made a reference to the age old healthy practice of using millets in their diet and having a

healthy lifestyle. He said that Govt. of India is now focusing on re-introducing health supplements including millets for promoting a healthy lifestyle among the masses.

The farmers evinced keen interest in the Millet Mela-cum-Exhibition and was a day filled with learning and interaction bringing farmers, woman self help groups and department together at one forum.

## Monthly NCORD meeting held at Kulgam

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
KULGAM, DECEMBER 27

A District Level meeting of Narco Coordination Centre (NCORD) was today held under the chairmanship of the Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Kulgam, Viqar Ahmed Giri to discuss various measures aimed to curb the drug abuse and narcotic trade in the district.

Reviewing the action against the drug menace, ADC asked officers of all line departments to make coordinated efforts to contain the drug peddling and break the supply chain besides take stringent action against the persons involved in this dangerous trade.

During the meeting, threadbare discussion was also held on various issues related to penal action against drug peddlers including registration of FIR, arrests of peddlers and other stringent



measures. The chair was informed that multiple activities ranging from penal action to generation of awareness and massive poppy destruction drives were carried out across the district during the year. Police authorities informed the chair that during the current month, 07 Drug Peddlers have been arrested and 07 FIRs have been lodged and 22 KG Poppy Straw, 400 Gram Charas have also been recovered.

Earlier, the ADC said that drug abuse is a serious problem that not only affects individuals, but also families and com-

munities. He stated that it is essential to tackle the issue from multiple perspectives, including deterrence, treatment and enforcement.

On the occasion, the ADC stressed upon the Officers of all the line departments including Enforcement agencies to ensure better coordination in imposing greater deterrence to combat dangerous trade of drug-trafficking.

The meeting was attended by SDM-Noorabad Bashir Ul Hassan, SP, G.M Bhat, CEO Kulgam and other district officers and officials.

## Social Welfare Department Shopian celebrates Veer Bal Diwas at Palaash Pinjoora

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
SHOPIAN, DECEMBER 27

Social Welfare Department Shopian today celebrated Veer Bal Diwas at Palaash Pinjoora

Children from both the Child Care institutions (Pareesha and Palaash) took part in various competitions viz. Drawing, Debate and Singing.

The winners of these competitions were provided with mementos and certificates.

The children meticulously watched the Veer Bal Diwas message of our Hon'ble PM

The programme was attended by TSWO, WWO, Superintendent Palaash and Pareesha and other officials of the department.

## GDC Vijaypur creates Selfie Point



**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
SAMBA, DECEMBER 27

In view of various activities being organised under Viksit Bharat@2047, a selfie point was created in the college campus to carry out our Prime Minister's vision to actively involve the youth of the country in the formulation of national plans, primacies and goals for India.

'Viksit Bharat @2047:

Voice of Youth', is an initiative that provides a platform to the youth of the country to contribute ideas to the vision of making India developed and self reliant nation by 2047. Keeping in view the importance of the event, Faculty members and students including NSS volunteers took selfies with the banner of Viksit Bharat@2047 to show their interest towards development.

## 24th Rashtra Katha Shivir Yatra concludes in Jammu



**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, DECEMBER 27

The 24th Rashtra Katha Shivir Yatra Closing Ceremony was organized at 76 Bn CRPF. This 24th Rashtra Katha Shivir Yatra has been organized and conducted successfully under Civic Action programme by CRPF under able guidance and supervision of Sandeep Khirwar, IPS, IG, Jammu Sector and Ashok Shamyal, DIG Jammu Sector.

T. H. Khan, Commandant 76 Bn was present as the chief guest. 38, 72, 76 and 160 battalions of CRPF Jammu Sector sent 100 children from their area of responsibility in Jammu for this Yatra.

Pertinently, Shri Vedic Mission Trust organized the 24th Rashtra Katha Camp at Rajkot Gujarat from 17/12/2023 to 24/12/2023 in which 25 students & one teacher each from Government

High School Greater Kailash Lower Chowdi Jammu, Government High School Kandoli Nagrota, Government Higher Secondary School Uttar Behani Samba, and Government High School Kalideh Sunderbani (Rajouri)

participated in the programme.

The programme started with the welcome speech by Praveen Kumar, Asst. Comdt. 76Bn who described the glorious history, various social & welfare activities undertaken by the CRPF.

T. H. Khan, Commandant 76 Bn addressed the children and briefed them regarding the importance of the camp for 'awakening national spirit, apprise the rich history and culture of India, sense of national integration, social harmony, overall personality development and the programs/ activities held in the camp. He said that during the Katha Shivir, national integration, cultural and personal development, patriotism, national security issues, Spirituality, disaster management, Cultural heritage of India was taught to students.

During the camp Indian Coast Guard, CRPF, RAF presented/showcased their weapons & equipments through exhibition, march-past and educated the students about various types of innovations and modern equipments & arms for national security.

## One Day 'Yuva Vani' Orientation Programme held in GDC Vijaypur, Ramgarh

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
SAMBA, DECEMBER 27

The Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of Government Degree College Vijaypur in collaboration with NSS Unit (Khidmat) of the college organised the programme 'Yuva Vani: One Day Orientation Programme as a Follow-Up of Kisan Sampark Abhiyaan under Viksit Bharat@2047. Officials from the Department of Agriculture district Samba acquaint the students and faculty of the college about holistic development of agriculture and the various schemes where students and general populace can earn a livelihood and create employment for the common populace.

The resource persons from the APD who spoke on the occasion were Dr. Yog Raj Sharma (JAEO Agriculture), Dr. Gulshan Sharma (JAEO Agriculture), Dr. Anil (VAS), Dr. Rakesh (Horticulture), Dr. J.P. Sumbria (Sheep Husbandry), Dushyant Singh (Employment Exchange) and Dr. Vishav Vir Singh (Agriculture).

They briefed the students about various agriculture operational schemes giving subsidies to the farmers. Dr. Rahul Dev (CAHO Samba) explained students about DAKSH KISAN Portal and briefed the students about the enrollment process. A progressive farmer Baldev Raj Singh also gave a motivational and encouraging speech to the students on opting farming as a profes-



sion.

Principal of the college Dr. (Prof.) Vandana Gupta along with senior faculty members Prof. Anita Jamwal and Prof. Anoop Kumar Bhagat, large number of students including staff members of the college participated in this one-day programme.

Similar program was organised by Government Degree College, Ramgarh in collaboration with District Administration, Samba to highlight Business opportunities for Youth under HADP (Holistic Agriculture Development Program).

The program was organised under the able guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Geetanjali Andotra, Principal of the College, who welcomed the team of Resource Persons from various departments and appreciated their efforts to apprise the students about the various schemes available for the Youth to become self-reliant and self-sufficient.

On this occasion, a team consisting of mem-

bers from different departments like agriculture, horticulture, sheep husbandry and animal husbandry of Ramgarh block of district Samba visited the college and informed the students that the aim of Holistic Agriculture Development Program is to increase agricultural production, strengthen agricultural developmental activities, and employment generation in rural areas by making youth self-dependent and self-reliant. They educated the students about the various start-up programs of government, different schemes such as integrated dairy development schemes, Maitri schemes, Subsidy schemes and Kisan Credit Card etc.

The team also inspired the students to promote organic farming and also taught them the ways to prepare organic fertilizers. After the interactive session the team helped more than 25 students to get enrolled under various schemes on the Daksh Portal.

## Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra reaches blocks Samwan, Dansal in Jammu

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, DECEMBER 27

The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra campaign to inspire people to make India a developed nation by 2047, visited panchayat Samwan of block Samwan and panchayat Kishanpur of block Dansal today.

The local leaders, officials and residents of both the panchayats gave a warm reception to the special VBSY Van, which carried the message of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his vision for the country.



The event started with the national anthem and continued with a video message of the PM, who urged the people to take a pledge to work for the country's progress and prosperity. The people at the event took the Sank-

alp, pledge, and expressed their commitment to the cause. The students of GHS Millian Di Khui performed songs, dances and skits to showcase their talent and enthusiasm. The audience applauded and appreciated the young artists.

## Com Secy GAD addresses public concerns at Bhaderwah

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
BHADERWAH, DECEMBER 27

Commissioner Secretary, General Administration Department (GAD), Sanjeev Verma, today visited Butla panchayat in Bhaderwah and conducted a public darbar to take stock of issues and concerns of inhabitants of Tribal Cluster village Butla.

DDC Chairman, Doda, Dhananter Singh, ADDC, Pran Singh, ADC, Dr R K Bharti, ADC Bhaderwah, Chowdhary Dil Mir, CEO BDA Bal Krishan, along with various district, tehsil, and block-level officers, were present on the occasion.

Display of Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra Van during the programme showcased the developmental activities, welfare schemes, and government's vision to transform India into a developed nation by 2047 with the active involvement of citizens of the country.

During the public darbar, community members raised a range of issues, grievances, and



demands. The issues revolved around upgradation/ augmentation of schools, health institutions, roads, electricity, and other infrastructure related concerns. These included grid station for the area, Police Post at village Bheja, release of land and infrastructure compensation acquired for various developmental projects, doctors in Healthcare centres, Naiabat building, solar lights for tribal areas and other such demands.

While addressing the gathering, Sanjeev Verma pitched for protection of fragile ecosystem, formulation of village wise yearly sports calendar, and logical fight against substance abuse at village level.

On the occasion, Commissioner Secretary participated in a plantation drive conducted in the village, organised by Forest Division Bhaderwah.

Commissioner Secretary also witnessed a colourful cultural programme. Additionally, he graced the inaugural function of Vibrant Bhaderwah Winter Festival at Bhaderwah Fort, showing his support for the promotion of the region's tourism, arts and local talent.

## Frozen Fiesta 2.0: Showcasing Advitya Reasi beyond Katra

**JINNEWS SERVICE**  
REASI, DECEMBER 27

Frozen Fiesta 2.0 celebration concluded with resounding success, leaving an indelible mark on the cultural landscape of Reasi.

In alignment to promote adventure tourism, Frozen Fiesta 2.0 showcased the thrill of river rafting on the Chenab River. Under the guidance of Deputy Commissioner Vishesh Mahajan, the event successfully positioned Reasi as a promising adventure tourism hub, attracting enthusiasts seeking adrenaline-pumping escapades amidst the scenic landscapes of the district.

To create avenues of employment for entrepreneurs in Jammu, the culinary journey offered by Frozen Fiesta 2.0 was a resounding success. Visitors savored the richness of local cuisine prepared by locals, contributing not only to the festival's offerings but also empowering local communities and fostering economic growth.



The fest's exploration of landmarks like the Shivkhori Cave, aligned seamlessly with the broader vision of fostering spiritual tourism. Frozen Fiesta 2.0 successfully attracted religious tourists, providing them with a profound connection to the deep-rooted mythological significance of the region.

During the fest, Reasi's architectural wonders were presented including the iconic Chenab River Railway Bridge and the historical gem, Bhingarh Fort, the festival positioned the district as a heritage paradise. It highlighted the rich cultural and historical wealth of Reasi, in line with the shared vision of promot-

ing the region's unique heritage.

Deputy Commissioner Vishesh Mahajan expressed gratitude for the overwhelming success of frozen Fiesta 2.0 and conveyed the district administration's commitment to sustaining the positive momentum. The administration is now poised to capitalize on the festival's success, unlocking the untapped potential of spiritual tourism by further developing Shivkhori as a thriving tourism destination. This initiative not only celebrates the cultural and historical wealth of Reasi but also opens new avenues for tourism, fostering economic prosperity.

## FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

## Confident army will...

this commitment. I have full faith that you will achieve victory," Singh, flanked by General Pande and Lt Governor, said.

Four soldiers died and three others were injured when their vehicles were ambushed by terrorists at Dhatyar Morh between Dhera Ki Gali and Buffleaz in the Surankote area of Poonch on December 21.

Three civilians, aged between 27 and 42, were allegedly picked up by the army for questioning following the attack. They were found dead the next day. Soon, video clips purportedly of torture of the detained civilians went viral on the social media.

"Such incidents (ambush) cannot be taken for granted. I know you are alert to the situation but feel more alertness is required. I want to assure you that the government stands with you and your welfare is our top priority," Singh said.

In an apparent reference to the killing of three civilians, the defence minister asked the troops to avoid "mistakes that hurt the citizens of the country." "The Indian Army is not considered an ordinary force in the world. The people accept that the Army is much more powerful than ever and also well-equipped compared to the past. You are the guardians of the nation but alongside protecting the country, you need to win the hearts of the citizens. It is a big responsibility on your shoulders," the minister said.

"There is a need to do it with more seriousness and it can be achieved by meeting the people, listening to their problems and raising those issues at appropriate level for redressal," he said.

Singh paid his tributes to the fallen soldiers and prayed for the speedy recovery of the injured personnel.

"I want to assure you that given the seriousness of the incident, required and appropriate steps would be taken. For us, every soldier is a part of the family and his life is very precious ... any one eyeing our soldiers is not acceptable to us," he said.

"The government treasury is open for further beefing up the security and the intelligence gathering," he said.

"The sacrifice of the soldiers is unparalleled and cannot be compensated with money. The void can never be fulfilled," he added. (Agencies)

## Defence Minister Rajnath...

Government Medical College (GMC) to enquire about the health of four other "torture" victims.

Several District Development Council (DDC) members, former legislators and civil society members were also present at the meeting between the defence minister, Lt Governor and the families of the deceased civilians.

"Whatever has happened...there will be justice," the defence minister told reporters at the GMC hospital where he had reached after meeting the families of the deceased civilians at Dak Bungalow.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Wednesday assured justice to the families of three civilians who were found dead last week after being allegedly picked up by the Army following an ambush on two of Army vehicles in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district.

Singh, accompanied by Army chief General Manoj Pande and Lt Governor Manoj Sinha, reached Rajouri district this afternoon, where he met the families of the deceased and also visited the Government Medical College (GMC) to enquire about the health of four other "torture" victims.

Several District Development Council (DDC) members, former legislators and civil society members were also present at the meeting between the defence minister, Lt Governor and the families of the deceased civilians.

"Whatever has happened...there will be justice," the defence minister told reporters at the GMC hospital where he had reached after meeting the families of the deceased civilians at Dak Bungalow.

Four soldiers lost their lives and three others were injured when their vehicles were ambushed by terrorists at Dhatyar Morh between Dhera Ki Gali and Buffleaz in the Surankote area of Poonch on December 21.

Three civilians – Safer Hussain (43), Mohd Showket (27) and Shabir Ahmad (32) – were allegedly picked up by the Army for questioning following the attack and they were later found dead on December 22. Video clips purportedly showing torture of the detained civilians went viral on social media.

Four people – Mohd Zulfkar, his brother Mohd Betab, Fazal Hussain and Mohd Farooq – were admitted in the GMC hospital, Rajouri last Friday after they were allegedly beaten up by the troops in Thanamandi area of Rajouri during the anti-terrorist operation. The search for terrorists is going on in both Surankote and Thanamandi forest belt.

"The defence minister met the families of the civilians, civil society and assured action against the guilty after an inquiry into the incident," former MLC Shahnaz Ganai, who was present in the meeting at Dak Bungalow, said.

She said they are hopeful that the victim families will get justice, given the visit of the defence minister to share the pain and his assurance.

"While condemning this incident, we also pay our tributes to our brave soldiers and express our condolences to their families. We the people of Rajouri-Poonch will not allow the inimical elements within or outside the country to take benefit of such type of incidents," Ganai said.

Sohail Malik, DDC member, Surankote, said the defence minister assured them that all those responsible for the incident would be dealt with as per the law of the land.

The incident had triggered an outrage with the people demanding justice, compensation and jobs for the victim families, Malik said, expressing satisfaction over the visit of the defence minister and his assurance to them. (Agencies)

## AC gives amnesty to...

recovery of the blocked revenue to the Government. Earlier all dealers could not take benefit of erstwhile amnesty scheme issued vide Govt. order no. 39-FD of 2018 dated 05/02/2018 due to various reasons including

Covid-19 pandemic.

