



# JINDRAH IMAGES



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## Safety and security of Women & Children in UT is utmost priority for administration: LG Sinha

JNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, JULY 21

Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha chaired a meeting, today at Civil Secretariat, to review performance of the Department of Social Welfare, functioning of various verticals and implementation of Central and UT's welfare schemes. "Social safety net, social and economic empowerment of underprivileged is our top priority. The benefits of overall progress and economic growth must reach marginalised sections of society and it is our moral and constitutional duty to address the needs of the last man in the queue and ensure dignity to all," the Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor directed the officers to ensure 100% saturation of all welfare schemes and impact assessment of ongoing schemes. The process for the documentation and sanctioning of the eligible applications should be responsive, seamless and simplified, he added.



Bring about change in the delivery mechanisms by making field functionaries more accountable, participative and integrate efforts to achieve social objectives. Right to education, empowerment of women, joyful childhood, greater security and quality life to elderly to be ensured, the Lt Governor told the officers.

While reviewing the implementation of welfare schemes for women and children, the Lt Governor said the safety and security of Women and Children in UT is utmost priority for administration.

He directed for a dedicated integrated mechanism for conducting awareness programmes and ensuring cases are reported, investigated and stringent action is taken. All possible assistance must be provided to those in distress, he added.

The meeting also discussed the welfare measures for persons with disabilities, Transgender, old aged and senior citizens, SCs/STs, Pahari community and other beneficiaries.

"Adequate attention and sensitivity required to increase employment opportunities for disadvantaged groups under SC, ST, OBC Development Corporation and Women Development Corporation and Self Employment Schemes so that they can be made equal partners in development," the Lt Governor said.

He directed for impact assessment of rehabilitation efforts of the drug abuse victims. Create avenues for their self-employment, handholding for livelihood generations and capacity building to integrate them back into the society, he added.

The Lt Governor

instructed the Social Welfare Department to organize two Mega Camps for persons with disabilities, in collaboration with the Government of India, one each in Jammu and Kashmir divisions.

He further directed for involving Deputy Commissioners and PRI members for 100% saturation of disability certificates to all the eligible beneficiaries.

The Lt Governor took appraisal of the implementation of schemes and programmes like Mission Vatsalya, Ladli Beti; Marriage Assistance

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## Need to skill our workforce in use of advanced technologies and processes: PM Modi

AGENCIES  
INDORE, JULY 21

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said there is a need to skill the workforce in the use of advanced technologies and processes. Addressing the C20 Labour and Employment Ministers' Meeting at Indore via video link, he also said that globally, mobile workforce is going to be a reality.

In this era of the fourth industrial revolution, technology has become



the core driver of employment and will remain so, Modi said.

"We all need to skill our workforce in the use of advanced technologies and processes. Skilling,

re-skilling and upskilling are the mantras for the future workforce. In India, our Skill India Mission is a campaign to connect with this reality," he said.

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## Develop joint warfighting capabilities to tackle challenges of future: IAF Chief

AGENCIES  
HYDERABAD, JULY 21

Chief of Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari on Friday highlighted the importance of developing joint warfighting capabilities to tackle the challenges of the future.

He delivered a speech to the officers attending the 47th Higher Air Command Course (HACC) at the College of Air Warfare in Secunderabad.

During his address, the CAS covered a wide range of global and national issues and advised the future commanders to remain updated on the latest.

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## "Brave" individual's complaint led to busting of honey trap gang in Srinagar: Police

JNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, JUL 21

Jammu and Kashmir police on Friday said that a complaint of a brave individual led to arrest of fraudsters and busting of honey trap gang in Srinagar.

Addressing a selected group of media persons, SP South Srinagar, Gaurav Shankar, as per the news agency said that yesterday they received a complaint from a person claiming there is a honey trap gang active on social media.

SP said that the complainant said that the gang sends messages to people and initiates a brief conversation, following which they call the person and ask them to meet someone through social media.



"However, when the person arrives at the designated place, they encounter a fake media person and a fake police officer already present in the adjacent room. According to the complainant, as soon as he entered the room, there was a knock on the door, and a fake media person entered. This individual interrogated him about his

activities and threatened to call the police. Shortly after, fake police personnel entered the room and further intimidated the complainant."

He said that as per the complainant, a lady named Masrat, pretending to be a Crime Branch officer, joined them. "They all started blackmailing the complainant and demanded money to settle the case," he added.

"Initially, the complainant handed over a check, but the gang demanded more money. However, when the complainant's family learned of the situation and the news broke, police team rushed to the spot and caught the culprits," he added.

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## CRPF trooper dies of cardiac arrest

JNEWS SERVICE  
ANANTNAG, JUL 21

A 32-year-old Central Reserve Police Force trooper died of cardiac arrest in Larnoo area of Kokarnag in south Kashmir's Anantnag district on Friday morning.

An official told the news agency that the trooper identified as Tang Kishor Das of 164 battalion fell unconscious at Larnoo CRPF camp.

He was rushed to a nearby hospital for treatment, where doctors declared him dead on arrival, he said.

Meanwhile, police have taken cognizance of the incident.

## NIA arrests 19-year-old for alleged IS links

JNEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, JULY 21

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Thursday arrested a 19-year-old man for his alleged links with the Islamic State (IS) and conducted searches on his premises in Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh.

"The accused, Faizan Ansari aka Faiz, a student of Aligarh Muslim University (AMU), Uttar Pradesh, has been taken into custody...," said the agency in a statement, adding that electronic devices and documents were seized during the searches at his permanent residence in Lohardaga (Jharkhand) and rented room in Aligarh.

## Crime Branch Kashmir files chargesheet against 9 in fake jobs case

JNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, JUL 21

Economic Offences Wing of Crime Branch Kashmir produced chargesheet against 9 accused persons for their involvement in fraudulently securing jobs in SKIMS Saura

In a statement, issued to the news agency, a spokesperson said that chargesheet was filed in case FIR No. 26/2015/US 420, 468, 471 & 120-B RPC against nine persons for their alleged involvement in fraudulently securing jobs in SKIMS Saura after having committed criminal conspiracy, cheating, and forgery of certificates etc.

The statement reads that the case owes its

origin to an official communication received by Crime Branch Kashmir from the Director, SKIMS Saura that under No. SIMS-23 (P) of 2015, among others Shakoob Ahmad Tantray S/o Mohammad Yousuf Tantray R/o Poni-pora Kulgam, Mohammad Shahid Murtaza S/o Mohammad Shaban Dar R/o Wampora Kulgam, Shazia Hassan D/o Gh. Hassan R/o Kulpora Strandoo Kulgam, Mudasir Bashir Sofi S/o Bashir Ahmad Sofi R/o Noorbagh Kulgam and Shameem Ahmad Naik S/o Hamidullah Naik R/o Banimullah Kulgam were appointed as Nursing Orderlies subject to verification and genuineness of their academic credentials.

It reads that during investigation it was determined that, in addition to the five accused individuals, viz Amir Hassan Khan S/o Ghulam Hassan Khan R/o Badrakund Ganderbal and Jehangir Ahmad

"However, as per the verification report furnished by the Joint Secretary (Verification), J&K State Board of School Education Kashmir it transpired that the academic/ D.O.B. certificates submitted by them were fake and forged. Accordingly, case FIR No. 26 of 2015 came to be registered in PS Crime Branch Kashmir and investigation was started to probe into the allegations."

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## Over 3 lakh record breaking number of pilgrims performed Amarnath yatra

JNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, JUL 21

Due to the improvement in infrastructure & allied services by government, Shri Amarnathji Yatra registered over 3 lakh record breaking number of pilgrims who visited Holy Cave just within twenty one days, which is comparatively much higher than the previous year number at the same time.

With the addition of 13,797 yatrias who performed darshans today the cumulative total stands now at 3,07,354. The galoring figures are testimony to the fact that government has developed physical infrastructure of electricity, health, roads, sanitation and treks besides ensured transportation services from road transport, helipad service and Pony services.

Almost thirty gov-



ernment departments which ensure stress-free and tireless yatra. This year government made twin axis- Pahalgam and Baltal to glow with lights from base camps to Holy Cave which helped in carrying on yatra during evening hours.

The construction of two State-of-Art 100-bedded hospitals for the treatment of yatrias and all the associated people is another epitome of high level seriousness shown by the government for boasting allied infrastructure.

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## J&K lacks robotic surgical system, doctors say technology need of the hour

JNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, JUL 21

Jammu & Kashmir lacks a robotic surgical system due to which patients are left with no option but to visit the hospitals outside the union territory.

Robot-assisted surgery uses specialized technology that enhances the capabilities of the surgeon's hands. It allows surgeons to perform procedures in hard-to-reach areas through small incisions. The specialized technology also enables precise movements and enhanced magnification.

The doctors while talking to the news agency said a robotic surgical system is the need of the hour at tertiary care health facilities as it has multiple benefits.

They said robotic surgery has multiple benefits and if such a system will be established at SKIMS, GMC Srinagar and other tertiary care health facilities, the patients need not go outside J&K for treat-

ment. Noid urologist Dr Salim Wani told KNO that robotic surgical systems will allow surgeries to be done with precision, miniaturization, small incisions, decreased blood loss, less pain and quicker healing time.

It is the need of the hour to have such a system in place at the earliest because it is the future of surgery without which surgeons will be "worthless and obsolete", he said.

"It will help in urological, gynaecological, colorectal, neurosurgical and cardio-thoracic procedures with excellent results. Kidney transplantation and open heart procedures are also done with excellent results," he said, adding that there was an acute need for procurement of this cutting-edge technology, which was not in place in J&K anywhere yet.

Dr Mufti Mahmood, former Head of the

Department, Surgery, at GMC Srinagar and Director Urology at Paras Hospital Srinagar, said robotic-assisted surgery is revolutionizing healthcare across the globe. "Robots help surgeons to perform more accurate surgeries. It has a focus on precision care. A surgeon will perform an eight-hour robotic-assisted surgery without getting tired," he said.

Dr Sajad from GMC Srinagar said robotic surgery including Artificial Intelligence helps surgeons to improve efficiency. "These advanced technologies offer quicker recoveries, no complications, and less hospital stays. These surgeries will be affordable for patients in J&K," he said.

The doctors said their departments have repeatedly requested the government to bring this advanced technology to Jammu & Kashmir.

The SKIMS, GMC Srinagar and GMC

## Three arrested following scuffle at Sheshnag camp of Amarnath Yatra: J&K Police



JNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR

Three persons have been arrested for allegedly being involved in a scuffle at the Sheshnag base camp of the Amarnath Yatra last week which led to minor injuries to a few pilgrims and ponywallas, police have said.

The Additional Director General of Police (ADGP), Kashmir, Vijay Kumar said some people have uploaded a misleading and baseless video on social media claiming stones were

thrown at pilgrims. Taking cognisance of the matter an FIR has been registered," he said.

Sheshnag is situated on the Pahalgam axis of the Amarnath yatra in south Kashmir's Anantnag district.

"On July 15 at Sheshnag, there was a scuffle among ponywallas which resulted in minor injuries to ponywallas and a few pilgrims. The situation was immediately brought under control," the ADGP said on Twitter.

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## IIMC organized massive plantation drive with CRPF



J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUL 21: Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC), Jammu organized a massive plantation drive in its Bantala campus with Centre Reserve Police Force (CRPF) Jammu Range. The plantation drive is organized in collaboration with the Forest Department, Society for Promotion of Inclusive and Sustainable Development (SAMIKSHA), MUKTI and Climate Friend on Friday. On this occasion, Rakesh Sethi, DIG, Jammu Range, Dr. O.P. Sharma Vidyarthi, former Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, C.M. Sharma, Secretary, Samiksha, Nidhi Sharma, Founder

Chairperson of Mukti Society NGO, Dharwinder Singh, Sarpanch, Keran, Ritambhara along with Prof. Anil Saumitra, Regional Director, IIMC, Jammu planted more than 300 trees in the campus.

On this auspicious occasion, Rakesh Sethi, DIG, CRPF, Jammu Range said one plant is equal to 10 progenies. The plant is not only for the plantation of the tree but for the entire mankind.

He promised to Regional Director, IIMC, Jammu for the plantation in the entire campus and also worked to train the aspiring journalists in near future. Dr. O.P. Sharma Vidyarthi, former Principal Chief Conservator of

Forests, J&K said that SAMIKSHA Society is connecting young minds for innovations of new species of plants and is also promoting indigenous plants to conserve our culture. He added that a good climate contributes to the creation of good minds. He informed me about the varieties of mangoes and its different uses.

