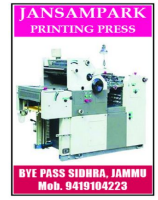




# JINDRAH IMAGES



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## India's 3rd Lunar mission Chandrayaan-3 successfully placed in orbit, begins 42-day journey to moon

AGENCIES  
SRINAGAR (AP), JULY 14

India's third Lunar exploratory mission Chandrayaan-3 spacecraft was successfully placed in the precise orbit by ISRO's heaviest launch vehicle "Fat Boy" LVM3-M4 on Friday from the SHAR Range-SDSC here, marking the commencement of its 42-day long journey towards the hither to unexplored Moon's South Polar Region.

After a 25.5-hour countdown, the 43.5 m tall launch vehicle, with a lift off mass of 642 tonnes, took off majestically from the Second Launch Pad at 2.35 p.m. from the SHAR Range, which was witnessed by tens and hundreds of people, including



school and college students and women, who cheered every moment by carrying the Indian tricolour.

After the ignition and separation of all the three stages and after a flight duration of 16 minutes, Chandrayaan-3 spacecraft was injected into a 179 km Orbit successfully amid

orbit raising manoeuvres in the coming days, the Chandrayaan-3 will begin its long journey for a safe landing and roving on the lunar surface.

After a more than 3.8 lakh km journey, the soft landing was expected to take place in the last week of August. The landing date will be decided when there is sunrise on the moon.

"When we are landing, sunlight must be there. So the landing will be on August 23 or 24," according to ISRO Chairman S.Somanath, who said the coming 42 days of the Chandrayaan-3's journey was very important and crucial. The Chandrayaan-3 consists of an indigenous lander module (LM),

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 6

## Under PM Modi, world looking at India with hope, J&K undergoing rapid transformation: LG Sinha

JNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, JUL 14

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha attended the valedictory function of Multimedia Exhibition, organized by Central Bureau of Communication, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting at Sri Pratap Higher Secondary School Srinagar on Friday.

In his address on the occasion, the Lt Governor shared India's unprecedented growth journey and appreciated the endeavour of the Central Bureau of Communication (CBC) for organizing 5-day long exhibition highlighting Nine years of "Seva, Sushasan and Garib Kalyan".

"In the past 9 years under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister



Shri Narendra Modi ji, the country has transformed into an economic powerhouse and a model of inclusive development for the world," the Lt Governor said.

He said the 9 years have been dedicated to inclusive, progressive and sustainable development to create equity and oppor-

portunity for all the citizens. Country is witnessing fastest development of infrastructure, empowerment of marginalized and emergence of a self-reliant and aspirational society, he said.

"Under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister, India has emerged

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 6

## Ex-militant booked under PSA in Bandipora

JNEWS SERVICE  
BANDIPORA, JUL 14

Jammu and Kashmir Police on Friday booked a former militant and member of APHC under Public Safety Act (PSA) in north Kashmir's Bandipora district.

Bandipora police in a Tweet, as per the news agency said that Ameer Hamza, an ex-militant, from Quilnuqam village was involved in anti-national activities.

"Bandipora Police booked one ex-terrorist & member of APHC namely Ameer Hamza Shah R/o Quilnuqam Bandipora under PSA and lodged him in District Jail Baramulla, for his continuous involvement in anti National activities," police tweeted.

## 3 labourers killed in Kishtwar accident

JNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JUL 14

Three labourers lost their lives after a truck dumper they were travelling in plunged into a deep gorge at Keru power project site in Kishtwar district.

Police officials told the news agency that a vehicle part of ongoing work at Keru power project site plunged into a deep gorge, resulting in injuries to three persons.

The trio has been identified as Badal Singh (18), son of Ranjeet Singh resident of Bida Padyarna, Ishfaq Ahmed (30) son of Mohd Ashraf resident of Trigam and Chingu Ram (47) son of Chour Singh resident of Chingnana Galhar.

Meanwhile, Police said to have taken up legal proceedings into the matter.

## Crime Branch Kashmir files chargesheet against 19 accused in forgery case

JNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, JUL 14

Economic Offences Wing of Crime Branch Kashmir has produced chargesheet against 19 accused persons in the court of Passenger Tax Srinagar.

According to a statement issued to the news agency, the accused persons were involved in the commission of offences punishable under sections 420, 468, 120-B & 201 RPC.

The statement reads that brief facts of the case are that Crime Branch Kashmir had received a complaint alleging that certain individuals had been established in J&K Police (District Srinagar) on the basis of fake and forged appointment orders.

It reads that accordingly, the instant case was registered in P/S Crime Branch Kashmir (now, Economic Offences Wing, Srinagar) in 2015 and investigation was started.

"During investigation it has been established

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 6

## Amarnath Yatra

### DGP visits Base Camp yatri niwas Bhagwati Nagar in Jammu

JNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, JUL 14

Director General of Police (DGP) Dilbag Singh Friday visited Base Camp yatri niwas Bhagwati Nagar Jammu to review the security arrangements and other facilities for the pilgrims of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra.

He also interacted with the pilgrims, and officers. SSP Jammu Chandan Khoi, SSP Security Jammu Shemsher Hussain, SSP Traffic Jammu Faisal Qureshi, SP North Jammu Kulbir Handa and other gazetted officers of Police were present on the occasion, a police spokesman said in a statement issued to the news agency.

The DGP inspected the security methods and



mechanisms adopted for the security of yatri at the camp. He was briefed by the officers about the deployment plans and management of boarding and lodging of yatri besides security arrangements in and around the camp.

Directing for close vigil to be maintained at the base camp and around the camp, the DGP emphasised that the instruction for the movement of

yatra convoys and timing schedule should be strictly adhered to. He also took stock of the traffic management at the camp.

The DGP stressed upon the officers to ensure strict compliance of SOPs and instructions conveyed for the security of yatri. He said that security measures should be implemented efficiently and security of all the vital points of the camp

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 6

## Govt withdraws order on electricity charges for employees staying in Srinagar, Jammu quarters

JNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, JUL 14

The government on Friday withdrew orders pertaining to the electricity at flat rates for its employees residing in government quarters in Srinagar and Jammu.

In an order, a copy of which lies with the news agency, government stated that the order is withdrawn with immediate effect.

"The Government Order No. 301-GAD of 2013, dated 20.02.2013, pertaining to the payment of electricity charges by Government employees residing in Government Quarters at Srinagar and Jammu at flat rates, is hereby withdrawn with immediate effect," the order reads.

## Forces conduct anti-terror mock drill on Amarnath Yatra at NH-44

JNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JUL 14

Amid ongoing Shri Amarnathji Yatra, security forces conducted a simulated anti-terror response exercise of an attack on Yatra in Ramban area on Jammu Srinagar highway (NH-44), officials said Friday.

Officials told news agency, more than 150 security personnel from Army's 23 Rashtriya Rifles, 84th Battalion of Central Reserve Police Forces, Jammu Kashmir Police and Sashstra Seema Bal participated in the operation which continued for around more than an hour.

Officials said that the scenario was that at about 11.30 am in the morning, when the convoy reached the halting point near



Chanderkote, Ramban for breakfast and refreshments, "a group of terrorists tried to attack the pilgrims at larger site."

"Wasting no time, ground commanders of all the participating agencies guarding the convoy discussed different scenarios of terrorist attacks on Yatri at Langer site and chalked out a suitable response plan," officials said.

They added that the operations were continued for 45 minutes in which forces successfully neutralized the threat without any collateral damage.

"The teams executed their plans professionally, on ground, in concert, to successfully neutralize the terrorists, without collateral damage," the official said.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 6

## J&K Resident Commission retrieves 1 Kanal, 11.2 Marlas land at New Delhi

JNEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, JUL 14

The J&K Resident Commission Friday carried an eviction drive and retrieved land measuring 1 Kanal and 11.2 Marlas which built up temporary structures at Kashmir House, Rajaji Marg here, which was under unauthorized occupation of unknown persons.

The drive was carried on the directions and guidance of Estates Officer, J&K Resident Commission, New Delhi, Niraj Kumar.

The eviction proceedings were initiated under Section-4 of the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorized Occupants) Act, 1971 issued initially to the Central Public Works Department, followed by another notice under Section-4 of the Public Premises (Eviction of unauthorized Occupants) Act, 1971 issued to all the unknown unauthorized occupants at Kashmir House, Rajaji

Marg, staying on the above piece of land who were also making an unauthorized use of water and electricity to facilitate their stay.

Subsequently, the Estates Officer, Resident Commission, J&K Govt, New Delhi passed an eviction order under sub-section (1) of Sec. 5 of the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorized Occupants) Act, 1971, against all the unauthorized occupant(s) particulars of whom were not known.

Notwithstanding even after completion of prescribed legal procedure, the unauthorized occupants did not vacate the premises even after the lapse of period of 15 days as specified in the eviction order passed by the Estates Officer and thereafter, no notice of appeal or stay against the order of eviction issued by the Estates Officer was received. Eventually, the Estates Officer, J&K Govt, New Delhi, Niraj Kumar, issued a notice under Section-4 of the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorized Occupants) Act, 1971, against all the unknown unauthorized occupants at Kashmir House, Rajaji

## Chief of Army Staff calls on LG

JNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, JUL 14

General Manoj Pande, Chief of Army Staff called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhavan today.

The Chief of Army staff and the Lt Governor held extensive discussion on



various security issues. The Army Chief was accompanied by Lt General Upendra Dwivedi,

GOC-in-C, Northern Command and Lt General Rajiv Ghat, GOC 15 Corps.

## PM Modi participates in Bastille Day Parade in France, India's Tri-Services marching contingent wows crowds

AGENCIES  
PARIS, JUL 14

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday joined French President Emmanuel Macron for the Bastille Day parade as the Guest of Honour with an Indian tri-services marching contingent wowing crowds here during the French National Day celebrations.

Rafale fighter jets of the Indian Air Force (IAF) also joined the flypast on the occasion along with French jets.

"India, inspired by its



centuries old ethos, is committed to doing everything possible to make our planet peaceful, prosperous and sustainable. 14

billion Indians will always be grateful to France for being a strong and trusted partner.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 6

## Former CS B R Sharma Appointed as J&K's SEC

JNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JUL 14

Amid indications that Panchayat polls in Jammu & Kashmir would be held in October- November this year, the administration of Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory on Friday appointed retired IAS officer B R Sharma as the State Election Commissioner (SEC).

As per news agency, in an order, commissioner secretary, General Administration Department, Sanjeev Verma, said the appointment of the SEC shall take effect from the date he assumes charge.

"In exercise of the powers conferred by proviso to sub-section (3) of section 36 of the Jammu and Kashmir Panchayat Raj Act, 1989, the Lieutenant Governor is pleased to appoint Braj Raj Sharma, IAS (Retd.) as State Election Commissioner for Jammu and Kashmir," the order read. It said Sharma shall hold the position of the State Election Commissioner till he attains



the age of 65.

"The terms and conditions of his appointment shall be notified by the Government subsequently," the order said.

The post of SEC fell vacant on February 01, 2023 when K.K. Sharma completed his term.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 6



# Hole in the heart repaired by Minimal access Surgery on Beating Heart at SSH Jammu

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUL 14: Another milestone was achieved today by the department of Cardiothoracic & Vascular Surgery, Government Medical College Jammu when a large hole in the Heart of a 7 year old female child was repaired through minimal access method through a small (5.5 Cm) muscle sparing (non muscle cutting) incision in the right axilla (armpit) area of right side of chest wall, thus avoiding the area of Right breast tissue. This is a novel technique in which heart was not stopped to carry out the repair of hole in the heart and the procedure was carried out while the heart was continuously beating. There are only few Cardiothoracic centres which fix the holes in heart on beating heart remarked the Chief surgeon Dr Shyam Singh. These delicate operations need precision, alertness of each member of the team including Anaesthetists, Perfusionists and Scrub nurses.

The patient was extubated soon after operation as she became fully awake and her Heart rate, Blood pressure and other vital parameters became normal. The technique gives very good cosmetic results as the scar hides by the arm and the area of right breast tissue is not disturbed. Besides short hospital stay, the amount of blood, and painkiller drugs required

are also less as compared to conventional procedure which is performed by splitting breast bone (sternum) and making the heart stand still (quiet) using drugs to stop the heart beat when the surgery is performed. Moreover patient get mobile the same day of Surgery. The new technique was carried out using the same set of equipment and instruments as for conventional surgery without adding to the cost. All the expenses of consumable and other drugs used were covered under Ayushman Bharat Scheme.

This child was failing to grow for her age and had palpitations (rapid heart beats) and repeated chest infections.

Her heart chambers were enlarged and excessive flow of blood was going into lungs because of Hole between two upper chambers of heart. She was



referred by Paediatric Department of our hospital for Surgical intervention. The surgical team comprised of Dr Shyam Singh, Dr IA Mir, assisted by Dr Taruna and Dr Baba Simran Singh. Dr Vivek Gandotra, Dr Prabhdeep Singh also helped in carrying out the procedure.

Cardiac Anaesthesia was conducted smoothly by Professor and Head Dr Paja Vimesh (Principal GMC Doda), Dr Vikas Gupta, Dr Amarpreet, Dr Jehangir, Dr Bhavna, Dr Beenish assisted by Senior Cardiac Anaesthesia technologist Vikas Sharma, Mr Arif, Abhiranjani Kotwal, Karan Singh.

Senior Perfusionists Mr Chananjit Singh and Mr Roshan Lal operated the vital heart lung machine.

The operation theatre scrub sisters helping in carrying out the procedure were Rizgen Angmo

Sapna, Balvir Kour, Renu Nainiyal, Sonia assisted by Sunil, Sushel lead by Operation theatre incharge Vaishali and Senior most technologist Shri Girdhari Singh.

The intraoperative and peri operative care in Intensive Care Unit SSH was managed by alert ICU sisters Urmila, Nighat, Rajinder Kour, Pooja Sharma, Vandana, Shivalika, Sunita, Shivani, Neetu, Sayeda, Sonakshi, Nayeem, Zirayat under Sister incharge, ICU SSH Asma, & Shiv Karan Singh.

Principal Medical College Jammu Professor Dr Shashi Sudhan while visiting the patient Congratulated and applauded the team effort.

She further stressed that the people should utilise these facilities at their doorsteps under Ayushman Bharat Scheme which is being run successfully in GMC & AH, Jammu.

# BJP OBC Morcha Jammu North holds monthly meeting in Janipur Mandal



JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUL 14: Sunil Prajapati (State President BJP OBC Morcha), Neetu Verma (District President BJP OBC Morcha Jammu North), Sunita Gupta (Corporator),

Jogdish Kumar (General Secretary BJP OBC Morcha Jammu North), Vikas Singh (President Mandal Janipur BJP OBC Morcha) were Present in the meeting. Pawan Kumar (President Mandal Marh BJP OBC Morcha), Shubb Kumar (Vice

President Mandal Janipur BJP OBC Morcha), Sham Lal (General Secretary Mandal Janipur BJP OBC Morcha) were Present in the meeting. The Motive of the Meeting was to discuss the Works done during last one Month

# DFSS hold protest against target killing in valley



JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUL 14: TRF has claimed the responsibility for the yesterdays attack on the migrant local workers from Bihar who were shot at their accommodation in Shopian for the Governments announcement of 5 Marla's plot in the weaker section of the society in Jammu & Kashmir. This is the same propaganda which has been

spread by the Kashmiri leadership upon the 5 Marla's plot announcement. This clearly shows the mindset that how the terrorists and the Kashmiri leadership are working together. Thousands of kanals of land was allotted to the factory people from outside at very meager price and money was extracted from them in the form of commission but now if the land is being given to the people

who protect these Kashmiri leaders from threats now these people are creating noises as to why land is being given to these security forces. Gupta asked that before the abrogation of article 370 the land which was given to the factory people 'Wo Andar Wale The' ya Bahar Wale The' The workers of Dogra Front & Shiv Sena under the leadership of president Ashok Gupta took out a massive rally in

# BJP indulging in emotional mobilization and empty rhetoric to gain power: Harsh Dev

JI NEWS SERVICE

UDHAMPUR, JUL 14: Accusing the BJP of having failed and floundered in honouring its commitments with the people of J&K ever since its ascendance to power at the centre, Mr. Harsh Dev Singh, Former Minister and State President JKNPP said that the saffron party was thriving merely on empty rhetoric and false propaganda. While it promised a job bonanza for educated youth post Art 370 abrogation, it did exactly the opposite of what it had assured. It not only terminated several hundreds and thousands of youth working in various good depths but also put the existing good jobs to auction with the middlemen extorting huge money from prospective job seekers in the name of employment. The lands of poor farmers are being forcibly retrieved and indigent rural masses being forced to starvation. The Health and educational institutions in rural areas are facing chronic deficiency



of staff with a highly insensitive remote controlled regime averse to the woes of the common masses. The BJP had proved to be a party of 'Jumlas' with a complete mismatch between its promises and delivery. The BJP leadership exploited the gullibility of the innocent voters during all elections held in the past eight years, including those of Parliament, Assembly, BDC and DDC, without delivering anything on the ground'. He was addressing huge public meetings in Ghordi and Ser Bala villages of Chenani constituency.