As such, large no. of representations were received from the trade/industry sector for granting a onetime opportunity to the dealers for settlement of the outstanding arrears under the pre GST tax legislations.

The amnesty Scheme provides relief to dealers on following terms:-

i) 100% waiver of penalty and interest under J&K General Sales Tax Act, 1962, and Central Sales Tax Act, 1956, for assessment/ re-assessment up to 2017-18 (07/07/2017 for all and 31/08/2017 for liquor dealers).

ii) 100% waiver of penalty and interest under J&K Value Added Tax Act, 2005, and Central Sales Tax Act, 1956, for assessments up to 2017-18 (07/07 /2017).

iii) Waiver of interest and penalty in (i) and (ii) subject to 100% payment of principal Tax in the manner and within the prescribed time as per the scheme to be notified by the Government.

iv) Settlement of demands for Industrial Units under repealed J&K Value Added Tax Act, 2005 (up to 2017-18) (upto 07/07/2017), J&K General Sales Tax Act, 1962 (up to 07/07/2017 and 31/08/2017 for liquor-dealing units), and Central Sales Tax Act, 1956, in respect of assessed/ re-assessed demands including yet to be assessed cases with certain conditions to be notified in the scheme.

This decision on the part of government will result into minimising of tax dispute cases and winding up of pre-GST cases etc. The time limit for receiving the applications for this amnesty will not be more than six months from the date an order is issued in this regard.

## AC approves Rs 26.87 Cr...

Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor attended the meeting.

The project was prepared in compliance of instructions given by National Green Tribunal (NGT) and Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) for abatement of pollution in River Tawi by diversion of untreated wastewater from storm water drains falling into it and treatment of the same before discharge into the river.

This will ensure proper drainage and sewerage network of the area which will directly benefit the households/local inhabitants besides ensuring compliance with the directions of NGT and CPCB regarding abatement of pollution in River Tawi here—(KNO)

## Govt bans Masarat Alam...

Bhat is known for his anti-India and pro-Pakistan propaganda.

Bhat became the chairman of the hardline faction of the Hurriyat Conference following the death of Syed Ali Shah Geelani. Currently, he is incarcerated.

The Union Home Ministry, in a notification, stated that the objectives of the Muslim League Jammu Kashmir (Masarat Alam faction) are to attain freedom for Jammu and Kashmir from India, merge it with Pakistan, and establish Islamic rule.

The organisation's members have been involved in secessionist activities, raising funds through various sources, including Pakistan and its proxy organisations, to support terrorist activities and sustain stone-pelting on security forces in Jammu and Kashmir.

The home ministry emphasised that the Muslim League Jammu Kashmir (Masarat Alam faction) and its members show disrespect towards the constitutional authority and setup of the country.

Their unlawful activities undermine the integrity, sovereignty, security, and communal harmony of India. Additionally, there have been indications of the Muslim League Jammu Kashmir (Masarat Alam faction) having linkages with banned terrorist organisations.

The outfit and its members have been supporting terrorist activities with the intent to create terror in the country, thereby endangering its security and public order.

Their anti-national activities demonstrate disregard and disrespect for the constitutional authority and sovereignty of India, the ministry said.

The Central government believes that immediate action is necessary against the Muslim League Jammu Kashmir (Masarat Alam faction) to curb its unlawful activities, which pose a threat to the territorial integrity, security, and sovereignty of the country.

The outfit is likely to continue advocating the secession of Jammu and Kashmir from India, promoting false narratives, and inciting anti-national sentiments among the people of the region, which could disrupt public safety.

Therefore, exercising the powers conferred by the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967, the Central government has declared the Muslim League Jammu Kashmir (Masarat Alam faction) as an unlawful association with immediate effect, the ministry said.

The ban will remain in effect for a period of five years from the date of its publication in the official gazette, unless otherwise ordered.

Bhat has been in jail since 2010 for his alleged involvement in violent protests in the Kashmir valley.

His release in 2015 became the first impediment in PDP-BJP alliance when the then chief minister Mufti Mohammed Sayeed got him released immediately after taking oath.

Under pressure from its ally BJP, the then state government had to rearrest him on charges of sedition and waging war against the state after allegedly raising pro-Pakistan slogans at a rally.

Bhat was accused of playing a key role in organising violent protests in Kashmir in 2010, which resulted in the deaths of over 100 youths.

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the guidance of Home Minister Amit Shah, the government has maintained a zero-tolerance policy against terrorism, the ministry said.

This year alone, four organisations have been banned under the anti-terror law UAPA, and six individuals have been declared as terrorists, according to a home ministry official. (Agencies)

## Govt working to make...

1.25 crore people have undergone health check-ups while more than 70 lakh inspected for tuberculosis.

Taking a swipe at previous dispensations, he said if the situation during their tenure had prevailed now,

## Intense cold wave continues in Kashmir Valley, dense fog in Srinagar affects normal life

JI NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, DEC 27

Kashmir Valley continued to reel under intense cold as dense fog disrupted early morning life for the third consecutive day in the region on Wednesday, officials said here.

A dense layer of fog engulfed Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, and visibility in the city was less than 50 metres, they said.

The transport department has issued an extensive advisory for motorists in the city driving through what they termed as one of the worst foggy conditions in recent memory.

Srinagar recorded a low of minus 2.6 degrees Celsius on Tuesday night, a slight increase from the previous night's minus 3.0 degrees Celsius, they said.

Pahalgam in south Kashmir's Anantnag district, which serves as one of the base camps for the annual Amarnath Yatra, recorded a minimum



temperature of minus 4.6 degrees Celsius, marginally up from the previous night's minus 4.7 degrees Celsius, they said. It was the coldest recorded place in the Kashmir Valley.

Gulmarg, a famous ski resort in Baramulla, recorded a low of minus 2.8 degrees Celsius, dropping slightly from previous night's minus 2.4 degrees Celsius, the officials said.

Qazigund recorded a low of minus 3.2 degrees Celsius, Kokernag town saw the mercury settle at

minus 2.2 degrees Celsius and Kupwara recorded a minimum of minus 4.2 degrees Celsius.

The Met department said the weather is likely to remain mainly dry till the end of the month. Foggy conditions are many towns of the Valley, including Srinagar.

The visibility in the city has reduced to less than 50 metres due to the fog cover. There was less than usual traffic on roads in the morning while vehicles were seen moving at low speeds due to the

reduced visibility.

"The visibility in Srinagar at 8.30 am was less than 50 metres due to the fog cover. The motorists should drive carefully due to the low visibility," an official of the local meteorological office said.

Kashmir is currently under the grip of 'Chilla-i-Kalan' - the 40-day harshest winter period when a cold wave grips the region and the temperature drops considerably, leading to the freezing of water bodies, including the Dal Lake and the water supply lines, in several parts of the Valley.

The chances of snowfall are the highest during this period and most areas, especially the higher reaches, receive heavy snowfall.

'Chilla-i-Kalan' will end on January 31. However, the cold conditions will continue after that with a 20-day-long 'Chilla-i-Khur'd' (small cold) and a 10-day-long 'Chilla-i-Bachha' (baby cold).

## SSP Jammu convened a meeting with all SsP, SDPOs and SHOs of District Police Jammu

JI NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DEC 27

Dr. Vinod Kumar-IPS, SSP Jammu held a meeting in the Conference Hall of District Police Lines, Jammu regarding the present security scenario which was attended by all SsP, SDPOs and SHOs of District Police Jammu.

During the meeting, all the officers were directed to remain extra vigilant on the eve of New Year. They were directed to ensure proper night domination by way of patrolling, effective naka checking, surprise naka



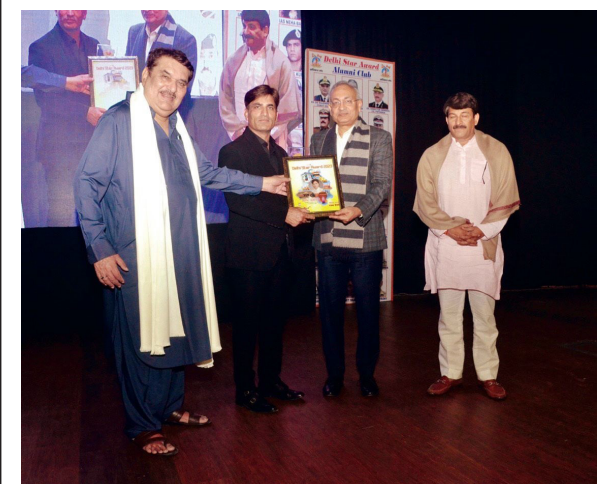
etc. in their respective areas of responsibilities so that check could be maintained over thefts and other criminal activities. Furthermore, it was stressed upon all the participants to take

strict action against drug peddlers so that drug menace could be eradicated from the society thereby saving the lives of addicts especially youth.

All the participants

were advised to hold PCPG meetings with the general public and listen to their grievances patiently besides being directed to resolve the genuine issues of the public on priority basis.

## JKAS Officer Aijaz Qaiser awarded Delhi Star Award 2023



JI NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DEC 27

Aijaz Qaiser a 2008 batch JKAS officer presently posted as Addt secretary Information Technology Department has been honoured with the prestigious DELHI STAR AWARD 2023 in the category of 'distinguished public service'. The award, presented by Adhikar Manch & Punjab Kesari media group, recognises outstanding individuals across diverse fields for their exceptional contributions to society. This annual award giving accolade, now in its 23rd year, celebrates innovators & contributors who have made a significant impact in their respective domains.

The impressive ceremony of Delhi Star Awards 2023 was held at NDMC Convention Center Connaught Place New Delhi. The awards were given away by the versatile Bollywood actor Raza Murad and politician, singer and

actor serving as a Member of Parliament from North East Delhi Manoj Tiwari.

In recognition of the selfless services earlier in the J&k police on the anti militancy front and later in the state bureaucracy, the officer was honoured with the Delhi star award 2023 in an impressive function at New Delhi.

Among others who received the awards are BJP MP from Azamgarh of Uttar Pradesh and Bhojpuri Star Mr. Dinesh Lal Yadav Nirhua for being the best parliamentarian. Jaspal Singh, IPS presently serving as Director General of police Goa for his distinguished police services. Special CP law & order in Delhi Depend-er Pathak IPS, Virender Sachdeva BJP president New Delhi, Anand Ranganathan scientist & an award winning writer, Professor Dr Millind Houte a noted cardiologist in AIIMS New Delhi and Dr Suryasnatna Mohanty, a distinguished Odia artist.

## ADDC Shopian chairs Block Diwas at Chitragam

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SHOPIAN, DECEMBER 27

The Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Shopian, Dr. Nasir Ahmed Lone today presided over a Block Diwas programme at Government High School, Chitragam Kalan Shopian.

During the Block Diwas, local residents apprised the ADDC of various issues of public importance related to water, power, sanitation, traffic and other issues in their areas.

The ADDC patiently listened to all the issues and demands put forth by the locals and directed the concerned officers to redress the genuine grievances in a time bound manner.

Earlier, the ADDC sought feedback from all the line departments to review their performance of developmental activities. ADDC said that the purpose of organising such programmes is to



reach out to the people at their doorsteps and listen to their genuine issues for redressal.

He further added that no stone should be left unturned to meet the expectations of the public and fulfill their genuine issues within a time bound manner.

Speaking on the occasion, Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM), Zainapora, Mushtaq Ahmed said con-

ducting today's grievance redressal camp is to also make people aware about the Government Schemes so that they are able to avail the benefits of various schemes meant for overall well being of the general masses.

Among others, BDO Chitragam, Officers from line departments and people in large numbers were present on the occasion.

## State Taxes Department Jammu collects record Rs 4.93 Cr. penalty till December 2023

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, DECEMBER 27

Jammu and Kashmir State Taxes Department's Jammu Division has recovered a penalty of rupees 4.93 Crores from April 2023 to December 2023 from Goods and Services Tax (GST) defaulters for various violations under the GST Act. As per a handout, Rs 3.78 Crores has been recovered through various enforcement activities during the tax period of April to December 27, 2023, in Jammu division on various violations including e-invoicing, stock mismatch, other noncompliance while additional Rs 1.15 crores have been realized during special inspections and enforcement drives by Special Task Force. Moreover, cases with potential of more than Rs 3.50 crores tax liability on defaulters are under scrutiny.

"The major sectors on which penalties have been imposed are Metal Scrap, Electric, Electronics Goods, Motor Parts dealers, building/ construction materials, etc", the state-



ment reads.

Additional Commissioner State Taxes, Administration & Enforcement, Jammu, Namrita Dogra appreciated the efforts of the team led by Deputy Commissioners and State Tax Officers.

She also urged upon the Officers/Officials to redouble their efforts of enforcement action to create strong deterrence with special emphasis on transporters who are carrying goods without proper invoices and e-way bills. She also called for setting up surprise check posts

on the various transition points.

In a message to taxpayers, Additional Commissioner said GST is very simple taxation law and every stakeholder must follow its guidelines. She said traders found not comply with laid down guidelines of GST act liable to pay penalties.

Namrita Dogra added that noncompliance also leads to suspension or cancellation of registration, legal proceedings or even seizure and confiscation of goods. So, it's very important for businesses

to adhere to GST rules, file returns on time, and fulfill their tax obligations to avoid these penalties and consequences.

Additional Commissioner urged taxpayers to avail the service of GST Suvridha Kendras, which is functional in all 20 districts of Jammu and Kashmir, to clear their doubts regarding GST. She further informed that the department have a dedicated X handle @JK\_GST\_JK, which provides all necessary information from tax notifications to changes/ upgradation in GST law.

## VBSY: Events held at two more locations within SMC jurisdiction

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, DECEMBER 27

The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY) camp, organized by the Srinagar Municipal Corporation, expanded its reach today by hosting events at two additional locations viz. Triangular Park Nishat and Government Girls Higher Secondary School at Brane within the SMC Jurisdiction.

The gatherings served as a platform for officers and officials from various departments to engage with the local community, fostering an environment of collaboration and knowledge-sharing.

Representatives from diverse departments elucidated the fundamental goals and procedural details of their respective schemes, aiming to bridge the information gap and to ensure that citizens are aware of the myriad benefits and assistance available to them.

## MP Jugal Kishore Sharma attends Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra programme in Reasi

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
REASI, DECEMBER 27

The district Reasi witnessed varied activities as part of Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, the government's ambitious initiative to reach out to all the beneficiaries of the flagship schemes.

The event was inaugurated by Member of Parliament from Jammu-Poonch Constituency Jugal Kishore Sharma, who was the chief guest of the function held at auditorium of DC office complex.

Member Parliament Jugal Kishore Sharma attended live telecast of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's interaction with the beneficiaries of central government schemes from across the country in auditorium of DC office complex.

The event was held as part of the ongoing Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra which received warm welcome in the village panchayat. VBSY is being undertaken across the country to attain saturation of flagship schemes of the government by ensuring that the benefits of these schemes reach all targeted beneficiaries in a time-bound manner.

To enhance public awareness and facilitate community engagement, various government departments including Agriculture, Horticulture, Health, Animal Husbandry, Handloom and Handicraft joined forces to establish informative stalls showcasing their respective schemes.



Jugal Kishore Sharma interacted with the beneficiaries and appreciated their stories of transformation and development and took feedback from the public regarding implementation of the centrally sponsored schemes. He also inspected the stalls set up by different departments and praised their efforts in implementing the schemes effectively. He lauded the departments for achieving saturation of schemes and empowering women under the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM).

Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra witnessed a spectacular display of cultural diversity by Govt. Girls Hr. Sec. School Reasi and Govt. Girls Hr. Sec. School Reasi respectively present their captivating performance.