Prof. Anil Saumitra, Regional Director, IIMC, Jammu said this is a proud moment for the campus for getting plantation in such massive quantity. He expressed his gratitude to the Jammu fraternity for this good work and saving nature. He added that these small steps are the solutions to tackle the issue of climate change. Initially, C.M. Sharma, Secretary, Samiksha informed about the importance of the campaign 'Ek Ped Desh ke Naam', National Students Parvayan Competition 2023 etc. Dharwinder Singh, Sarpanch, Keran also emphasized about the commitment to conserve the forests and planning to plant more plants in the era. The plantation drive was graced by Dinesh Joshi, Social Forestry Department, Jammu, Ajay Khajuria, President, SAMIKSHA, Chandra Mohan Sharma and Pooja Sharma of Mukti Society, Abhimanyu Singh, Ritambhara along with all faculties, staffs and prominent persons of Jammu to create a greener and cleaner tomorrow.

## 15-Days Workshop on Personality Development and Communication Skills Concludes



J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUL 21: The 15-day workshop on personality development and communication skills, which commenced on July 3, 2023, at Jammu University's Center for IT enabled Services and Management, concluded here today with resounding success. The workshop was organized by the Skill Development and Career Planning Vertical of SIIEDC. It was a path breaking initiative under the visionary guidance of Prof. Umesh Rai, Vice Chancellor, JU who is making a painstaking effort to engage the University with the Civil Society, dissolve boundaries and achieve the ben-

efits of the University learning environment to the general public, making the workshop as first of its kind by SIIEDC, which was open to all ages and the general public, attracting participants from diverse backgrounds and age groups.

The workshop featured prominent academicians and experts from the field of communication skills as resource persons, ensuring the participants received the best guidance and knowledge. The primary objective of the workshop was to enhance the participants' personality traits and communication skills to empower them for personal and professional growth. Prof. Alka Sharma, Director of Skill

Innovation Incubation and Entrepreneurship Development Center (SIIEDC), addressed the gathering during the concluding ceremony. She expressed her satisfaction with the workshop's outcome and informed the audience that the center would continue to organize such programs, not only for the students of the University of Jammu but also for the broader public.

Speaking about the SIIEDC, Prof. Sharma highlighted its dedicated efforts to develop an enabling environment for young entrepreneurs. "The center's mandate encompasses skill development, creating awareness about commercializing the acquired skills, and providing support through incubation opportunities for sustainable entrepreneurship," Prof. Alka Sharma said.

Participants were enthusiastic about their experiences and shared how the workshop had a profound impact on their overall personality and communication abilities. Many participants expressed their desire to participate in similar workshops organized by the center and urged the organizers to make it a regular feature. Among others present were Dr. Jasleen Kaur, Dr. Garima Gupta, Dr. Farah Choudhary, Raquaiya, and Arjun.

## Rajouri witnessing self-sufficiency in all domains: Vibodh Gupta



J I NEWS SERVICE

RAJOURI, JUL 21: Bikaner Sweets, a renowned name in the sweets industry, marked its grand entry into Rajouri with an eventful inauguration by BJP Jammu and Kashmir General Secretary and Former MLC, Vibodh Gupta.

During the inauguration, Vibodh Gupta expressed his admiration for Rajouri's progress towards self-sufficiency in all domains. He

wholeheartedly appreciated the remarkable initiative taken by Mr. Manohar Kumar and Mr. Arvind Sharma to introduce Bikaner Sweets in Rajouri, providing the locals with delightful choices and an array of delectable sweets. Moreover, he emphasised the significance of such endeavours in creating employment opportunities that contribute to the area's growth and prosperity.

Addressing the enthusiastic audience, Vibodh

Gupta passionately encouraged the youth of Rajouri to take the reins of their destiny and embrace entrepreneurship.

He highlighted the numerous beneficial schemes and support provided by both Central and State Governments, urging the young minds to seize these opportunities and embark on their entrepreneurial journeys. "Think Big and Work Hard," he proclaimed, believing that the youth's progress will

pave the way for the nation's advancement.

BJP Rajouri General Secretary, Ranjeet Tara joined the inaugural ceremony as Guest of Honour. The event was graced by the presence of Additional SP, Vivek Shekhar, Chairman MC Rajouri, Mohd. Anil, Kamal Bakshi, Kamal Singh, Sudesh Sharma, Sanjay Sharma, Nishu Gupta, Yogesh Corporator, Mamta Sharma, Sudarshan Sharma Corporator, Shazia Tabasum, Vicky Sharma, Jasbir Singh, Kishore Kumar, Jahid Ahmad, Kiran Sharma, Amrith Gupta, Rinku Sharma, Nishal Gupta, Kowal Sharma, Arti Sharma, Rekha Sharma, among others.

The owner of the store Manohar Kumar and Arvind Sharma also expressed their gratitude and thanked the BJP J&K General Secretary and former MLC for sparing his valuable time and inaugurating the store.

## Reasi Campus, JU, organized One Day Workshop on Gender Sensitization

J I NEWS SERVICE

REASI, JUL 21: Reasi Campus, University of Jammu has organized one day Workshop on 21.07.2023 "Gender Sensitization" for the students and faculty members in order to teach and learn about the gender sensitivity and encouragement of behaviour modification through raising awareness of gender equality concerns. This curricular activity was organized to make students and faculty members aware of gender equality to eliminate gender discrimination in the society.

Prof. Sushil K. Pandey, Director, Reasi Campus, has welcomed the resource person Prof. Jasbir Singh, Former Head, Department of Economics and Former Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences. On the occasion, he expressed the various objectives required in the Reasi Campus JU in terms of achieving gender equality which includes to create an environment of justice, to instil positive values, an inclusive gender diverse workplace with fair practices, raising awareness of



gender equality concerns, providing mentorship to students etc. He has also apprised the participants regarding the motive behind the conduct of such a workshop.

The workshop was conducted in three sessions including one fully interactive session. Prof. Jasbir Singh explained in detail about gender economics and the concept of gender sensitization in a very effective and lucid way with the help of presentation and interactions. He has elaborated on the understanding of the gender roles, stereotypes and

biases that are prevalent in the society and workplace. He has demonstrated to the students with the examples which are quite common in today's modern society of gender inequality which makes the solid reasons to organize frequent awareness programmes/seminars/workshops/conferences so that the gender evils to be minimized or eradicated from the society and workplaces. Further he emphasized that gender sensitization aims to create a more equal and just society where individuals are not discriminated against based on their gender. He

opined that though there is an improvement in nowadays society on gender biasness, however, the same need to be carried forward in future. He stressed that morality must be valued and maintained equally both in the home and society. The workshop was attended by the students of 2nd and 4th semester of M.A. Sociology along with the faculty members.

Manoj Kumar has coordinated all the sessions with Dr. Nisha Sharma, and Pankaj and Dr. Ravi Kumar presented a vote of thanks.

## 12 student shifted to safer place by Police in Poonch

J I NEWS SERVICE

RAJOURI, JUL 21: There were 14 girls student in KGBV near the bank of Loran river. The building of said hostel was unsafe as water entered into the building of hostel due to rainfall.

The matter was immediately brought into the notice of SSP Poonch Vinay Sharma.

Whereas taking the matter seriously SSP Poonch directed SHO of concerned Police station to make ensure that the students are shifted to safer place safely. Whereas taking the matter seriously Police in presence of Teachers and PRIs shifted student to safer place in



Loran. It's pertinent to mention here that after heavy rainfall in the adjoining areas there were landsliding and water also enter into the

building of KGBV Hostel and due to timely action by SSP Poonch the life of 14 students of KGBV saved. Locals appreciated the timely action of SSP

Poonch. Whereas SSP Poonch told that at the emergency for any help locals can contact nearest police station as Police id available 24x7 for help

## FICCI FLO JKL organizes Art Camp at Octroi Post Suchetgarh Border

Artistically portraying globalisation, peace & prosperity in J&K: Varuna Anand

J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUL 21: FICCI FLO Jammu Kashmir & Ladakh, in association with the Border Security Force (BSF) and Institute of Music & Fine Art (IMFA), University of Jammu, hosted a transformative Art Camp at Octroi Post Suchetgarh Border, RS Pura.

The art camp was inaugurated by BSF Commandant Ajay Sharma in presence of Varuna Anand, Chairperson of FICCI FLO Jammu Kashmir & Ladakh, along with the core team members, including Ruchika Gupta, Aarti Choudhary, Sonu Mehta, Pooja Gandotra, and Mona Saraf.

The camp brought together 20 talented artists from IMFA, University of Jammu, headed by Ankush Kesar to create beautiful paintings, aiming to depict Globalisation and Intercultural Peace & Prosperity in Jammu & Kashmir, while also showcasing the BSF as the real Sentinels of Peace on our Borders.

In his address, Commandant Ajay Sharma lauded the efforts of FICCI FLO in organizing the



camp and recognized the creative potential of art in fostering a vision of peace and prosperity for the region.

Speaking to media persons at the Octroi Post Suchetgarh Border, Varuna Anand, Chairperson of FICCI FLO JKL, expressed her enthusiasm for the event and its underlying purpose. "We are delighted to collaborate with the BSF and IMFA for this remarkable Art Camp. The theme for the camp at Octroi Post, Suchetgarh Border, was globalizing & incentivising peace and prosperity in

Jammu & Kashmir. Through these paintings, we hope to acknowledge the efforts of I.G. Manoj Sinha and the Tourism Department in promoting this border area as a major tourist attraction and fostering peace and harmony within the region," said Varuna Anand.

She said the paintings created during the Art Camp will be presented as symbols of peace and development to senior government officials/officers, as a gesture of appreciation for their dedication to progress and stability in

the region. Emphasizing the role of the Border Security Force in maintaining peace at the borders, Varuna Anand stated, "The camp's underlying goal is to highlight the extraordinary efforts of our Border Guards - the BSF Personnel, who act as the true Sentinels of Peace on our borders. In line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 3D formula - Development, Democracy, and Dialogue, we envision using these artworks to script a new chapter of peace and prosperity for Jammu & Kashmir."

"Art holds immense potential in peace-building efforts, not only for conflict resolution but also for post-conflict reconciliation. It transcends linguistic barriers and is recognized as a universal language, making it an ideal resource to showcase the unified vision of 'Naya Jammu & Kashmir,' with BSF playing a crucial role in maintaining calm borders," she said.

The successful G20 meet held in Kashmir has further fueled the drive to utilize art as a powerful medium to promote peace and cooperation in the region, she added.

# BLSKS presents 368th mega musical play "Machardani"



J I NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU, JUL 21:** To aware the masses, Bhartiya Lok Sangeet Kala Sansthan in coordination with STAP presented one week special campaign on "MALARIA" through its regular feature 368th Friday Series Musical Play "MACHARDANI" at open air theatre Durga Bhawan, Jammu. Jammu to draw attention of the masses living with vector borne diseases including dengue, malaria and their treatments.

The Program was inaugurated by as Chief Guest Sh. V.K. Magotra, Former Regional Director of Directorate of Field Publicity, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India and Former Chief Medical Officer, Jammu and Kashmir Government, Udhampur. Dr. Tara Singh Charak, Mukesh Singh, Renowned Media Person J&K provided over the function. The day as well with sole aim of rejuvenating the traditional, primitive Folk, Art, Culture of J&K Region in particular and Indian nation in general. Awareness items specially prepared on the Themes, like "Chara Da Bukhar", "RokoRokoMalaria GiRoko", "BachohBachohDengueKola Bacho", "MachardaniLal de ve", "Khat Dana Nai oh dinda- MacharBura" Skits, Folk Songs were presented to aware the masses.

The Chief Guest lauded the efforts of the organizers in making such awareness programs colorful, effective and result oriented. He also lauded the efforts of the organizers in making such awareness programs colorful, effective and result oriented. He also lauded the efforts of the organizers in making such awareness programs colorful, effective and result oriented.

# Apni Party committed to revamp transport industry in J&K: Manjit Singh

J I NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU, JUL 21:** Apni Party Provincial President, Jammu, and Former Minister, S. Manjit Singh today expressed commitment to revamp the transport industry.

The Former Minister was addressing a joining programme.

This programme was organized to felicitate Tirath Singh for his appointment in Apni Party as Provincial President of Apni Party Transport Union.

During the programme, Tirath Singh was felicitated in Apni Party Office during a function on his appointment.