Urging upon the people to recognize the real face of BJP behind its deceptive facades, Mr. Harsh Dev said that it was coming out with new slogans during each elections only to conceal its past failures and to kindling false hopes amongst the poor indigent and deprived masses in order to fulfill its political ambitions. He said that the innocence of poor hapless people was once again exploited during the last DDC elections when several central BJP leaders indulged in 'boisterous extravaganza' promising moon to the people. They

made tall promises of early restoration of statehood, immediate Assembly elections, review of toll plazas, employment packages for the educated youth and so on and so forth, said Mr. Singh. He lamented that the people fell prey to such declamatory and bombastic talks of the 'Jumle baaz' leaders who only specialize in emotional mobilization and showmanship. He urged upon the people to wake up to the falsehood and innuendo of BJP which has been tailoring its slogans with the sole aim of capturing power.

# Indian Army organised Lecture on Physical Fitness at Gagrote

JI NEWS SERVICE

RAJOURI, JUL 14: A lecture on Sehat Se Barkat as part of Fit India Initiative was conducted by Indian Army at Gagrote in District Rajouri J&K. The lecture highlighted the significance of physical fitness and exhorted the audience to make exercise a daily ritual. It was brought out in the lecture that physical fitness results in strong bones seamless cardio vascular functions and strong muscles which results in better health reduced risk of lifestyle diseases like blood pressure diabetes etc. Regular physical activity including playing games apart from increasing social interaction and forging stronger bonds in the community also helps in reducing stress instils sportsman spirit and a



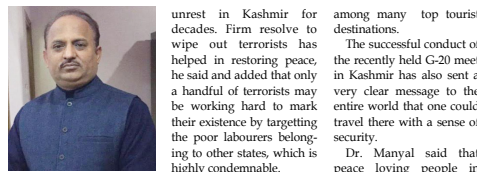
NEVER GIVE UP attitude towards life. The event was highly appreciated by the attendees, who expressed gratitude

for continuous support rendered by the Indian Army to motivate and educate the populace of the villages

# Targeting non locals in valley highly condemnable: Dr. Manyal

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUL 14: Attack on three non-local labourers in Gagran area of south Kashmir's Shopian district and injuring them by unknown gun men reflects deep frustration in the rank and file of a handful of terrorists, who are disturbed by the return of peace and normalcy in the valley. In a statement condemning this barbaric act, Jammu and Kashmir BJP General Secretary & former health minister Dr. Devinder Manyal, said that peace and normalcy has been fast restored in the terror hit Jammu and Kashmir, especially normal life returning in valley in all sectors. The



change in environment from fear and insecurity to peace can be attributed to the policy of the Union Government under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, which has taken various steps to identify the terrorists and anti national forces, crack the nexus between different terrorist organizations and eliminate all such elements responsible for

unrest in Kashmir for decades. Firm resolve to wipe out terrorists has helped in restoring peace, he said and added that only a handful of terrorists may be working hard to mark their existence by targeting the poor labourers belonging to other states, which is highly condemnable. Dr. Devinder Manyal said that Kashmir attracted record number of tourists from within the country as well as abroad in first six months of this year. It was so because the nature loving people within India and at global level were convinced that today's Kashmir is as safe as it was thirty years ago and remains to be first choice

among many top tourist destinations. The successful conduct of the recently held G-20 meet in Kashmir has also sent a very clear message to the entire world that one could travel there with a sense of security. Dr. Manyal said that peace loving people in Kashmir should come forward in helping the administration by providing information about the movement of terrorists, if any in their surroundings. The people should not forget that terrorism has only consumed precious lives as well as caused damage to immovable properties, which is irreparable loss for Kashmir and it's people.

# Peace & normalcy restored with abrogation of Art 370: Raj Rattan Raina

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUL 14: BJP leader Raj Rattan Raina asserted that peace and normalcy has been restored in Kashmir region, bringing a renewed sense of tranquility and normalcy to the Union Territory. He lauded the government at the Centre over the positive developments witnessed in Jammu and Kashmir since the repeal of Article 370. In a statement issued here today, the BJP leader emphasized that after the historic decision to repeal

Article 370, Jammu and Kashmir has experienced unprecedented development and progress. The region has witnessed an influx of tourists, with a record-breaking 1.82 million visitors, which is a testament to the restored peace and growing confidence among tourists, he added. However, he expressed his apprehension about certain politicians who are unable to digest these positive developments and issuing irrelevant statements with an aim to mislead the people of the country. He

acknowledged the success of the G20 event and the record-breaking influx of tourists in Jammu and Kashmir, with a staggering 1.82 crore visitors. The peaceful environment has allowed people to engage in their day-to-day activities across the Kashmir Valley, fostering a sense of positivity and progress, he added. Raina cautioned the people to remain vigilant and aware of such politicians who may attempt to disrupt the peaceful atmosphere and hinder the progress achieved in Jammu and

Kashmir. He urged the people of Jammu and Kashmir to continue supporting the government's efforts to maintain peace, harmony, and development in the region. He emphasized the need for unity and vigilance to counter any attempts to disrupt the peace that has been achieved in Jammu and Kashmir. He reaffirmed the BJP's commitment to the welfare and development of Jammu and Kashmir, and encouraged the public to remain steadfast in their support for peace and progress in the region.

# MP Khatana asks for resolving issues of SC employees, condemns



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUL 14: BJP MP Rajya Sabha Er. Gulam Ali Khatana today strongly condemned the cowardly attack on three non-local labours in district Shopian by Pakistan sponsored terrorists. He said that enemies of peace are disturbed by the peace and progress in Jammu and Kashmir.

He also called up the LG administration to resolve the long pending issues of Jammu based Reserved Category Employees serving in Kashmir. He said that Reserved category employees should be treated at par with PM package employees so that a feeling of discrimination and

at par with Kashmiri Migrant employees and a concrete inter district / inter division transfer policy for All Jammu based reserved category employees must be framed, safe and secure accommodation for those employees who do not come in the preview of transfer policy be made. Reserved Category Employees should be treated at par with PM Package Employees in respect to safety, security and accommodation.

They further told MP Khatana that salaries of few employees are still pending even after resuming their duties and govt. must be asked to redress the issue. A delegation of Gujjars, Tribal Association Pahalgam led by Muneer Chouhan, president too called on MP Khatana and highlighted the harassment faced by them. They alleged that Gujjars residing in Pahalgam were running Pony business from Pahalgam Pony stand since last many years but were evicted from the stand by few miscreants who are not allowing them to run their business. A delegation of SC/ST/Reserved category employees called on MP Gulam Ali and complained of harassment by senior officials leading to depression and in some cases having committed suicide.

MP khatana assured to take up the issues with concerned authorities.

emunity must not developed among fellow employees.

A number of delegations today called on BJP MP Rajya Sabha Er. Gulam Ali Khatana including All Jammu Based Reserved Category Employees serving in Kashmir Division and highlighted their problems.

All Jammu based Reserved category Employees led by its president Anil Radha demanded that a suitable transfer policy be framed so that lives and livelihoods of the Reserved Category employees could be ensured. They said that Scheduled Caste and Scheduled tribe employees from Jammu serving in Kashmir be treated

# Shiv Sena strongly condemn terrorists attack on migrant workers in Shopian



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUL 14: Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit has strongly condemned the terrorist attack on migrant workers in Shopian district of Kashmir, terming it as a despicable and cowardly act.

Addressing media persons at Party's Central Office in Jammu today, Manish Sahni, President, Shiv Sena J&K has issued a stern warning to terrorist organizations, which he

referred to as proxies of Pakistan, against targeting Hindus and attempting to disrupt the holy Amarnath Yatra with any nefarious activities.

He stated that the spate of killings, which began with the murder of Makhlan Lal, owner of Bindru Medicates, in October, 2021, continues to witness targeted killings of individuals such as Rahul Bhatt, Sunil Bhatt, Amarine Bhatt, and Puran Krishan Bhatt, as well as the recent incident in Gagan area of

Shopian, where three migrant workers were shot at around 8:30 pm last night.

Sahni further highlighted that since January 2021, 55 civilians have lost their lives in the terrorist attacks in Jammu and Kashmir including incidents of targeted killings and attacks on security forces.

While last year saw the deaths of 35 civilians, this year alone, up until June, 20 more individuals have fallen victim to the hands of terrorists, he said and

expressed his prayers for the speedy recovery of those injured in the attack on Thursday.

Sahni has issued a clear warning to terrorist organizations backed by Pakistan, stating that any cowardly act such as the murder of Hindus and any attempt to disrupt the Amarnath Yatra will have serious consequences. He condemned such actions as despicable and called for an immediate end to these heinous acts.

"Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit stands strong in its condemnation of terrorist activities and reiterates its commitment to the safety and security of all citizens," Sahni said, urging the authorities to take strict action against those responsible for these attacks and the government must ensure safety of migrant workers and pilgrims of Amarnath Yatra.

Among others who were present include President Mehila Vaid Meenakshi Chibber, Gen Secretary Vikas Bakshi.

# Media is a powerful tool in shaping public opinion: Rekha Mahajan

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUL 14: Media plays a critical and positive role in highlighting government policies and changing people's lives. BJP District Rekha Mahajan said today as a mark of Sampark se Samarthan Abhiyan Rekha Mahajan interacted with media persons also known as the fourth pillar of democracy at Press Club RS Pura drops under District Jammu South. In the meantime, Rekha Mahajan felicitated the team press club. Chairman Daljeet Singh (Dainik Jagran) President Subash Chander (Amar Ujala), Sohan Choudhary (Shiv Times), Naresh Kumar (State Samachar) Raj Kumar (7Plus Channel), and other prominent persons in the presence of District General Secretary Akash Chopra, Mandal President Bikram Sandhu, Mandal Prabhari Vikram Sharma including BJP cadres.

During the interactive session with the Media fraternity, hailing the role played by the media in popularising government initiatives, Rekha Mahajan highlights the achievements of the nau saal bemaal of the central government. Rekha Mahajan said the role of the press as the "fourth power" and as a forum for public debate has been recognized since the 17th century. She



said in a liberal democratic society, the media play a vital role in engaging the public with government affairs by flowing information transparently. However, Rekha pointed out that the current Media scenario and the concept of a "free press" in a democratic country has become a subjective issue to discuss. In changing our political structure, the media are often cited as a dominant force, and, for the worse, by turning a system of parties into a contest of personalities, shifting a concern with ideas and policies to a concern with images and styles. Likewise, in the modern history of the media, picking or taking biased sides has become a new normal, Rekha added.

While distributing the booklets of 9 Years of Seva

to the Media persons, Rekha Mahajan lauded the past nine years under the Modi government as a Golden Era for India. She underscored that during this period, the country showcased its supremacy through various achievements, including the resolution of Jammu and Kashmir's problems, the fight against terrorism, and advancements in space technology.

Rekha highlighted that India has already become the world's 5th largest economy under the Modi dispensation and expressed optimism that it would ascend even higher with the continued support of the people in the upcoming political contests.

Recognizing the influential role of media influencers in the current scenario, Rekha Mahajan urged them

to remain focused on their work and to highlight the key achievements of the Modi government. She acknowledged that Media has become a powerful tool in shaping public opinion and can play a pivotal role in course correction when it comes to canvassing for polls and promoting other initiatives.

For any nation to develop, making good policies is one aspect. But, to enable the policies to succeed and ensure that large-scale transformation takes place, active participation from all walks of society is needed. For that, the media plays a critical role. In these years gone by, I have seen the positive impact the media can play," Rekha Mahajan said while educating the nine successful years of the Modi-led government.

# Skill Development Course Concludes at GCOE Jammu



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUL 14: Five days Value Added Skill course in Basohli Paintings and Wheat Grass Artifacts concluded at GCOE under the patronage of Prof Aekta Gupta, Principal of the college. In the valedictory session she exhorted the students to come forward and establish their own start ups in making Basohli Paintings which is

now in high demand after getting GI tag. She also motivated the students to popularize bio-friendly artefacts like the traditional Binna, wheat grass baskets and other articles that can replace plastics thus it will resolve many issues like the menace of plastics, saving heritage-generating employment through vocal for local schemes. JenabSohailKazmi was the Guest of Honor on the occasion. He appreciated

the efforts of the students and the college for reviving the old traditions which were not only environment friendly but also acted as de-stressing activities. Such activities also develop dignity of labor and makes a person self-reliant also.

During the five day workshop the students were trained by Resource Persons from Shilpkrati Bazar. MsSanchaita Pradhan and her team trained the students.

Assistant Director MSaritaParihar (JKAS) from Department of Handicrafts, Chief Guest of the program also applauded the efforts of the college in reviving heritage of J&K. She apprised the students about various government schemes related to the promotion of artisans and skilled crafts persons. The program was jointly organized by IQAC, WDC, IIC, and NSS of GCOE Jammu. The program was coordinated by DrShubhrajamwal, NSS, PO of the college. The program was attended by all the faculty members.

# HSM Releases Hindi Tanslation book of Plays

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUL 14: A Hindi translation book of plays, titled 'Vishavagnrik Ke Natak', written in Punjabi by S. Drvinder Singh Vishavagnrik, a noted Punjabi playwright, poet and writer, and translated by S. Manjeet Singh Kaama, a well known poet and translator, was released by Hindi Sahitya Mandal (HSM), Jammu in a function organized at K L Saigal Auditorium, Cultural Academy, Jammu today. Dr. Arvinder Singh Ann, former Additional Secretary JKAACL, was the chief guest whereas Dr. Nirmal Vinod a renowned poet & writer, presided over the programme. Dr. Chanchal Dogra, President, HSM-J and S. Manjeet Singh Kaama shared the dais. A large number of intellectuals and writers attended the programme.

The programme started with the formal welcome extended by Dr. Chanchal Dogra, President, HSM-J. Two papers on the content and critical evaluation of the released book were presented by Rajeshwar Singh Raju



JJ NEWS SERVICE

and Deepak Kumar. It may be mentioned that S. Drvinder Singh Vishavagnrik has started writing poetry from the very young age. He has contributed many books of poetry and prose as well as authored twelve Punjabi plays.

While speaking on this occasion, Dr. Nirmal Vinod said that there is lack of playwrights in the literary circles of the region. He said that by translating the Punjabi plays in Hindi would widen the scope of

sharing such creations. He added that there should be healthy interaction between all the languages in practice in this region of the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir. He appreciated S. Devinder Singh Vishavagnrik, M S Kaama and HSM-J for contributing in this regard.