The 'Meri Kahani Meri Zubaani' segment was particularly impactful, featuring firsthand accounts from beneficiaries sharing their success stories on PM SVANidhi, PM Ujjwala Yojana, Ayushman Bharat - PMJAY, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (Urban). These narratives highlighted

the tangible benefits and positive changes brought about by the government's welfare programs. The schemes have played a crucial role in empowering citizens, enhancing their quality of life, and contributing to the socio-economic development of the country.

The Member of Parliament Jugal Kishore Sharma also distributed ayushman Card, Pension Sanction Letters and Kissan Credit Cards to the beneficiaries.

Addressing the gathering, the MP said that the government has launched an initiative aimed at directly engaging citizens at their doorsteps to familiarize them with a plethora of schemes designed to enhance livelihoods and uplift communities. He highlighted the initiative as a pivotal step towards empowering the populace and fostering development across all sections of society.

ADDC Jyoti Slathia, ADC Abdul Star, ACP Pardeep Kumar, DIO (Info), Xen PHE and PWD, Tehsildar Reasi and other district Officer were present.

## Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra covers 3 more blocks of District Samba

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SAMBA, DECEMBER 27

The people of District Samba witnessed the live streaming of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's message/interaction with the participants of the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, a nationwide outreach and awareness campaign today.

The live webcast of the PM's address was played through IEC Van at three locations: Village Kangwala, Panchayat Sadoh in Block Samba, Panchayat Blatter, Block Sumb and Panchayat Vijaypur of Block Vijaypur.

The public participated enthusiastically and listened to the PM's vision of inclusive development and empowerment of the communities.

A grand event was also organised in panchayat Sadoh, village Kangwala, block Samba, where vibrant stalls were set up by various departments to showcase the achievements and activities of the government's welfare schemes and policies. The event also featured cultural performances by the school children and a Sankalp pledge by the participants to join the Prime Minister in his mission of

building a Viksit Bharat.

The event was attended by DDC Chairman Keshav Dutt Sharma, DDC Member Subash Bhagat, DDC Member Asha Rani, BDC Chairman Radhey Sham, ADC Sidharth Dhiman, officers of District Administration, and locals.

The aim of the Yatra is to generate awareness and facilitate the delivery of welfare schemes benefits to the citizens. The Yatra also recognises and celebrates the inspiring stories of individuals and communities who have benefited from the government's flagship schemes.

## Ramban amplifies electoral literacy: EVM awareness campaign in full swing



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
RAMBAN, DECEMBER 27

In a proactive move led by District Election Officer Baseer-UI-Haq Chaudhary, the District Election Office in Ramban has rolled out an extensive training and awareness campaign on Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) and Voter Verified Paper Audit Trails (VVPATs). Launched on December 15, the initiative has swiftly gained momentum, featuring EVM Demonstration Vans and dedicated centers at various levels.

This initiative has been taken as part of SVEEP under the close supervision of Programme Officer, ICDS, Jahangir Hashmi, who is also the Nodal Officer, SVEEP. With a mission to empower citizens, especially first-time voters, the campaign focuses on demystifying the functioning of EVMs, fostering voter confidence, dispelling uncertainties, and ultimately promoting active participation in the electoral process. The EVM Demonstration Vans are currently

traversing all 348 polling stations across both Assembly Constituencies in the district, aiming to enlighten voters about the nuances of EVM functionality and VVPATs.

Encouraging electors, including employees and the general public, to visit their respective polling stations or the Election Registration Officer's office, the campaign provides a hands-on experience with the EVMs. Expert trainers are on hand to address queries, creating an interactive and informative environment.

Speaking on the initiative, Programme Officer, ICDS, Jahangir Hashmi, who is also the Nodal Officer, SVEEP remarked, "This commitment to an informed electorate aligns with democratic values, emphasizing transparency and citizen engagement. As the campaign unfolds, it marks a significant stride towards ensuring a well-informed electorate in Ramban District, contributing to a deeper understanding of the electoral process."

## VBSY gains momentum in Udhampur Panchayats

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
UDHAMPUR, DECEMBER 27

The ongoing Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY) has made remarkable strides in the Udhampur region, highlighted by the impactful presence of the Special IEC Van. The initiative has successfully reached key areas, including BDO office Kallar, Panchayats Chari, Bilaspur & Kaghote-B.

The IEC Van effectively conveyed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Call to Action, urging local residents to actively contribute to the nation's progress. The community responded with enthusiasm, embracing the Sankalp pledge and reaffirming their commitment to the



country's growth.

Representatives from various line departments actively engaged with the public during the event, elucidating government schemes and distributing

informative material.

This interaction empowered the community by enhancing their knowledge and understanding of the government's initiatives aimed at their welfare.

## ADDC Kishtwar reviews progress under District Capex Plan 2023-24



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
KISHTWAR, DECEMBER 27

Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Kishtwar, Sham Lal today chaired a meeting of officers to review the progress of works under the Area Development Plan/ District Capex budget for the year 2023-24, here in his Office Chamber.

During the meeting, the ADDC took sector wise review of Physical and financial progress of works in RDD, Education, YS&S, Health and other sectors under District Capex.

The ADDC took a detailed review of allotment of works, works started on ground and works completed so far

and other related issue.

He was apprised by the Joint Director Planning Mohd Iqbal that 1368 works out of 1917 allotted works have been completed so far under District Capex for financial year 2023-24 and the pace on rest is in full swing which will be completed soon.

Further ADDC Kishtwar was apprised that 11 number of Aspirational Block Development Programme works out of allotted 17 works have been completed and 09 number of Aspirational Panchayat Development Programme works out of allotted 17 works stands completed so far under Capex Budget.

ADDC directed the officers to achieve the cent

percent targets in time bound manner and Special thrust was laid on the billing of the completed works.

The concerned officers were directed to commensurate the financial expenditure according to physical targets achieved.

The ADDC stressed upon officers to take all possible measures to accelerate the pace on rest of work besides personally monitoring the quality and progress of all allotted works.

Among others the meeting was attended by ACD Kishtwar Manoj Kumar, DPO Sunil Bhutyal, Ex-Ens of REW, PWD and all BDOs besides other concerned District officers.

## VBSY camp held in Municipal Committee Langate, Kupwara

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
KUPWARA, DECEMBER 27

On the directions of Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY) camp was today organized at Municipal Committee Langate. The nationwide campaign which is aimed at to spread awareness about different Centrally Sponsored Schemes of the Government, witnessed grand welcome in the Municipal areas of Langate in Handwara sub division. In this connection, the main function was organized at Public Park Langate in which large number of participants including PRIs, general public and various stakeholders got enthralled by the cultural programmes, presented by local artists and school children. President Municipal Committee Langate, Advocate Shahnawaz Abdullah, Tehsildar Langate, Executive Officer MC, besides, representatives of Traders Federation, Tehsil level officers, employees and large number of people attended the Viksit Bharat Abhiyan.

## EDITORIAL

## In Congress, race for LS polls begins

Congress party has started its preparations for Lok Sabha polls scheduled to be held in April-May next year. Other political parties have also been making all-out efforts to keep their flock together and devising strategies to put their opponents on the mat. Congress has struggled to resurrect in the recent times and back-to-back poll debacles in state assembly polls are a perfect exam to ponder upon. The party, too is fortifying its camp with a crucial meeting of JKPC top leadership with high command in Delhi have asked the party cadre to gear for polls. Alliance with INDIA bloc have already been decided but it was the issue of seat sharing which was up as the main agenda of the meeting. The party, however, is on a defensive foot after its poor performance in the recent elections in four states, with alliance partners expecting to vociferously pitch for a better seat sharing mechanism in the upcoming Lok Sabha polls. If the Congress insiders are to be believed, a high political hustle and activity is on anvil for the party this month with leaders' visit first to party's Nagpur rally which will be followed by important meeting with senior most leaders in high command besides all those who are managing J&K as in charge team. While it is already decided by the INDIA Alliance at the national level that parties will contest jointly, this direction will percolate at the UT level as well. However, beyond that major direction there are many issues which are to be discussed and sorted by the party at high command level, it will be a preliminary yet very crucial discussion with high command on seat sharing pattern, stakes of at least 3 major parties -NC, PDP and Congress being high on all the seats. JKPC leaders including president, working committee members, vice presidents attended the meeting and gave their view point and suggestions on the most important issue of seat sharing on all the five seats of UT, besides one seat in Ladakh. Party high command also sought their viewpoint as to prospects of Congress on each seat in the scheduled meeting. All those in attendance went with their 'own set of homework' for each seat. Though it was too early for any discussion on candidates, the party leadership was to solicit JKPC leaders' views on both aspirants as well as those who are eligible in all respects for contesting LS polls. At the local level, this has not been discussed yet in any meeting nor can the views or suggestions be taken as final as there will be some rounds of meetings for this purpose along with in charge leaders first. The party is also contemplating appointing independent observers for this job. The first and foremost agenda of the party leadership is to revitalize party workers and make their presence felt at all levels. The party does not want to give a free hand to the BJP and it believes that alliance with regional parties are a better option for it.

# The Paradox of Plebiscite: Pakistan's Unwavering Rhetoric Repeated and Selective Rejections in Kashmir

MIR MOHSIN

As the five judge bench of Supreme Court of India unanimously upheld the decision of the Government of India on abrogation of Article 370 in December 2023, it is crucial to examine one of the most striking paradoxes in Pakistan's stance on Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) - the consistent call for a plebiscite coupled with persistent rejections when specific proposals were presented. While supporters and critics mark this landmark decision of the Supreme Court of India, it is essential to unravel the historical intricacies that have shaped Pakistan's narrative on the Kashmir issue. The inconsistency dates back to the early days of independence, as documented in Alan Campbell Johnson's memoir, "Mission with Mountbatten." In 1947, Louis Mountbatten proposed an UN-supervised plebiscite to Mohammad Ali Jinnah, the governor-general of Pakistan. However, Jinnah suggested a bilateral plebiscite organized by the two governors-general, a proposition Mountbatten declined. This early rejection set the tone for Pakistan's approach to the plebiscite issue. Jinnah's rejection of an UN-supervised plebiscite in 1947 stands in stark contrast to the subsequent narrative developed by Pakistan. The marauding tribal raiders led by Pakistan Army, wrought havoc in Kashmir, engaging in looting, killing and perpetrating atrocities against both Hindus and Muslims. This violent episode raises doubts about Pakistan's genuine commitment to

a democratic process and the belief that the outcome of a fair vote would have favoured the country. The invasion by tribal forces, backed by Pakistan, not only violated the principles of self-determination but also undermined the very idea of a plebiscite. The widespread violence and human rights abuses during this period, further cast a shadow over the credibility of any democratic exercise in the region.

As we turn the pages of history and unravel the events in August 1948, we get a glimpse of the chapter wherein the United Nations Commission for India and Pakistan (UNCIP) adopted a resolution calling for a ceasefire, withdrawal of all forces by Pakistan and a plebiscite. Remember the sequence as specified in this resolution as it is pertinent that withdrawal of forces by Pakistan is before that of plebiscite. Pakistan's foreign minister, Sir Zafarullah Khan, outlined two solutions in response, both conveniently avoiding the withdrawal of Pakistani forces. This preference for maintaining control over occupied territory overshadowed any commitment to a genuine plebiscite. The paradox deepened in 1950 when UN mediator Owen Dixon proposed a regional plebiscite limited to the Kashmir Valley. India was willing to consider it, but Pakistan rejected the idea, insisting on a single plebiscite. However, a revelation in Dixon's report exposed Pakistan's willingness to compromise on this principle, accepting a regional plebiscite if it meant gaining control over the Valley

without a vote. However, one must remember that in April 1949 Pakistan had intentionally changed the territorial status quo of PIOK without holding any plebiscite. Pakistan under a secret Karachi Agreement brought the Northern Areas, duly renaming them as Gilgit-Baltistan, under its direct administrative control. One must remember that Northern Areas account for 85% of PIOK. Then in 1963 it went on to deal the worst blow to PIOK by ceding Shaks-gam valley, spread over 5,200 square km of territory, to China.

In 1953, during prime ministerial-level talks, a joint communiqué, included provisions for a plebiscite. Yet, Mohammad Ali Bogra, Pakistan's representative, rejected the regional plebiscite, echoing the same rationale as in 1950. This rejection came months before India closed the chapter in 1954. The consistent rejection of plebiscite proposals can be traced to domestic issues within Pakistan. In 1950, the sacking of Sardar Ibrahim Khan triggered the Sudhan revolt, forcing the Pakistani army to suppress rebellion. Subsequent complaints about martial law, random firings and human rights abuses in Pakistan-Occupied-Kashmir (POK) further demonstrated Pakistan's inability to afford a plebiscite under such circumstances.

Even in more recent history, leaders like Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and Benazir Bhutto acknowledged the jeopardy of the right to self-determination in J&K. Pakistan's preference for the use of force in successive wars, coupled with strategic territorial

changes without plebiscites, exposes the underlying motivations that go beyond the rhetoric of self-determination. With the 13th amendment to Pakistan Illegally Occupied Kashmir's (PIOK) constitution in 2018, Pakistan assumed direct authority over key subjects, rendering the plebiscite irrelevant. The territorial status quo has been altered and Pakistan's game in the Kashmir narrative is up. As we reflect on the past, it becomes evident that Pakistan's commitment to a plebiscite was contingent on maintaining control, rather than ensuring the democratic will of the Kashmiri people.

In the grand tapestry of Kashmir's complex history, the paradox of Pakistan's stance on the plebiscite issue reveals a consistent pattern of prioritizing strategic gains over the democratic aspirations of the people it claims to champion. The rejection of plebiscite proposals, intertwined with territorial ambitions and internal unrest, paints a nuanced picture of geopolitical manoeuvring rather than a genuine commitment to the principles of self-determination. One cannot ignore the diplomatic intricacies and the geopolitical context that shaped these decisions. Pakistan's rejection of an UN-supervised plebiscite in 1947 and subsequent reluctance to withdraw its armed forces in 1948 underscored a strategic desire to secure control over the region, rather than adhering to the principles specified by international bodies from time to time. The revelation of Pakistan's willingness to compromise on the

principle of a single plebiscite, as exposed in Owen Dixon's report in 1950, adds another layer to the narrative. The readiness to accept a regional plebiscite if it meant gaining control over the Kashmir Valley without a comprehensive vote speaks volumes about the pragmatism underlying Pakistan's approach.

As the region continues to be a flashpoint in Asia, understanding the nuances of these historical choices is imperative as reports from the POK reveal a region in turmoil, with the local population expressing unrest and dissatisfaction. Protests have erupted against the perceived denial of basic human rights and the heavy-handed approach of the Pakistan Army, accused of forcefully pursuing business ventures at the expense of the local populace. In addition to these grievances, the region grapples with a complex political landscape, experiencing limited autonomy within the Pakistani federal framework. Political leadership appointed by Islamabad has led to a perceived lack of representation for the local populace. A similar situation is observed in Gilgit-Baltistan, strategically important but not constitutionally recognized as part of Pakistan, administered by the federal government. Discontent among locals regarding proper representation and constitutional rights further adds to the region's turmoil. Human rights concerns compound the challenges faced by the people of entire POK. Reports of arbitrary arrests, enforced disappearances and restrictions

on freedom of expression have raised alarms. Allegations of human rights abuses are often directed at both state and non-state actors, creating an environment of fear and mistrust among the local population. The lack of transparency and curbed freedom of the press make it difficult for accurate information to reach the wider world, exacerbating the challenges faced by the region. Terrorism and anarchy purported by ISI is another factor contributing to the turmoil in the region.