Speaking on the occasion, Manjit Singh said that the transport industry is a very important sector that needs special attention of the Govt.

"The transport industry not only plays a vital role in transporting essential commodities from one place to another place in Jammu and Kashmir, and across the country, but it also provides employment to lakhs of people," he said.

He said that unfortunately, the transporters in Jammu and Kashmir face discriminatory approaches from the authorities and the underdevelopment in Transport Nagar where trucks and businessmen

celebrating the gains that have been made. In few years the world has made historic progress against malaria, saving millions of lives. However, half the world still lives at risk from this preventable, treatable disease, which costs a child's life every two minutes. Malaria is caused by the Plasmodium parasite. The parasite is spread to humans through the bites of infected mosquitoes. There are 5 different types of Plasmodium parasite that cause malaria in humans. Malaria is a disease caused by a parasite. The parasite is spread to humans through the bites of infected mosquitoes. People who have malaria usually feel very sick with a high fever and shaking chills. While the disease is uncommon in temperate climates, malaria is still common in tropical and subtropical countries. The artists of BLSKS will present 6 other programs which was covered in the far flung areas of Jammu District. The songs on the said theme were written by Dr. M.L. Dogra. The music was assisted by Mr. Raju Bajgal, Music Instructor BLSKS. The said songs were recorded and upload on social media for aware the general public.

Earlier welcoming the audience Dr. M.L. Dogra, Chairman said this play revealed that how to aware from the Malaria Disease, in tropical countries where children and pregnant women are the main victims. It is a parasitic infection caused by plasmodium, which can be deadly to these vulnerable sections.

As children are more prone to this disease, it is important to create awareness in them. The achievements of countries that are approaching and achieving malaria elimination. They provide inspiration for all

nations that are working to stamp out this deadly disease and improve the health and livelihoods of their populations. Dogra also said Malaria is a mosquito-borne infectious disease that affects humans and other animals. Malaria causes symptoms that typically include fever, tiredness, vomiting, and headaches. In severe cases, it can cause yellow skin, seizures, coma, or death. Symptoms usually begin ten to fifteen days after being bitten by an infected mosquito. If not properly treated, people may have recurrences of the disease months later. In those who have recently survived an infection, reinfection usually causes milder symptoms. This partial resistance disappears over months to years if the person has no continuing exposure to malaria. Malaria is caused by single-celled microorganisms of the Plasmodium group. The disease is most commonly spread by an infected female Anopheles mosquito. The mosquito bite introduces the parasites from the mosquito's saliva into a person's blood. The parasites travel to the liver where they mature and reproduce. Five species of Plasmodium can infect and be spread by humans. We mark successes in the fight against malaria, highlight the responsibility we all have to end malaria within a generation and urge leaders to step up the fight and get us closer to a malaria-free world. To keep malaria initiatives on the political agenda, mobilize resources by making the message more personal, and impress on communities and individuals to take ownership of certain aspects of malaria prevention like from vector control, malaria e-learning, to proper case management utilizing carefully designed protocols, proper training, and governance oversight, to emergency stand-by treatment kits, to Assistance Centers staffed by health professionals trained in our malaria response protocols.

The singers, musician actors and students of music and computer institute who performed in the musical play were Usha Raina, K.K. Joshi, Raju Bajgal, Rajni Gupta, M.C. Kotwal, Chahat Chadha, Bindia Okheda, SantDass, Gouri Lal, Rahul Kumar, RenuBala, Naiya Meena and many others presented the enthralling performance at the end of the programme. Master Deepak Kumar presented vote of thanks for successful conclusion of the program.

# Kavinder Gupta strongly condemns Manipur incident; terms as extremely shameful act

HOLDS MEETING WITH MEMBERS OF MUSLIM BROTHERS; SAYS BJP GARNERING SUPPORT FROM ALL SECTIONS OF SOCIETY



J I NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU, JUL 21:** Kavinder Gupta, senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister, expressed deep dismay over the incident involving two women being paraded naked in Manipur. Terming it as an extremely shameful act, he emphasized that such heinous acts should not be politicized. He said swift and decisive action should be taken against the culprits responsible for this reprehensible act.

In a statement issued today, Kavinder Gupta

said, "The incident in Manipur has shocked and deeply saddened all of us. It is a matter of national shame, and we must come together as a society to ensure that such horrific acts do not go unpunished. I appeal to all parties and individuals not to politicize this issue, but rather unite in demanding justice for the victims."

The former Deputy Chief Minister acknowledged Prime Minister Narendra Modi's assurance that the perpetrators of this heinous crime will be brought to justice and asserted that the

government must act promptly to fulfill this commitment. "The Prime Minister has already assured the nation that no one involved in this ghastly act will be spared. It is crucial that the authorities act swiftly and bring the culprits to justice, setting an example that such crimes will not be tolerated," he added.

Meanwhile, Kavinder Gupta engaged in a constructive interaction with members of the Muslim community in Japki area of Bahu Constituency, on the outskirts of Jammu, atten-

tively listening to their concerns and grievances.

The community members expressed their appreciation for the present administration, acknowledging the construction of a much-needed road in the area after nearly seven decades of neglect by the previous regimes. They expressed their unwavering faith in the Modi government and extended their wholehearted support to the BJP. Kavinder Gupta emphasized the party's inclusive approach, highlighting that support is being garnered from all sections of society, transcending caste, color, and creed. He assured the members of the Muslim community that the BJP stands firmly with them, and their issues will be addressed promptly and effectively. Prominent among those who were present include Rekha Mahajan, District President Jammu South, Vinay Gupta, Anshu Gupta, Mohammad Rafiq, Mohammad Alam, Sadiq, former Chairman JMC, Raj Kumar.

# NC, PDP abandoned political ideologies for personal gain: Bali Bhagat

J I NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU, JUL 21:** Senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader and former Minister, Bali Bhagat launched a scathing attack against the National Conference (NC) and People's Democratic Party (PDP) leaders for their misleading statements in the media, aiming to deceive the public and salvage their failing political endeavours.

Having once supported the ideology of the BJP and forming alliances with the party to secure positions of power, Bali Bhagat said these regional leaders have conveniently abandoned their political ideologies. However, it is important to note that their association with the BJP was solely for gaining power, potentially at the expense of their own principles.

Bali Bhagat strongly believed that these leaders have lost touch with the ground realities and have completely sidelined the genuine concerns of the people. Their focus remains solely on preserving their own interests, even if it means they joined hands with their staunch opponents. A prime example of this opportunism can be seen in the formation of the P



ople's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD), which was purely aimed at self-preservation rather than serving the people, he added.

"The National Conference and PDP leaders once staunch opponents in the Valley but now they came under the banner of PAGD. Regrettably, as soon as these leaders lost their grip on power, they wasted no time in publicly criticizing the very party with which they had previously partnered to come into power."

Such opportunistic actions deserve scrutiny, as they are clearly more motivated by personal aspirations than by the welfare of the general

public," he said.

The former minister asserted that BJP is a party that upholds its commitments and remains dedicated to the welfare of the nation. As the single largest party in the country, the BJP has successfully fulfilled many of the promises made to the people prior to the elections. This includes the historic abrogation of Article 370, which has brought about a positive transformation in Jammu and Kashmir, and the construction of the Ram Mandir, a long-standing demand of millions of devotees across the country.

"BJP stands firm in its conviction to prioritize the values and emotions of the general public over personal aspirations," he said and urged the people to remain vigilant and discerning, especially when it comes to political leaders from regional parties who are solely focused on their own agendas. Bali Bhagat emphasized that the people should choose and support those leaders who are committed to the overall welfare and progress of the people having some credibility, rather than those who simply seek to protect their own sinking ships.

# YCET organized a farewell: "The Grand Good Bye" for Batch-2019

J I NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU, JUL 21:** To bid adieu to the 8th semester students of Yogananda College of Engineering and Technology (YCET), a farewell party "The Grand Good Bye" for Batch-2019 was organized. The day was a fiesta devoted to the years spent together with friends and teachers, to reminisce joyous moments. The hall was festooned with decorations. Being a colorful affair, the farewell bash rocked the day for all the party attendees. The eye-catching moments were the video made with the four years of memories of 8th-semester students, fun events organized for the 8th-semester students, Ms. YCET and Mr. YCET contest, etc. The fun events included pictorial damshara, musical chairs, draw it if you can, opaque walk, etc. The winners from these fun events were facilitated by Dean Academics Er. Dinesh Gupta and Er. K.R.



Sharma. Students of last semester were facilitated with mementos by their respective HODs and Dean Academics Er. Dinesh Gupta and Chief Coordinator Er. B.R. Verma. The highlight of the event was the Miss YCET and Mr. YCET contest in which the outgoing students walked the ramp gracefully and participated in the Talent show and

Q&A round. The evening saw the crowning of Arishpreet Kour Bali from the CSE Department and Akshay Mukhtar from the Civil Engineering Department as Miss and Mr. YCET. Mr. and Miss YCET were felicitated by Chairman, JGEI Er. Vidhi S. Singh Jamwal, Dean Academics, YCET Er. Dinesh Gupta, Chief Coordinator Er. B.R. Verma

and Er. K.R. Sharma, Chairman, JGEI, also interacted with the students on their last day at the campus. He guided the students toward a better future and wished the final-year students to have a great future ahead. The event was summed up with a vote of thanks delivered by Er. Rajnish Magotra HOD, Civil Engineering Department.

### Gurez Festival 2023 DC Bandipora convenes preparatory meeting



**JNEWSSERVICE**  
BANDIPORA, JULY 21

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Dr. Owais Ahmed today convened a meeting to review the preparations of Gurez Festival 2023.

Director Tourism, Kashmir, Raja Yaqoob Farooq also participated in the meeting through virtual mode.

The meeting discussed threadbare various issues regarding the preparations of Gurez festival including tourism promotion activities, water sports activities like River Rafting, Kayaking, accommodation, Home stays, and various other activities to be held during Gurez Festival.

The DC directed the concerned officers to take up all necessary logistics in advance to avoid any inconvenience during the festival.

He stressed that the event should showcase the true essence of Gurez, its tradition and culture; besides, there should be proper promotion of the festival to achieve the ultimate objective of making Gurez a year-round tourist destination.

Dr. Owais directed all the concerned to work in close coordination and ensure fool-proof arrangements for the smooth and successful conduct of the Gurez festival.

### Rs 41k Fine imposed on erring traders at Shopian

**JNEWSSERVICE**  
SHOPIAN, JULY 21

The Court of Adjudicating Officer, Additional District Magistrate Shopian, Yar Ali Khan today imposed a fine of Rs 41,200 on Food Business Operators (FBOs) including manufacturers, wholesale dealers and retailers. The fine was imposed for violation of the sec 51 and 52 of FSS Act 2006 as the erring traders resorted to violations by selling misbranded and sub standard food. The proceedings of various blocks of the district related to the Food Safety and Standards Act 2006 were listed before the Adjudicating Officer.

## District Magistrate Srinagar imposes ban on sale, purchase and carrying of "Sharp-edged weapons" in public places

**JNEWSSERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, JULY 21

In wake of recent stabbing incidents in many areas of Srinagar District including Qamarwari, Bemina, Kralpora, Batmaloo, Nowhatta, Kothibagh, Rambagh, the District Magistrate (DM) Srinagar, Mohammad Aliqasim Friday imposed ban on sale, purchase and carrying of "Sharp-edged weapons" in public places of the District.

In this regard, an order has been issued by the District Magistrate, Srinagar under Section 144 Cr.P.C, vide No. DMS/Jud/144 Cr.P.C/2023, dated 21.07.2023 reads that "Whereas, vide communication No. CS/07-23/31489-91 dated 12/07/2023 Senior Superintendent of Police, Srinagar has reported that during past few months there have been multiple incidents of stabbing/attacks using sharp edged weapons in District Srinagar."

The order stated that "The SSP Srinagar vide above cited letter has drawn an outline of stabbing incidents in the pockets of Qamarwari, Bemina, Kralpora, Batmaloo, Nowhatta, Kothibagh, Rambagh etc of District Srinagar, during past 3 months of the current year".

Accordingly, as per the DM order "Whereas pos-



**JNEWSSERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, JULY 21

session of sharp-edged weapons "whose blade is more than 09 inches long or whose blade is more than 02 inches wide" for any purpose other than domestic, agricultural, scientific, and industrial purposes is a cognizable offence under Arms Act 1959".