In his address, Dr. Arvinder Singh Ann complimented all the concerned for exchanging the literary creations in various languages. He said that joint efforts are needed by all the

organizations working for the development of different languages. To come together and organize joint programmes of languages. S. Devinder Singh Vishavagnrik, M S Kaama and Dr. Chanchal Dogra also expressed their views.

The proceedings of the programme were conducted by Smt. Manto Dutta Sharma, Executive Member of HSM-J.

The programme ended with vote of thanks by Jang S. Verma, Publicity Secretary, HSM-J.

# Manjit Singh demands political reservation for Jatts of J&K

JJ NEWS SERVICE

Jammu, Jul 14: President, J&K Jatt Sabha, and Former Minister, S. Manjit Singh has demanded political reservation for the Jatt community in Jammu and Kashmir to fulfill their political aspirations.

In a statement issued here, the former minister said that "We welcome the recommendation of the Backward Classes Commission which has recommended OBC status to the Jatt Community."

He stated that "We commend the recommendation as the Commission has realized the social, economic and educational backwardness of the Jatt community. For the last seven decades, the Jatts have faced ignorance and negligence from the traditional political parties."

He said that the Jatts were exploited for the vote bank, but their demands were not accepted by then Govts for the last seven decades.

However, Jatts remained politically marginalized even as they have a huge chunk of the population. They were displaced three times i.e., 1947, 1965 and 1971 and they had to re-settle



again, he added. Keeping in view the aspiration of Jatts, he said that the political reservation should be granted to the Jatts of Jammu and Kashmir. Meanwhile, he also demanded 27% reservation for OBCs of J&K.

He reminded that the J&K Jatt Sabha had met the Commission members and informed them about their political backwardness in the erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir.

He said that the Commission was informed about the concerns of the Jatts regarding no political representa-

tion.

"The Jatt population is scattered in various districts and hence, they are not in a position to elect their representatives. However, their political aspirations were never fulfilled by the traditional political parties compromised," he said. Citing reasons, he also appealed that the Commission nominate Jatts as the representative in the Legislative Assembly of Jammu and Kashmir to ensure their aspirations are fulfilled and their desires are not compromised.



## Kavinder applauds India's remarkable progress with Chandryaan-3 Launch & Rafael Deal with France



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUL 14: Senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister, Kavinder Gupta on Friday said that country is moving forward in surprisingly large and rapid steps, as the success of launch of Chandryaan-3 and fresh deal with France on Rafael is the testimony to the fact that India is progressing by leaps and bounds. "India has been progressing at an unprecedented pace, thanks to the remarkable leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his dedicated

team. The recent launch of Chandryaan-3, India's third mission to the moon, stands as a testament to our nation's scientific prowess and commitment to space exploration. This landmark achievement once again places India at the forefront of the global space community and highlights the country's technological advancements," he said.

"Furthermore, the fresh deal with France on the Rafael agreement underscores India's growing prominence on the international stage. This strategic partnership between India

and France not only strengthens the defense capabilities of our nation but also fosters global cooperation and mutual trust," the BJP stalwart said this while speaking to media persons after inaugurating back-topping work at Cantonment areas Ward No 6, falling in Belicharana locality.

Kavinder said, "With the start of this development work, the long pending demand of the people has been fulfilled because for the last 25 years the people were yearning for this road to get repaired here oppo-

site the Military Hospital. He said that whether it is a small development work of a Mohalla or extraterrestrial expedition, under the Modi regime every work is taken up with equal sincerity to get immaculate results.

The senior BJP leader said that first time in the history of J&K, any government is laying such focused attention towards people's issues because whether it is summer months or winters, the development works concerning common man are being executed in the UT without allowing anyone to indulge in bungling or compromise with the quality of works.

Others who accompanied Kavinder Gupta include Vinay Gupta, Narinder Koki, Bharat Bhushan Mandal President Gandhi Nagar, Suraj Rana, Daler Singh, Gurdial Singh, Vikram Rao, Rakesh Sharma, Ranjeet Singh, Ravi Sharma, Garu Ram Sharma, Sonu Raina, Rakesh Sharma, Rishu Langhe, Balwan Singh, Sanju Kumar, Rattan Kumar and Sonu Kumar.

## Tarun Chugh holds Review Meeting at Party Headquarters

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUL 14: Tarun Chugh, National General Secretary of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) & Prabhari Jammu and Kashmir, chaired a crucial review meeting at the party headquarters in Srinagar.

Ashok Koul, General Secretary Organization, J&K BJP, also addressed the meeting. The senior leaders were also accompanied by BJP National Council Member Dr Ali Mohammad Mir, Former MLC Charanjeet Khalsa, BJP Spokesperson, and social media Prabhari Thakur Abhijeet Singh Jasrotia, District President Srinagar Ashok Bhat, Basir Ahmed Sheikh, Iqbal Ahmed along with other key party members.

The review meeting chaired by Tarun Chugh reiterated the BJP's commitment to the progress and development of Jammu and Kashmir.

The party remains dedicated to implementing effective programs and initiatives that foster unity, peace, and prosperity throughout the region, he said. Amidst the discussions, Tarun Chugh, the BJP National General Secretary

## PEACE & DEVELOPMENTS DON'T DIGEST TERRORISTS, CONDEMNS KILLING OF THREE NON-LOCALS



and In-Charge of Jammu and Kashmir, condemned the recent terrorist attack on three non-locals in the Shopian district of south Kashmir. In a statement, Chugh expressed his deep concern, highlighting the attackers' desperation in the face of the positive developments taking place in Jammu and Kashmir.

Chugh emphasized that the people of Kashmir have realized that peace is the only way forward, thereby rejecting the terrorists' agenda.

He denounced the division between locals and

non-locals, categorizing it as a result of frustration, and reinforced the idea that all citizens of India are united under one nation, transcending regional boundaries.

Calling for justice, Chugh stressed that those responsible for this heinous crime must be swiftly brought to book. He extended his sympathies to the victims' families and prayed for their speedy recovery.

Ashok Koul, while assessing the progress of the "Samark Se Samadhan" program, appreciated that the Abhiyaan was conducted

extensively throughout the length and breadth of the Kashmir valley. The party leaders deliberated on the outcomes and discussed further strategies to enhance the effectiveness of the initiative.

Koul also reviewed the status of the ongoing "Mera Bhoth Mazboob" program, which is being implemented in all corners of Kashmir, was also extensively discussed during the meeting. The leaders reviewed the program's impact and explored opportunities to strengthen its reach and impact in the region.

## Mock Drill Conducted at Yatri Convoy halting point Chanderkote, Ramban

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUL 14: With the aim to gear up the security apparatus and ensure synchronized response mechanism, on 14 Jul 23 @ 1130 h to 1245 h, a security mock drill was carried out by a joint team of CRPF, JKP, RR, and SSB, at Yatri Convoy halting point Chanderkote, Ramban. The following teams participated:

84 Bn CRPF: 04 Bunker borne QAT, BDDS, 03 K9 teams, 01 Sniper team, Emergency Medical Response Team, under command Sh R R Meena, AsstCdt and under supervision of Sh Vikram Singh, 21/C - Total: 58 personnel. JKP under command Dy SP Waqar Younis Khan - Total: 26 personnel. 23 RR under command Capt.Naveed Singh - Total: 20 personnel. SSB A/38 and F/73 coy



under command AsstCdtSh Atul Kumar and Sh Vijay Kumar - Total: 47 personnel. Different scenarios of terrorist attacks on Yatris at Langer site were depicted and discussed thereabout, by the ground commanders of all the participating agencies and a

suitable response plan was chalked out. Thereafter, the teams executed their plans, on ground, in concert, to successfully neutralize the terrorists, without collateral damage. The CRPF BDDS and K9 teams were pressed into service to sanitize the area and safely defuse the

IED brought by the terrorists. Sniper teams of CRPF and RR were positioned strategically, to neutralize any possible threat.

The exercise concluded with a Briefing session where minor shortcomings were pointed out for rectification.

## BLSKS presents 367th dogri musical play "Nasha Kola Bacho"

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUL 14: In continues to the 'NashaMukt Bharat Abhiyan',BhartiyaLokSangeet Kala Sansthan, in coordination with Ministry of Social Justice and empowerment ,Government of India, Social Welfare Deptt,J&K Govt. and SangamTru Art Production presented mega cultural program on "NashaMukt Bharat Abhiyan"atRehearsal Hall, Disco Road JanipurJammu in its 367th Friday Series Musical Play "NASHA kola Bacho"todraw global attention to the tobacco epidemic and the preventable death and disease it causes. A pledge was also taken by more than 50Students ,Teachers and prominent citizenry Sh.M.C.Kotwal ,Secretary of BLSKS administered the pledge .The Program was inaugurated byChief Guest Sh.V.K.Magotra ,Former Regional Director of Directorate of Field Publicity, Government of India, Dr.Tara Singh Charak , Former Deputy Director ,J&K Health Department , andMr.Mukesh Singh, Media Person J&K were the guest of honor. The day commemorated as well with sole aim of rejuvenating the traditional , Primitive Folk , Art, Culture of J&K Region in particular and Indian,"Nashana Karna Man ,to KhemaPayaro Bhai behnaJogBadiKharabi" It has BachoBachoTobacco Kola Bacho" , "Tu Mala Tu Log Pane thikriyan" , "NaiPlayanTabaccoBalm" , "ChutkiBadiKharabiHyeChutki" , " Nai

Pi SharabaBalm" , Nukkad, Skits ,Songs and Dances were staged.The Chief Guestthe main aim of this day is to create awareness about the ill effects of tobacco, the disease it can cause and the preventable measure. It also reaffirms our commitment to achieve social goals, initiatives to end drug abuse and strengthen community-centric approaches and expressed the resolve that India is committed to root out the menace of drug abuse at any cost and lauded the efforts of the organizers in making such awareness programmes colorful and effective. The artist of BLSKspresented theme based-songs which were written by Dr.M.L.Dogra&the music was the programmed by Mr.RajuBaigal, Music Instructor, BLSKS.The program was recorded & uploadedonline on Social Media for benefit of the peoples. Welcome speech was given by Dr. M.L.Dogra ,Chairman , BhartiyaLokSangeetKala Sansthan said the play based on the ill effects of Drug Abuse , "NashaMukt Bharat Abhiyaan, the flagship campaign of the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment is an initiative in this stride.

The Abhiyaan has been valiantly fighting against the baleful repercussions of substance abuse at the ground level with the support of local administration, master volunteers, online competitions and several events. It has been evident that mental health disorders need to be addressed to build a healthy society that contributes to the national growth and development.

NashaMukt Bharat Abhiyan is an efficacious attempt to fight against substance abuse and raise awareness for healthy lifestyles&also I am happy that the initiative taken up by the BLSKS, I hope and pray that this programs will be fruitful and Bharat will be a No.1 drug free country, if possible we all would like to take part in this Abhiyaan as a workers equal partners. Miss Rajni Gupta , Troupe Leader ,BLSKsaid this yearly celebration informs the public on the dangers of using tobacco, the business practices of tobacco companies, what WHO is doing to fight the tobacco epidemic, and what people around the world can do to claim their right to health and healthy living and to protect future generations &Volunteers and outreach workers of theorganization have gone from door to door, and nearby localities of Jammu city to educate the people about the ill effects of drug abuse and have assisted the rehabilitation of victims of substance abuse.

The activities of Swatch Bharat Abhiyan, despite the situation arising out of COVID-19 in the country, have continued in full force. Choose a reason that is strong enough to outweigh the urge to light up. The singers, musician and actors who performed wereUshaRaina, Rajni Gupta, Raju Baigal, M.C.Kotwal, K.K.Joshi, Chahat Chahda,BindiaOkheda,Sunil Kumar , Sudesh Devi,NaiyaMeena , RenuBalaand many others.At last Mr. Deepak Kumar programe coordinator , presented vote of thanks for successful conduction of the program.

## NC cadres asked to gear up for Municipal Polls

## Policy paralysis in J&K cause of frustration for youth, people pin hopes on NC: Rampaul

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUL 14: Asking the party cadre to gear up for municipal elections, former minister and President National Conference Central Zone, Babu Ram Paul, maintained that it would be announced by the UT Government anytime after the culmination of Shri Amamath Yatra.

He was speaking during a meeting which was organized at Bahu Fort here. The meeting was attended by a number of party workers, particularly the youth.

Babu Ram Paul was the chief guest and Anshuk Abrol Provincial Joint Secretary JKNC, presided over the meeting. The meeting was organized by Dr Vikas Sharma Zonal Secretary and Coordinator Jammu District (Urban), JKNC.

Babu Ram Paul urged upon the workers to hold extensive outreach campaigns to speed up their public connect in the wake of forthcoming municipal elections. He directed the party cadre to reach out every household falling within the jurisdiction of



their respective municipal Ward and deliver the message of the party to the public. He said that the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir was rich in cultural heritage and communal harmony which has been snatched away from the people through various means.

He further said that the present administration has imposed various types of taxes on the people of Jammu and Kashmir and the recent in line is property tax but it has failed to deliver at the grassroot level. He said that the National

Conference is the only party which can deliver justice to the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Dr Vikas Sharma said NC had always worked to provide more and more employment opportunities to the youth of Jammu and Kashmir. Various employment schemes like Rehbar-e-Talim, Rehbar-e-Khel, Rehbar-e-Zirat etc were launched by the NC government.

Those who were present on the occasion include, BD Dalotra, Adv. Rajinder Chamyal, Sham Lal Mehra, Reja Navid, Manohar Lal, Surjeet Kumar, Ashok Tyagi, Bahadur Lal, Sagar Lal, Abishak, and others.

## KU signs MoU with IIIT Manipur for student exchange programme

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUL 14: The University of Kashmir on Friday, July 14, signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Indian Institute of Information Technology, Senapati, Manipur, to undertake a student exchange programme in the disciplines of mutual interest.

Established in 2015, the IIIT, Senapati, Manipur works under the aegis of Ministry of Education, Government of India to offer cutting-edge research and education in key areas of computer science engineering and other basic sciences and humanities.

The MoU caps the number of 'exchange students' accepted by the host university at six persons at a given time in a year, while resolving that the

period of attendance at the host university for such students shall not exceed one year (two semesters). On request of the concerned students, the MoU allows recognition of academic credits awarded or course work evaluated according to the criteria of the home university.

Vice-Chancellor, KU, Prof Nilofar Khan and Director, IIIT Manipur, Prof Krishnan Bask signed the MoU, which will cover undergraduate, post-graduate and doctoral students for the student exchange programme.

Dean of Academic Affairs, KU, Prof Farooq A Masoodi, Dean College Development Council, Prof Khurshid A Butt, Dean Research Prof Irshad A Nawchoo and Registrar Dr Nisar A Mir were also present at the MoU-signing ceremony held at the Vice-Chancellor's Secretariat.

Describing the MoU as very significant, Prof Nilofar said the University will pursue it very seriously to enable the students to reap its benefits. She said student exchange programmes are a strong means to foster institutional collaborations and offer the students a great opportunity to learn by way of sharing of knowledge and exchange of ideas.

"I am confident that the MoU will give students from both institutions a great learning exposure," she said. Prof Krishnan Bask highlighted the broad contours of the MoU and vowed to translate its objectives into a reality.

He also highlighted the importance of student exchange programmes in strengthening the imprint of academic institutions at the national and international levels.

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

Logic will take you from A to B. Imagination will take you everywhere - Albert Einstein

JINDRAH IMAGES

China provokes India yet again

In yet another provocation, Chinese troops erected four tents in Table Top area of Gurung Hills in Chushul area along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Eastern Ladakh...

NEGOTIATING VARYING INDO-US EXPECTATIONS

BOTH INDIA AND THE US NEED SOME PLAIN-SPEAKING ON WHAT THEY CAN DO FOR EACH OTHER TO WARD OFF THE 'DARK CLOUDS OF COERCION & CONFLICT'.