We can safely assume that the paradox persisted through the decades, with leaders like Zulfikar Ali Bhutto openly acknowledging the jeopardy of the right to self-determination. The preference for force in successive wars and the alteration of territorial status without plebiscites underscores a strategic calculus that prioritizes control over democratic processes. As the 13th amendment to POK's constitution in 2018 granted Pakistan direct legislative and executive authority over key subjects, the plebiscite lost its relevance. The altered constitutional landscape solidified Pakistan's grip on the region, making the rhetoric of self-determination a mere facade. In the current geopolitical landscape, with the game exposed, it is crucial to re-evaluate the historical inconsistencies in Pakistan's Kashmir narrative. The paradox of advocating for a plebiscite while consistently rejecting specific proposals reveals a complex tapestry of geopolitical ambitions, internal challenges and strategic manoeuvring.

## Purpose of Religion in Human Life

FIDA HUSSAIN BHAT

Religion has been revealed for the individual, social, economic, moral, and spiritual edification of human beings. It is religion that directs the orientation of the boat of life. It exposes the enigmatic trajectories of life to let man tread smoothly towards the realization of his potential with which he was created and dispatched into this world. It grants identification in times of anonymity. It is knowledge in times of ignorance, light in times of darkness, hope in times of despondency, and freedom in times of servitude.

Religion does not cripple the freedom of man. The West has attacked religion, considering it a hurdle in the way of freedom. Western thinkers promote absolute freedom to let loose man to fulfill his corporal desires. A great Iranian scholar, Misba Yazdi, says that absolute freedom is impossible because man cannot be allowed to be absolutely free to do things as per his physical whims and wishes. It clarifies the difference between good freedom and bad freedom. Freedom with restrictions is good freedom. Man will not remain man if he enjoys absolute freedom, nor will he be able to realize his potentials.



Religion itself is a system to administer all the dimensions of life. It is for life. Ali Shariati says that if religion does not benefit man in this world, it cannot benefit him in the hereafter. It is the requirement of every human being. Life cannot be lived meaningfully without religion. It gives the syllabus of life. It is the constitution of life. It helps man individually to become a better version of himself, which consequently leads to a better society and a better world. It is the core of society. Good humans make good societies and vice versa.

Religion unravels the mysteries of this world.

The human being is the greatest mystery of this world who can never comprehend himself without the help of religion. His composition is explained by religion only. Science fails to explain all dimensions of man, but religion has complete explanations for all the dimensions of the life of a human being. Self-knowledge is the knowledge of everything. Self-knowledge is so significant that it has been considered paramount to the knowledge of God. The Hadith goes, "Knowing self is knowing God." Religion elevates man above mundane boundaries. One rises above to obtain the transcendental reality. One traverses the myster-

ies of being and is enabled to grasp the enigmas of reality in intelligible terms.

Religion has vivifying powers. It revives us from the death of lethargy and dormancy. It assigns duties and obligations on us to be active and agile in our lives. The stupors are eliminated, and a new movement is brought into life. A new consciousness of God develops in us, motivating us to work for the hereafter. It helps us to understand our potentials and to exert to realize these potentials. Man has different appellations to his credit. He is sent on earth as an ambassador of God. He needs to execute the assigned duties to fulfill the objective of his cre-

ation. Religion helps him to achieve the pedestal of excellence with which he was designed. The true meaning of life is understood only with the help of religion. Existentialist philosophers and their adherents grappled with the enigmas of life but failed to arrive at any meaningful end. They abandoned religion and roved after absolute freedom that deteriorated their lives and made them pessimists and cynical. Religion lifts off the curtains of negligence and forgetfulness. It helps us to have a journey from ignorance to light. It prepares us for the challenges of life through troubles and tribulations. It cultivates us, educates us, and hum-

bles us to be good human beings. It civilizes us and promotes the civilization that is human-friendly.

Religion generates love and affection among human beings. It produces brotherhood among them. It promotes unity. It gives the constitution to govern people. Religion satiates the inner longing of a human being. The convulsions of soul and body can be fixed only by religion. Shaheed Mutahhari says that science decorates the outside world of a human being, while religion decorates the inner world of a human being. The spiritual trepidations are calmed by religion. Science can treat the physical ailments of a human being whereas religion treats the spiritual ailments of a human being. Spiritual impairments are more detrimental than physical impairments. It is religion that cures the spiritual impairments.

Surveys and analyses reveal that religious human beings are happier and more satisfied than unreligious human beings. Implementing religion in one's life exonerates him/her from the binding shackles of this world. The bogus charm of this world loses its grip on us as things are clarified to us, their reality is known to us, and the transitory nature of things repels us. The writer can be reached at [azaadbhat28@gmail.com](mailto:azaadbhat28@gmail.com)

## ADDC presides over at grievances redressal camp at Kulgam

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
KULGAM, DECEMBER 27

The District Administration Kulgam today organized Mega Block Diwas in three blocks of the district including Kund, Kulgam and D. H. Pora to take appraisal of the public issues, grievances and demands.

On the occasion, Officers and officials from line departments listened to issues, grievances and demands of the public for timely redressal at all the three venues.

To take first hand appraisal of public grievances and demands, the Additional District Commissioner (ADDC) Kulgam, Showkat Ahmad Rather presided over a grievances redressal camp at block Kulgam where he listened to grievances and issues of people for redressal.

People from Bhan, Khrevan, Manzgam, Modergam and other villages participated in this grievances redressal camp and apprised the officers



about their issues and grievances.

Officers and officials from District Administration responded to the grievances of the people and some of the grievances of immediate nature were redressed on the spot.

Earlier, a brief of action taken on grievances of previous block diwas was presented.

ACD Mohammad Imran, ACP Sharjeel Ali, CEO, CMO and other district and sectoral officers were also present.

## Block Diwas held at Dak Bungalow Baramulla



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
BARAMULLA, DECEMBER 27

In an endeavour to take a firsthand appraisal of the community issues, the Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Baramulla, Aijaz Abdullah Saraf today presided over a Block Diwas at Dak Bungalow, Baramulla.

This event catered to three blocks, Narvah, Baramulla and Sheeri, ensuring a direct engagement with the general public to address their concerns at their doorsteps.

Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Peerzada Mumtaz Ahmad, Tehsildar Baramulla, Chief Education Officer Baramulla, Chief Medical Officer Baramulla and other officers from concerned line departments, public representatives and people from villages of respective blocks participated in the Block Diwas.

During the event, residents from three participating blocks raised several developmental concerns and grievances to the concerned officers.

These issues include road macadamization, MGNREGA labor payment, providing bus services to remote areas, addressing electricity and drainage problems, alongside other pressing community issues.

After listening to public grievances and demands, the attending officers addressed the queries within their purview and committed to prioritizing the unresolved issues by escalating them to the relevant departments for swift action.

Speaking during the occasion, Aijaz Abdullah emphasized that the purpose of organizing these grievance redressal camps is to directly gather insights into local concerns from the public, allowing for on-site assessments and facilitating a comprehensive and prompt resolution process.

The ADDC further assured the representatives that their issues and demands have been taken up on priority and would be brought to the attention of the relevant authorities for resolution.

## Secretary Health visits Rajouri; inaugurates vital healthcare facilities



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
RAJOURI, DECEMBER 27

Secretary, Health and Medical Education Department, Bhupinder Kumar, today inaugurated vital healthcare facilities during his visit to Rajouri district.

He also took a comprehensive review of patient care services being extended to the ailing in the district.

One of the notable initiatives during the visit was inauguration of blood components centre at GMC and AH Rajouri, aimed at fortifying blood transfusion services within the institution.

Recognizing the importance of community involvement, Secretary directed the Chief Medical Officer to actively promote voluntarily blood donation throughout the district.

Secretary also inaugurated a thalassemia care centre besides launching the District Early Intervention Centre Under Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram.

Bhupinder Kumar also presided over a meeting with faculty members, delving into a thorough review of patient care facilities. The staff apprised him of the challenges

they are facing, receiving assurances that their concerns would be promptly addressed to ensure the delivery of high-quality services to patients.

Secretary lauded the staff for their unwavering dedication and encouraged them to further elevate patient care services, emphasizing the need to meet the expectations of the general public.

Subsequently, Bhupinder Kumar conducted a tour of Government Medical College Rajouri, directing the department to expedite the pending works on the building. He interacted with the staff obtaining valuable insights into the operational aspects of the institution.

Overall, the visit underscored a dedicated stride toward enhancing healthcare facilities in Rajouri district, with the inauguration of various healthcare initiatives and a meticulous review of patient care services poised to significantly improve the health outcomes for the local populace.

Principal GMC Rajouri, Dr Amar Jeet Singh, CPO Mohammad Khurshid, MS DH Dr Mehmood Bajar, CMO Dr Rajinder Sharma, and other officer were present on the occasion.

## DC reviews expenditure status of Capex Budget works in Udhampur



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
UDHAMPUR, DECEMBER 27

Deputy Commissioner Udhampur Saloni Rai today chaired a meeting at the Mini Conference Hall in the DC Office Complex, Udhampur, to assess the expenditure status of works accomplished under the Capex budget.

Additional District Development Commissioner, Ghan Sham Singh, Assistant Commissioner Development, Dr Ranjeet Singh Kotwal and other officers of concerned departments were present in the meeting.

The officers from various departments apprised

the DC on the physical and financial progress of ongoing developmental projects. The DC urged swift completion of remaining works, emphasizing the need for 100% expenditure achievement.

Officers were directed to expedite expenditure bookings and accelerate the pace of developmental works. She stressed optimal fund utilization for the current financial year, urging officers to mobilize manpower and machinery for timely project completion.

The DC also instructed officers to promptly book maximum expenditure for ongoing works.

## Sonomarg all set to host two-day New Year festival

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
GANDERBAL, DECEMBER 27

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shyambir today convened a meeting of officers and stakeholders to review the arrangements for organizing mega New Year festival at Sonomarg.

At the outset, CEO, Sonomarg Development Authority briefed the DC about the arrangements to be put in place for organizing two-day New Year Festival at Sonomarg.

In the meeting it was



revealed that the festival shall start on 31st December during which several activities including winter sports and cultural activities will be held on both the days.

The DC sought the details regarding the arrangements to be put in

place including identification and beautification of venue, accommodation, water and power supply, cultural activities, health facilities, heating arrangements, transport, parking, operationalization of Z-Morh Tunnel and other related facilities to be put in place for successful conduct of the festival.

While finalizing the arrangements, the DC maintained that we are expecting huge rush of tourists including locals on the new year and said that Collaborative efforts

and coordination of all stakeholders is necessary to provide seamless facilities to the tourists who are coming to attend the event.

The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner, Mushtaq Ahmad Simnani, CEO, SDA; Joint Director Tourism, Executive Engineers of various wings, representative of Hotelier Association Sonomarg, various Officers/ Officials of District Administration and other stakeholders.

## Saurabh Bhagat chairs executive committee meet of Skill Dev Mission

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, DECEMBER 27

Aiming further sharpening of skills of youth of the UT, the government has submitted an ambitious proposal to the Union government for advanced and aspirational skill development trainings to be conducted in the region.

Commissioner Secretary, Skill Development Department (SDD), Saurabh Bhagat, informed this here on Wednesday while chairing the third Executive Committee meeting of J&K Skill Development Mission.

The meeting was attended by representatives of line departments as members besides DG Finance, Finance Department, Mohammad Sultan Malik, Mission Director, JKSDM Leena Padha, Director Skill Development Sudershan Kumar, Additional Secretary Industries and Commerce, Mamta Devi, Additional Secretary, Youth Sports Services and Labour and Employment, Neelam Khajuria, Joint Director Planning, Parshotam Lal along with other



officials of SDD, officials from NSDC and MSDE in person and virtually.

The Commissioner Secretary emphasized on convergence between various departments on skilling initiatives to avoid redundancy and have holistic overview of skill ecosystem of the UT.

The Commissioner Secretary directed for Adhaar seeded placement data of the placements made by the department so that a realistic picture is put forward. The Commissioner Secretary emphasised the need for initiation of short term skill courses and life skills in schools, industry and tourism departments so that the youth are gainfully skilled for self and wage employment.

It was informed that J&K UT is participating in

India Skills Competition 2023. The registration for the same is being done currently and more than 1600 candidates from have already registered for competitions in more than 60 skill sets identified by GoI. The Commissioner Secretary emphasized upon the skilled youth of J&K to use this opportunity to showcase their skills and talent and represent J&K in National Competitions and win medals and laurels for the UT and carry forward to represent India in World Skill Competitions scheduled to be held in France in 2024.

Earlier, MD JKSDM briefed about the agenda and the activities being carried out by the Mission Directorate while displaying a presentation on working of the Mission

which is presently implementing Centrally Sponsored Schemes like Pradhan Mantri Kausal Vikas Yojna and SANKALP in the UT of J&K. He informed that the Mission has initiated implementation of Nal Jal Mitra and PM Vishkhwakarma schemes in collaboration with Jal Jevan Mission, J&K and the Department of Industries and Commerce.

MD JKSDM informed that the mission is in process of developing a robust Management Information System (MIS) to keep record and track the trained and placed skilled candidates. The MIS will have access by all the stakeholders and various departments that undertake different skilling initiatives in the UT, he added.

## RET Teachers Forum convenes conference on Drug De-Addiction

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
GANDERBAL, DECEMBER 27

In a concerted effort to combat the escalating issue of drug menace, the Jammu & Kashmir RET Teachers Forum today convened a Teachers' Conference on Drug De-Addiction at the Town Hall in Ganderbal.

The event, held under the banner of the forum, drew participation from hundreds of educators representing the length and breadth of District Ganderbal.

The event was presided over by the Deputy Commissioner of Ganderbal, Shyambir along with CEO Ganderbal and Deputy Superintendent of Police Headquarters.

The conference, aimed at fostering mass awareness, centered on crucial aspects of identification and response strategies concerning the pressing



problem of drug addiction.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC underscored the gravity of the situation and emphasized collaborative efforts to address the issue effectively.

While appreciating

the organizers, the DC acknowledged that the teachers strive to create a supportive environment within schools that fosters resilience and deters students from falling victim to the scourge of addiction. He urged all to make a col-

laborative effort to build a strong foundation for a healthier and drug-free future for the youth of the district.

Alongside these key figures, the conference also saw the presence of various civil society members, reflecting a united front in the battle against drug abuse. The collective commitment of teachers, administrators, and community leaders showcased the dedication of the Ganderbal district in tackling the challenges posed by the growing drug menace.

The Jammu & Kashmir RET Teachers Forum extends its gratitude to all participants, dignitaries, and community members for their active engagement in this vital initiative. The conference marks a significant step towards fostering a drug-free environment and promoting the overall well-being of the community.

## Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra reaches Thannamandi Municipality in Rajouri



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
RAJOURI, DECEMBER 27

As part of Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra initiative, the IEC vans equipped with information, education, and communication materials are traveling throughout the district based on a pre-defined schedule.

These vans aim to create public awareness about various central government schemes. They are equipped with a sound system and a digital LED screen that showcases videos of the Prime Minister's addresses, testimonials from beneficiaries, and informative clips to enhance understanding.

Apart from overseeing the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, SDM Thannamandi along with tehsildar Thannamandi inspected stalls set up by different departments at the event. These stalls showcased the schemes of the departments and provided a visual representation of the initiatives aimed at promoting economic growth. The SDM

Thannamandi Shafiq Mir encouraged the public to take full advantage of the diverse range of schemes available, emphasizing the potential benefits for individuals and the collective progress of the community. The event at Ward No. 09 of the tehsil complex featured vibrant cultural performances and presentations, showcasing the cultural diversity and artistic talents within the district. These cultural elements added a delightful touch to the occasion and fostered a sense of community and shared identity. Participants actively took the Viksit Bharat pledge to demonstrate their commitment to the cause of inclusive development. The SDM Thannamandi expressed the significance of this initiative in disseminating information, fostering awareness, and establishing direct interaction with beneficiaries. He highlighted the role of the mobile van in achieving saturation of all schemes and enhancing awareness among the populace.