The DM Srinagar order further reads that "I, District Magistrate, Srinagar, by virtue of powers vested in me U/S 144 Cr.P.C do hereby impose ban on sale, purchase and carrying of sharp-edged weapons in public places, in the territorial jurisdiction of District Srinagar with immediate effect. "The ban shall be applicable to the business establishments engaged in sale/purchase of such weapons. "Sharp-edged weapons" shall include any object or instrument that possesses a blade, edge, or point capable of causing injury or harm to individuals, including but not limited to knives, swords, daggers, box cutters, and razors. "Public places" shall encompass streets, parks, recreational areas, public transport facilities, markets, schools, reli-

gious places, government buildings and any other locations accessible to the general public", the order also added.

The order further reads that "the ban shall apply to all individuals except law enforcement agencies, individuals possessing such weapons for legitimate occupational purposes (e.g. butchers, carpenters, electricians, chefs etc)".

Moreover, the order also advised the people that "Any individual possessing sharp edged weapon(s) shall surrender the same in the nearest police station within next 72 hours after which such weapons shall be seized by District Police Srinagar and appropriate action shall be initiated under the law".

As per the DM order "Any violation of this order shall be dealt with firmly, and appropriate legal action will be taken as per section 188 of Indian Penal Code, 1860".

Besides," The Senior Superintendent of Police, Srinagar shall implement the order in letter and spirit", the order of the DM also added.

## DDC Pulwama reviews pace of progress achieved on works under CAPEX Budget 2023-24

**JNEWSSERVICE**  
PULWAMA, JULY 21

The District Development Commissioner (DDC) Pulwama, Dr. Basharat Qayoom today chaired a review meeting of the district officers at circuit house Pulwama to review the pace of progress achieved on different works under the District Capital Budget 2023-24.

Chief Planning Officer, Pulwama, Shah Nawaz Ahmad Khan informed the chair that against total 2460 proposed works, 2275 have been tendered, out of which 637 have been allotted under PRI, BDC, and DDC Plan, and till date five number of works have been completed. It was further informed



**JNEWSSERVICE**  
PULWAMA, JULY 21

that Rs 2626.78 lacs stands released by the Finance department against the approved budget of Rs 5428.5 lacs.

Taking review of the works taken up under this year's CAPEX, the DDC stressed upon the concerned officers to complete the process of tendering by ending July and within two days the allotted works shall start on ground besides this the ongoing works shall be completed within 15 days.

of all Codal formalities and procurement rules.

The DDC further directed that any land issue facing in starting the works on ground shall be submitted to ACR within five days so that same is resolved at an earliest.

He stressed upon officers to ensure 100 percent expenditure in the set time line by accelerating the pace of the works scheduled for completion during the current year. The DDC further directed that uniform utilization of funds shall be ensured across the financial year without waiting for last quarter of the year. It must be ensured that all the procurement related works are completed by the ending July after fulfillment

### DC Anantnag reviews preparations for Independence Day, 2023 celebrations



**JNEWSSERVICE**  
ANANTNAG, JULY 21

In anticipation of the Independence Day, 2023 celebrations, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Anantnag, SF Hamid accompanied by top administrative officials, today conducted a comprehensive review of the preparations at Dak Bungalow Kharbal, here.

The DC commenced the meeting by emphasizing the significance of Independence Day and its importance in commemorating the nation's freedom struggle. He highlighted the need for meticulous planning and seamless execution of all arrangements to ensure a grand and memorable celebration.

During the extensive inspection, the DC assessed the security measures that have been put in place to guarantee the safety and well-being of all attendees. He lauded the efforts of the district police force and the paramilitary personnel for their dedication and commitment to ensuring a secure environment during the event.

Furthermore, the DC took stock of the cultural programs and events that have been planned to showcase the region's rich heritage and patriotic fervor.

He emphasized the inclusion of various cultural activities representing the diversity of our great nation and urged the organizing committee to involve local artists and performers. The review also encompassed an assessment of the infrastructure and facilities for the convenience of the attendees, including seating arrangements, traffic management, and medical aid centers.

The DC directed the concerned authorities to make appropriate arrangements to ensure the smooth flow of the festivities. Additionally, environmental sustainability and waste management were key focal points of the discussion.

SF Hamid instructed the relevant departments to implement eco-friendly practices to minimize the ecological impact of the celebrations. The DC expressed his satisfaction with the progress made so far and commended the collective efforts of all departments involved in the preparations. He urged them to work together seamlessly to make the Independence Day celebration a resounding success.

### General Lok Adalat to be held at Kulgam on 5th August, 2023

**JNEWSSERVICE**  
KULGAM, JULY 21

According to Chairman District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Kulgam, a General Lok Adalat will be held within the District Court Complex Kulgam on 5th of August, 2023. Cases pertaining to bank recovery, electricity dues, criminal compensation offences, traffic challans, family disputes, land acquisition cases and other public utility services shall be taken up for adjudication. The interested litigants are informed to approach presiding officers of the concerned courts of District Kulgam where their cases are pending for disposal to refer them to the said forum by or before August 04-2023, so as to list their cases in the proposed Lok Adalat for their amicable settlement.

## FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

### Safety and security...

Scheme: Infrastructure up-gradation of children and senior citizen homes; working of One Stop Centres; Drug demand reduction and de-addiction activities; Community Mobilization and IEC activities of the department. Discussions were also held on recruitment of Sainis and Sahayikas; rehabilitation of children on streets; close monitoring of help-lines; clearing pending, penetration of new Anganwadi centres at grassroot level; implementation of Poshan Tracker and participation of inmate of children homes in Independence Day events.

Ms. Sheetal Nanda, Commissioner/Secretary, Social Welfare Department, gave a detailed overview of the working of the department. She further briefed the meeting on the Constitution of various Committees; best practices of the department; achievements of students from Residential School for Visually Impaired; compensation under POCSSO etc.

All children homes are branded uniformly across UT as Palaash (for Boys), Pareesha (for Girls) and Specialised Adoption Agency (SAA) as Phulwadi, it was informed. The meeting was attended by Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary; Sh Santosh D Vaidya, Principal Secretary, Finance Department; Dr Mandep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor; Sh Ramesh Kumar, Divisional Commissioner, Jammu; Sh Vijay Bidhuri, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Heads of Departments and senior officers of Social Welfare Department.

### Need to skill our...

"We need to prepare a responsive and effective strategy to address the rapid changes. In this era of the fourth industrial revolution, technology has become and will remain the core driver of employment," the prime minister said. Globally, mobile workforce is going to be a reality in the future. Therefore, it is now time to globalise the development and sharing of skills in the true sense. The G20 must play a leading role in this, he added. Modi lauded the efforts of the meeting

participants for initiating the international referencing of occupations by skills and qualifications requirements. "The amazing work done by frontline health and other workers in India during the Covid-19 pandemic showed their skills and dedication. It also reflected our culture of service and compassion. Indeed, India has the potential to become one of the largest providers of skilled workforce for the world," he said. Fortunately, this meeting is happening in a country that has had an experience of creating a large number of technology jobs during the last such technology-led transformations, the PM said. "Your host city (Indore) is home to many start-ups leading to a new wave of such transformation," he said. (Agencies)

### Develop joint warfighting...

developments worldwide. The visit of the Air Chief Marshal provided an excellent opportunity for all participants to engage in informative interactions and gain fresh insights into matters of geopolitical and military significance, according to a defence statement.

### "Brave" individual's...

SP said that the entire gang has been apprehended and investigation is ongoing. On Thursday, police said that a honey trap gang was busted that was operating in Mehjoor Nagar area of Srinagar. The gang consisted of five individuals identified as Firdous Ahmed Mir, posing as SP, Mohd Tariq Mir, posing as media person, Ashiya pseudo honey trap girl, Masrat Mir, posing as Crime Branch officer and a fake sub-inspector.

### Over 3 lakh record...

Besides, other existing health infrastructure, every camp is manned by the expert health teams who on daily basis examine hundreds of yatries providing them medicine and advice. Since the influx of yatries is swelling with every passing day, government made it sure that transportation facilities be provided to yatries from Jammu to base camps in Kashmir. Besides, the helipad service is also available to the yatries who are willing to take this opportunity & facility.

To keep strict vigil on the nitty gritty of yatra for smooth and peaceful conduct, the government established Integrated Command & Control Centre which is integrated with RFID. This data based science helps in effective crowd control management, traceability, avoidance of traffic jams and management besides coordination among all stake holders on a real time basis. As this yatra surpassed three lakh mark in a short span of time, the government takes pride for serving yatries with every available resource putting them to optimum utilization.

Yatries who paid obeisance at Holy Cave were overwhelmed by the organized facilities and management of yatra. Every single soul who got opportunity to pay obeisance at Holy Cave expressed gratitude to administration, security agencies, service providers and local

population who embraced them with open arms. The local people serve yatries Kashmiri Kehwa and warm water to help them to cope up with cold temperatures. Shri Amarnathji Yatra has become centre of attraction for citizens of nation and also to foreign citizens this year.

Two California, USA citizen, a Ukrainian women, a group of 35 Nepali citizens and a group of 30 citizens from Malaysia are among the pilgrims who paid obeisance at Holy Cave of Shri Amarnathji.

These foreign religious tourists acknowledged the organized arrangements and facilities created by government which made them happy to feel the spiritual essence of pilgrims. The Divisional News Room working under the supervision of Divisional Commissioner Kashmir and the Department of Information & Public Relations are working in tandem with each other to disseminate information about the available facilities and the satisfaction of pilgrims after experiencing the support from stakeholders.

### J&K lacks robotic...

Jammu has virtually trained the surgeons for robotic-assisted surgeries; however, the facilities are yet to be made available. A top official told KNO that the tenders for the procurement of the Robotic Surgery System have been floated and efforts are on to have such facilities as soon as possible.

### Three arrested following...

He said a case has been registered at Pahalgam police station and three accused have been arrested. The public is advised not to pay any heed to rumours. Jammu and Kashmir Police has and will always be committed to providing safety and security of the pilgrims and ensuring a peaceful yatra, Kumar added. (Agencies)

## Dogra Degree College organises farewell function



J I NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU, JUL 21:** Dogra Degree College, Bassi Kalan, Bari Brahmana, under the aegis of Dogra Educational Trust gave a fond send off to the outgoing students of 2020-23 batch on 21st July, 2023. The farewell party was celebrated with lot of fervor at the college auditorium. The gathering provided both the teachers & students an opportunity to have interaction on a wide range of issues including their future pursuits. The outgoing students reminisced about the past, expressing their gratitude for everything from education to personality development and grooming to face challenges of life. The vibrant event was started with the welcome address by Jatni Sharma, Student of BA Semester 4th and pious lamp lighting, by Chief Guest Th. Gulchain

Singh Charak, Chairman DET, Guest of Honor, Dr Darshana Sharma, Director DET, Kr. Gambhir Dev Singh Charak, Member Trustee, Dogra Educational Trust, Dr. Bela Thakur, Principal, Dogra Degree College. The program further proceeded with Ganesh Vandana by the juniors. Thereafter, there was a spate of dance, music, songs and laughter as the hosts impressed with the showcasing of their vast repository of skills. While addressing the gathering Principal, Dogra Degree College wished luck to the outgoing batch and motivated the students to hone their technical skills for being market ready, sticking to moral grounds and working hard to achieve their goals. The juniors namely Diksha from B.A Semester 4th, Bhavya and Group from B.Com Semester 4th, Manjot,

Mansakshi and group from BBA Semester 4th gave colorful Performances to their seniors. The performances included group dances and skit. The audience was enthralled by melodious musical performances. Some of the outgoing students having fun and frolic on the stage and on the basis of different rounds they were given titles. The evening saw the crowning of Mr. Agnishekhar Lalotra student of B.Com and Ms. Ritika Kundal student of BA were given the titles of Mr. and Ms. Dogra Degree College and Ms. Mohit Sharma student of BBA was given the title of Ms. All Rounder as chosen collectively by the Judges. Ms. Priyanka Sharma, Ms. Anita Sharma & Ms. Kirti Sharma. Th. Gulchain Singh Charak, Former Minister and Chairman Dogra

Educational Trust was the Chief Guest of the occasion. The Chief Guest, in his address applauded and appreciated the talent exhibited by the students. He wished the passing batch success for their future endeavors. He emphasized on the fact that Dogra Educational Trust stands for promotion of quality and inclusive education for all and is not a profit making organization.