MAJ GEN ASHOK K MEHTA (RET)

DURING his US visit last month, Prime Minister Narendra Modi stated that "the sky is not the limit" for India-US relations. Still, a note of caution needs to be attached to the extraordinary optimism...



Has sufficient mutual trust been created after a history of hesitation and suspicion? In 2004, India signed the Hawk trainer aircraft contract with the UK, stipulating that there be no US parts in it...

to US generosity, India's purchase of 5400 AD missiles and Russian discounted oil did not attract US sanctions but Turkey, a NATO partner, was penalised for buying 5400 Indian External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has strongly defended India-Russia relations after Modi's visit to the US.

US that is pushing India to confront China and undermine China's crucial role in supply chains cannot be replaced by India, he added. Returning to basics, what precisely are the expectations of the US and India from each other against rival and competitor China?

sovereignty over Taiwan has not prevented it from expressing concern over Chinese provocations across Taiwan Straits. What affirmative action can and will India take to deter China?

India will do its best in East Indian Ocean, centred around Malacca Strait, but whether it will impact China's Malacca Dilemma is not known. For India, LAC is its most escalatory threat for which it is inadequately geared.

Operationalising joint deterrence with India - a partner of first resort and no partner more consequential than India - is key. For deterrence to be effective, it must rest on an agreed view of a geopolitical picture in the Indo-Pacific and Indian Ocean and be credible.

According to the Taiwan Relations Act, the US is committed to defending Taipei if attacked, Taiwan is considered the world's most dangerous flashpoint and part of President Xi Jinping's China dream.

Disruption of shipping will affect exports, semi-conductor industry and submarine cables, dislocating data-flow and supply chains. India's recognition of Chinese sov-

China will make India's embrace of the US costly; that's why India and the US need some plain-speaking on what they can do for each other to ward off the "dark clouds of coercion and conflict".

Prigozhin likely to pay for coup with his freedom

NIRAJ SRIVASTAVA

THE Wagner Group, a private Russian mercenary outfit headed by the temperamental Yevgeny Prigozhin, has been in the news for an attempted coup d'état aimed at overthrowing Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Prigozhin is not a professional soldier but a businessman who used to supply rations to the Russian army. In the past two years, his company had won contracts worth over \$2 billion. However, his contract was not renewed for the current year, which reportedly caused him dissatisfaction.

In 2014, Prigozhin set up the Wagner Group. The strength of this group, which is modelled on the French Foreign Legion, is estimated to be 50,000. Its soldiers were involved in fierce fighting in the Battle of Bakhtan, which the Russians won after more than 10 months of intense clashes.

June 23 when Prigozhin marched towards Moscow with several thousands heavily armed men. They reached the town of Rostov-on-Don without much resistance. Prigozhin made some statements to the media in Rostov which were broadcast around the world. His men shot down two Russian military helicopters, killing 12 soldiers.

By this time, the Russian authorities had swung into action. Putin addressed the nation, describing Prigozhin's actions as 'treason'. That was followed by the news that the President of Belarus, Alexander Lukashenko, had reached a deal with Prigozhin on Putin's behalf under which he, along with some of his men, had been exiled to Belarus.

Soon after, it was officially announced that the rebellion was over and that Prigozhin had left Russia for Belarus. The Russian Defence Minister and the Army Chief continued in their posts. Commentators noted that further loss of lives, and a possible Civil War, was thus avoided.

But it was announced by the Kremlin on June 29 that Prigozhin and other Wagner members had met Putin in Moscow. They discussed the options available for the future deployment of Wagner mem-



bers, which implied that the Kremlin had not ruled out a role for them in the ongoing war in Ukraine, as also in some other countries. However, Prigozhin has not been seen since that meeting in Moscow. The short-lived rebellion has raised several questions: were foreign intelligence agencies involved in Prigozhin's attempted coup or had prior knowledge of it? Did the Russian intelligence know that a coup was in the works? Was Prigozhin in touch with the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), MI6 (UK's Secret Intelligence

Service) and the Ukrainian intelligence before the coup? Some pointers to the answers are available. First, it is known that the CIA officially briefed the 'Gang of Eight' on Prigozhin's rebellion a few days before the attempted coup. The so-called 'Gang of Eight' consists of the senior leadership of the US Senate and the House. If the US knew about it, it is very likely that MI6 and Ukrainians also knew about it.

Conspiring with foreign governments to bring down one's own government is a serious crime in all countries. For this reason, Prigozhin, despite assurances given to him, is unlikely to remain a free man for long. If he was involved in treason against Russia, he is likely to have committed other related crimes, for which no assurances of pardon have been given. He is, therefore, on the run. His exact location is not known; some say he is in Belarus, others say he is in St Petersburg.

The Russian authorities will investigate the extent of the damage caused by Prigozhin before meting out punishment to him. Public opinion on the matter is solidly behind Putin, who continues to enjoy approval ratings above 80 per cent. The war in Ukraine continues to proceed in Russia's favour, prompting an announcement by the US that it will supply 'cluster munitions' to the Ukraine army. These munitions are prohibited for use by more than 100 countries due to the danger they pose to non-combatants. The US will supply them to Ukraine because it has run out of 155-mm artillery shells.

One of the reasons the war is not going well for Ukraine is the shortage of ammunition for artillery and air defence systems as also of soldiers, tens of thousands of whom have been killed since February 2022. Russia, on the other hand, does not face such constraints. Moreover, Russian forces have built layered defences to guard the areas already occupied by them in the east and south. The much-vaunted Ukrainian 'counter-offensive' is also faltering because it does not have artillery and air cover, exposing Ukrainian soldiers to enemy firepower as soon as they reach the 'kill zone', located within the range of Russian artillery and air-launched weapons. Despite such problems, the US and its allies have been escalating the war by announcing the supply of F-16 fighter aircraft, cluster munitions and 'depleted-uranium' shells to the Ukraine army. The US doesn't want to accept defeat because that would spark Biden's re-election prospects. The situation resembles the tale 'Emperor With No Clothes'. Nobody in the administration wants to be the first to tell Biden that the war is going badly for the US and its allies. By prolonging the war, NATO is playing into Russia's hands because time is not on NATO's side. Putin is playing the game of 'attrition', for which Russia has enough weaponry and manpower. The Russian economy is doing well and its factories are producing enough ammunition. Most importantly, the casualty rate is far lower on the Russian side.

Putin has indicated that he would not be the first to use nuclear weapons even though this is an existential war for Russia. But he has also indicated that Russia would not end the war until its objectives of 'demilitarisation' and 'denazification' of Ukraine are achieved. Russia already occupies around 20 per cent of Ukrainian territory in the east and south of the country. It would like to add Odessa to it, cutting off Ukraine's access to the Black Sea. Time and tide are on its side.

# Instapoetry: The Unexpected Instagram Trend That Boosts Mental Health

It was a Tuesday, and my anxiety was at an all-time high. I was scrolling mindlessly through Instagram, absorbing each post quickly. I saw my friend's babies, an old colleague's wedding, someone's new puppy and a political commentary or two. Somewhere in my endless consumption, I also came across a poem that caught my attention enough for my mechanical thumb to pause.

The words spoke to the root of my anxiety, which was based in a lingering feeling that I wasn't deserving of the things I wanted most. "Why even try?" my anxiety asked. But this poem offered me another perspective. It hit me hard — as if it was written just for me at that moment. Most of all, it (and the hundreds of comments beneath it) reminded me that I wasn't alone.

As a writer, I know firsthand the power words can have. Yet, as

someone in a relationship with a stage-five clinger that I like to call anxiety, I also know that you often need to hear it from someone else in order for it to connect. So, I look for relief and repose from other writers, creators and poets.

While reports and studies show that Instagram can be harmful to mental health, I'd argue that there are a few silver linings — and that the rise of Instagram poetry is one of them. Poetry, as an art form, can be a connective thread that soothes sadness, adds hope on hard days and reminds us of our humanity.

As Harpreet M. Dayal, an interdisciplinary artist and poet put it, Instagram poetry's ascension has "created opportunities for writers to build a community and find a place where their words mean something to people." It's also a place that means a lot to Dayal.

When Dayal moved from the U.K. to Canada to be with her husband, she used writing on



Instagram as a form of therapy to overcome her fears and uncertainty of starting over in a new city (and country). "I found refuge in words," Dayal told HuffPost. "It was my way of making sense of and dealing with fear, and it became a way to slowly open myself up to change as I stepped into the next phase of my life."

Dayal isn't the only one who has turned to Instagram poetry during

life's challenging phases. Josefina Sanders, otherwise known as @loveoferring on Instagram, turned her grief into poetry and shared it on Instagram after suffering her first miscarriage with her husband. "My battle with mental health was what led me to write poetry," Sanders said.

"It was terrifying being this vulnerable, but I found some of my very best friends over Instagram

by opening up about my loss, mental health and healing journey."

Jon Lupin, who goes by @ThePoetryBandit, said posting his work and interacting with others who are going through the same thing saved his life. Lupin, who was one of the original "instapoets" along with Tyler Knott and Christopher Poindexter, turned to Instagram in 2014 to help him navigate alcohol misuse.

Lupin, whose father was a musician, started writing songs at the age of 14 to follow in his dad's footsteps. But then, in Lupin's late 30s, he struggled with alcoholism, which he said stole much of the joy he had in his past hobbies.

"In 2014 I had finally had enough of drinking and picked up the pen and paper again to help me get through the detox, shame, guilt and stress that quitting a substance can take," Lupin said.

## Ultra-processed foods cause premature death: Study



Traditional foods and meals created from fresh and minimally processed components are gradually being replaced by ultra-processed foods (UPFs), ready-to-eat or heat industrial formulations made with substances taken from foods or synthesised in laboratories, recent research has revealed.

The study in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine, published by Elsevier, has found that increased consumption of these foods was associated with more than 10% of all-cause premature, preventable deaths in Brazil in 2019, although Brazilians consume far less of these products than countries with high incomes.

"Previous modelling studies have estimated the health and economic burden of critical ingredients, such as sodium, sugar and trans fats, and specific foods or drinks, such as sugar-sweetened beverages," explained lead investigator Eduardo A.F. Nilson, ScD, Center for Epidemiological Research in Nutrition and Health, University of Sao Paulo, and Oswaldo Cruz Foundation, Brazil. "To our knowledge, no study to date has estimated the potential impact of UPFs on premature deaths. Knowing the deaths attributable to the consumption of these foods and modelling how changes in dietary patterns can support more effective food policies might prevent disease and premature deaths."

Dr. Nilson and his colleagues modeled data from nationally representative dietary surveys to estimate baseline intakes of UPFs by sex- and age-group. Statistical analyses were used to estimate the proportion of total deaths that were attributable to the consumption of UPFs and the impact of reducing intake of UPFs by 10%, 20%, and 50% within those age groups, using data from 2019.

Across all age groups and sex strata, consumption of UPFs ranged from 13% to 21% of total food intake in Brazil during the period studied. A total of 541,260 adults aged 30 to 69 died prematurely in 2019, of whom 261,061 were from preventable, non-communicable diseases. The model found that approximately 57,000 deaths that year could be attributed to the consumption of UPFs, which corresponded to 10.5% of all premature deaths and 21.8% of all deaths from preventable non-communicable diseases in adults aged 30 to 69. The investigators suggested that in high income countries such as the United States, Canada, the UK, and Australia, where UPFs account for more than half of total caloric intake, the estimated impact would be even higher.

Dr. Nilson noted that UPFs have steadily replaced the consumption of traditional whole foods, such as rice and beans, over time in Brazil. Reducing the consumption of UPFs and promoting healthier food choices may require multiple interventions and public health measures, such as fiscal and regulatory policies, changing food environments, strengthening the implementation of food-based dietary guidelines, and improving consumer knowledge, attitudes, and behavior.

Reducing consumption of UPFs by 10% to 50% could potentially prevent approximately 5,900 to 29,300 premature deaths in Brazil each year.

# Are vaccines affecting your heart? No, say experts

Since immunisation against COVID-19, one of the deadliest and most disruptive diseases the world has ever seen, began in early 2021, several discussions about the possible side effects of these vaccines have been trending on social media now and again. While a widely spread discussion regarding COVID booster vaccine, even amid the medical fraternity, pointed towards cardiovascular side effects, cardiologists have debunked these as rumours, calling such possibilities very rare. Several states in India have lifted the COVID restrictions. Since India began immunisation against the disease in April 2021, four vaccines, namely Covishield, Covaxin, Corbevax and Sputnik Light have been available in India since April 2021. Multiple posts were circulated and have been seen surfacing on social media that people have been reporting cases of heart inflammation or heart attack after the COVID-booster shots. However, cardiologists maintain that the vaccines are widely safe. Dr PK Joshi, Director and Consultant Physician Cardiologist at Niramaya Hospital in Chinchwad, said, "All vaccines are safe, that's why they are given a license for medical use. All drugs and vaccines undergo clinical trials. Occasional reactions are seen but they are very rare, like in one in a lakh. In COVID-19, only the Pfizer vaccine had the higher incidence of reaction, but still, it was within permissible limits."



Mycarditis was listed as a rare side effect of some vaccines like Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine (Comirnaty®), Moderna COVID-19 vaccine (Spikevax™), or Novavax COVID-19 vaccine. However, experts around the world have argued that these heart issues are very rare and treatable and not as dangerous as COVID-19 itself. India's COVID-19 vaccination coverage has crossed 216.54 Crore, as reported by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on September 17, 2021. As of September 28, 2021 around 29,39,446 people were vaccinated with the shot of COVID booster dose in India.

"In India, 200 crores doses given. Abnormal reactions were reported only in 4,000, that is just 0.0002 percent. Vaccines have protected the 130 crores population

from severe COVID-19," Joshi adds. A number of international studies have demonstrated that those who have received the vaccine have a significantly lower risk of developing severe consequences caused by COVID-19. An unhealthy lifestyle (eating junk food, smoking, tobacco consumption, inordinate alcohol consumption), inadequate sleep and stress (physical and mental), on the other hand, affect the fitness of the heart commonly. In fact, research has also shown that the possibility of one getting myocarditis after getting infected with COVID-19 is much higher. Thus, vaccine might in fact save you from myocarditis by saving you from COVID.

Dr Shailesh Vaidya, MD in Ayurveda (spine and joint) said, "I don't have any concrete info regarding booster shots causing

cardiac ailments. Neither there is any study as of now in the public domain, nor even clinical experience regarding such cardiac ailments among practitioners. There may be rare coincidences of cardiac problems after a booster, which is possibly being thought of as a common adverse effect in our diverse society."

He added, "There is a category of people who are against the idea of vaccination. Secondly, the fear factor along with over-imaginative minds become the sources of pseudo information."

In fact, a new study from Israel found that the risk of developing myocarditis among males ages 16 to 19 years was about 1 in 15,000 after the third dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine. The research published in the American Heart Association's

flagship journal Circulation also said that the cases were rare and mild. While medical professionals have observed that there is a rise in the number of young people suffering cardiac ailments, it has not been pinned upon the COVID vaccines.

"There have been incidences of death due to cardiac arrest in young people who were relatively fit and active in these two-three years. But was it because of COVID or COVID vaccination? It is not clear because, after the second phase of Covid in April 2021, I feel most of the population who did not come in contact during the first round got contacted in the second round and those left in the third round. So almost 95 percent have contacted Covid. So, whom to put the blame on, the disease or the vaccine is a dilemma," Dr Tripti Pathak said.

Dr Devyani Soman (MD Pathology) said that in India the percentage of people who faced heart ailments after Covid vaccination was negligible. "Enough evidence, proofs are not available. Enough studies are not done yet. Plus, as Covid cases are quite low since last year, people are not taking the vaccine. So, it is difficult to comment," Soman said.