## VBS Yatra a renewed pledge towards building a prosperous, cohesive India: Yudhvir Sethi

J NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DEC 27

In a significant event marking the progress and unity of India, Yudhvir Sethi, J&K BJP Vice President along with party workers and hundreds of citizens, gathered at Maharaja Hari Singh Park in Jammu to listen to the inspiring address of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in connection with Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra in Varanasi.

The transformative journey of Viksit Bharat by 2047 aligns with the collective efforts envisioned by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. It echoes the commitment to uplift all communities, fostering a future where respect, rights, and opportunities are intrinsic to their socio-economic growth. On the occasion, Priya Sethi, former min-



ister, Praveen Kerni, Arun Sethi, Vipin Sharma, Sudhir Anand, Rajesh Nischal, Brij Lal, Neeru Anand, Suresh Bharti, Ved Parkash Padha, Rahul Gupta, Anil Gupta, Pinku Banthotra, Ajesh Sharma, Dr Akshay Sharma, Raman Sharma, Navin Sharma, Suresh Salgotra, Sharda Devi, Swati Bakshi, Nidhi Mangotra, Rajesh Verma, Amit Puri, Karan Sharma, Sunil Bindru, Rajeev Sethi, Asha Gupta, Chakshu Kapoor, Neeru Anand, Jyoti Sharma, Pooja, Sardar Harvinder Singh, Sharda, Sunita Didwal and Prabha Jamwal were

present.

Speaking on the occasion, Yudhvir Sethi said, "The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra is not just a campaign; it's a renewed pledge towards building a prosperous and cohesive India, and Jammu & Kashmir plays a pivotal role in this journey. Our Prime Minister's vision for uplifting tribal communities is a crucial aspect of this transformative journey, ensuring that every segment of our society progresses together."

The senior BJP leader said "Under the visionary leadership of Prime

Minister Narendra Modi, Jammu and Kashmir has embarked on a transformative journey towards peace, prosperity, and unprecedented development. PM Modi's unwavering dedication to the region's progress is evident in the significant strides made in infrastructure, education, and industry, along with the empowerment of local communities and the fostering of a harmonious environment. His commitment to integrating Jammu and Kashmir more closely with the rest of India, while respecting and celebrating its unique cultural heritage, has opened new avenues for growth and stability. The Prime Minister's approach, characterized by a blend of strong governance and empathetic policies, is not just reshaping the landscape of Jammu and Kashmir but

also setting a benchmark for inclusive development across the nation."

He said that as the Yatra progresses, it not only showcases the rich tapestry of Jammu and Kashmir's tribal heritage but also symbolizes a nation moving steadfastly towards a developed, inclusive, and empowered future. This aligns perfectly with the central government's vision of an all-encompassing development model. The event also featured several stalls showcasing different government schemes. These stalls provided valuable information and insight into the myriad initiatives undertaken by the government, ranging from healthcare and education to employment and social welfare, demonstrating the government's commitment to inclusive development.

## Dr R S Tomar distributes Tabs among Law College students

J NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DEC 27

The president and founder of IMRC College of Law, Dr. Rajendra Singh Tomar, speaking at an event here, stated that the central government is currently providing facilities in higher education for students that were once only available abroad. Indian students used to go to London, Britain for modern legal education, but now that level of education is available in India itself, enabling students to build a bright future and bring glory to the nation.

Dr. Tomar remarked on the exceptional talent of today's students, who are achieving great heights in every examination, with many graduates from the College of Law occupying high positions, including numerous judges in various states. This is a matter



of great pride for our college.

On this occasion, Dr. Tomar distributed tablet phones as awards to numerous talented students. Renowned singer Harish Kashyap captivated the students with his melodious music. The tablet distribution ceremony was graced by Hindu nationalist BJP leader Gururaj Raju Chandel, Dinesh Tomar, Mandal President BJP of Bahadurgarh Hapur, and Naresh Tomar, General Secretary of Hapur,

among others. At the event, Chief Guest, Raju Chandel expressed that today's young generation of students will take the nation to new heights in the future and contribute to the creation of a united India.

He acknowledged the abundance of talent and skilled students in the country, and credited Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Make in India initiative for visibly brightening the future prospects of the young generation.

## Cabinet approves Minimum Support Price for Copra for 2024 season

J NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, DEC 27

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has given its approval for the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for copra for 2024 season. In order to provide remunerative prices to the cultivators, government had announced in the Union Budget of 2018-19, that MSPs of all the mandated crops will be fixed at a level of at least 1.5 times of all India weighted cost of production. The MSP for Fair Average Quality of milling copra has been fixed at Rs.11,160/- per quintal and for ball copra at Rs.12,000/- per quintal for 2024 season. This will ensure a margin of 51.84 percent for milling copra and 63.26 percent for ball copra, which are well beyond 1.5 times the all India weighted average cost of production. Milling copra is used to extract oil, while ball/edible copra is consumed as a dry fruit and used for religious purposes. Kerala and Tamil Nadu are major producers of million copra, whereas ball copra is produced predominantly in Karnataka.

The MSP for 2024 season is an increase of Rs.300/- per quintal for milling copra and Rs.250/- per quintal for ball copra over the previous season. In the last 10 years, the Government has increased MSP for milling copra and ball copra from Rs.5,250 per quintal and Rs.5,500 per quintal in 2014-15 to Rs.11,160 per quintal and Rs.12,000 per quintal in 2024-25, registering a growth of 113 percent and 118 percent, respectively.

A higher MSP will not only ensure better remunerative returns to the coconut growers but also incentivize farmers to expand copra production to meet the growing demand for coconut products both domestically and internationally.

In the current season 2023, the Government has procured a record amount of more than 1.33 lakh metric tonnes of copra, at the cost of Rs.1,493 crores, benefiting around 90,000 farmers. The procurement in the current season 2023 indicates a rise of 227 percent over the previous season (2022).

## CEO SMVDSB launches accommodation management system for pilgrims



J NEWS SERVICE  
KATRA, DECEMBER 27

Adding another technology driven initiative for providing an optimal pilgrimage experience to the devotees, Chief Executive Officer, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, Shri Anshul Garg today launched accommodation management system at Enquiry & Reservation Counter at Katra for the benefit of devotees visiting the Holy Shrine as per directions of the Chairman, SMVDSB (Hon'ble Lt. Governor, JK-UT) which shall be available at all Reservation Counters of SMVDSB.

With the robust accommodation management system in place, the check-ins and check out of the pilgrims would become easier and less time consuming. Besides, the financial transactions pertaining to payments on account of reservations would be secured. In addition, it will also increase the room allotment efficiency of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, thus benefiting more number of pilgrims.

Recently, Chairman, SMVDSB inaugurated an

online booking facility for the passenger ropeway from Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Bhawan to the Bhairon Ji Temple for the convenience of the visiting pilgrims. The facility has been widely appreciated by the pilgrims and based on the warm response, the online quota has been increased to 3,000 tickets per day from January-2024 onwards.

Noteworthy that the Shrine Board has made concerted efforts for adoption of a number of emerging technologies and response mechanisms for state-of-the-art facilities. These include a live darshan facility of "Holy Pindies" for the benefit of devotees across the world, particularly those who are not able to visit the Holy Shrine physically. This initiative has been taken by the Shrine Board with the view to maximize the use of available technology and digitization for the larger facilitation of devotees.

In addition, with an aim to provide authentic information to pilgrims, a Bilingual Interactive Chatbot "Shakti" has been developed for the official website augmenting the

24\*7 toll-free helpline equipped with IVRS for addressing queries and grievances received from pilgrims. Pertinent to mention that over 20,000 pilgrims are being facilitated every month by the Call Centre. This facility has been providing all the relevant information on services/facilities provided by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board to pilgrims at the click-of-a-button.

On similar lines Shrine Board has integrated digital payments in the various sale units of the Board to minimize the cash transactions by installation of Self-Serve Kiosk machines, QR codes, EDC machines, UPI payments and also on-boarding to popular digital platforms for donations and sale of Prasad. The digitalization of the front-end services of Helicopter, Battery Car bookings, RFID yatra access cards and their real time tracking with the dedicated RF Network and over 700 CCTV cameras by Shrine Board has facilitated the pilgrims and also improved administrative efficiencies through digital records and real time reporting.

## Veer Bal Diwas commemorated at Pathseekers in Honour of Sahibzadas

J NEWS SERVICE  
RAMGARH (SAMBA), DEC 27

JKUT - On 26th December, Veer Bal Diwas was solemnly observed at Pathseekers International School to honor the martyrdom of Baba Fateh Singh and Zorawar Singh, the Sahibzadas of 10th Sikh Guru, Guru Govind Singh Ji.

Aligned with the initiative set forth by the Central Board of Secondary Education, Pathseekers led the commemoration of Veer Bal Diwas by organizing a special assembly & also series of activities



aimed at enlightening and educating students. These activities were designed to reflect on the remarkable contributions of the ten Sikh gurus and the unwavering sacrifice of the Sikh tradition in safeguarding

the honor of the nation.

During the event, S. Bhopinder Singh, Chairman of Pathseekers International School, emphasized the importance of drawing inspiration from the Sahibzadas.

## Manjit Singh conducts extensive tour of Vijaypur Assembly Constituency

J NEWS SERVICE  
SAMBA, DEC 27

Apni Party Provincial President, Jammu, and Former Minister, S. Manjit Singh today conducted an extensive tour of Vijaypur Assembly Constituency and met the people in different areas.

The tour was conducted in various villages and wards of Vijaypur in the wake of growing concern of the people regarding poor development, increase in unemployment etc.

During his visit to various areas, Manjit Singh interacted with the respective people and held detailed deliberations with them in reference to their issues.

"The people have concern over poor basic amenities in the wards as well as the villages. The authorities have not been able to



work as per the wishes of the people, and the under-development remains one of main concerns," Manjit Singh said.

He said that the roads and lanes are in bad condition and they need repair / widening work that is not being done even after repeated appeals in various areas.

"The road connectivity, irregular drinking water and unscheduled

power electricity cuts, and excessive electricity bills are among the concerns shown by the people," he said in a statement issued following the conclusion of the tour. He said that the authorities have developed a mistrust and disconnection with the local population, and the people feel deprived of their constitutional right.

"The Govt officials prepare plans and policies

without considering the ground situation. Most of the time, the planned developmental issues often go against the interest of the local population. The gap between the people and authorities has widened and this situation has left the people helpless in almost all the areas in Vijaypur," he added.

He further stated that "All the public issues can be addressed by an elected Govt because the officials are not answerable to the masses. The administration has failed to implement developmental schemes because they have no connection with the people, and they often work in a wayward manner that does not help the local population."

On this occasion, Manjit Singh was accompanied by the prominent people, PRIs, ward members and Apni Party leaders.

## Sat Sharma asks people to take advantage of Viksit Bharat Sankalp yatra



J NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DEC 27

Former Minister Sat Sharma CA, District President Jammu Parmod Kapahi, Mandal President Talab Tillo Keshav Chopra, JKUT BJP Secretary Ayodhya Gupta, JKUT BJP Media Incharge Dr Pardeep Mahotra, BJP Senior Leader and Prabhari Nowshera Sanjay Kumar Baru, Ex Councillors Jeet Angral, Neelam Nargotra, Sr. Sucha Singh, District General Secretary Advrajesh Gupta along with Locals of Talab Tillo today attended Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra at Poonch House Talab Tillo Jammu West Constituency. They

also listened to the live address of Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi in which the PM interacted with the beneficiaries of the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra. Speaking on the

Occasion Sat Sharma said that Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra was being organised to ensure that the benefits of all the welfare schemes reach up to the people of the last mile, and no poor in the country was left out in the journey of development.

Taking Part in the Viksit Bharat Sankalp yatra Parmod Kapahi & Keshav Chopra said that the Modi government is organizing this yatra in every part of Jammu & Kashmir to increase awareness about the central government schemes and ensure that every eligible person gets the benefit.

Dr Pardeep Mahotra and Sanjay Kumar Baru while discussing the calendar prepared with the details of central schemes said that one could scan the QR code placed on the calendar with a cell phone and know about

all the welfare schemes being implemented by the Centre.

Neelam Nargotra, Jeet Angral and Sr Sucha Singh said that the people who have not so far taken the benefits of the Modi government schemes should start applying. "You can submit applications directly to officials visiting as part of the yatra," they said.

Co-Incharge Swachh Bharat Mission Sahil Sharma, Chaman Lal Bhagat, K.L Sharma, Jaideep Samyal, Arun Dubey, Yashpal Shivgotra, Rahul Nargotra, Gurcharan Singh, parveen Ghai, Deepak Kumar, Paramjeet, Rajesh saini, Ramesh Kumar, Geeta Sodhi, Jatinder Khajuria, Sonali Gupta, Omkar Verma, Vikas Kumar and others also participated in the viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra.

## Cabinet approves improvement and widening of 135 km stretch of Khowai-Harina road in Tripura

PB  
NEW DELHI, DEC 27

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has given its approval for Improvement & Widening to two lane with paved shoulder of road from km 101.300 (Khowai) to km 236.213 (Harina) of NH-208, covering a total length of 134.913 kms in the State of Tripura.

The project involves investment of Rs.2,486.78 crore which includes a loan component of Rs.1,511.70 crore (JPY 23,129 Million). The loan assistant will be from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) under Official Development Assistance (ODA) scheme. The project is envisaged to facilitate better road connectivity between various parts of Tripura and to provide alternative access to Assam and Meghalaya from Tripura apart from existing NH-8.



## Bovine smuggling attempt foiled, five bovines recovered



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
AKHNOOR, DEC 27

Police foiled an attempt of bovine smuggling in Gharota police station area of Jammu district. Five cattle were recovered from one vehicle. However, the driver of the vehicle fled from the spot. Police have registered the case and started investigation.

According to the information, Joginder Singh, SHO Gharota Police Station along with his team had set up a blockade in

Mathwar on the basis of information. Meanwhile, the police signalled to stop Tata mobile vehicle number JK14J-1746 for search. After this the driver tried to flee away from there. After being chased by the police, the driver parked the vehicle at the spot at some distance and ran away. During the search of vehicle five cattle were recovered. In this case, the police registered FIR number 103/2023 and seized the vehicle.

## Education Visionaries Unite: Dharmendra Pradhan's Key Interaction set to ignite ideas for IIM Jammu towards Viksit Bharat 2047

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, DEC 27

The Indian Institute of Management Jammu (IIM) Jammu takes pride to announce the forthcoming visit of Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Hon'ble Minister of Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Govt. of India on December 28, 2023, at its Jagti Campus. During this visit, there will be a comprehensive review of the ongoing project activities at IIM Jammu, highlighting the achievements and milestones reached in line with the institute's commitment to academic excellence. The Hon'ble Minister of Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Govt. of India is scheduled to engage in a meaningful dialogue with the academic community, offering insights into the

Viksit Bharat @ 2047 initiative. The discussion with students will center on the vision for a developed and thriving India by 2047, aligning the educational landscape with the broader goals of national progress.

Dr. Milind. P. Kamble, Chairman, Board of Governors, IIM Jammu, added, "We are privileged to host Shri Dharmendra Pradhan Ji, Hon'ble Minister of Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, at IIM Jammu as we collectively aspire towards a Viksit Bharat @ 2047. His visit is a testament to the paramount importance of education in shaping the future of our nation. We are excited about the opportunity to discuss the future of education in India, share insights, and showcase the impactful work being done at our institute. His

visit reinforces our commitment to academic excellence and innovation, thereby strengthening the ties between the government and academic institutions, essential for the envisioned progress towards a developed and thriving India by 2047."

Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu, shared his enthusiasm for the upcoming event, stating, "The interaction with Shri Dharmendra Pradhan Ji, Hon'ble Minister of Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, presents a unique opportunity for our students and faculty to actively contribute towards building a Viksit Bharat @ 2047. We are eager to showcase the academic excellence and innovative initiatives undertaken at IIM Jammu that align with the vision of a developed and thriving

India by 2047. This engagement provides a platform to discuss the evolving landscape of education, share insights, and explore avenues for collaboration and growth. It is a momentous occasion for our academic community, reinforcing our commitment to shaping the future of education in the country."

Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Hon'ble Minister of Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Govt. of India will engage in an interaction with the academic community at IIM Jammu, discussing matters of educational policy, innovation, and contributing towards the envisioned progress of a developed and thriving India by 2047. He will tour the institute's state-of-the-art facilities at its permanent campus at Jagti, ranging from Class-

rooms, Centers of Excellence, and Collaborative Spaces, to witness firsthand the Academic Environment and initiatives at IIM Jammu.

The visit of Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Hon'ble Minister of Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Govt of India to IIM Jammu marks a profound milestone in the institute's journey. It not only signifies an esteemed presence but also reinforces the intrinsic significance of fostering collaboration between the Ministry and academic institutions in propelling the advancement of education in the country.

The forthcoming dialogue aims to synergize the vision of the Hon'ble Minister of Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship with the academic prowess of

IIM Jammu, fostering an environment where ideas flourish, and educational strategies evolve. The emphasis on Viksit Bharat @ 2047 underscores the shared commitment to not just educate but to shape a future where education is transformative, inclusive, and paves the way for a developed and thriving India.

As education takes center stage in this dialogue, the collective goal is to ignite ideas that transcend traditional boundaries and contribute to the vision of Viksit Bharat @ 2047. This pivotal interaction at IIM Jammu serves as a platform for collaboration, innovation, and the co-creation of educational pathways that resonate with the evolving needs of the nation, propelling it towards a brighter and more prosperous future.

## Baldev, Rekha inaugurate "PM Vishwakarma Yojna" awareness camp



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, 27 DEC

Baldev Billawaria Former Dy Mayor along with Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) District President Jammu South Rekha Mahajan inaugurated an awareness and registration camp in connection with Modi-led government's popular magical scheme known as "PM Vishwakarma Yojana" directly connected with the common masses of Bahu Forte in Bahu Constituency drops under District Jammu South. The camp was organized by Ex Councillor Sharda Kumari from Bahufort Ward no 47. District Vice President Karuna Chetri, District Secretary Vivek Patyal, Suraj Rana, Sajjan, and others were present

on the occasion. Baldev Billawaria said, that the 'PM Vishwakarma Yojana' benefits all domains of society, on the occasion of Vishwakarma Jayanti, and is aimed at providing support to artisans who keep alive the traditional crafts of India. He asserted that PM Modi has done exemplary work for the public welfare throughout his tenure as the CM and now as the PM, his life is unparalleled. We all pray to Almighty to grant him more strength so that he can serve the motherland for decades to come.

While interacting with the general public, Rekha Mahajan remarked that the Vishwakarma Yojana has been shaped to refine the traditional skills of our Vishwakarma to meet the

requirements of the 21st century. She emphasized that under this scheme, comprehensive support will be extended to families associated with 18 different types of skills, and they will reap the benefits. She said that the Modi government has initiated policies and schemes to uplift the socio-economic status of the communities and the segments that were consistently neglected by the earlier governments. Rekha said that 'PM Vishwakarma Yojana' aims to revitalize India's rich heritage of traditional crafts by empowering artisans across the nation. After the successful verification and approval process, the applicants will be registered under the PM Vishwakarma scheme as Vishwakarma.

## CEO SMVDSB launches accommodation management system for pilgrims

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
KATRA, DECEMBER 27

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on the warm response, the online quota has been increased to 3,000 tickets per day from January-2024 onwards.

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mention that over 20,000 pilgrims are being facilitated every month by the Call Centre. This facility has been providing all the relevant information on services/facilities provided by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board to pilgrims at the click-of-a-button.

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## Congress Seva Dal chief Vijay Sharma welcomes AICC General Secretary GA Mir



**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, DEC 27

Jammu Kashmir Congress Seva Dal President Vijay Sharma Babbi welcomed CWC member G.A.Mir on assuming the charge of General Secretary in All India Congress Committee. Surendra Singh Channi, vice President JKPC, Pradesh Congress Committee Jharkhand President Rajesh Thakur were also present with him.

Mir, who was the president of the Jkpc, has recently been appointed by the Congress high command to the post of General Secretary of AICC. Expressing satisfaction over the party's decision, Vijay Sharma Babbi said that Mir's appointment is indeed a matter of great joy not only for the Con-

gress cadres in Jammu and Kashmir but also for all those who believe in the ideology, selfless services and sacrifices of the Congress Party.

We appreciate Mir's organizational skills and the way he handled party affairs in Jammu and Kashmir and elsewhere in the country. Mir proved his mettle from booth level worker to national level politics. Mir is a person with immense commitment and conviction towards the Congress Party. He was always determined to make Congress vibrant in Jammu and Kashmir. He did it to the best of his ability and to the satisfaction of the party high command. Vijay Sharma said that Mir will do a good job of taking the party forward with his experience.

## GWC Parade Ground Jammu, in collaboration with DGPC Jammu organised Symposium to Commemorating Martyrdom Week of Char SahibZada's

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, DEC 27

GCW Parade Ground Jammu, in collaboration with District Gurudwara Parbandhak Committee organized Inter College Symposium on the occasion of Safar-E-Shahadat, Martyrdom Week of four sons of Sri Guru Gobind Singh ji on the theme "Char Sahibzade."

The event commenced with a warm welcome from S. Balwinder Singh, Vice President the significance of conducting such programs promoting communal harmony, followed by Dr. S.P. Saraswat, Nodal Principal GCW, Parade Ground Jammu, expressing admiration for DGPC's initiative in commemorating the pivotal role of the four "Sahibzaade" in Sikh history. He extended appreciation to all participants.

Chanpreet Kour and Jasleen Kour from GCW Parade Ground, Jammu,

anchored the program. Seventeen students from eleven colleges in Jammu district shared compelling narratives during the symposium, illuminating the true essence of courage, values, valor, character, and grit embodied by Char Sahibzaade.

Distinguished judges, including Dr. Jasmeet Kour, S Arvinder Singh Ann Retd Additional Secretary Academy of Art, Culture and Languages, and Sardar Arvinder Singh ji, assessed the presentations.

S Manmeet Kour of GGM Science college Jammu bagged first prize, Ms Suhani Gupta of GCW Parade Jammu bagged 2nd Prize while Sahildeep Singh of SPRM College of Commerce Jammu & Ms Gursimran Kour jointly bagged 3rd prize. Consolation prizes were given to S Gursimran Kour, Ms Charanpreet Kour & Mr Mohd. Ayub Jaan.

## President graces 9th Convocation of Institute of Liver & Biliary Sciences

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, DEC 27

The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu graced and addressed the ninth convocation of the Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences (ILBS) in New Delhi today (December 27, 2023).

Speaking on the occasion, the President said that ILBS has carved its own niche in a span of only 13 years on the strength of world-class efficiency and integrity. She was happy to note that more than 1000 liver transplants and approximately 300 renal transplants have been performed at ILBS. She stated that India is becoming an international healthcare hub on the strength of institutions like ILBS by providing world-class health services at relatively low cost.

The President said that

with the integration of life sciences and modern information technology, revolutionary changes are taking place in the field of healthcare. She termed the establishment of Artificial Intelligence Learning Unit in ILBS as a timely initiative. She urged ILBS to continue to work in the field of research along with providing treatment.

The President said that there is a need to pay more attention to preventive healthcare. It can be said that liver is the security guard of our body. Health problems related to liver are serious in our country and the huge number of diseases caused by them is a cause for worry. She said that ILBS is expected to make a significant contribution in the prevention of liver diseases.

The President said that due to non-availability of sufficient number of

organs, many patients are deprived of liver, kidney or any other transplant. Unfortunately, unethical practices related to organ donation also come to light from time to time. It is the responsibility of an aware society to solve these problems. In our country, there is a need to organize more and more awareness campaigns on a larger scale to encourage people about organ donation.

The President advised doctors to take care of themselves. She said that amidst the challenges like long duty hours, continuous emergency cases and night duties, they have to continuously serve the patients with full alertness and enthusiasm. Therefore, it is important that despite all the challenges, they all remain physically, mentally and spiritually healthy and alert.

## I hope incidents like civilian deaths will not be repeated: Farooq Abdullah

**UNI**  
SRINAGAR, DEC 27

National Conference President and Member of Parliament Farooq Abdullah on Wednesday said he has no expectation from Defence Minister Rajnath Singh's Jammu visit.

"I have no expectations from the Defence Minister's Jammu visit. Can they bring back the dead? I only hope that incidents like the civilian deaths in Poonch will not be repeated," the former Chief Minister of J&K told reporters in south Kashmir's Kulgam.

He said Rajnath Singh will inquire about the death of three civilians, when and how they were killed and will try to visit the victim families to

console and balm their wounds.

Three civilians died allegedly in Army's custody after militants ambushed Army vehicles at Poonch in which four soldiers were killed last week.

Rajnath on Wednesday visited Rajouri where he interacted with soldiers and took stock of the security situation in the twin districts of Poonch and Rajouri.

Asked about Rahul Gandhi launching a new yatra from Imphal, Abdullah said the Congress leader was trying to unite the whole country.

"Rahul is trying to erase the hatred which has been spread in the name of religion in India. We were part of the yatra earlier

and will remain," the NC President said.

On the J&K turning like Gaza analogy, Abdullah asked what will happen if there is no friendship between the two neighbouring countries India-Pakistan.

"China is already sitting on our borders and if war breaks out on where will be the bombs fall", he questioned.

Farooq again invoked former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee who said that neighbours cannot be changed but friends can be changed.

"The present PM also said that this is an era when war cannot resolve issues but talks can. We will pray that such time comes and talks happen," he added.

# Govt of India should respond to terrorism by entering its house: Ganesh

J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DEC 27

Fumed over martyrdom of security persons and civilians by Pakistan sponsored terrorists, Shiv Sena Hindustan Youth Wing Activists led by its President Ganesh Choudhary today held strong protest against Pakistan for sponsoring terrorists and demanded toughest action against Pakistan. The activists torched effigy of Pakistan and raised slogans against Pakistan for spoiling our younger generation and exploiting youth. Addressing journalists, Ganesh appealed Prime Minister Narendra Modi to punish Pakistan for its unneaten terror against unarmed citizens of Jammu and Kashmir. "Innocent people are being killed by terrorists; how long such thing will last? Now it is time to teach a befitting lesson to Pakistan and Government of India should respond to terrorism by entering its house and eliminate terrorism from its roots," he said. "The part of Kashmir which is under illegal occupation of Pakistan should be liberated immediately and hoist the tricolor in the PoJK, which



is the wish of all 140 crore Indians," he maintained. Speaking on the occasion, Ganesh urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to deal with the source of terrorism across the border sternly. From the sky, drones from Pakistan that drop drugs across the border; on the ground, a distribution model akin to a multi-level marketing scheme where an addict ropes in more addicts; consignments ferried from neighbouring states; prescription drugs sold against cancelled licenses and opioids procured from the darknet. Ganesh further said that these are the myriad supply lines that feed and fuel the drug pandemic in Jammu and Kashmir which has stretched the public health system to its limits and poses a set of unprecedented challenges to security agencies. Analysing police records of seizure and arrests, both at an all-time high, reveals that, in many cases, the drug trade and terror networks also run parallel – and often intersect, he said. Ganesh said profits obtained through the narcotics trade are sent back to Pakistan and then channeled to finance terrorist activities in Jammu and Kashmir. We are faced with a new challenge where the drugs and weapons are smuggled from Pakistan together. While the weapons are delivered to the terrorists, the major part of the drug proceeds is returned to handlers across the border and the rest shared by the peddlers. Prominent among those present on the occasion include State Chair-

man Shashi Pal Singh Salathia, Jammu District President Rai Kumar Gupta, Samba District President Nek Ram, Badi Brahmana Block President Sanjeev Kumar, Bishnah Block Vice President Sankar Singh, Arnia Block Vice President Bharat Bhushan, Bishnah Chairman Vikas Kumar, Bishnah Block Vice President Pritam Singh, Batra Chak President Mohan Lal, Parmandal Morh President Pawan Kumar, Karan Singh, Bhushan Kumar, Kamal Kumar, Punjab Singh, Jhankar Singh, Mohd Ashraf, Girish Kumar, Pawan Kumar, Kewal Kumar, Madhu Bala, Sunita Devi, Sonia Choudhary, Reena Devi, Veena Devi, Sheela Devi, Pinky Devi, Sunita Devi, Santosh Devi, Suman Devi besides others.

# Deepika Padukone Steps in as the Brand Ambassador for TECNO Smartphones



J1 NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DEC 26

In a ground-breaking move, TECNO, the premium global smartphone brand, is delighted to announce Indian superstar Deepika Padukone as its brand ambassador. This move marks the next step in TECNO's proposition of delivering the best of innovation while remaining stylish and accessible with the consumers' needs at heart. TECNO is buzzing with excitement as Deepika brings an incredible mix of talent, charisma & iconicity! This strategic partnership is not just a collaboration; it's a full-on commitment from TECNO to ride the wave of innovation while grooving to the beats of the young, diverse, and dynamic audience. Get ready for a dose of excitement because Deepika and TECNO are coming together to empower consumers through cutting-edge tech! Her dazzling presence - both on and off the screen - adds a splash of elegance, intelligence, and versatility to TECNO's tech scene. TECNO celebrates Deepika's commitment to breaking barriers not just in the world of entertainment but beyond. As the brand ambassador, Deepika is taking center stage, representing TECNO across the board and strengthening their vision of making innovative and stylish tech accessible to everyone. It's like tech meets glam, and it's about to be one epic show! Partnering with Deepika Padukone isn't just a strategic move for TECNO but it's like turning up the style quotient to make a

super-strong connection with the young and upbeat audience. Deepika's fashion-forward personality blends seamlessly with the stylish innovations TECNO brings to users. The association will extend across all brand and product launches throughout the year, ensuring a consistent and impactful presence. Commenting on the new collaboration, Deepika Padukone, said "I'm excited to join TECNO, a brand synonymous with innovation and stylish smartphones. TECNO's lifestyle-tailored approach seamlessly blends innovation, style, design, and accessibility, resonating with the spirit of the new generation. I look forward to this partnership and the exciting opportunities that lie ahead." Speaking about the recently formed partnership, Arijeet Talapatra, CEO, TECNO Mobile, said, "We are thrilled to announce Deepika Padukone as TECNO's brand ambassador. Deepika's charisma, coupled with TECNO's innovation focus, creates a powerful synergy that will strengthen our brand perception and resonate with younger audiences. Beyond being a smartphone brand, TECNO aspires to be a lifestyle companion. We anticipate the association will enhance our brand image and engage a diverse audience, fostering our pursuit of excellence and 'Stop at Nothing' brand philosophy. With Deepika, we look forward to a year of ground-breaking launches, captivating campaigns, and a partnership reflecting the essence of TECNO - where technology meets style to

redefine the smartphone experience." With this alliance TECNO is celebrating the starting point for its big plan in the coming year. The brand is gearing up to give consumers a premium experience and go that extra mile to bring users the stylish tech at an accessible price point. Stay tuned as TECNO and Deepika Padukone embark on this exciting journey together, shaping the future of mobile technology and leaving an indelible mark on the industry.

**GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR  
JAMMU AND KASHMIR SERVICES SELECTION BOARD**  
CPO Chowk, Panjirthi, Jammu/ Zamzam Complex Rambagh, Srinagar  
(www.jkssb.nic.in)

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**Mr. Arjun Kumar**  
S/o: Suram Chand  
R/o: Hurlani Badsoo, Dansal, Jammu

**FINAL NOTICE**

Whereas, the J&K Services Selection Board, vide No. JKSSB-Scry/7/2023-03 (7259835) dated 09.11.2023, notified the Provisional Selection List for the post of "Driver/ Driver-I/ Driver-II/ Tractor Driver", advertised vide Notification No. 04, 05, 06 & 07 of 2020 and 01, 02, & 03 of 2021; and

Whereas, you had applied for the post of Driver under OSC category for the notification No. 04 of 2020, and

Whereas, you were not found in possession of OSC certificate within cut-off date also as per J&K UT format;

Now, therefore, through the medium of this Notice, you are hereby given a final/ last opportunity to submit a valid within-date OSC category certificate as per J&K UT format, within a period of **03 days** on e-mail ID [driverselection2023@gmail.com](mailto:driverselection2023@gmail.com), from the date of issuance of this notice, failing which your candidature for the aforesaid posts shall not be considered.

*(Signature)*  
(Sachin Jamwal) JKAS,  
**Secretary**  
J&K Services Selection Board

**DIP/J-13128/23**  
**Date: 27-12-23**

No. JKSSB-Scry/7/2023-03 (E-7259835) Dated: 26.12.2023

**OFFICE OF THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OFFICER , POSHAN PROJECT DANSAL**  
Subject :- FINAL SELECTION LIST AFTER CLEARING OF OBJECTIONS FOR THE POST OF SAHAYIKAS (Anganwadi Helpers) OF POSHAN PROJECT  
DANSAL JAMMU ISSUED VIDE ADVERTISEMENT NO:- 01 of 2023 DATED:- 12-05-2023 .

**Annexure - A**

S.No	Name of Sahayikas (AWHs)	D.O.B	Parentage/Husband name	Residence	Ward No.	Name of AWC	Aadhar No.
1	RADHA DEVI	16-04-1996	W/o RAVINDER SINGH	CHILLA	03	Chilla - B	458561479155
2	Asha Devi	11-08-2001	W/o Bishan Dass	Chhurta	04	Chhurta - A	833107451986

No:-CDPO/D/1297-1300/2023  
Dated:- 26/12/2023.

**DIP/J-13113/23**  
**Date: 27-12-23**

*(Signature)*  
Child Development Project Officer  
Poshan Project Dansal

**MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND DEVELOPMENT  
UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR  
OFFICE OF THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OFFICER  
POSHAN PROJECT DANSAL, DISTRICT JAMMU**

**E-Mail Id:-cdpodansal@gmail.com** **Phone No. 0191-2669163**

**Annexure B**

**NOTICE**

Whereas vide this office advertisement notification No:-03 of 2023, Dated:-08-11- 2023 wherein applications for the post of Sangini (Anganwadi Workers) were invited from the eligible female candidates for various vacant posts in Municipal/ Panchayat wards under the jurisdiction of Poshan Project Dansal.

Whereas after receiving application forms (2), scrutiny was conducted by the members of the selection committee as per laid down guidelines in the New Human Resource Policy issued vide Govt. order no:-222- JK SWD of 2022 Dated 30.11.2022 and provisional selection list has been framed at annexure A and objection notice framed at annexure B.

Now therefore objections are invited with regard to residence/Ward No./date of birth etc from the general public/applicants of the concerned municipal/panchayat wards within 10 days from the date of issuance of this notice failing which no claim shall be entertained and the provisional selection list shall be treated as final without any further notice.

**No: CDPO/D/ 11306/2023**  
**Dated: 26/12/2023**

**Child Development Project Office**  
**Dansal**  
**(Member Secretary)**

**Annexure A.**  
Merit cum Provisional list of Sangini wrf Poshan Project Dansal.  
Panchayat Dhan Municipal Ward W.No. 7 Anganwadi Center Jakhari Recruitment for the post of Sangini (Anganwadi Worker) in respect of Poshan Project Dansal advertised vido notification no. 03 of 2023 Dated:- 08-11-2023.

S. No.	Name of Applicant	Parentage		Residence	D.O.B	Aadhar No.	Qualification 12th			Points based on relative criteria of retiree	Remarks
		Father's Name	Husband's Name				M.M	Marks Obtained 12-2	Percent age		
1.	Nisha Singh Mankotia	Swarn Singh	Anil Jamwal	Jakhari	25-04-1993	665982871845	750	409	54.53	0	54.53
2	Lalita Devi		Rashpaul Singh	Jakhari	19-12-1989	299310905516	750	44.53	0	44.53	

Mrs Nisha Singh Mankotia at S.No.01 securing highest points 54.53 is recommended for provisional selection as Sangini (AWW) purely on Honorarium basis. The selection is subject to fulfilling of all codal formalities including verification of documents/antecedents & objections if any.

Sd/-  
Child Development Project Officer  
Poshan Project Dansal  
**DIP/J-13111/23**  
**Date: 27-12-23**

Member Assistant Director Employment Jammu	Member District Social Welfare Officer Jammu	Member General Manager DIC Jammu	(Chairman) District Programme Officer Poshan Jammu
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## Modi's good governance receiving wide appreciation: Aseem

JNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DEC 27

Jammu and Kashmir BJP Vice-President Aseem Gupta addressed a large gathering in Bishnah town in connection with 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp yatra' programme alongwith local leaders of the party. It was the occasion when the LED fixed van, named 'Modi sarkar ki guarantee van' reached the town to explain the people achievement of Narendra Modi government in different fields.

Aseem Gupta, while addressing the gathering, said that it is indeed a matter of pride for BJP that the Narendra Modi government has successfully completed almost ten years and the highlight of these years has been the good governance, which is receiving wide appreciation from all the regions and sections across the country. Benefits of various welfare schemes have been availed by the people of all sections and J&K too has got due share in every



public welfare scheme. Aseem Gupta said that 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra' is an exercise to reach the people at Panchayat and ward levels and brief them that the PM Narendra Modi has drawn a road map for making India a developed nation by 2047 and that the LED van is displaying the good works which have benefitted the nation and the people and shall continue till India reaches the goal of the 'Developed Nation'. This van is 'Modi ki guarantee van' for the future, where every Indian will have access to best means of communication, highly modern healthcare infrastructure, prestigious academic, technical and professional institutions etc and lead health and dignified life. Aseem Gupta,

alongwith government functionaries, also joined the people to take pledge to contribute whole heartedly to make India developed nation by 2047. DDC Bishnah Dharminder Kumar, Tehsildar Bishnah Dr. Sushil Kumar Khajuria, Executive Municipal Committee Bishnah Ranjita Sharma, District President Sunil Dutt, General Secretary Chander Bhushan, Ex-Chairman Rajan Sharma, Ex-Vice-Chairman Romesh Lal, Dr. Narinder Magotra and Yuva morchha President Anirudh Sharma, Er. Savita Saina and Parveen Kumari, Manohar Lal Rao, Corporator Kulbir Singh Langleh, Kissan Mochha Vijay Chouhan, Arjun Sharma, Deepu Choudhary attended this programme.

## Pvt schools are showing contempt to Director, CEOs Education Deptt: Kapoor

JNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DEC 27

President of Parents Association Jammu, Amit Kapoor has said that some private schools are flouting the orders of the School Education Department and are opening schools despite the winter holidays. He said that in this way these private schools are openly defying the Director and CEO of the Education Department while the children are forced to go to schools despite the holidays in this winter season.

Amit Kapoor said this while addressing a press conference in Jammu. He said that the mafia of private schools has become so unbridled that it is



openly flouting the holiday orders issued by the Director of the Education Department, while the Director and CEO of the Education Department are watching all this as mute spectators and their Not ready to take any action against.

He said that the Education Department has declared closure in all government and private schools in view of the winter season and also said that strict action will

be taken against anyone who violates this order. But despite this, some private schools are open and children are forced to go to schools.

Amit Kapoor has demanded Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to intervene in this matter and issue orders to the Director and CEO of the Education Department that strict action should be taken against those schools which are violating the order.

## redBus on-boards JKRTC on its platform

JNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU/SRINAGAR, DEC 27

redBus, the world's largest online bus ticketing platform announces its partnership with Jammu & Kashmir Road Transport Corporation (JKRTC), a prominent state-owned bus transport corporation, with operations across North India. This collaboration marks a significant milestone in the digital transformation of the bus transport sector, offering passengers of the region, a streamlined and convenient booking experience.

redBus will feature 16 JKRTC services on its app and website, redefining the way people plan and book their bus journeys in the far north region. JKRTC, known for its robust presence in the bus transportation sector, boasts a fleet of over 500 buses serving over 79 Lakhs Passengers, dedicated to serving the picturesque Jammu and Kashmir region and traversing interstate routes across Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh. Top JKRTC routes, driven by passenger traffic, include:

to Jammu, Jammu to Srinagar

JKRTC's diverse fleet includes - NON A/C Seater (2+3), Volvo A/C Seater (2+2), DELUXE (2+2) and EXPRESS, Executive A/C Seater (2+1)

Key Highlights of the partnership -

- Extensive Inventory: Travelers can avail from a daily offering of 16 services being added to redBus' inventory, making it easier and convenient to use the services of JKRTC. The vast inventory available for online booking ensures that passengers have a wide range of options to choose from.
- Boosting Online Bookings: With JKRTC currently serving 79 Lakhs passengers annually, this partnership is aimed at increasing the number of online bookings significantly.
- Maintaining price parity: JKRTC and redBus aims to maintain price parity between redBus, JKRTC's online platform, and offline ticketing channels to ensure fairness and convenience for travellers.

Speaking about the partnership, Mr. Rakesh Srangal, Managing Director, JKRTC Spokesperson, stated, "We are thrilled to partner with redBus to provide online and app-based ticket booking facil-

ity, which offers a more accessible and convenient process of seat reservation for our passengers. JKRTC is committed to leveraging technology to enhance the overall travel experience. This partnership also aligns with our vision of reaching a broader audience and making bus travel more efficient and user-friendly in the region."

[Manoj Agarwal, Chief Business Officer], redBus, stated, "We are excited to expand the base of our network of partner bus operators with this collaboration with JKRTC, which is a key player in North India's intercity bus transport sector. With JKRTC services going live on redBus, we aim to offer passengers of JKRTC, a seamless and hassle-free booking experience. This partnership not only strengthens our commitment to providing comprehensive travel solutions, but also contributes immensely to the digital transformation of the bus travel industry."

The collaboration between redBus and JKRTC is set to transform the bus travel landscape in the north. With increased convenience, a wider range of routes, and an extensive inventory, this partnership empowers travellers with more choices and a better travel experience from and to the valley.

## Legacy of Sahibzades, Guru Gobind Singh Ji a timeless beacon of humanism, sacrifice: Kavinder

JNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DEC 27

Exemplary courage and sacrifice of Sahibzades and Guru Gobind Singh ji's life and teachings would continue to guide the path of humanity for all times to come. People must rise above the narrow outlook of life and tread the path of humanism.

This was stated by Kavinder Gupta, senior BJP leader and former deputy Chief Minister while participating in the Bhandara organized by Tankers Union of Jammu at Railway Yard here today. Ranjit Singh, President Tanker Union and Ranjod Singh Nalwa, President Minority Morcha, BJP, J&K, were also present.

Addressing the gathering, the senior BJP leader said that Prime Minister has taken the right step towards recognizing the sacrifice of the brave and righteous sons of Guru Gobind Singh. He said that the observance of Veer Baal Diwas on December 26 is a fitting tribute to the valour of the sons of Guru Gobind Singh, the tenth Guru of the Sikh Community.

Kavinder said that observance of December 26 day as Veer Baal Diwas will give an opportunity to the people of the nation to go through the difficulties which the country-



men faced under the rule of invaders and how the nation was freed from the clutches of unprincipled and barbaric rulers by the most courageous of those times.

Kavinder said that this move should have been taken soon after the country attained the independence but the then governments never bothered to highlight the heroism and valour of the aboriginals and were interested in placating the foreign rulers for their vested interests. He said that the pragmatic move by

the PM is a real tribute to the quest of Guru Gobind Singh and his entire family for justice and uprightness of the people of the country irrespective of their colour, caste and creed.

The former Deputy Chief Minister also highlighted the significant contribution of Sikh Community in nation building and establishing a just and equal society. He said that people across the sections of society must be told about our Guru's influence in transforming society and enriching social values.

## BJP committed to welfare of all sections: Jasrotia



JNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DEC 27

In a momentous event held at Barnoti, Jasrota constituency, former Minister Rajiv Jasrotia along with hundreds of BJP workers, actively participated in the live telecast/broadcast of Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra where in PM Modi interacted directly with Beneficiaries. The distinguished gathering included DDC Members, BDC Chairpersons along with numerous Sarpanches, PRI Members, Officers, Officials, prominent citizens, and media persons. The participants attentively listened to the words of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and actively engaged with beneficiaries from across the country. Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra is being undertaken across the country with the aim to attain saturation of flagship schemes of the government through ensuring that the benefits of these schemes reach all target beneficiaries in a time bound manner.

Speaking on the occasion, Jasrotia said that Prime Minister, Narendra Modi led Government at the Centre has initiated a volley of initiatives for all sections of society irrespective of the caste, colour and creed. He said that successive governments in the erstwhile State of J&K failed to take

pro-people initiatives and it was only during the short tenure of less than ten years till date that major issues confronting them were resolved at the earliest. He asserted that as of today Government has made possible the road connectivity and bridges, drinking water facility, electricity and last but not the least the educational facilities by establishing schools especially for the nomads. He said that it is the BJP Government that provided the facility of transportation of Nomadic Gujjars and their livestock during their movement from plains to hilly areas in summer season and vice-versa thus providing a great relief to the members of this community.

Jasrotia, while enumerating a number of initiatives of BJP Government, hoped that people of all sections of society will support the Government at the Centre in the upcoming elections as they realize the party's dedication towards addressing their issues and ensuring a hassle free and peaceful environment besides raising their living standard. He said that the party is committed and firm on providing benefits of all social and economic welfare schemes to each and every section of the society particularly to those who have been left behind in the race of

development. He said, in each and every scheme of the Narendra Modi Government the focal points are villages, poor, Dalits, deprived people, Backward Classes, youth and women.

Jasrotia added that the government has announced several pro-people and pro-poor policies and programmes that have touched the lives of all sections of the society. It has also taken many initiatives to boost India's security and safety and take the country on the path of prosperity and growth. He said, the government's commitment and pledge is unwavering and firm on 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas and Sabka Prayas'. He added that BJP's belief is firm on all-round development, safety and security of the country. He said that since its launch on 15th November, 2023, Prime Minister has regularly interacted with the beneficiaries of the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra all across the country. The interaction has happened thrice through video conferencing (30th November, 9th December and 16th December). Also, Prime Minister has interacted with Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra beneficiaries physically on two consecutive days (17th-18th December) during his recent visit to Varanasi.

## Cabinet approves Minimum Support Price for Copra for 2024 season

PIB  
NEW DELHI, PIB 27

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has given its approval for the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for copra for 2024 season. In order to provide remunerative prices to the cultivators, government had announced in the Union Budget of 2018-19, that MSPs of all the mandated crops will be fixed at a level of at least 1.5 times of all India weighted cost of production. The MSP for Fair Average Quality of milling copra has been fixed at Rs.11,160/- per quintal and for ball copra at Rs.12,000/- per quintal for 2024 season. This will ensure a margin of 51.84 percent for milling copra and 63.26 percent for ball copra, which are well beyond 1.5 times the all India weighted average cost of production. Milling copra is used to extract oil, while ball/edible copra is consumed as a dry fruit and used for religious purposes. Kerala and Tamil Nadu are major producers of million copra, whereas ball copra is produced predominantly in Karnataka.