Dr Samar Dev Singh Charak, Secretary, Dogra Educational Trust, wished all the best to the outgoing students for success and accomplishments in all their future endeavors and upholds their core values and congratulated the faculty and the students for putting up a memorable event for the outgoing batch. Prof. Darshana Sharma, Director, Dogra Group of Colleges & CD also motivated the students to perform their exceptional best in all future activities, and uphold their core values and congratulated the faculty and the students for putting up a memorable event for the outgoing batch. The faculty of Dogra Degree College coordinated beautifully and made this event a success. The vote of thanks was moved by Mr. Chiranjeev Singh Student of BA Semester 4th and the event winded up with the National Anthem.

## Charak launches campaign against drugs

J I NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU, JUL 21:** Launching a massive campaign against drug trade and its use particularly in areas of Bahu Constituency, Bharatjaya Janata Party leader Rajev Charak on Friday urged the people of Rajiv Nagar, Qasim Nagar and Narwal to stand unite against this social evil and raise their voice against drug peddlers so that youths can be saved from this tragedy. Interacting with the people during his visit to various mohallas of Rajiv Nagar, Qasim Nagar and Narwal, Rajev Charak said that there is an atmosphere of fear due to loss of youth generation on account of drug trade and addiction, which only bring torture and shame for people.

Charak said that the tendency of drug addiction has been increasing in society, consumption of drugs has become a fashion for the new generation, while addiction harms a person physically, mentally, economically and socially. He said drug addiction is a social evil and there is a need to get rid of it. He said that the district administration, police administration, concerned departments and civil society have to play the role of watchdog to make the society drug-free, only then we can save the new generation in the form of future heritage. He said that the police already running a campaign to control drugs but there are some anti-social black sheep in the police as well, who play as informer



to drug peddlers and sound alert when police plan raids. He said that it is also the responsibility of the society to cooperate with the police administration and play an active role in the campaign 'Ek War, Against Drugs' because today most of the youths are getting attracted towards drugs, as a result every week one or the other youth is becoming a victim of death. He said that there is a need for coordination between the intelligentsia of the society and the police administration.

At the end of the program, he asked the present citizens to cooperate in 'a war against drugs' so that the state can be freed from drugs. He made the people present take a pledge to get rid of drugs, not to get intoxicated and to get rid of drugs. On this occasion Dr. Davinder Singh Ashok Vaid Ankuash Khajuria Hardeesh Khokhar Bodh Kumar Khokhar Mansingh Vinod Kumar Harish Kumar Rakesh Kumar Ranjit Kumar Sahil Kumar and others were present.

## Tony condemns heinous act in Manipur, demands capital punishment for culprits

J I NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU, JUL 21:** Taranjit Singh Tony, Chairman of AAP Jammu and Kashmir for Administrative Engagement and Minority Affairs and DDC Member of Suchetgarh, today strongly condemned the horrifying incident of two women being paraded naked in violence-hit Manipur. Expressing profound shock and distress, Tony called for an impartial judicial investigation into the incident and urged for swift justice to be served, including capital punishment for the culprits involved. In a statement issued today, Taranjit Singh Tony asserted, "The brutal and deplorable act in Manipur has shaken us to our core. We demand a comprehensive and unbiased judicial inquiry into this heinous



crime to ensure that justice is meted out swiftly. The perpetrators of such a heinous act must face the harshest punishment, leaving no room for mercy." Tony also criticized the hollow slogans of BJP's Beti Bachao Beti Padhao campaign, stating that the incident in Manipur exposed the BJP's failure to provide a safe and secure atmosphere for women in the country. He called for accountability and urgent measures to safeguard the dignity and safety of women across the nation. "The BJP's claims of protecting our daughters ring empty when such tragic incidents occur," remarked Tony. "It is a wake-up call for the government at the Centre to take concrete actions to ensure the safety and security of women, making our society truly inclusive and safe for all." He further emphasized the urgent need for a collective effort from all sections of society to denounce such acts of violence and stand united in demanding justice for the victims.

## Shivsena raises concern over rising unemployment, drug abuse & crime

Demands unemployment allowance for J&K youth



J I NEWS SERVICE

**UDHAMPUR, JUL 21:** Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir Unit has expressed serious concern over the increasing unemployment, crime, and drug abuse in the state and demanded the Modi government at the Center should introduce a job creation policy and provide unemployment allowance to educated unemployed youth of Jammu and Kashmir. Manish Sahni, President Shiv Sena J&K today chaired a meeting of party

workers of unit and discussed the strategies for upcoming ULB elections. During his address, Sahni stated that the rising unemployment, drug abuse, and criminal incidents in the state have been a result of the failed policies of the central government. He said that there is a significant connection between drug abuse, increasing criminal incidents, and the alarming rate of unemployment. The disillusioned youths, due to lack of employment opportunities, are getting caught in the web of drug

addiction and crime, he added. Sahni further highlighted that the commitment made by the Saffron Party with regard to development, employment and peace, have turned out to be completely hollow. The youth population, which is considered the future of the country, is struggling with deep frustrations due to unemployment, he added. Sahni urged the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir and the central government to provide an unemployment allowance of Rs. 3,000 to Rs. 5,000 per month to the

Among others who were present include Gen Secretary Vikas Bakshi, President Sanjeev Kohli, Jatinder Arora, Prabhari Ashwani Prabhakar, president distt. Udhampur Sanjeev Sharma, Anil Vijay, Gopal Dogra, Joginder Verma, Madan Sharma, DC Sharma, Raj Singh, Rajinder Singh, Imtiaz Hussain, Som Raj, Rajesh Khajuria, Sahil Gandotra, Rashid Khajuria, Vishal Verma, Vijay Singh, Radhey Sham. Mohinder Kumar, Rakesh Kumar and many others were present

## Women must start pro-active campaigns against drug abuse to prevent children from self-destruction: Zorawar



J I NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU, JUL 21:** Making a fervent appeal to the women folk to come forward and join hands in making drug awareness campaign as mass movement here in Jammu and Kashmir, especially in Jammu Province, BJP leader and Chairman, Team Jammu, Zorawar Singh Jamwal said that drug mafia is making all attempts to trap younger generation including school

and college going students in their evil net there by spoiling the future of nation. While addressing a large gathering of women during an exclusive meeting of women organized in Pooni Chack area, here today, Team Jammu chief, Zorawar Singh Jamwal said that its volunteers will leave no stone unturned to take on its fight against drugs to all nook and corner of Jammu region. "School going children and College

going students in their evil net there by spoiling the future of nation. While addressing a large gathering of women during an exclusive meeting of women organized in Pooni Chack area, here today, Team Jammu chief, Zorawar Singh Jamwal said that its volunteers will leave no stone unturned to take on its fight against drugs to all nook and corner of Jammu region. "School going children and College

## ADGP Jammu Zone convened a virtual meeting from ZPHQ Jammu

J I NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU, JUL 21:** Additional Director General of Police Jammu Zone, Shri Mukesh Singh IPS convened a preparatory meeting through virtual mode with the concerned Range DIsG/District SsP/ASp/SDPOs and officers of Traffic/Security wing to discuss the various security related issues in connection with Sh. Budha Amar Nath Ji Yatra-2023 and adequate Police

/Security deployment. At the outset of the meeting, a detailed briefing was given by DIG Rajouri-Poonch Range, SSP Jammu and SSP Security regarding proposed Police/Security arrangements to be made by them at Base camps Bhagwati Nagar, Jammu, enroute of Yatra, hall-age points, lodgment centers and Budha Amar Nath Ji Temple Mandi District Poonch etc. In view of the present security scenario in twin border districts of Jammu

Zone threabare discussion were held on various security issues. Mr. Singh also advised the participants to ensure that a proper co-ordination be maintained among all the intelligence agencies, Army, PMF, Traffic and Security wings in their respective districts/area of responsibility including ROP for smooth and incident free Budha Amar Nath Ji Yatra-2023. The officers who attended the meeting which includes; : Sh. Suleman

Choudhary, IPS DIG UR Range, Udhampur, Sh. Shakti Pathak, IPS DIG JSK Range, Jammu, Dr. M. Haseeb Mughal, IPS DIG RP Range, Rajouri, Sh. Chandan Kohli, IPS SSP Jammu, Sh. Amrpal Singh, IPS SSP Rajouri, Sh. Shamsheer Choudhary, JKPS SSP Security, Jammu, Sh. Vinay Kumar Sharma, JKPS SSP Poonch, Sh. Amit Gupta, JKPS SSP Reasi, Sh. Vinay Kumar, JKPS SSP Traffic Rural, Jammu and Sh. Faisal Qureshi, JKPS SSP Traffic City, Jammu.

## Ritika Trehan condemns humiliation of two women in Manipur

J I NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU, JUL 21:** Strongly condemning the barbaric incident in Manipur on May 4, Chief Spokesperson BJP Mahila Morcha J&KUT Ritika Trehan has said that government must award severest punishment to all the culprits involved in the crime. She said Mahila Morcha strongly condemns the May 4 incident, which not only shocked entire people of the state and the country but also the world. While appealing people to keep strict vigil to prevent such incidents in future, she said government must take stringent action so such incidents don't recur in future in the state. Ritika said both Central and



state governments have been working hard to contain the violence, she

added. She extended her heartfelt sympathies to the victims and their families, acknowledging the unimaginable trauma they are currently enduring. She affirmed that the Modi Government is fully committed to ensuring justice for the victims. She asserted, "What happened to the daughters of Manipur can never be forgiven." She emphasized the government's resolve in upholding the safety and dignity of women across the nation. She urged for a collective effort from society, stating, "It is the responsibility of each and every citizen to stand united against such acts of violence and work towards creating a safer environment for women."

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

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

JINDRAH IMAGES

Manipur shocker: Stop political blame-game

It is quite tragic that the world's largest democracy has witnessed a shameful incident in trouble-torn Manipur Manipur where two women were abducted, paraded naked and molested by a group of men in full public glare. Their video uploaded on social media triggered nation-wide outrage. What is more unfortunate is that one of the victim women was the wife of a Kargil war veteran who rued that though he protected the country but could not save his wife from being humiliated. The incident elicited a prompt response from the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who said the horror inflicted on the two women had shamed 140 crore Indians. Taking cognisance of the revolting footage, the Supreme Court told the Centre and the Manipur government to take immediate action, even as it said that 'using women as instruments of perpetrating violence' was 'deeply disturbing' and 'simply unacceptable'. Unfortunately, the shameful incident has provided enough fodder to the opposition parties to politicise it for their personal gains, without going into the serious ramifications of it in near future. Amid political blame-game, the ongoing outrage has engulfed the states like Rajasthan and West Bengal where women too have witnessed atrocities and humiliations at the hands of mobs. Manipur has been on the boil for the past two-and-a-half months, ever since clashes broke out during a 'Tribal Solidarity March' taken out in protest following a High Court order relating to the Scheduled Tribe status to the Meitei community. The BJP, which is the ruling party both at the Centre and in the state, has been accused by the Opposition of mishandling the situation and failing to resolve the ethnic dispute. Now, with the Manipur turmoil taking centre stage amid the nationwide outrage over the incident in Senapati district, the BJP finds itself under greater pressure to restore peace and normalcy in the state. The worst politicisation of the incident is not a healthy sign for a democracy like India. India has a long tradition of great respect and high esteem for women. The outrage has brought into the light more incidents that took place in Rajasthan and West Bengal which have been raised by the BJP as a counter-attack to silence the opposition. The most question arises as if it really serves the purpose or brings any major change in the society. Opposition parties should also understand that the politicisation of this sensitive issue is not only in bad taste but also brings bad name to the nation as a whole. The focus needs to be on bringing to justice all perpetrators of the dastardly crime. It is imperative for both the treasury and Opposition benches to ensure that a constructive debate on Manipur is held during the ongoing parliamentary session. An endless blame game will not help the cause of the strife-hit state. Political parties should rise above party affiliations and should expedite relief and rehabilitation measures for the displaced people. The horrifying humiliation of the two women is a black spot on the country and it should be washed away by giving justice to the women.

REVISIT PROVISIONS OF MODEL PRISONS ACT TO PLUG LOOPHOLES

THE NEW ACT IS BEREFT OF APPROPRIATE PRESCRIPTIONS NEEDED TO ADDRESS THE CHALLENGES CONFRONTING THE PRISON ADMINISTRATION.

KP SINGH

THE Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) unveiled the 'comprehensive' Model Prisons Act, 2023, a couple of months ago and advised state governments and UT administrations to adopt the Act in their jurisdictions, with such modifications as they may consider necessary.