However, experts do believe that there is a need for research in the field. Alessandra Kamille Mallari (MD, DPsP), a general pathologist and professor at UV Gullas College of Medicine, Cebu, Philippines, said, "Proper research needs to be done to get a specific answer."

# I tried adding five minutes of ab exercises to my strength workouts - here's what happened

I'm lazy with ab workouts but wanted this to change so I tried adding a few core building moves to my staple weight training workouts

I've grown a real love for weight training over the last couple of years and enjoy the physical and mental strength I gain from practicing it. But as I have channeled my time and effort into learning this skill I've taken less time to focus on growing my abs. So I've been trying to muster back up the motivation to train my core without taking the fun out of my usual workout schedule.

Rewind to being in lockdown during the pandemic and I was completing many of the best workouts for abs near enough every day to pass the time and feel like I was staying in shape. But as soon as I could get back to the gym I was set on building up my strength and muscle again using equipment like the barbell and some of the best kettlebells to challenge my lower and upper body.

Lo and behold, core strength is essential when it comes to weight training in order to improve form, help with posture, and protect the back from injury. I may have learned how

to deadlift properly but if I wanted to progress in my training and lift heavier, I knew I'd have to pick up some core strengthening exercises sooner rather than later.

I decided that the only way I'd be able to form some kind of habit with ab training and remain consistent with it was to add a short bout of moves onto the end of my usual workouts. After every strength session, I grabbed one of the best yoga mats from my gym and rounded off things with a five-minute ab finisher. I tried to target all areas of my core by performing 45-60 seconds of different exercises like planks, side planks, crunches, and deadbugs. This is what I noticed.

I ENJOYED THE PAIN Without sounding too sadistic, I liked the soreness that I felt in my core after working it out. It was reassuring that I had successfully targeted my abdominal and core muscles even though I was only doing five minutes of bodyweight moves to get results. It also was very normal for



me to experience muscle pain in my stomach when laughing or sitting up in bed following my ab training. The American Council on Exercise (opens in new tab), explains that DOMS (delayed onset muscle soreness) is a natural process of the body following intense exercise. It usually develops between 24-48 hours after a workout and with in 72 hours your body typically

will have repaired the tears in your muscles. Don't get me wrong, the first week of workouts was pretty brutal. My abs weren't used to being challenged in this way and needed longer to recover. However, the more sessions I finished off with abs, the less sore the exercises felt. It reminded me of the painful feeling your butt feels after getting on a bike seat after

a long time. The first ride is agony and the pain lingers until your lower half adapts to the feeling of sitting on a small bike seat again.

IT WAS A DIFFERENT CHALLENGE FROM WEIGHT LIFTING

The free weight section of a gym can have a more intense feel to it than other sections do. Depending on your goal it often

has a focus on moving up a weight. For me, I try and use the progressive overload technique to avoid hitting a plateau and continue making strength and muscle gains. When I move up a weight plate or dumbbell I typically see this as a signal of improvement and power but I still like to have a more holistic approach to fitness and not just define my strength by weights.

It was certainly humbling, finishing up a big leg day, placing myself in a plank position, and struggling to hold a perfect plank position for more than a minute. I had more admiration for the people around me in the floor section holding V-sits and performing heavy weighted Russian twists than anyone else in the gym as it takes just as much discipline and consistency as it does the person in the gym who can squat the heaviest. AB WORKOUTS CAN INCORPORATE WEIGHTS.

The stronger my core became, the more challenging I could make my five-minute ab finishers. Rather than increase the duration that I was spending on

abs at the end of my strength sessions, I decided to incorporate some weights into my exercises. Sometimes this looked like adding these dumbbell ab exercises onto the end of my training, and incorporating the weight into well-known moves such as crunches, dead bugs and plank variations. If ever I don't make it to the gym, I can use a set of the best adjustable dumbbells at home to get in an ab workout and can still increase the challenge by increasing the weight load on the spot.

Or for the days, when I have no desire to get on the floor for core training or have a bit of an achy back I complete standing ab exercises. Some of my favorites to do are weighted side bends, crossover toe touches, and around the world using a kettlebell. Weights or no weights, five minutes of ab and core exercises now form a staple part of my regular gym routine. It's a time-efficient activity that makes me feel good and complements my strength training.

# Modernisation of Naanwai Bakery Shops under PMFME Scheme initiated in District Srinagar

### DC SRINAGAR INSPECTS UPGRADED UNITS TO ASSESS THE IMPACT OF THE SCHEME

J1 NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR JULY 14: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad today inspected several Bread Makers (Naanwai) Shops in Ikhrajpora area of the District taken up under PMFME Scheme to restructure the traditional Naanwai shops by installing modern ovens to ensure proper hygiene in and around the shops besides maintaining quality of the products.



Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Aijaz Asad inspecting upgraded bakery units in Ikhrajpora area.

(PM FME) Scheme under One District One Product(ODOP) initiative of the Government through which financial and infrastructural support is provided to ensure sustainable livelihood of Local Bread Makers (Naanwai).

On the occasion, the DC asked the beneficiaries to further improve and upgrade the Units under the scheme envisaged for handholding and upliftment of the beneficiaries.

The DC said Administration is very keen about handholding and upliftment of the Naanwai's of Srinagar District as Naanwai's are an essential part of our society

besides the century's old culture and tradition Kashmir valley.

The DC also said that intending Naanwai's need not to move office to office instead a representative from the concerned Government Department are visiting the shops of the Naanwai's for proper verification and other documentation process. He also said that proper training is also given to the beneficiaries under the scheme. On spot directions were given to the Area Marketing Officer Horticulture (P&M) Srinagar/ DNO PMFME for follow up of the cases of the beneficiaries at all levels. Other units

upgraded under the ODOF scheme including Bakery Shops namely Hilo Bakery Nowgam and Food Makers Gammurwari were also visited by the Deputy Commissioner.

Pertinent to mention that under the scheme a loan amount is provided to the beneficiaries with 3% subsidy upto a maximum of Rs 10 lakh in order to start or upgrade the unit on modern lines.

During the visit, the Deputy Commissioner was accompanied by Chief Planning Officer Srinagar, Officers from Horticulture Planning & Marketing and other concerned.

## NYK organises Yuva Utsav-"Panch Pran" at GDC Kishtwar

J1 NEWS SERVICE

KISHTWAR, JULY 14: Nehru Yuva Kendra Doda, under the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India, organized a mega "Yuva Utsav" in Government Degree College, Kishtwar. The College NSS Unit collaborated in hosting the event which witnessed the enthusiastic participation of 200 young individuals from across the district in five different competitive events centered around the theme "Panch Pran".

The event comprised five exciting competitions, namely the Young Artists Camp - Painting, Young Writers Contest - Poetry, Mobile Photography Contest, Declaration Contest, and Group Cultural Fest.

The DDC Chairperson Kishtwar Pooja Thakur graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and the College Principal Dr. Jyoti Parihar honored the event as the guest of honor.

The NSS Programme Officer Prof. Sonika Sen efficiently coordinated the event, while Avni Sen (I/C Cultural Cell) served as the anchor.

Commencing with the lighting of traditional lamp ceremony, the event proceeded with a warm welcome address by District Youth Officer, Khushal Gupta.

He extended a heartfelt welcome to the esteemed guests, jury members, faculty, staff, and students representing various educational institutions.

Gupta emphasized the significance of the theme "Panch Pran" and provided insights into the objectives behind organizing such events.

He highlighted that Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, through its field offices, is conducting Yuva Utsav in all districts nationwide, and the winners of all components of Yuva Utsav will qualify for the State Level Yuva Utsav, followed by the National level Yuva Utsav.

Subsequently, captivating cultural performances were presented by various talented teams, and participants of the declamation contest expressed their thoughts on the topic "Panch Pran."

Simultaneously, in the conference hall, students engaged in a creative writing session, penning their poems, while the Mobile Photography Contest contestants were granted a two-hour period to capture their best photographs.

## DC Anantnag stresses for pushing cooperative movement in district

J1 NEWS SERVICE

ANANTNAG, JULY 14: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Anantnag, Syed Fakhrudin Hamid today chaired the first District Cooperative Development Committee meeting at DC office, here. Deputy Registrar Cooperatives, Muzaffar Ahmad who is the convener of the meeting informed that the meeting was held to strengthen the cooperative movement in the district. He gave an overview of the present status of cooperative societies in the district and efforts taken by

the department to revive and strengthen them. It was given out that there are 128 registered cooperative societies in the district which include PACS, Dairy & Fisheries societies, marketing societies, apex societies and societies in other agri and non-agri sectors. The DC urged upon the cooperative department to lend their best efforts to achieve the objective of strengthening the cooperative movement in the district and deepening its reach to the grassroots level as envisioned by the Union Cooperation Ministry. He further directed the concerned

officials to make vigorous efforts to realize the vision of Sakshar Sa Samudhi for strengthening of cooperative movement in the district. He urged for assessing the financial/credit requirement of the PACS and exploring the options of mobilising the financial support from apex institutions like NCDC/ NABARD/ NDDB/ NFDB. The DC also reviewed the progress of adoption of model bylaws by the PACS, computerization of PACS, updating of data in national cooperative database and other agenda as per the guidelines.

## DDC Council Kathua discusses modalities to finalize plans under Capex Budget 2023-24

J1 NEWS SERVICE

KATHUA, JULY 14: To discuss the modalities for the formulation of developmental plan under District Capex Budget 2023-2024, the District Development Council Chairperson Kathua, Mahan Singh today chaired a meeting of the DDC members and concerned District officers, here in conference Hall of DC Office.

DC Kathua Rakesh Minhas; Vice Chairman, DDC, Raghunandan Singh; Chief Planning Officer, DDC members, XEN PDD, CMO, CEO, XEN PHE, XEN irrigation, XEN PMGYS besides other District officers attended the meeting.

At the very outset, ADDC, Ankur Mahajan apprised the council about

the status of the plans being formulated in consultation with concerned PRIs. The DDC Chairman Cn (Retd) Mahan Singh exhorted the council members to take up projects of public importance under current allocation of district Capex so as to meet the popular development aspirations of the people.

Underlining the need to complete the projects of critical importance, the DDC Chairman said JM projects under implementation across the district will provide great relief to the inhabitants especially residing in kandi and hilly pockets of the region. He expressed hope that all 299 water supply schemes under JJM will be completed by the end of December 2023.

The Chairman DDC Kathua also highlighted the issue of borewell not

materializing and asked the concerned executing agencies to explore the alternative arrangements to meet the drinking water needs of the people.

Highlighting the issue of pending MGNREGA wage payments, the DDC called for timely disbursement of payments to the job card holders.

The DDC Nagri called for organizing awareness camps so as to sensitize and educate the masses about the benefits of 100 day of job guarantee under MGNREGA.

Earlier, ADDC Kathua suggested more allocation of funds by PRIs for proper face-lifting of Amrit Sarovars.

While discussing the health scenario of the district, the issue of shortage of medical staff and requisite infra to cater the healthcare demands of the rural populace came to the fore.

## Kathua: DDC council reviews progress of works under CSS, Capex Budget 2023-24

J1 NEWS SERVICE

KATHUA, JULY 14: District Development Council Chairperson Kathua, Mahan Singh, today chaired a meeting of DDC members and concerned District officers to review of physical and financial progress of District Capex Budget 2023-24 besides implementation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes in the district, here at conference Hall of DC Office Complex.

Deputy Commissioner Kathua, Rakesh Minhas; Vice Chairman, DDC, Raghunandan Singh; Chief Planning Officer, DDC members, XEN PDD, CMO, CEO, XEN PHE, XEN irrigation, XEN PMGYS besides other District officers attended the meeting.

At the very outset, ADDC Kathua Ankur Mahajan apprised the council about the progress of plans being implemented in consultation with concerned PRIs.

DDC Chairman exhorted the council members to personally monitor the progress of projects of public importance under current allocation of district Capex so as to meet the popular development aspirations of the people. Underlining the need to complete the projects of critical importance, DDC Chairman said JM projects under implementation across the district will give relief to the inhabitants especially residing in kandi and hilly pockets of the region. He expressed hope that all 299 water supply schemes under JJM will be completed by the end of December 2023. The Chairman DDC Kathua also highlighted the issue of borewell not materialized and asked the concerned executing agencies for exploring the alternative arrangements to meet the drinking water needs of the people.

Highlighting the issue of pending MGNREGA wage payments, the DDC called for timely disbursement of payments to the job card holders besides DDC Nagri advised for organizing awareness camps so as to sensitize and aware the masses who are in oblivion about the benefit of 100 days of job guarantee under MGNREGA. Earlier, ADDC Kathua suggested more taking up of works by PRIs for proper face-lifting of Amrit Sarovars. While discussing the health scenario of the district, the issue of shortage of medical staff and requisite infra to cater the healthcare demands of the rural populace came to the fore. While reviewing the JPDCI, the council highlighted the issue of erratic power supply, lack of electric poles and delay in execution of tendered works. The DC directed XEN JPDCI to look into the matter besides fixing responsibilities of the concerned contractors to execute the works within stipulated timelines.

The DDC Chairperson urged all the DDC members and District officers to coordinate with each other in formulation of rational plans maintaining the sanctity of the 3-tier system of Panchayati Raj.

## J&K youth to be provided world class sports infrastructure: Dr Mehta

### INAUGURATES MODERN GYMNASIUM, WEIGHTLIFTING HALL AT SGR STADIUM

J1 NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JULY 14: Continuing the trend of giving boost to the sports infrastructure in J&K, Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta today inaugurated the modern Gymnasium and Weightlifting Hall at Bakshi Stadium, Srinagar here.

On the occasion the Secretary, Youth Services & Sports; Secretary, Sports Council besides other officers, coaches and officials of the department were also present.

While interacting with the former International Football players and other trainees of different sports academies, the Chief Secretary sought feedback from them on how their games can be improved in J&K. The players requested the Chief Secretary to use his good offices for conducting of different national level tournaments like SAFF games which will give necessary exposure to the youngsters besides giving them opportunity to hone their sports skills by watching their national icons.

Chief Secretary remarked that the government has created world-class infrastructure in J&K during the past few years and that sport is a priority of the government and adequate resources have been earmarked for its upliftment in the UT.

He enjoined upon the players to optimally utilize the facilities and assured them that the Administration shall extend all facilities to them so that they chase their dreams of making big name in the sports of their choice.

In response to the demand for residential facilities for Football, Dr. Mehta said that the LG administration is going to provide every sort of infrastructure and facility to sports lovers so that they can grow and excel in sports.

He also observed that youth can now enjoy sports activities till late hours as stadia in almost all districts are provided with flood lights besides upgradation of other facilities. Stating that the culture of sports activities is taking root in J&K, he said that every person young or old is encouraged to take up sports to channelize their energies towards better and healthy activities. He made out that J&K is targeting to involve over 75 lakh people into different sporting activities in J&K and for that the necessary sporting facilities have been provided right down to the Panchayat level. Earlier, the kids from the Taekwondo School of Sports Council gave a demonstration of the skills they have learned thus far which left the audience spellbound and praising their performance and skills demonstrated on the occasion.

## Leprosy awareness programme held at Bharath- Doda

J1 NEWS SERVICE

DODA, JULY 14: To raise awareness about prevention and treatment of Leprosy, a team from District Leprosy Society Doda today organized an awareness programme at Village Kulhand and Bharath in Medical Block Ghat District Doda. The awareness programme was held under the supervision of Chief Medical Officer Doda, Dr. Ab Hamid Zargar. The awareness sessions were held at Government Lower High School Kulhand, AWG Thawa and PFC Bharath where the expert teams educated people about signs and symptoms of Leprosy diseases and how to detect the leprosy cases.

## DC Kishtwar Chairs 11th NCORD meeting

### Kishtwar MC mulling to Launch Drug Free Ward Campaign - A Step Towards a Drug-Free Zone: DC informed

J1 NEWS SERVICE

KISHTWAR, JULY 14: The 11th Narco Coordination (NCORD) Committee meeting was convened today at the DC Office Complex, Kishtwar, under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Dr. Devansh Yadav.