The MSP for 2024 season is an increase of Rs.300/- per quintal for milling copra and

Rs.250/- per quintal for ball copra over the previous season. In the last 10 years, the Government has increased MSP for milling copra and ball copra from Rs.5,250 per quintal and Rs.5,500 per quintal in 2014-15 to Rs.11,160 per quintal and Rs.12,000 per quintal in 2024-25, registering a growth of 113 percent and 118 percent, respectively.

A higher MSP will not only ensure better remunerative returns to the coconut growers but also incentivize farmers to expand copra production to meet the growing demand for coconut products both domestically and internationally.

In the current season 2023, the Government has procured a record amount of more than 1.33 lakh metric tonnes of copra, at the cost of Rs.1,493 crores, benefiting around 90,000 farmers. The procurement in the current season 2023 indicates a rise of 227 percent over the previous season (2022).

National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) and National Cooperative Consumers' Federation (NCCF) will continue to act as Central Nodal Agencies (CNAs) for procurement of copra and de-husked coconut under Price Support Scheme (PSS).

## Khatana castigates former Govt's for looting public money



JNEWS SERVICE  
REASI, DEC 27

In a scathing critique, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MP Rajya Sabha, Er. Gulam Ali Khatana, lambasted the National Conference, Congress, and Peoples Democratic Party for their misuse of state funds during their respective tenures.

Addressing a gathering of party workers in the hilly and remote district of Reasi at Mahore, MP Gulam Ali Khatana expressed deep concern over the sorry state of affairs in the area. Prominent among those present were Pardeep Singh Bali, Seh Prabhari, BJP Reasi, Ch. Mohd. Akram, Smt. Shaida Bano, BDC Gulabgarh, Bansil Lal, Haji Abdul Rashid, Ch. Gulzar Ahmed, VP ST Mochha, J&K. More than 100 workers of PDP, NC, Cong joined BJP in the presence of MP Khatana and pledged to work for expanding the party activities.

MP Khatana asserted that the previous governments exploited the state exchequer, diverting public funds for personal gains and leaving the

common people bereft of the benefits of development and growth. He highlighted instances where public money was allegedly misappropriated for the personal comfort and asset building of those in power. He asked the district administration to fix the responsibility for the delay in the works and if contractors are responsible, they be blacklisted and if the officers are then they should be penalised for the delay.

During the party workers meeting, MP Gulam Ali Khatana expressed concern over the pathetic infrastructure in roads, health services, and overall development during past 70 years of dynastic rulers. He noted that numerous developmental projects initiated two decades ago are yet to reach completion, leaving the local populace in a state of anticipation in Mahore, Chassana, Thuru blocks. He urged the LG administration and district administration to speed up the ongoing developmental works so that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of serving the last man in the row is realised.

## MP Ghulam Ali Khatana engages in Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, advocates for inclusive development through Government Schemes

J I NEWS SERVICE  
REASI, DECEMBER 27

Member of Parliament Ghulam Ali Khatana actively participated in the ongoing Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, a nationwide campaign dedicated to raising awareness and ensuring the widespread implementation of various flagship government schemes.

The event, held in Mahore sub-division, witnessed enthusiastic participation from diverse segments of society.

The campaign, highlighted through an Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) van, showcased remarkable success stories of beneficiaries who have thrived under multiple schemes such as the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), UMEED, Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY), Kisan Credit Card (KCC), Pradhan Mantri

Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM Kissan), Poshan Abhiyan, Old Pension, and more. Notably, a pivotal moment included a message from Prime Minister Narendra Modi, personally delivered through the IEC van, underscoring the government's commitment to the nation's development.

Individuals, communities, and students came together during the event to take a collective pledge for a Viksit Bharat, symbolizing a dedicated commitment to the advancement and progress of our nation.

Speaking at the event, MP Ghulam Ali Khatana stressed the indispensable role of community involvement in ensuring the success of government initiatives. He stated, "The active engagement of citizens is pivotal for the effective execution of government schemes. The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra provides a unique

platform for people to connect with authorities and actively contribute to the nation's development."

The event witnessed a rich display of cultural diversity as various educational institutions collaborated to present a captivating cultural program, celebrating India's pluralistic heritage.

MP Khatana emphasized the need for continued efforts to empower communities through awareness. He highlighted the significance of officers and officials from various departments engaging with the general public to shed light on vital schemes, including Ayushman Bharat - PMJAY, PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission, PM Ujjwala Yojana, Kisan Credit Card (KCC), and Poshan Abhiyan.

The 'Meri Kahani Meri

Zubaani' segment featured impactful firsthand accounts from beneficiaries, showcasing the tangible benefits and positive changes brought about by the government's welfare programs. MP Ghulam Ali Khatana expressed gratitude for the participants' active involvement and commended the district administration for successfully organizing the program. He underscored the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra's role in creating awareness, bridging gaps for inclusive development, and fostering engagement with government schemes.

Furthermore, constituents from Mahore and neighboring areas highlighted pressing issues, emphasizing the urgent need to expedite the completion of PMGSY roads, accelerate the construction of the PHC building in Dewal, and address staff shortages in the PHC.

## Awareness programme under Yuva Vani held at GDC Ghagwal



J I NEWS SERVICE  
SAMBA, DECEMBER 27

A One day Yuva Vani programme was organised at Govt Degree College Ghagwal in which Chief Horticulture Officer Samba Mukesh Kumar Sharma presided over the proceedings as Visiting District Officer.

In this Programme, Field Functionaries including Officers Of Agriculture, Horticulture and other allied Departments briefed the students about their ongoing Departmental schemes and how students can also act as catalyst in spreading the message to benefit prospect beneficiaries.

This program was organised as part of Yuva Vani awareness campaign Plan of the District Administration to aware the youth about ongoing Departmental schemes besides attracting them in lucrative avenues in Agriculture and allied sectors.

During the programme, Progressive orchardists from Block Ghagwal also shared their success stories with

students wherein curious students put forth their queries and myths which were rightly responded by the progressive farmers.

CHO Samba in his address explained the headway achieved by the department in implementing the Yuva Vani programme in the district. He said Yuva Vani programme is a good opportunity to acquaint Youth with the scope of Agriculture and allied sector which offers great self employment opportunities in diverse fields. Earlier, Principal GDC Samba in his welcome address hailed the participating departments for enlightening the students about the latest happenings in the field of agriculture and allied sectors and how students came get wholesome benefit of the government schemes.

Horticulture Development Officer Ghagwal Davinder Singh threw light on the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP), Kissan Sathi, Daksh Kisan and other Departmental schemes.

## JPDCL appeals consumer to pay bills on time to avoid power disconnection

J I NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DECEMBER 27

Jammu Power Development Corporation Limited (JPDCL) requested all consumers to pay their outstanding Electricity bills within due date to avoid power disconnection.

It was further informed that JPDCL has started power disconnection drive in respect of its consumers having arrears.

Once the power is disconnected due to non-payment of the bill, it shall be restored only after recovery of the arrears which may take one to two days after payment by the consumer.

Therefore, to avoid facing inconvenience, all JPDCL Consumers are advised to pay their electricity bills, in time.

## Billawar witnesses live telecast of PM Modi's address on Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra



J I NEWS SERVICE  
KATHUA, DECEMBER 27

In a significant event held at BDC Complex Billawar, DDC Chairman Kathua Col (Retd) Mahan Singh, actively participated in the live telecast/broadcast of Viksat Bharat Sankalp Yatra where in PM Modi interacted directly with Beneficiaries.

The distinguished gathering included DDC Members Vikram Singh, Neeru Rajpur, BDC Chairpersons Ashok Sharma, Nisha Devi, Reeta Devi, Abhay Jasrotia, ADC Billawar Vinay Khosla, Tehsildar Pankaj Sharma, BDO Billawar Shahbaz Chaudhary, Omakant Basotra, former President MC Billawar, along with numerous Sarpanches, PRI Members, Officers, Officials, prominent citizens, and media persons.

The participants attentively listened to the words of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and actively engaged with beneficiaries from across the country.

As part of the event, DDC Chairman inaugurated the newly constructed BDC Billawar building amidst the resonating Vedic mantras. Situated atop a hill, offering a panoramic view of river Bheeni, the state-of-the-art building stands as a testament to progress, constructed at a cost of

Rs 97.0 lakh.

This landmark structure is poised to strengthen the 3-Tier PRI System. During the occasion, Col Mahan Singh demonstrated his commitment to community welfare by participating in an organized havan ceremony.

Addressing the needs of the community, the DDC Chairman actively listened to the various issues and grievances raised by PRI representatives. The concerns spanned a spectrum of developmental matters, including road construction, the slow pace of JJM projects, electricity shortages, the timely completion of CHC Billawar's new building, release of pending payments, repair of handpumps, and 14 FC non-tender works. The Chairman assured a dedicated resolution to all genuine problems, emphasizing a collaborative approach towards holistic development.

Addressing the gathering, Col Mahan applauded various CSSs of Modi Govt and its impact on the targeted groups/communities. He asserted that the Sankalp and sincere commitment of 140 crore Indians coupled with vision and leadership of PM Modi will definitely make the dream of Viksat Bharat a reality by 2047 when country will be celebrating its century of Independence.

## All major canals of Jammu province to be closed from 1st January, 2024

J I NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, DECEMBER 27

As per a communiqué received from Chief Engineer, Jal Shakti (I&FC) Department, Jammu that all the Major Canals (including their distribution net-

work) of Jammu province i.e. Ranbir Canal, New Partap Canal and Kathua Canal including their network shall be closed from 1st of January 2024 for execution of annual desilting/other works and shall be recharged on 01-03-2024.

## Trout Fish Farming sparks Entrepreneurial Spirit among Youth in Ramban

J I NEWS SERVICE  
RAMBAN, DECEMBER 27

In a notable example of youth entrepreneurship, Mohd Irfan, a 27-year-old resident of Thopal village in Tehsil Batote, District Ramban, has emerged as a trailblazer in the field of trout fish farming. Choosing entrepreneurship over Government as well as traditional employment, Irfan has established his own trout fish farming business, serving as an inspiration for the youth across the district.

Initially running a Karyana shop in his locality after completing his 10th-grade examination, Mohd Irfan sought a new venture and applied for a fisherman license from the Fisheries Department, Ramban. Drawn to the possibilities offered by the Department's beneficiary and job-oriented schemes, he decided to venture into trout fish farming.

Under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada



Yojana (PMMSY), Mohd Irfan established his trout fish farm in Thopal during the year 2020-21. The total project cost amounted to Rs. 5.50 lakh, with the department providing a substantial subsidy of Rs. 2.20 lakh under the scheme.

Expressing his success, Mohd Irfan shared, "I have earned about Rs. 3 lakh annually from the

fish farming, in addition to managing my shop and engaging in small agricultural activities with the help of my family members."

The demand for Rainbow Trout fish from his farm has been significant, with a local market preference, and all his fresh produce is eagerly purchased at a minimum rate of Rs. 500 per kg. Mohd

Irfan has also expanded his market reach, selling trout fish in Jammu last year, gauging positive market response.

Appreciating the support from the District Administration, especially the Fisheries Department, Mohd Irfan expressed his gratitude for the financial and technical assistance provided. He emphasized the role of fish farming in meeting the local demand for fish in the Batote locality. Mohd Irfan's success story goes beyond personal achievement, as he envisions expanding his trout fish farming business to generate job opportunities for other family members and local youth.

Appreciating the success of Mohammad Irfan, Deputy Commissioner, Ramban, Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary directed the Fisheries Department to motivate youth of district Ramban to start their Fish Farming units, as the district has ample potential of Trout Fish Farming.

## Bhupinder Kumar convenes public darbar at Gurha Top, Rajouri

J I NEWS SERVICE  
RAJOURI, DECEMBER 27

In a remarkable demonstration of commitment towards public welfare, Secretary, Health and Medical Education, Bhupinder Kumar, today chaired a public darbar at Gurha Top to assess public issues and concerns.

Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal, was present on the occasion. The people expressed satisfaction over the outreach programme saying that Public Darbar provides them an opportunity to voice their grievances before the government for resolution, through appropriate channels.

The event served as a pivotal platform for direct interaction between the government and the public, addressing an array of critical issues. A plethora of critical issues were brought to the forefront during this engaging session.

Specific issues which



were highlighted during the event were shortage of staff at sub centre Fatehpur Danna, sanctioning of a dispensary, paucity of staff at GMC&AH Rajouri, sanctioning of a trauma centre, operationalization of MCH, trauma centre at block Dhangri, dispensary at Dalhori, Ayush Hospital, speedy implementation of JJM, illegal mining, High School at Malut, PHC at panchayat Darhal, sub centre at Fatehpur Gurian, operationalization of PHC at Dodasan Balla, Ayush Centre at Dodasan Balla etc.

Diverse stalls adorned the venue, each depicting implementation of impact-

ful schemes dedicated to welfare of the public. Attendees were not only heard but were also motivated to explore and avail themselves of the manifold benefits offered by these initiatives.

During the event, Secretary actively inspected the stalls, gaining firsthand insights into the innovative schemes and initiatives being undertaken.

Addressing the Public Darbar, Secretary committed to address the pressing issues brought forward by the local community. He emphasized that the top priority of the Government is to ensure that basic facilities and services

are delivered to the general public in an efficient and timely manner.

Bhupinder Kumar reiterated his unwavering commitment in improving the lives of the citizens of Rajouri. He affirmed that the government would take concrete actions to address the raised issues and work towards fulfilling the demands of the community.

Secretary underscored the commitment to transparency and accountability within government institutions, highlighting the significant strides made in ensuring these principles. Enumerating a plethora of government

schemes, he emphasized that their outreach has substantially increased, indicative of a concerted effort to benefit a larger segment of the population.

In the realm of healthcare, Secretary provided a comprehensive update on the sector's progress, citing the establishment of the Government Medical College (GMC) at Rajouri as a pivotal milestone. This development, he noted, has substantially strengthened health services in the region, resulting in a notable rise in patient footfall.

Bhupinder Kumar also emphasized the augmentation of healthcare facilities saying that a new thalas-

semia care center has been set up at GMC & AH Rajouri. Furthermore, to enhance blood transfusion services, a state-of-the-art blood components separation unit has been set up reflecting a commitment to continuous improvement.

Among others, DDC member Rajouri, Sai Abdul Rashid; DDC member Thanamandi, Abdul Qayoom Mir; Sarpanchs, Panchs and general public in huge number attended the event.

Besides, officers including Principal GMC, Amarjeet Singh; DFO Nowshera, Sateyendra Maurya; CPO, Mohammad Khurshid; SE Hydraulics, Bharam Jyoti Sharma; DDE, Qadeer Ul Rehman; ACD, Vijay Kumar; ACP, Sheraz Chohan; DPO, Auqil Nuvaaid; DSHO, PP Sagotra; CAHO, Dr Khalid Hussain; CMO, Dr Rajinder Sharma; LDM Sanjeev Bhasin and other district and sectoral officers attended the event.

## Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra

### PM's Message empowers awareness on Citizen-Centric Schemes in Kishtwar

J I NEWS SERVICE  
KISHTWAR, DECEMBER 27

The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY) Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) Van, equipped with cutting-edge LED screens and audio-video systems, showcased the recorded message of the Hon'ble Prime Minister. The message emphasized the profound impact of Citizen-Centric Schemes and inspired citizens for the Vision of a Developed India by 2047, presented at prominent locations within the district.

Welcoming the van at the location, citizens attentively absorbed the message, gaining valuable awareness about the array of schemes available to them.

Enriched by this enlightening message, the populace expressed a keen interest in understanding the schemes and their potential impact on their lives.

Prominent personalities also delivered speeches, divulging the impact of various citizen-benefiting schemes by the central government and how they promise upliftment across different sections of society.

Accompanied by dedicated officials, the IEC Vans diligently disseminated information, Education, and Communication Materials among the people. This proactive dissemination strategy aims to ensure wider awareness and understanding of the various schemes amongst the population.