The MHA has recommended that the three pre-Independence prison laws - the Prison Act, 1894, the Prisoners Act, 1900, and the Transfer of Prisoners Act, 1950 - may be repealed as the relevant provisions have been included in the new Act.

The Act has been designed by the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) at the instance of the MHA after holding wide-ranging discussions with the stakeholders. However, there is an impression that the basic principles of drafting statutes have been compromised with, and the essentials of modern correctional jurisprudence are not adequately included in the text.

The 'long title', which should ideally spell out the general purposes of the Act, suggests that it is 'an Act to amend the law relating to prisons'; whereas, as per the principles of interpretation of statutes, the Act should have been described as a 'consolidating statute', and not an 'amending statute', as it amalgamates provisions of the three existing prison laws and consolidates directions of the Supreme Court and other guidelines on the subject.

The main objectives of any statute are set out in the preamble, while acknowledging the sources from where they are adopted. India has been a signatory to several United Nations documents related to prisons and prisoners, including the Tokyo Rules and Nelson Mandela Rules, which have encouraged us to reconsider and remodel our correctional justice system. It was desirable to mention these sources in the preamble. What is more glaring is the fact that the language from the 'long title' is cut verbatim and pasted in the preamble, suggesting that due attention was perhaps not paid during professional and legal scrutiny of the draft.

Even a cursory reading shows that there is lack of punctuation in the text of the Act. Besides, there are many grammatical mistakes



and language-related errors, which are unacceptable at this level. 'Definitions' and 'title of sections' need to be properly worded, unambiguously; it may be singularly exhibited by the title of Section 3 of the Act, which reads - 'Functions of Prisons and Correctional Institutions'.

Brevity is the hallmark of any enactment as it is supposed to be the repository of prescriptions and philosophy on the subject matter; implementation details, processes and procedures are spelled out in the rules and regulations through subordinate legislations.

The Model Prisons Act is a unique case, wherein almost everything has been left to be prescribed by the states in the rules; it is bereft of appropriate prescriptions needed to address the challenges confronting the prison administration. In fact, the Act appears to be a tale of missed opportunities on many counts.

Prisons were designed by the British to confine convicts for the purposes of retribution and punishment. To the contrary, Indian jails at present are mainly inhabited by undertrials; more than 80 per cent of the prison population is awaiting trial and they were remanded in custody for different reasons.

Many people would not know that the undertrials face similar jail conditions as convicted prisoners. In such a scenario, it was desirable to recognise the need and conceptualise separate facilities for detention of undertrials, more so when the conviction rate in all crimes in India is below 30 per cent.

Constitutionalism prescribes that the socio-economic status of the prisoners should not be a ground for discrimination; the Supreme Court, in Rakesh Kaushik vs Bl Vig (1981), has ruled that Article 14 is suffocated if this classification is permitted. On the contrary, the All-India Jail Manual Committee (1957-59) prescribes that as long as different classes and modes of living prevail in society, with a view to avoiding undue hardship and misery, it would be desirable to classify inmates based on their standard of living. Clear guidelines on this aspect were overdue to avoid confusion.

Prisoners live in barracks in a community-like environment, with no privacy and individual space of their own; they sleep on floor and dinner is served before sunset. They remain locked in overcrowded barracks like animals for 18 hours a day; the living conditions are deplorable and often below acceptable standards of human dignity.

The SC has expressed concern over inhumane conditions in jails and laid down minimum standards of basic amenities for inmates in Ram Murthy vs State of Karnataka (1997) and TN Mathur vs State of UP (1993).

The BPR&D also prescribed the scales of minimum necessary facilities for prisoners and documented them in the Model Prison Manual,

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2016. These standards should have been given statutory status in the new Act.

Historically, prisons were designed by men, for men and keeping in view the requirements of men. The Model Prisons Act offered an opportunity to acknowledge the presence of 6 per cent vulnerable prison population, including women, infants, LGBTIQ community, old, infirm and mentally ill, for the purpose of taking care of their special needs.

Premature release of prisoners, remissions, temporary release on parole and furlough, overcrowding, post-release rehabilitation, work opportunities and wages, open prisons and conjugal visits are some of the other issues that require conceptual clarity and uniform policies at the national level; leaving them solely for the states to frame rules about can lead to inconsistency and inadequate responses as some states may lack the necessary resources and expertise to develop comprehensive and effective policies.

An enactment not only embodies legislative wisdom but also bears testimony to the shared intellectual heritage of the community; it would always remain under scrutiny of professionals and academicians.

The Model Prisons Act, in its present form, appears to suffer from policy paralysis and is crippled by inappropriate drafting. A case is made out to revisit its provisions.

Proxy war in Ukraine and the armament push

ABHIJIT BHATTACHARYA

THE politico-diplomatic drum-beaters of the West may project NATO's recent summit in Vilnius (Lithuania) as a 'great success', but the single tangible outcome of the meeting was the reiteration and reaffirmation of its proxy war in Ukraine and the thriving arms sales. Thus, NATO's 'big boys' Germany and the USA vehemently opposed a direct fight with Russia.

Russia today appears like a mauled, heroic, tragic Trotsky before a marauding Stalin, as pictured in the masterly trilogy - Prophet Armed, Prophet Unarmed and Prophet Outcast - by Isaac Deutscher. The West continues to look down upon Russians. Following the common fight against Nazi Germany in World War II, the scenario has been the same after 1945, bearing all the hallmarks of the 21st-century 'Great Race' war between the West and Slavic Russia.

The tradition dates back to the era of 10th-century German Emperor Otto I, when Russians and East Europeans were branded as 'slaves'. Hence, the West finds it hard to allow a bilateral ('inferior') Slav dispute



on Europe's fringe. Instead, the 'superior' third party jumping into the Moscow-Kyiv conflict threatens to turn the conflagration into MAD (Mutual Assured Destruction), resulting in the West's decimation too.

Paradoxically, today's scenario originates from the fears of Germany, the economic engine of Europe and EU, which doesn't want a World War III-type conflict, after being guilty of starting two World Wars which pulverised people and visecated Deutschland for decades. Today's prosperous Berlin wants to avoid being singled by an unpredictable and uncontrollable conflagration. And who is Berlin's silent supporter? None, except the

world's indisputable number one financial and military power: the USA.

Unsurprisingly, therefore, the whole West incurred the wrath of Ukrainian President Zelenskyy, who said it was 'unprecedented and absurd' that the USA, NATO and EU had failed to set a timeline for Kyiv's admission to the trans-Atlantic military alliance. A seemingly inevitable crisis, however, was averted by NATO's 31-nation club because Ukraine is the frontline fighter of the West's proxy war against the behemoth called Russia, whose land is preyed upon to be sliced for resources, forward deployment and a future 'Great Game' involving Asia, Europe

and Africa. Thus came the western media's candid report that 'NATO countries are using Ukraine as a testing ground for advanced weaponry and learning valuable lessons'. That's obvious, because the West's two most powerful business group lobbies are the Eisenhower-coined Military-Industrial-Complex (MIC) of the USA and the EU's non-military-industrial export goods corporations of Paris, Berlin and Rome, which are desperately eyeing the market of China (despite its coercion and bullying). All because of the aftermath of the USSR break-up. Their shifted priorities and crippled capabilities resulted in

combat weapons' reduction and enhanced production and distribution of consumer and luxury goods. For the ever-insatiable US private military contractors/corporations, however, the Russia-Ukraine conflict is a God-sent opportunity, especially after the botched-up, nocturnal retreat of the entire US fighting formations from Afghanistan's Bagram airbase in August 2021. After a 20-year Afghan war where 40-odd nations pounded a landlocked country under the sole command of the USA (not the UN), the abrupt retreat meant an income drought for the West's war merchants. Hence, nothing's better for the US arms-making companies than the

prospect of a prolonged European war where the USA is the pilot in command owing to being the leader and creator of the expanding NATO, akin to the imperialist British from the 18th to 20th centuries. But, the problem today is the serious mismatch between Ukraine's arms demand and the US-EU-NATO supply timelines. According to the London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS), "Russia and Ukraine have... collectively fired 200,000 artillery shells per week. Yet, the total US production of 155 rounds currently stands at 20,000 per month, and will only reach 90,000 a month in 2024."

That one segment shows how even the mighty USA, despite her MIC, will find it hard to put conventional war material in place on time. Hence, the remote proxy war's single frontline fighter is Ukraine. The US-NATO-EU can be arms merchant-suppliers, not the arms-bearing military in the battlefield.

No wonder Germany, even after injecting more than \$105 billion into the defence budget, refused to supply Ukraine the Taurus missile, scrapped the joint tank maintenance hub plan in Poland, delayed supply-

ing lethal arms and, along with the USA, is unwilling to give Ukraine the green light for NATO membership anytime soon. Ukraine's entry will definitely reduce Germany's importance in the EU.

Germany aside, France too cleared 413 billion euros for arms spending (2024-30), which is more than a third higher than the previous military spending. Surprisingly, however, France wants Israel to 'help Ukraine repel Russia'. Is Israel to fight for proxy warriors of the West against Russia in Crimea? Is Russia facing a West Bank or Gaza-like front? Isn't it a thought fraught with fatal consequences? Finally, when President Biden sends F-16 fighters, cluster bombs which are banned under the international treaty by 123 countries (not including the USA), the Army Tactical Missile System - in use since the 1991 Gulf War with a unit cost of \$80,000 plus - and has already sent HIMARS (High Mobility Artillery Rocket System), used since 2010 in Afghanistan (unit cost \$3.5 million), one can realise as to why only Ukraine is to fight despite losing more than 20 per cent of its population - dead or scattered around western countries.

## Farhan Akhtar celebrates 10 years of 'Bhaag Milkha Bhaag'

Actor Farhan Akhtar got nostalgic as 'Bhaag Milkha Bhaag' turned ten today, and shared glimpses from the Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra directorial.

Farhan took to his Instagram handle and shared a video. He captioned the post, His warmth, his accolades and his will continue to inspire millions. Remembering the legendary Milkha ji. #10YearsOfBMB #10YearsOfBhaag MilkhaBhaag.

As soon as the post was shared, Farhan's fans flooded the comment section with heart and fire emojis.

One of the users wrote, Oscar winning movie button. Another commented, My favourite biopic. Life changed after watching it. Full of motivation and energy. 'Bhaag Milkha Bhaag' is a biographical sports drama film released in 2013. The movie is based on the life of the Indian athlete Milkha Singh, also known as 'The Flying Sikh.' The film starred

Farhan Akhtar in the lead role of Milkha Singh.

Milkha Singh is one of India's most renowned athletes and a former national champion in the 400 meters race. The film depicts his inspiring journey, starting from his traumatic childhood during the partition of India and Pakistan in 1947, where he lost most of his family members, to becoming a successful athlete and a national hero.

The film received critical acclaim and was a commercial success. Farhan Akhtar's portrayal of Milkha Singh was highly praised for his dedication and transformation into the character.

Meanwhile, on the work front, Farhan will be getting back to the director's chair after almost 11 years with a female-oriented road trip film 'Jee Le Zara' which will feature Alia Bhatt, Priyanka Chopra and Katrina Kaif in the lead roles.

He announced the film in 2021. The film promises to be another tale of friendship



following the lineage of 'Dil Chahta Hai' and 'Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara'.

## Internet calls Prabhas' Kalki 2898 AD a 'cheaper copy' of Dune and Star Wars

The first glimpse of Prabhas' upcoming film was finally unveiled at San Diego Comic-Con. Directed by Nag Ashwin, the film has been titled as Kalki 2898 AD. While the intriguing first glimpse of the dystopian film has left many curious, a section of social media is now comparing the film to Timothee Chalamet's Dune. Kalki 2898 AD first glimpse

The first glimpse of Kalki 2898 AD showed Amitabh Bachchan, Deepika Padukone and Prabhas in a futuristic world. They appear to be warriors in a war-like situation where Prabhas is introduced as the saviour of the people. It also slightly hinted at the prime antagonist of the film without a face reveal.

Internet reacts to Kalki 2898 AD Reacting to the trailer, a user on Reddit wrote, 'Won't say cheaper copy, but that does give the Dune vibe from whatever we saw in 90 sec. Mainly because of music.' 'If you don't want to be called a cheap copy then maybe make an effort to create at least one visual that is original. At least Dune made an effort to go on location. Prabhas it seems like doesn't like getting out of an air-conditioned studio,' added another. One more said, 'Gave Dune vibes, but still looks promising coz this setting is new in Indian films.'