The meeting witnessed the provisional declaration of Panchayat Chicha, located in Block Nagensi of District Kishtwar, as the Second Nasha Mukht Panchayat of the district. The announcement was made in the presence of SSP Kishtwar Khalil Ahmed Poswal, along with the participation of various esteemed dignitaries and stakeholders.

The meeting was attended by DPO ICDS Dr. Rishi Kumar Sharma, SDM Chatroo Showkat Hayat Mato; Tehsildar HQ Chander Shekhar Sharma; Tehsildar Kishtwar Umar Muneeb; Dy CMO, Dy CEO, Nodal Officer Addiction Treatment Facility (ATF) District Hospital Kishtwar Dr. Arif Rashid, Rajesh Kumar Tejsil Social Welfare Office Headquarters Kishtwar, heads of educational Institutions; Faculty members from Colleges; Officials from Social Welfare, ASHAs, and AWWs, PRIs from panchayats of Sigdi BI, Chicha, Philler-B and Dadpeth, besides other members.

In his address, the Deputy Commissioner highlighted the significance of adopting a comprehensive approach to combat the pervasive issue of drug and substance abuse in the district.



He underscored the importance of focusing on multiple facets, including the medical care of addicted patients, the declaration of Nasha Mukht Panchayats, and the active involvement of AASHAs, Anganwadi Workers (AWWs), and teachers in the Nasha Mukht Panchayat Abhiyan. The Deputy Commissioner called for collaborative efforts from all stakeholders to develop action plans aimed at implementing intervention measures in areas severely affected by drug abuse.

He emphasized the need for both stringent enforcement measures and compassionate rehabilitation programs to effectively address the menace of drug abuse. DC informed that, similarly on the lines of Nasha Mukht Panchayats, shortly Nasha Mukht Wards campaign shall be launched in the Municipal area, after a detailed meeting with the

MC members and other stakeholders.

During the meeting, SSP Kishtwar shared valuable insights and recommendations, contributing to the comprehensive approach discussed. The participants also deliberated on the number of cases registered under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act.

Furthermore, the meeting emphasized strict adherence to the instructions issued by the government with regard to achieving a drug-free society under the Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan. Deputy Commissioner specifically urged the authorities of the Addiction Treatment Facility (ATF) at District Hospital Kishtwar to provide compassionate treatment to addicts.

The meeting also provided a platform to review the progress

made on the action points discussed in the previous meeting.

The Deputy Commissioner personally engaged with ASHAs, AWWs, and PRIs from Sigdi BI, Chicha, Philler B, and Dadpeth Panchayats, acknowledging their commendable efforts in combating substance abuse and expressing gratitude for their unwavering commitment to the cause. He emphasized the need for conducting more awareness and training programs to further enhance their capacities. Moreover, the meeting stressed the importance of intensified weed destruction measures throughout the district, recognizing it as a crucial step in curbing substance abuse.

## Hand Holding Session organised for JJM stakeholders at Reasi

J1 NEWS SERVICE

REASI, JULY 14: A Hand Holding session for Jal Jeewan Mission stakeholders was today held in the Conferences hall of the DC Office. The session was presided over by District Development Commissioner/Chairperson District JJM, Babila Rakwal and attended by Pani Samities, PRIs members, Asha workers, Anganwari Workers and other stakeholders.

At the outset, IEC Expert J&K Sajal Srivastava, threw light on different aspects of Jal Jeewan Mission (JJM), Role of PRIs and Paani Samitis in the process of the implementation of JJM, to ensure that Har Char Na Se Jal. They were also informed about the Certification of Har Char Jal Villages and testing of water samples of each House/Hold.

FTK Training was imparted to the participants by the lab experts with detailed practical demonstration.

Later, Appreciation Certificates were given to the best performers in various activities under JJM.

Rakesh Kumar Mahajan, SE; ADDC, CPO, XEN PHE, XEN MIDD with staff, DPMU and ISAs were also present in the meeting. Session concluded with a vote of thanks by member Secretary JJM.





# Deputy Commissioner reviews implementation of Social Welfare Schemes in Poonch District

J1 NEWS SERVICE

POONCH, JULY 14: To review the implementation of welfare Schemes for underprivileged, vulnerable, down trodden and weaker sections of society and process of extension of benefits and process of extension of benefits of different Government schemes by the Social Welfare Department, the Deputy Commissioner, Poonch, Yasin M. Chowdhary chaired a meeting here in the Meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex.

At the outset, the Deputy Commissioner took comprehensive review of beneficiary oriented schemes. On the occasion, the District Social Welfare Officer gave a detailed PowerPoint presentation and apprised the Deputy Commissioner about the functioning of the Department and implementation of schemes including providing of Scholarships, National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), Integrated Social Security Scheme (ISSS), Marriage Assistance Scheme (SMAS), Saksham/SASCM, Nari Niketan, OSC, Mission Vatsalya and other schemes, besides disbursement of pension through different Social Welfare schemes also came into discussion.

The DC was informed that under Integrated Social Security Scheme (ISSS), a total of 9547 beneficiaries are covered in the District and monthly pension of Rs 1000 is given to beneficiaries of three categories viz OLD AGE PENSION for having age of 60 years for men and 55 years for women, PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED PERSON for disabled persons having disability 40% or more, WOMEN IN



DISTRESS for widows, divorcees and destitute having meagre source of income.

Similarly, as many as 6929 beneficiaries are registered under National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) who are given monthly pension of Rs 1000 under three components viz, IGNOAPS for old age BPL Persons for 60 years or more age, IGNDPS for disabled persons having 80% or more disability and IGNWPS for poor widows having age 40 years or more.

With regard to implementation of State Marriage Assistance Scheme (SMAS) under which, every household girl of marriageable age belonging to PHH/AAAY category is eligible to receive marriage assistance of RS 50000/- after fulfilling eligibility conditions, the DC was informed that a total of 1297 applications were received by the Department and after proper scrutiny and verification of cases the same amount shall be disbursed to the genuine beneficiaries.

While reviewing the status and implementation of different Scholarship schemes, the DC was informed that under Post Matric

Scholarship to Minority Students 711 cases have been verified in FY 2022-23 in addition to Post Matric Scholarship ST Students 2495 cases have been verified in the same financial year. Likewise, under Pre Matric Scholarship Minorities 1702, Pre Matric Scholarship Merit cum means 63 and Pre Matric SC 33 cases have been verified in Financial year 2022-23. Under National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS), PHH/AAAY households are entitled to one time Rs. 20000 amount of money on the death of primary breadwinner aged between 18 and 64 years, 326 applications have been received.

Under Mission Vatsalya, 14 Nos. of COVID Orphan Children have been benefited under SASCM and 210 have been rescued from Child Labour.

The DC also took stock of the District Hub for Empowerment of Women (DHEW) and One Stop Centre (OSC), Women Helpline, in District Poonch intended to support women affected by violence, in private and public spaces, within the family, community and at the workplace. It was informed that Total 52

cases have been registered under OSC in the district. On the occasion, the DC stressed on providing round the clock help/assistance to the women in distress and receiving periodical feedback from the affected/distressed women.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC called upon the Officers and other functionaries of the Social Welfare Department to work in a holistic and pro-active approach with utmost coordination among all wings of the Department to ensure efficient and effective implementation of all Social Security and Beneficiary-Oriented schemes in the District. He also asked the Officers for laying a special focus on cent per cent coverage under all Social Welfare schemes. The DC said this is a collective responsibility of all of us to

make sure that no eligible beneficiary is left behind. He stressed upon the Officers to take comprehensive measures to reach out to all eligible beneficiaries, besides making the welfare schemes easily accessible to the people so that all eligible beneficiaries of the District can reap the benefits of Government's welfare schemes.

The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner Poonch, Malikzada Sheraz Ul Haq, DSWO Mohinder Paul, Distt. Chairperson Distt. Child Protection Poonch, Rajesh Khajuria, Mohd Azam TSWO Mandi, Shakeel Manhas TSWO Mendhar, TSWO Haveli, District Hub for Empowerment of Female, District Coordinator and Gender Specialist and other officers/Officials of the Social Welfare Department.

## Department of Mining Seizes Nine Vehicles Involved in Illegal Mining in Poonch District

Dismantles path used by the mining mafia at village Khenater and warns vehicle owners of heavy penalties for illegal mining

J1 NEWS SERVICE

POONCH, JULY 14: On the direction of Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Yasin M Chowdhary, the Department of Geology and Mining, in presence of DMO, Javid Iqbal, seized nine vehicles involved in illegal mining and lifting of raw material without a valid e-challan in different parts of the district.

The vehicles were seized three in Kalai, two in Drungli, three in Jhullas, and one at Chandimath and were later handed over to the police for safe custody. Additionally, the Department also dismantled a path used by the mining mafia for illegal mining.

The Department of Mining has conveyed a stern warning to all vehicle owners to not indulge in illegal mining activities and not take any material without a valid e-challan.

## Review meeting on NTCP & COTPA held at Anantnag

STRESSES LAID ON REGULAR ENFORCEMENT DRIVES AGAINST VIOLATORS



J1 NEWS SERVICE

ANANTNAG, JULY 14: A meeting to review the implementation of provisions of National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP) and COTPA 2023 was held today under the chairmanship of Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Anantnag, Gulzar Ahmad, here.

Chief medical officer Anantnag gave a brief overview about the agenda of the meeting. Dr. Mir Mushtaq Nodal officer NTCP Kashmir gave a detailed presentation about the present scenario of tobacco prevalence in Kashmir division with special reference to Anantnag district. He also enumerated various sections of COTPA. The ADC in his address stressed for strict implementation of COTPA in the district and directed for regular enforcement drives across the district. He said particular attention shall be paid around the educational institutions and asked for strict monitoring around schools and colleges.

He directed School and college authorities to come up with a list of violators of section 6 B so that action against them can be initiated as per law. He further directed the Information department to launch an aggressive IEC campaign against tobacco menace and to make people aware about its ill effects.

SP (HQ) while speaking assured complete support and cooperation of the police department.

Chief Medical Officer Anantnag, Dr. M. Y Zagoo; Superintendent of Police (HQ), Deepika; Chief Education Officer Anantnag, Nodal Officer NTCP Kashmir, Dr. Mir Mushtaq; CEO Municipality Anantnag, District Health Officer, Block Medical officers, District Information Officer, and other officers from various departments took part in the review meeting.

## DC Budgam visits Magam; takes stock of Muharram arrangements

Directs concerned Officers to ensure all arrangements for smooth conduct of Muharram

J1 NEWS SERVICE

BUDGAM, JULY 14: The Deputy Commissioner (DC), Budgam, Akshay Labroo today conducted an extensive tour of Magam area to take stock of arrangements for the ensuing Muharram-ul-Haram.

The DC also chaired a meeting at Townhall Magam to take stock of the arrangements being put in place for hassle-free conduct of majalis and processions during the holy month.

During the meeting, representatives from various Shia organisations, local representatives from Magam and other adjoining villages raised their demands with the DC. After listening to the demands of the general public, the DC directed concerned officers to visit all respective villages and ensure timely resolution of issues related to macadamization of roads, supply of uninterrupted electricity, water supplies and food and civil supplies.

He also instructed concerned officers to submit compliance reports in time and ensure availability of ration, distribution of fire wood and other facilities including restoration and installation of street lights are carried out on war footing. The DC directed concerned to ensure facility of water tanks at all identified locations. The meeting among others was attended by, Peerwath Municipal Council Magam, Mustafa Mir; SDM Beerwah, Fantees; A Gazi and senior officers from PPD, PHE, R&B, Revenue, Municipality besides other concerned including representatives from prominent Shia organisations.

## DC reviews working of Primary Agriculture Credit Societies in Udhampur District



J1 NEWS SERVICE

UDHAMPUR, JULY 14: To review the functioning of PACS (Primary Agriculture Credit Societies), Deputy Commissioner, Udhampur Sachin Kumar Vaishya today chaired the maiden meeting of District Cooperative Development Committee (DCDC).

Threadbare discussions were held on various aspects including the adoption of model bye laws by all 39 PACS, Hardware purchase and finalizing system integrator for computerization, District wise targets for establishing new multipurpose PACS, PMKSK , Formulation of FPOs by PACS, Identification of PACS for convergence with PM -KUSUM scheme, PACS as Common Service Centre, Jan Aushadi Kendra for improving access to generic medicines at Rural level etc.

A slew of directions were issued to the concerned departments to facilitate the revival of the Cooperative Movement with the establishment of vibrant PACS. He directed the concerned departments to work out a plan and convene the DCDC meeting again within the next 15 days.

Among others, District Panchayat Officer, Dr Manmeet Kumar; Deputy Registrar Cooperatives, Priyanka Sharma; Chief Agriculture Officer, Sanjay Anand; AD FCS & CA, DDM NABARD and other officers attended the meeting.

## NCORD, COTPA meeting held at Bandipora

J1 NEWS SERVICE

BANDIPORA, JULY 14: On the directions of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Dr. Owais Ahmed, District Level Committee meeting under Narco-Coordination Center (NCORD) Mechanism & Cigarette and Other Tobacco Products Prohibition Act (COTPA), was held on Friday at Conference Hall, Mini Secretariat, Bandipora.

The meeting was co-chaired by Nodal Officer Coordination, Mohammad Ashraf Hakak and Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Bandipora, Umar Shaif Panfil.

The meeting discussed in detail ways and means to curb the drug menace and the role of various stakeholders. It also discussed the alarming issue of drug addiction and abuse and strategies to tackle this issue.

The meeting discussed various issues related to menace of drug addiction, areas of concern, age group of addicts, hot spots of drug peddling, abuse, besides cultivation of illicit poppy and cannabis in the district.

Hakak stressed on more intensive awareness campaigns to educate the public on the dangers of drug abuse, improved access to addiction treatment and support services, and stronger regulation of the pharmaceutical shops to prevent the illegal distribution of banned drugs. The ADC urged the participants to spread the message of "Say No to Drugs" in order to save our youth from this menace. He highlighted the role of society, especially parents, in preventing drug abuse among children and youth. Hakak on the occasion directed to form teams at tehsil levels headed by the concerned Tehsildars for consistent checking of medical drug shops for conduct to be followed by them. He also stressed for complete switching over to the computerized billing system in all the medical shops across all three subdivisions.

ASP Bandipora Sandeep Bhat, on the occasion, informed that police arrested many culprits and were booked under the relevant acts.

He added that police administration, with the help of district administration, has adopted a "zero tolerance" approach towards drug abuse.

Among others, the meeting was attended by BDCs, Excise Department, and other concerned.

## Youth Conclave at Lal Draman to witness variety of sports, cultural shows, other festivities

DC discusses arrangements, asks for making event a crowd puller

J1 NEWS SERVICE

DODA, JULY 14: Lal Draman is a hidden treasure of natural beauty with a great tourism potential unexplored so far due to its non-connectivity by road.

Now due to persistent efforts of the district administration, the picturesque Lal Draman Meadows have been connected by road, making it the nearest tourist destination from Doda town with a road distance of around 20 Kilometers only.

The District administration has scheduled a mega Youth Conclave/Lal Draman Festival in the first week of August 2023, to give Lal Draman its due place on the tourist map of the district and provide youth a platform to showcase their talent and know their aspirations.

The Youth Conclave, being organized by the District Administration Doda, will witness a series of sports activities, a variety of cultural shows and other festivities to attract maximum visitors. District Development Commissioner Doda Vishesh Mahajan visited Lal Draman along with senior officers of district administration today to discuss and give final shape to the activities and arrangements for sports, cultural and other activities during the festival scheduled to be held in the first week of next month.