Meanwhile, similar sentiments were seen on Twitter as well. One user tweeted, 'Is the Project K a copy version of Dune movie?' 'The music of #projectk is similar to #Dune music and also trailer of Dune and #ProjectKGlimpse are similar for me what about you?' mentioned another tweet. Yet another one said, 'What is Project K? Just a mashup of Dune and Star Wars.'

As per a press note issued by the makers, Kalki 2898 AD is said to transport audiences to a world never seen before in Indian cinema and offer them 'unparalleled and immersive cinematic experience'. The director had said that his film is a product of his love for Mahabharata and Star Wars.

## Is Ariana Grande already over Dalton Gomez? Rumours of dating Wicked co-star Ethan Slater swirl among fans

Ariana Grande, the pop sensation known for her powerful vocals and chart-topping hits, has been making headlines lately for her romantic rollercoaster. Amidst the drama, rumors are swirling about Ariana's newfound romance with her Wicked co-star, Ethan Slater. The 31-year-old actor and singer has reportedly started dating the songstress after her separation from Dalton.

The pair apparently connected during the production of their musical film, and fans are eager to see how this new chapter unfolds. After announcing



her separation from husband Dalton Gomez, the starlet seems to be throwing some major shade on social media too. As news of Ariana's split with Dalton Gomez broke, fans

noticed a series of cryptic Instagram likes from the singer. The posts she interacted with seemed to hint at emotional struggles, setting boundaries, healing from trauma, and dealing with difficult relationships. While it's unclear why she engaged with these particular posts, many fans suspect she could be expressing her emotions and seeking comfort through social media.

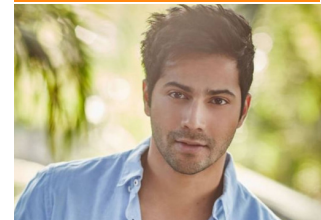
Moving On with Co-Star Ethan Slater

Ethan Slater's career has been on the rise since he first landed a recurring role in the TV show Redheads Anonymous in 2015.

He went on to make appearances in hit series like Law & Order: SVU and The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel. But it was his breakout role as Spongebob Squarepants in The Spongebob Musical: Live on Stage! that earned him a Tony Award nomination. Now, he's set to star as Boq in the film adaptation of Broadway's Wicked alongside Ariana Grande, Jonathan Bailey, and Michelle Yeoh.

While Ariana's social media likes may have sparked intrigue, fans are hoping she finds happiness and peace in both her personal life and new romance with Ethan Slater.

## Varun Dhawan on Bawaal's OTT release: 'Don't think a bad film can survive on streaming'



Varun Dhawan has opened up on the makers' decision to skip the theatrical release of his next film Bawaal, and premiere it directly on streaming. Bawaal, directed by Nitesh Tiwari and also starring Janhvi Kapoor, will be released on Prime Video on July 21.

Bawaal is not Varun's first direct-to-OTT release. Back in 2020, Coolie No 1, the comedy directed by his father David Dhawan, starring him and Sara Ali Khan in lead roles, also skipped the theatrical release and debuted directly on Prime Video India. While that was the first year of the pandemic, it's no longer as major a concern now. Varun is also gearing up for his series debut, the Indian instalment of Citadel, directed by Raj & DK and co-starring Samantha Ruth Prabhu, that will also drop on Prime Video India.

Varun on streaming In a new interview to Variety, Varun said, 'You have to make sure that you have a good film because here (streaming), I don't think a bad film can survive, to be honest. You have to be a very good film to thrive, because it's so democratic. The way things function here the world-of-mouth plays in even more.'

Varun further added how the OTT release would help Bawaal. 'The whole idea was to pitch this film on a global level, our producer Sajid Nadiadwala had that vision. Him releasing it himself, I don't think he thought he can do that. But with partners like Amazon, it became much easier,' he said in the same interview.

About Bawaal Talking about the film, director Nitesh Tiwari said in a statement, 'Great love stories deserve to be experienced and they always find a medium to reach an audience.'

## Shafali Shah pens heartfelt note, shares pics from son Aryaman Shah's graduation ceremony: 'Bursting with pride and joy'

Shafali Shah penned a heartwarming note on Instagram after her son Aryaman Shah's graduation ceremony. She shared a bunch of pictures from her son's convocation and called it 'one of the most important and proud moments' of a parents life.

Shafali took to Instagram on Friday to share pictures of her son Aryaman Shah's convocation ceremony, which also featured producer-husband Vipul Shah and their son Maurya.

In the pictures, Aryaman can be seen in his graduation robe as Shafali smiles at him. She wrote in her caption, 'When my kids were babies, each moment was a new achievement. Their first flip over on their tummy, the first time they crawled, their first steps, first words. To the first time they tied their shoe laces. Many firsts and each one as special as the other. Then came the first day of toddlers school, fear rolling down through tears for the first time, then the colours, alphabets, poems, friends... with them I grew.' 'The Darlings actor then went on to add how it felt like she was crossing a 'milestone' with her son as he graduated. She further added in the caption, 'But as they grew older there weren't very many firsts, yet each grade, each goal scored, each medal won, each meal they cooked, each laundry they did was as important. One more step towards coming on their own.' She further wrote, 'And here we are today, celebrating one of the most important and proud moments of a parents life, our sunshine boy's graduation.'

## From Shakti Arora to Sanjay Gagnai - Ageing on screen is a big no for TV actors

In the world of television, actors are often asked to take on challenging roles that require them to stretch their abilities and portray characters that are vastly different from themselves. However, when a show introduces a leap and asks actors to play characters who are double their age, it can be a difficult decision for them to make. In the recent past, we saw several of them leaving their respective shows for the same. To understand the inhibitions behind not continuing the show after the leap, we talk to five of them.

Shakti Arora Actor Shakti Arora walked away from Kundali Bhagya after the show took a leap of 20 years. He says, 'I would have a problem if you will show me 20 years older than my actual age because this is not a film



where you show your mettle as an actor by portraying characters of different ages. It does not work like that in our industry (TV). Yaha apka image banjaha hai ki aap 60 saal ke ho. So nobody would like to age themselves on the screen for such a long time. People start looking at you in that manner and all the casting calls that you get are for much roles. Aapko bola jaata hai ki usme to aapka 20 saal ka bachha tha, toh yha

bhi krlo.' Sanjay Gagnai Sanjay Gagnai, who played negative lead in Kundali Bhagya, left the show just before the 20-year leap. The actor says he is not comfortable playing character 'older than my age' but his decision differs based on what project it is. 'In Kundali Bhagya, in which I had a great run of 5.5 years, there was nothing more for me to do and I was anyway planning to quit. Leap came as a sign for me to

finally take the step. I was not looking for something like that (playing an older character) at that point of time,' says the actor. But he is not averse to the idea of playing someone more than his age in future. 'Considering a lot of other factors - time, character, and how that would change the course of my career - I might take a decision of playing an older character, given it results in something good for me.'

## Internet reacts to Alia Bhatt's 'awkward' ramp walk in heavy lehenga at Manish Malhotra's fashion show: She's struggling

Actor Alia Bhatt turned into a bride as she walked the ramp for fashion designer Manish Malhotra at his show The Bridal Couture Show on Thursday. She was the showstopper along with Ranveer Singh at the star-studded event, which took place in Mumbai.

What Alia wore for the show For the show, Ranveer was seen in a white sherwani. Alia wore a black and silver lehenga, a deep neck blouse and had a dupatta on her head. She also wore a statement traditional

necklace and a ring. Alia gave different poses and expressions for the photographers as she walked the ramp.

Reactions to Alia's outfit and walk

Several videos of the actors on the ramp were shared by the paparazzi. Reacting to a video, a person wrote, 'She doesn't look comfortable and looks so pretentious.' Others shared similar views. 'Clearly she is struggling to walk and to maintain that grace,' read a comment. 'Walking is so tough for her in this outfit,' said an

Instagram user. A comment also read, 'Actors are for acting, not for ramp walks.'

'Awkward she seems and looks,' said a social media user. 'It's leg day,' commented a person. 'Poor girl can't even walk. Gorgeous dress though,' wrote a fan. 'They should've done more rehearsals but I get it, they are so busy with promotions and stuff,' commented another fan. 'The clothing was so heavy that she couldn't even raise her head up and walk properly. But nevertheless, she looks pretty,' read another

comment. Alia's upcoming films Alia will be next seen with Ranveer Singh in Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahani. Helmed by Karan Johar, the film also stars Dharmendra, Jaya Bachchan and Shabana Azmi in the lead roles. It is all set to hit the theatres on July 28.

Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahani promises to be a wholesome, big-screen entertainer, blending Karan Johar's storytelling finesse with an impressive ensemble cast,

grandeur and music. There were also many scenes of the two romancing and fighting, celebrating all kinds of festivals with their families, and possibly a wedding.

She is all set to make her Hollywood debut with the upcoming action thriller film Heart of Stone. Helmed by Tom Harper, Heart of Stone also stars Gal Gadot, and Jamie Dornan in the lead roles. The trailer of Heart of Stone was launched at Tudum 2023 in Brazil. The film will drop on Netflix on August 11.



# Strengthening bone, not muscle, is the reason to lift weights

The average person loses about 1% of their bone mass each year after age forty. For 3 million Americans each year, this decay results in a condition called osteoporosis, in which their bones become extremely brittle and susceptible to fracture.

**B**uilding buffness. Getting ripped. Toning up. No matter what it's called, becoming more muscular is generally top-of-the-mind for any young person who regularly visits the weight room. Less thought about is another key benefit, one that's not as easily seen but is more long-lasting and consequential: weight training is the best way to strengthen bones.

Remember the milk mustache? For a long time, conventional wisdom, put in place by omnipresent marketing, heralded calcium intake as the key to strong bones. Recent large studies, however, show that supplementation of the mineral, often found in meat and dairy products, only has a modest effect on bone density, and doesn't reduce fractures at all.

Lifting weights, however, does. The stress placed on bones by squatting, pressing, deadlifting, pulling, or doing pretty much any motion with added

resistance kicks bone-synthesizing cells called osteoblasts into high gear. They start producing collagen, other specialized proteins, and hydroxyapatite — the bone mineral — and forming these raw materials into more bone for your spine, femur, tibia, and any other bones that are bearing the added weight. The result is a stronger skeleton, one more resistant to fracture.

As your skeleton is literally the foundational structure of your body, that's a big deal. The average person loses about 1% of their bone mass each year after age forty. For about three million Americans each year, this decline eventually results in a potentially debilitating condition called osteoporosis, in which bones become so weak and brittle that a fall or even a mild stressor like bending over or coughing can cause them to crack. 10 million osteoporosis-related fractures occur each year, sometimes resulting in permanent enfeeblement.



ment. According to Harvard Medical School, "six out of 10 people who break a hip never fully regain their former level of independence."

Aerobic activities like walking, jogging, swimming, and cycling are all fantastic forms of exercise. Easily accessible and often recommended to older adults, they

offer myriad health benefits. However, none come close to building bone like weight training does. And some, particularly walking, jogging, and cycling, can put older adults at risk of falls.

Strengthen the skeleton. A measured weight training program, starting at two days

per week of exercises targeting the entire body, broken down into eight to twelve repetitions of two sets per exercise at a manageable resistance on fixed machines, and gradually building up to greater loads with fewer repetitions performed using free-moving weights, can put anyone on the path to more durable, buffer bones.

This skeletal strengthening occurs at any age, but it is most pronounced early in life. In fact, the (understandably) superficial young people referenced at the beginning of the article might want to take note of something a team of endocrinologists wrote in 2018: "While there is no clear evidence from life-long studies, it is suggested that adaptations to mechanical loading in youth are translated to greater bone strength over a lifetime. Bones become less sensitive to mechanical loading after skeletal maturity is reached at 18 to 25 years of age."

## Drinking Coffee May Help With Weight Loss, Reduce Type 2 Diabetes Risk, Suggests Study



**D**rinking coffee, a rich source of caffeine may help curb the amount of body fat and reduce the risk of developing Type 2 diabetes, suggests a recent study.

Researchers from the Imperial College London found that people who carry genetic variants associated with slower caffeine metabolism drink, on average, drink less coffee, yet have higher levels of caffeine in their blood than people who metabolize it quickly to reach or beat the levels required for its stimulant effects.

The research published in the journal *BMJ Medicine* concluded that the speed at which the body metabolises coffee might impact weight.