The DC held detailed discussion with the stakeholders and finalised the variety of programs which could



be a huge crowd puller. DC has instructed them to install solar lights at Lal Draman. Jal Shakti department has been entrusted with the task of providing adequate tapped drinking water at the venue. RDD shall make the already existing Amrit Sarovar at Lal Draman more attractive by its proper beautification.

The concerned authorities have been asked to place temporary toilets at the venue. It is important to mention that interested entrepreneurs have been asked to put rental tents at the venue for the convenience of the visitors.

The DC asked the stakeholders that the activities to be performed on the scheduled venue must be more engaging, beautifully designed and youth oriented. It was decided that the programme shall be divided into three sessions, during which various cultural, sports and other fun game activities will be held for the youth/visitors.

Sports department was directed to conduct the activities which are more popular in the area like volleyball matches, Kabaddi, tug of war, wrestling and horse racing.

Further, the School Principals and CEO Doda have been asked to lay more focus on involvement of students including NCC and NSS volunteers in all the activities during the event, which will be a great learning experience for them.

Besides, arrangement of sound system, security, transportation, and other event related activities were also finalised. During his visit, the DC also inaugurated a T20 Cricket tournament organised by Tejas Ek Pahal' NGO at Lal Draman. He also led the Swachhta drive in the Lal Draman meadows. The DC trekked about 10 kilometres on foot around the forest surrounding the meadow to enjoy the nature bestowed with scenic beauty and mesmerising lush green conifer trees.

## NYK organises Yuva Utsav-"Panch Pran" at GDC Kishtwar

J1 NEWS SERVICE

KISHTWAR, JULY 14: Nehru Yuva Kendra Doda, under the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India, organized a mega "Yuva Utsav" in Government Degree College, Kishtwar. The College NSS Unit collaborated in hosting the event which witnessed the enthusiastic participation of 200 young individuals from across the district in five different competitive events centered around the theme "Panch Pran".

The event comprised five exciting competitions, namely the Young Artists Camp - Painting, Young Writers Contest - Poetry, Mobile Photography Contest, Declamation Contest, and Group



Cultural Fest. The DDC Chairperson Kishtwar Pooja Thakur graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and the College Principal Dr. Jyoti Panbar honored the event as the guest of honor.

The NSS Programme Officer Prof. Sonika Sen efficiently coordinated the event, while Avni Sen (I/C Cultural Cell) served as the anchor. Commencing with the lighting of traditional lamp cere-

mony, the event proceeded with a warm welcome address by District Youth Officer, Khushal Gupta. He extended a heartfelt welcome to the esteemed guests, jury members, faculty, staff, and students representing various educational institutions. Gupta emphasized the significance of the theme "Panch Pran" and provided insights into the objectives behind organizing such events. He highlighted that Nehru Yuva Kendra

Sangathan, through its field offices, conducting Yuva Utsav in all districts nationwide, and the winners of all components of Yuva Utsav will qualify for the State Level Yuva Utsav, followed by the National Level Yuva Utsav. Subsequently, captivating cultural performances were presented by various talented teams, and participants of the declamation contest expressed their thoughts on the topic "Panch Pran." Simultaneously, in the conference hall, students engaged in a creative writing session, penning their poems, while the Mobile Photography Contest contestants were granted a two-hour period to capture their best photographs.

At the conclusion of the event, Smt. Pooja Thakur praised the

efforts of Nehru Yuva Kendra Doda for organizing such a grand event. She urged the youth to actively participate in such programs and encouraged the NYK to continue organizing similar events in the future. Dr. Jyoti Panbar, Principal GDC Kishtwar, in her address, appealed to rural youth, in particular, to utilize such platforms effectively and represent themselves in nation-building activities. The event witnessed the presence of esteemed personalities, including Prof Umer Din Rather, Dr. Tariq Tamkeen, Prof Falak, Prof Swami Raj Chouhan, Prof Romana Akhter, Dr. Vijay Kumar, Mr. Gulab Saify (Cultural Officer, Kishtwar), and Mr. Sanjeev Sharma (Director, Sangam Welfare Academy).

# Texas Super Kings kickstart MLC 2023 with emphatic win

DALLAS : Texas Super Kings brushed aside Los Angeles Knight Riders in the first ever Major League Cricket game in Dallas on Thursday (July 13). TSX first made 181 following fifties from Devon Conway and David Miller and then bowled LAKR out for just 112 despite a fighting fifty from Andre Russell.



Opting to bowl first in the tournament opener, LAKR did make a good start despite Conway finding the boundary thrice in the first over. It wasn't a happy return to yellow for birthday boy Fay D Plessis as the veteran hit his first ball to extra cover to depart for a duck. Lahiru Milantha, who took time to get into his groove, targeted Russell for a six and a four and Conway closed out the same over with another boundary as they fetched 15

runs to boost the run rate. Ali Khan then ensured Milantha didn't kick on to get a big one but Super Kings did explode post the powerplay.

Playing for the Super Kings for the first time, Miller cut loose after batting on 6 off 9 in one stage. A couple of pull shots fetched him boundaries against Corne Drey and he picked a goosily off Adam Zampa to send it over long on.

White Lockie Ferguson halted Miller's charge. Super Kings had two familiar faces step up for them at the death. Mitchell Santner and Dwayne Bravo combined to clear the ropes four times at the death to power their side past the 180-run mark and that proved to be too much especially after the kind of start Knight Riders made to the chase.

Rusty Theron might be touching 38 but he showed cases his worth very early in the second innings as Martin Guppil mistimed one to fall for a duck and Rilee Rossouw chopped one back onto his stumps as LAKR lost two wickets in the first over. While the likes of Jaskaran Malhotra and Russell came out swinging, the TSK kept striking at the 50K end. However, Mohammad Mohsin turned the game on its head with a double wicket over to set a platform for Super Kings to capitalise on.

put on one-man show for the Knight Riders in the IPL several times and it was no different in the United States. Malhotra briefly entertained by hammering a few boundaries in the powerplay but the extra pace of Gerald Coetzee was too much to handle for him. By the end of the powerplay, Russell had already smashed three sixes and raced to 31 off just 10 balls.

Had that partnership carried on for another couple of overs, panic could have set in the TSK camp. However, Mohammad Mohsin turned the game on its head with a double wicket over.

# Australia A to host New Zealand A in day-night four-day fixture



MELBOURNE: Australia A will host New Zealand A in two four-day games, including a day-night pink ball match, and three 50-over matches in Queensland in August and September as Cricket Australia unveiled its full domestic schedule for the 2023-24 summer.

Australia A toured New Zealand in April for two four-day games, and a return series has been locked in for August and September in Brisbane and Mackay in Queensland. CA also announced there will be a Prime Minister's XI four-day game against Pakistan at Manuka Oval in Canberra ahead of Australia's first Test of the home summer against Pakistan in Perth on December 14. West Indies will also play a CA XI in a four-day tour game starting on January 10 at Karen Rolton Oval in Adelaide before the first Test of a two-Test series against

some matches also played at neutral venues. Two-time defending champions Western Australia will begin their tilt for a three-peat against Queensland at Allan Border Field on September 24. The majority of the Marsh Cup will be played prior to the BBL with each state playing their final two matches after the BBL has finished in late January. The Marsh Cup will be played on February 25.

The WNCL final will be played the day before on February 24. The women's domestic season will begin on September 22 at Cricket New South Wales' new facility, Cricket Central at Sydney Olympic Park. The venue will host WNCL, WBBL, and Marsh Cup matches this summer as well as its maiden first-class game with NSW to host Queensland in the opening round of the Sheffield Shield season. Adelaide Oval will also host a day-night WNCL match between South Australia and Victoria on January 29 as part of CA's push to get more domestic women's matches on the bigger international venues. There will also be a Governor General's XI match against South Africa's women's team on January 24 at North Sydney Oval ahead of the women's multifarm seven-match series against Australia starting on January 27.

# 'It was an emotional moment': Yashasvi Jaiswal on debut 100

rossau : Runs, runs and more runs have been Yashasvi Jaiswal's currency lately. A breakout year at the IPL was followed up with a call-up to the India squad for the WTC final, and now a debut in the longest format in West Indies. On the eve of the first Test in Dominica, Rohit Sharma put a lot of faith behind the Mumbai batter to come good and give India what they've always rated very highly - a left-right combination to top.

Jaiswal repaid the faith shown in him to become just the third Indian opener with a century on Test debut after Shikhar Dhawan (Mohali 2013) and Prithvi Shaw (Rajkot 2018). The 21-year-old, now the fourth youngest centurion on debut for India, said he can't go on about the moment he got to the landmark as an emotional one, and vowed to keep going when play resumes on Friday.

"It feels really good. It was an emotional moment [getting 100]. My batting is still going on so the effort will be to play as long as possible for the team", Jaiswal said. "This is the start of my career so I'll strive to take that as long as possible too and see how focused and disciplined I can be going ahead."

"It was very emotional for me, for my family. And for all those who have supported me throughout because it has been a long journey for me. I want to thank everyone who has helped in any way along the way and I want to dedicate this to my parents because they've had a big influence on my life, and I want to thank God."

Don't want to say too much... I am happy, but this is the start... I need to keep up", he added.

Rohit expected big things from Jaiswal and went on to forge a record first-wicket partnership for India against West Indies in the format - 229 runs.

# Sheth, Jadeja keep West Zone in the hunt after Kaverappa's career-best seven-for

BENGALURU: The Duleep Trophy final has seen a combined 189.4 overs out of the 266 possible (four overs lost to change of innings) across three days. Yet, the game has galloped along so quickly that the prospects of play going into the fifth day seem far-fetched - with South Zone only having a slight edge.

Throughout the tournament, the fast bowlers have been in business all day on surfaces that have been so different to the turners we're accustomed to seeing in India. This has meant batters have had to focus that much harder, seamers' ability to bowl long spells has been tested and spinners have had to learn to play a holding role. All these elements provided an engaging third day in Bengaluru, with no side runaway favourites. South Zone would've fancied their chances when they pocketed a 67-run first-innings lead, thanks to Vividh Kaverappa's career-best 7

for 53, but West Zone have hit back to keep themselves alive. At the end of day three, South Zone were 181 for 7, their overall lead at 248, with Washington Sundar unbeaten on 10, hoping to showcase his red-play going into the fifth day. After a prolonged sequence of in-out-in-out due to injuries and form.

As such, Washington has had no bowling to do in the game. In the first innings, he was unbeaten on 22 when the lower order caved in. Now in the second dig, again, he's got the unenviable task of batting with the lower order to help stretch the lead.

South Zone will look back at their innings with a tinge of disappointment. Four of the top six got off to starts but threw it away after West Zone added 17 to their overnight 129 for 7, with Kaverappa picked up at each of the three West Zone wickets to fall on Friday, with the one to Vidvath Dharmendrasinh Jadeja

being the standout, as he got one to bend back in to sneak through the gap between bat and pad and crash into the stumps.

South were rocked immediately as R Samarth was out to a delivery that scooped low. Mayank Agarwal took 23 deliveries to get off the mark, and when he finally did, it came off a sumptuous cover drive. On 13, he was given out caught behind, only for the value of DRS in domestic cricket to shine through as it was overturned.

Then on 23, he survived a terrible mix-up with Hanuma Vihari; a better throw from square leg at the non-striker's end would've had Agarwal after he was sent back halfway through what they thought was a single. But Agarwal would run out of luck eventually, dismissed pulling a bouncer from Arzan Nagwaswalla to leg gully for 35.

Agarwal, though, was furious with the decision. He contended that the

bowler had already bowled two short balls in the over and the one that got him was above the shoulder, nearly head-high.

However, the benefit of replays didn't convince third umpire Saïdhasnan Kumar that the decision be overturned.

Between Samarth and Agarwal's dismissals, Nagwaswalla also had the Caribbean-bound Tilak Varma with a beauty, the ball jaggling back in off a length and cutting him into half to rattle the stumps. Varma ended the game with scores of 40 and 3.

Vihari held fort for a bit after lunch, playing some lovely cover drives, ensuring he was playing close to the body and getting behind the line, but was out driving to the slips off Atit Sheth from around the wicket. At that point, South had slipped to 95 for 4. Ricky Bhui and Sachin Baby then played a few shots to conjure quick runs before the late collapse.

# Linde leaves Kent, Sussex agree Rawlins contract termination

LONDON : George Linde, the South Africa allrounder, has left Kent in order to maximise his availability for franchise cricket, while Delray Rawlins has agreed to terminate his Sussex contract after returning to Bermuda. Linde, who has been capped by South Africa in all three international formats, signed for Kent as an overseas player on a two-year deal ahead of last season. He was available in all formats but has been left out of their County Championship side this year, and has left the club after their group-stage elimination from the T20 Blast. He will instead feature in the upcoming Zim Afro T10 in Zimbabwe, before travelling to the Caribbean to play for St Kitts and Nevis Patriots. "Unfortunately I haven't had much opportunity to play in the four-day game this year so I have decided to try and play more franchise cricket," Linde said.

"I'd like to thank everyone at Kent, my team-mates and coaches as well as all the staff, members and supporters, for making me feel a part of the Kent Cricket family during my time here."

Rawlins, 25, meanwhile, asked Sussex for time away from the game immediately before the start of the Blast in order to return home to Bermuda, and both parties have now agreed a termination of his contract.

Rawlins was a highly rated young allrounder who represented England Under-19s on a tour to India that featured Harry Brook, Ollie Pope and Will Jacks in early 2017 but has struggled to keep in recent seasons. He said in a statement released by the club that he wanted to spend time at home, having left as a teenager to take up a scholarship at St Bede's School in Sussex. "I moved away from home at the age of 14 and haven't really had the opportunity to spend time with family and friends and

I felt this was the right moment to have some time back home," Rawlins said. "For me this isn't the end of my professional career, I feel as if I have a lot of cricket left in me. I just want to thank the club and everyone involved for everything they have done for me over the past few seasons." Rob Andrew, Sussex's CEO, said: "We were all very disappointed when Delray

# UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI MECH. G.W.D. DIVISION JAMMU SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

E-NIT No GWD/73 OF 2023-24 DATED: 12.07.2023

On behalf of the Lt. Governor, UT of J&K, the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Mech. Ground Water Drilling Division Jammu invites tenders by e-tendering mode from reputed and registered firms with PHE/I&FC Deptt. J&K Govt. as a Drilling Engineer who have sufficient experience in the field of drilling and are well equipped with drilling rigs suitable for ODEX method.

Name of the Work	Name of the Division	Cost of Tender Document/Tender Fee (In Rs)	Qty.	Estimated cost (value of work) (in lacs)	Earnest Money (In Rs)	Validity of Rates
Deep Drilling of 125 mm dia Bore Holes by using ODEX method including providing, installation, testing, commissioning of Mark-II Hand Pumps and construction of platforms at (10 Nos. Locations) District Jammu on Turnkey Capex Budget 2023-24 (PRI, DDC and BDC Grants)	Mech. Ground Water Drilling Division Jammu	1000/- (Non-Refundable) Deposited in Govt. treasury through e-challan under the receipt head 0215 in favour of the Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Mech. GWD Div. Jammu payable at Jammu mentioning name of work	10 Nos	Rs. 37.00	@ 2% of the quoted rates in shape of Fresh CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer PHE (M) GWD, Division	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024

- The complete bidding process shall be online.
- Bid documents can be seen and downloaded from the website <http://jtenders.gov.in> from 12.07.2023 to 25.07.2023.
- The pre bid meeting if desired by the participating firms shall be held in the office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (M) GWD Division Jammu on 14.07.2023 (1300 hrs).
- The bids shall be submitted/uploaded from the website <http://jtenders.gov.in> from 15.07.2023 (1400 hrs) to 25.07.2023 (1800 hrs).
- The complete bidding process shall be online and scanned copies of the following documents will have to be uploaded before due date:
  - Copy of treasury e-Challan/receipt for Rs. 1000.00 against the cost of tender document under the receipt Head 0215 in favour of Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (M) Ground Water Drilling Division Jammu indicating name of work to be executed. It may be noted that the receipt of the e-challan should be of the date after the issuance of publication of the e-tender.
  - The tenders shall be accompanied with an earnest money of 2 % of quoted rates in the shape of CDR/FDR, from a scheduled Bank payable in JAMMU. The CDR/FDR shall be pledged to Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (M) GWD Division Jammu, valid for a period of 12 months from the last date of submission of bids. The earnest money deposit shall be refunded in favour of unsuccessful tenderer immediately after finalization of the tender, whereas it shall be retained in case of successful tenderer till signing of agreement and furnishing of performance security
  - Copies of tender documents, terms and conditions duly signed and stamped (each page) by bidder.
  - Scanned copy of Experience certificate of having completed one similar work during last five financial years. The experience certificate shall have been issued by an officer of the rank not below an Executive Engineer of any Government Department/Semi Government/PSUs.
  - Scanned copy of registration of Water Well Drillers issued by Chief Engineer Jal Shakti (1st) Department Jammu, in case the bidder is not able to furnish the Registration with the cover 1st of this bid document he can produce the same before the opening of cover 2nd of this bid document.
  - Scanned copy of the latest Income tax return certificate.
  - Scanned copy GST return in FORMGST-3B of the latest quarter.
  - Scanned copy of documentary proof of ownership or on hire basis of requisite machinery like Air Rotary (ODEX) Drilling Rig. In case of a firm having these machines/ arranged on hire basis the firm shall produce a copy of an agreement with the actual owner (Registered Drilling Firm) of the machine for lease of the machinery and expertise, duly attested by a Magistrate First class valid for a time period of not less than 06 months from the last date of submission of bids.
  - Average Annual financial turnover during any three financial years out of the last 05 years, ending 31st March of previous financial year, issued by a registered Chartered Accountant under his seal and signature shall be Rs 25.0 lacs.
- The Technical Bids of the tender document received shall be opened online in the office of Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (M) GWD Division Jammu on 27.07.2023 (1400 hrs). If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids shall be opened on the next working day during the office hours.
- The Financial Bids of the tender document of the qualified bidders shall be opened online in the office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (M) GWD Division Jammu. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids shall be opened on the next working or as to be decided by tender opening committee.
- Other details can be seen inside the detailed tender document.
- Account Head: District Capex Budget 2023-24 (PRI, DDC and BDC Grants)
- AAA No. 131 & 132-DDCJ of 2023 Dt. 08.07.2023
- Status of Funds: Available
- Technical Sanction No. (attached as per Annexure "A")

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

I Surinder Singh S/o Sh. Rattan Singh R/o Latori, Katra, Reasi, Jammu & Kashmir, have been applying for the change no plate of my vehicle (Motor Car, Tata Saloon) bearing registration no JK20 8074 engine no REVTRN01BU7YP11604, Chassis no MAT623226FLB08401. Now i am applying for the new no plate. objection if any may be conveyed to concerning authority

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

I Varinder Singh S/o Sh. Rattan Singh R/o Dhanori, PS Katra PO Katra Reasi, Jammu & Kashmir, have been applying for the change no plate of my vehicle (Motorcycle, Royal Enfield) bearing registration no JK20A 7223, engine no U3K5CLIN890346, Chassis no MEU3K5CLIN859953. Now i am applying for the new no plate. objection if any may be conveyed to concerning authority

GWD/1698-700  
DATED: 12.07.2023  
DIP/J-4997/23  
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER  
JAL SHAKTI MECH. G.W.D. DIVISION  
JAMMU

# DC Jammu reviews Independence Day arrangements



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JULY 14: Deputy Commissioner, Avny Lavasa today reviewed the arrangements for Independence Day 2023 celebration, here at a meeting held in the DC Office complex.

SSP, Chandan Kohli; ADC L&O, Harvinder Singh; ADC, ADM Sandeep Seonitra; CPO, Yoginder Katochi; CMO, Dr Harbalesh Singh along with senior officers from Police, Security, Jal Shakti, PDD, Information, Health, YSS and other concerned departments were present on the

occasion. Threadbare discussion was held with regard to the security arrangements, traffic regulation, seating arrangements, Fall Dress Rehearsal, decoration, Shehnai Vadan, PAS, Power and water supply, transport arrangements, sanitation, Medicare facilities, invitation cards,

Barricading at venue of the function and other vital issues.

The DC inquired from Officers of Security and Police about the arrangements being put in place by their respective departments. She directed them to make fool-proof security arrangements in advance for the National event.

The DC instructed the Jammu Municipal Corporation and PHE to ensure drinking water at the venue on the I-Day celebrations. The PDD and Jal Shakti department were directed to ensure proper management of power and water including water tankers at the venue. The CMO was asked to ensure proper medical facilities along with staff and ambulances at the venue.

# Justice Atul Sreedharan, Justice Javed Iqbal Wani visit District Court Complex Srinagar

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JULY 14: Justice Atul Sreedharan, Judge High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and administrative Judge for District Srinagar alongwith Justice Javed Iqbal Wani, Judge High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh today visited District Court Complex, Mominabad, here and took comprehensive stock of the working of courts.

Justice Atul Sreedharan and Justice Javed Iqbal Wani also engaged with judicial officers and some members of the Bar, and undertook an inspiring initiative of planting saplings within the court premises.

On arrival to District Court Complex, Justice Atul Sreedharan and Justice Javed Iqbal Wani were warmly received by Principal District & Sessions Judge, Srinagar, Jawad Ahmad, Presiding Officer (MAGT) Srinagar Jema Bashir and Special Judge Anticorruption, CBI Cases, Srinagar, S.C Katal. Justice Atul Sreedharan was also accorded ceremonial guard of honour by a contingent of J&K Police.

During the visit, the Administrative Judge emphasised upon making efforts to reduce pendency of cases and stressed upon adoption of best practices for effective case management. Justice Atul Sreedharan during an insightful interaction with judicial officers of district stressed for identifying areas for improvement and to facilitate overall functioning of justice delivery system.

Justice Atul Sreedharan also stressed upon adopting the procedure of recording statement of witnesses during trial in Urdu as well as in English for smooth and effective disposal of cases. Justice Sreedharan also emphasised that a collaborative approach will further strengthen the judicial system and the challenges faced by the officers are addressed by innovative solutions.

In addition to engaging with the judicial officers, Justice Atul Sreedharan, and Justice Javed Iqbal Wani also held interaction with some members of the Bar. The interaction was aimed to nurture the legal community, where lawyers are encouraged to share their expertise, contribute to legal discourse and provide valuable suggestions for the betterment of the legal framework.

# AHD Jammu launches Phase-III of NADCP for Foot & Mouth Disease

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JULY 14: Director Animal Husbandry Department Jammu, Dr. Shubhra Sharma on Friday launched the third phase of National Animal Diseases Control Programme (NADCP) for Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) today here at the Directorate of Animal Husbandry Complex, Talab Tillo Jammu through online mode. The programme aims to control FMD disease in cattle and buffaloes by 2025 and complete eradication by 2030. Speaking on the occasion, the Director conveyed that NADCP for Foot and Mouth Disease envisages 100% vaccination of cattle and buffaloes along with the ear tagging and registration of vaccinated animals on Bharat Pashudhan-National Digital Livestock Mission (NDLM) portal in order to enhance the traceability, monitoring and control of the disease. She further stated that the FMD is a highly contagious viral disease of cloven-footed animals such as cattle, buffaloes, sheep, goats and pigs which leads to reduction in milk yield, decreased growth rate, infertility and reduced working capacity in bullocks and control of this disease can certainly be achieved by mass vaccinations of susceptible livestock populations repeatedly at regular intervals.

Director stated that the entire vaccination campaign shall last 45 days commencing from today and shall cover around 17 lakh cattle and buffalo population. She further instructed the field officers and other staff to go for Lumpfy Skin Disease vaccinations also wherever required so that livestock is safeguarded against dreaded diseases well in time and urged the staff to commit themselves fully for the important exercise while following all the required SOPs in letter and spirit especially maintenance of cold chain throughout.

# Rajouri: NCORD Committee meeting discusses measures to combat drug menace

JJ NEWS SERVICE

RAJOURI, JULY 14: Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal on Friday presided over a meeting of the District Level NCORD Committee to discuss and review the ongoing drug control measures in the district.

During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner emphasized the need for a multi-pronged approach to combat the drug menace, including awareness campaigns, intensified law enforcement efforts, and rehabilitation initiatives.

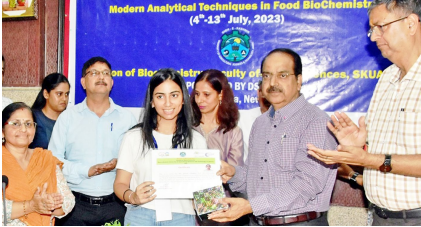
The DC also proposed a 'Chai Pe Charcha' initiative to engage with druggists and raise awareness about the dangers of drug abuse. This approach will foster a dialogue between officials and druggists and encourage them to abandon using drugs.

The District Administration is intensifying its awareness campaigns to educate citizens, particularly young citizens, about the dangers of drug abuse and the importance of leading a drug-free life. The DC emphasized that cooperation and collaboration among all stakeholders, are necessary to effectively fight this menace and ensure a drug-free society.

The meeting of the District Level (NCORD) Committee is a testament to the district administration's unwavering commitment to tackling the drug problem in a comprehensive and holistic manner. The proposed initiatives are innovative and creative and will go a long way in creating a drug-free environment in the district.

The meeting was attended by the SSP, Amrit Pal Singh; ADC Rajouri, Rajeev Khajuria; ADC Sunderbani, Vinod Kumar Behnal; ADC Kalakote, Krishan Lal; PO CIDS, Shoket Mehmood Malik; SDM Thanamandi, Shafeeq Mir; ADC, Vijay Kumar; CMO, Dr Rajinder Sharma; CEO Education Sultana kouser and other concerned officers.

# High End Skilling Workshop on Modern Analytical Techniques in Food Biochemistry concludes at SKUAST-Jammu



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JULY 14: Ten day High End Skilling Workshop on Modern Analytical Techniques in Food Biochemistry sponsored under Vigyan Accelerate Karyashala Scheme of DST-SERB organized from 4th to 13th July, 2023 concluded at Division of Biochemistry, Faculty of Basic Sciences SKUAST-Jammu.

Vice-Chancellor, SKUAST-Jammu, Dr. B. N. Tripathi was the Chief Guest at the Valedictory function.

In his address, Dr. Tripathi stressed upon the importance of Modern Analytical Techniques in Food Biochemistry to know the nutritional status of any food item. He congratulated the organizers for meticulously selecting and training students on such an important area of science.

immensely benefited from the workshop as this had provided them opportunities for exposure to hands-on skill on Modern Analytical Techniques in Biochemistry.

Dr. Moni Gupta, Professor, Biochemistry and Course Director of the workshop presented the detailed report of the workshop and the topics covered during the ten days of training program.

Twenty students from different institutes and Universities of India including DCRUST, Murthal; SVPU-AT, Meerut; MDS University, Rohtak; CCHU, Hissar; Bharthiar University, Coimbatore; CSIR- IITM, Jammu; University of Jammu and SKUAST-Jammu participated in this high end skilling workshop.

During the workshop, twenty nine lectures and hands on practical sessions were delivered by experts drawn from different institutes including University of Technology, Malaysia; PAU, Ludhiana; University of Mysuru, Mysore; CSIR- IIM; University of Jammu and SKUAST-Jammu.

The Students also visited premier institutes in and around Jammu for exposure to modern analytical techniques in Food Biochemistry.

Certificates of participation were presented to the participants. Statutory officers, Head of the Divisions, faculty members were also present on the occasion.

# Statistics Directorate hosts training program on Baseline Survey

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JULY 14: Directorate of Economics & Statistics today organized one day training programme on Baseline Survey for Knowledge, Attitude and Practices (KAP) of citizens regarding Election process in J&K UT for the field functionaries of Jammu division under the patronage of Director General, Economics & Statistics, Satiar Kour Soodan.

The Directorate of Economics & Statistics, J&K has been assigned the responsibility of conducting the Baseline

survey prior to the upcoming General Elections.

The main objective of conducting Baseline survey (KAP) has been to understand the reasons for gaps in electoral participation, both at enrolment stage and voting to understand the underlying reasons for low voter turnout and to identify the barriers to voting, level of knowledge and awareness among the voters about the electoral processes, questions related to minimum age of registration to be a voter, qualifying date for registration, National Voters' Day, NOTA option, Braille on

EVMS, and VVPAT.

The Director General, Economics & Statistics, J&K in her inaugural address emphasized on the importance of Baseline survey on KAP and highlighted that the survey shall be helpful in understanding the perceptions of people, both general and specific, about the elections, the electoral process and the initiatives undertaken by the Election Commission for enhancing the voter turnout for effective democratic governance. She expressed her trust that the field functionaries will collect reliable, coherent and quality data.

Joint Director (Surveys) in his welcome address highlighted that based on the findings of the Baseline Survey, the UT and district SVEEP plan will be finalised for General Elections. He encouraged the participants to take full benefit of training so that quality data could be obtained.

The training was attended by the Regional Director (Evaluation & Statistics) Mr. Sanjay Vashisht, Akhtar Hussain Qazi, Nodal Officer, SVEEP, O/o Chief Electoral Officer, J&K and District Statistics & Evaluation Officers of Jammu division.

# Mandeep Kaur inaugurates UT level Workshop on SSG-2023

'STRESSES ON EFFECTIVE CLEANLINESS OF VILLAGES, ENCOURAGING BEHAVIOURAL CHANGES, FOSTERING SUSTAINABLE SANITATION PRACTICES IN RURAL AREAS'

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JULY 14: Commissioner Secretary, Rural Development Department and Panchayati Raj, Mandeep Kaur today inaugurated a day-long Union Territory level Workshop virtually to orient the UT, District and Block level officers on survey protocol, ranking parameters and roles and responsibilities for successful implementation of Swachh Survekshan Gramin (SSG)-2023.

The workshop was organized by the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Union Ministry of Jal Shakti, with focus to train the officers of J&K for initiating work on result-oriented parameters. The workshop was conducted in collaboration with Directorate of Rural Sanitation, Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, J&K.

After inaugurating the workshop, the Commissioner Secretary in her address congrat-



ulated the officers for achieving 100% target of ODF Plus. She laid emphasis on upholding the same spirit in achieving the ODF Plus Model status and stressed to showcase the same spirit in the SSG-2023, where J&K will be competing with other states to exhibit the success achieved in SBMG.

The Commissioner Secretary stressed upon the participants for effective cleanliness of villages, promoting awareness, encouraging behavioural changes, accessibility of assets, and fostering the adoption of sustainable sanitation practices

in rural areas. Speaking on the occasion, Director Rural Sanitation, Charandeep Singh said that workshop will provide a platform for participants to exchange ideas, learn from one another, and explore strategies to enhance the effectiveness of SSG 2023. He added that this workshop will also serve as an opportunity to identify areas where additional support, resources, or policy interventions may be required to further strengthen the program's impact.

The Director encouraged all

participants to actively engage in discussions, ask questions, and share their insights throughout the workshop and foster an atmosphere of collaboration and open dialogue so as to collectively strive for making a significant difference in the cleanliness and sanitation of our villages.

He informed the gathering that the department is making random calls to local representatives and people in all districts to gather ground level feedback from them. He added this was being done to counter the disinformation received from some districts.

Assistant Commissioner Panchayats, District Panchayat Officers, Block Development Officers of Jammu division attended the workshop in person. ACPs, ACDFs, BDOs and other field staff from Kashmir division attended the workshop virtually.

Pertinently, SSG is a comprehensive assessment program that evaluates the progress and impact of the Swachh Bharat