To arrive at this conclusion, scientists looked at the role of two common genetic variants of the *CYP1A2* and *AHR* genes in nearly 10,000 people of predominantly European ancestry. The *CYP1A2* and *AHR* genes are associated with the speed of caffeine metabolism in the body. The analysis showed that people with higher plasma caffeine levels enjoyed a lower body mass index (BMI) and body fat, alongside a lower risk of developing type two diabetes. "95% of your caffeine is metabolised by an enzyme," Dipender Gill, a clinical scientist at the Imperial, told *Independent.co.uk*. "Two genes — *CYP1A2* and *AHR* — affect the function and level of that enzyme."

Using these genetic variants, the team found that slower metabolisers have higher plasma (blood) caffeine levels, and those with higher plasma levels have a lower BMI and risk of diabetes, Gill said.

# Is anxiety linked to impaired learning in volatile environments? Study suggests the connection is not clear-cut

**I**f anxiety or depression does have an impact on how people learn in unpredictable situations, it is likely subtle and not easily detectable, according to new research published in the *Journal of Affective Disorders*. The findings suggest that the relationship between mental health conditions and learning in volatile environments is not clear-cut.

Previous work had suggested a potential link between anxiety and difficulties in adjusting to changes in rewards and punishments during learning. The authors behind the new study were specifically interested in understanding whether abnormal learning patterns were specific to anxiety or if they also extended to other affective disorders. By investigating this relationship, the researchers aimed to gain insights into the underlying mechanisms of anxiety and depression and potentially identify new avenues for intervention or treatment.

"We became interested in the topic as a result of work done previously by Tim Behrens and Michael Browning, whose work suggested that anxiety may be fundamentally linked to difficulties in adjusting the way that individuals learn about changes

in rewards/punishments," said study author Nicholas T. Van Dam, an associate professor in the Melbourne School of Psychological Sciences at the University of Melbourne.

"The work suggested there may be something quite specific that could be useful to understanding how to help those with anxiety. More recent works had suggested that the problem may not be specific to anxiety but may also relate to depression and so we were keen to explore to what extent these findings might hold true." To conduct the new study, the researchers recruited participants from two different sites: Shenzhen University and the University of Melbourne. Sample 1 consisted of 100 Chinese-speaking undergraduate students, while Sample 2 included 91 individuals aged between 18 and 44 years who were part of a prospective longitudinal study. In Sample 2, participants were specifically selected to have mild to moderate psychological distress.

The researchers used a modified version of a previous task that had been developed by Behrens, Browning, and their colleagues. The task was designed to assess volatility-based learning and decision-

making processes. It involved an operant learning paradigm where participants had to learn which of two options led to the best feedback. The stimuli used were "slot machine" images with unique colors and characters.

During the task, participants had to make quick decisions by choosing one of the slot machine options presented on the screen. After their response, they received feedback in the form of facial images and short written expressions (e.g., happy faces with statements like "Excellent" or angry faces with statements like "Terrible!"). The researchers also manipulated volatility during the task to examine its impact on decision-making. In line with previous research, the researchers observed greater learning-rates under conditions of higher volatility. In other words, when the outcomes were unpredictable and changed a lot, people tended to adapt to feedback more quickly compared to when the outcomes were more stable. But while previous studies found that people with anxiety tended to have greater difficulty learning in volatile environments, the current study found only weak evidence for this association. Additionally,

the study found that general distress, rather than anxiety or depression specifically, was related to learning rates in certain conditions.

"We hypothesized that we would find results similar to previous work, but we did not," Van Dam told *PsyPost*. "In other words, we thought we would see strong indicators of impaired learning in association with anxiety and depression. We did find evidence of an association but it was rather subtle and hard to detect — suggesting any link is probably more subtle than prior work has suggested."

The researchers noted that differences in sample composition, cultural factors, and the level of distress among participants may have contributed to the inconsistent results. While previous research had used electrical shocks or monetary rewards to provide feedback, the current study employed social-affective cues (facial images and written expressions). "It's likely that faces are less powerful in influencing how people learn than money or electrical shock, though people learn every day from 'very subtle cues in their environment,'" Van Dam said. "So, we still have quite a bit of work to do to understand how

anxiety and depression might impact the way that people learn about good and bad outcomes."

Overall, the study highlights the challenges in understanding the relationship between abnormal learning processes and anxiety and depression. The findings suggest that the effects of affective disorders on learning behavior may be difficult to detect and highly dependent on specific circumstances (e.g., the type of reward/punishment).

"People with elevated levels of anxiety and depression do exhibit some difficulties in the way that they learn about rewards and punishments (especially when those rewards/punishments are changing over time)," Van Dam explained. "However, our main finding was that such tasks are really hard to implement as you make the tasks themselves more realistic. As a result, we need to be careful not to draw big sweeping conclusions without taking into consideration how our experiments might be extended to more natural settings."

The study, "Anxiety and depression related abnormalities in socio-affective learning," was authored by Dylan Hammond, Pengfei Xu, Hui Ai, and Nicholas T. Van Dam.

## Dos and don'ts to keep in mind when you start hitting the gym

**S**tarting a gym routine is a fantastic way to improve your health, fitness, and overall well-being. It can be an excellent opportunity to challenge yourself physically, increase your strength, and build your confidence. However, it's important to remember that starting a gym routine can be overwhelming, especially if you're new to exercising or haven't been physically active in a while. There are several dos and don'ts to keep in mind to ensure that you have a safe and effective workout experience. Whether you're a beginner or a seasoned gym-goer, these tips will help you get the most out of your workouts and achieve your fitness goals.

Rihana Qureshi, Certified Nutritionist and Strength Training Coach, shared with HT Lifestyle, some important dos and don'ts you should keep in mind when starting your gym routine.

1. Start with cardio  
Start with a light cardio workout, such as walking on the treadmill for 15-20 minutes, if you have never worked out before. Once you are comfortable with that, increase your pace. This way, keep increasing the time and intensity till you can run and walk for a total of 30-35 mins without feeling drained.

2. Move on to weight training  
Next, gradually add some bodyweight exercises like knee push-ups, squats, and assisted pull-ups. When you can do 2-3 sets of 10-15 reps of these, then start with weight training. It is very important to start light and gradually increase the intensity to avoid injury.

# TRACKING BRAIN WAVE SIGNATURES COULD REDUCE THE RISK OF POSTOPERATIVE BRAIN DYSFUNCTION

**W**hen patients undergo general anesthesia, their brain activity often slows down as they sink into unconsciousness. Higher doses of anesthetic drugs can induce an even deeper state of unconsciousness known as burst suppression, which is associated with cognitive impairments after the patient wakes up.

A new study from MIT, in which the researchers analyzed the EEG patterns of patients under anesthesia, has revealed brain wave signatures that could help anesthesiologists determine when patients are transitioning into that deeper state of unconsciousness. This could enable them to prevent patients from falling into that state, reducing the risk of postoperative brain dysfunction.

One of these distinctive patterns emerged in the brain's alpha waves (which have a frequency of eight to 14 cycles per second). Once patients became unconscious, these waves started to wax and wane in amplitude. As patients went deeper into

unconsciousness, the pattern of this waxing and waning in amplitude, or amplitude modulation, continually changed.

If you track this modulation as it gets deeper or shallower, you have a very principled way to track level of unconsciousness under anesthesia," Emery Brown, the Edward Hood Taplin Professor of Medical Engineering and Computational Neuroscience and member of MIT's Picower Institute for Learning and Memory and the Institute for Medical Engineering and Science.

Brown is the senior author of the new study, which appears this week in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. The lead authors of the paper are Picower Institute research scientist Elie Adam, Ohyeon Kwon '20, and graduate student Karla Montejo.

Measuring brain waves  
Brain waves, which are generated by synchronized neuronal activity, oscillate at different frequencies depending on what kind of task the

brain is performing. When the brain is strongly engaged in mental activity, it produces higher-frequency beta (15-30 hertz) and gamma (greater than 30 hertz) oscillations, which are believed to help organize information and enhance communication between different brain regions.

Commonly used anesthesia drugs such as propofol have a significant effect on these oscillations. During anesthesia induced by propofol or other anesthetics that increase the effectiveness of GABAergic inhibitory receptors in the brain, the brain enters a state of unconsciousness known as slow-delta-alpha (SDA). This state is characterized by slow (0.1-1 hertz), delta (1-4 hertz) and alpha (8-14 hertz) oscillations.

With higher doses of these anesthetic drugs, the brain can fall into an even deeper state of unconsciousness. When in this state, known as burst suppression, EEG recordings from the brain show long periods of inactivity, punctuated by brief bursts of low-amplitude oscillations. When

patients enter this state, they are more likely to experience postoperative confusion, delirium, and memory loss.

These effects, which can last for hours, days, weeks, or months, are more common in elderly patients. Drug Discovery eBook Compilation of the top interviews, articles, and news in the last year.

SDA and burst suppression produce distinctive EEG patterns that have been well-studied. However, they have been studied as separate brain states; what happens during the transition between the two states is less clear. That transition is what the MIT team set out to analyze in this study.

To do that, the researchers studied 10 healthy volunteers and 30 patients who were undergoing surgery. Most of the patients received propofol intravenously, and the rest received sevoflurane, a commonly used anesthetic gas. Both of these drugs act on GABA receptors in the brain, which reduce neuron excitability.

As the dosage of propofol was increased, patients showed two distinctive patterns of change in their EEGs. The first pattern was seen in the alpha waves, which started to wax and wane. As the dose increased, waxing was shortened and waning was prolonged, until the patient reached the state of burst suppression.

"You can see a very strong modulation, which is always there.

As the modulation gets to be more profound, it eventually flattens out, and that's when the brain reaches the deeper state," Brown says. When the amount of drug was reduced, the amplitude of the alpha waves began to increase again.

The researchers also found a distinctive pattern in the slow and delta waves seen in the patients' EEG readings. Slow and delta oscillations are the slowest brain waves, and as the amount of drug was increased, the frequency of these waves became slower and slower, reflecting a decrease in brain activity.

Metabolic disruption

The researchers hypothesize that propofol exerts these effects through its influence on neuron metabolism. The drug is postulated to disrupt the production of ATP, the molecules that cells use to store energy. As ATP production declines, neurons eventually become unable to fire, leading to burst suppression.

"This is consistent with the observation that burst suppression is very frequent in older patients, because their metabolic state may be less well-regulated than that of younger patients," Brown says. The findings could help anesthesiologists more refined control over a patient's state of unconsciousness during surgery, says Brown. He now hopes to develop an algorithm that could generate a warning that a patient is approaching burst suppression, which could be displayed on a monitor in the operating room. He says that anesthesiologists could also learn to make that determination by looking for these patterns in a patient's EEG.



## GENERAL MANAGER NORTHERN RAILWAY, SHRI SHOBHAN CHOUDHURI, VISITS THE BANIHAL-BARAMULLA RAILSECTION IN J&K

JJ NEWS SERVICE

General Manager Northern Railway, Shri Shobhan Choudhuri conducted an intensive inspection of the Banihal-Baramulla rail section of USBRL Project in Kashmir Valley today. During the inspection, Shri Choudhuri was accompanied by CAO USBRL, Shri, SP Mahi along with Chief Area Manager Srinagar, a team of USBRL Project and other senior officials of Firozpur Division.

The inspection commenced with a comprehensive evaluation of passenger amenities at prominent railway stations in the Kashmir Valley, namely Baramulla, Budgam, Srinagar, Anantnag, and Qazigund. Shri Shobhan Choudhuri, instructed the railway officials to ensure the punctual and safe running of



trains while prioritizing the provision of essential facilities to all passengers at these stations. He emphasized enhancing the overall travel experience for railway users.

The General Manager was apprised of several upcoming initiatives planned for the Kashmir Valley viz; establishment of

goods' sheds at strategic locations such as Baramulla, Sopore, Pampore, Awantipora, and Anantnag. It is expected that it will significantly boost the regional trade and commerce.

Shri Choudhuri inspected the train maintenance facilities at DEMU Shed, Budgam. He inspected the Vistadome coach

and instructed officials to maintain the high-quality standards.

During the inspection, a comprehensive status report and final location survey (FLS) of key railway projects in the region was also presented to Shri Shobhan Choudhuri. The key railway projects in the region includes the Qazigund-Baramulla doubling, Baramulla-Uri line, Sopore-Kupwara line, Awantipora-Shopian line, and Anantnag-Pahalgam line.

Such vital infrastructural developments are poised to revolutionize the railway network in Kashmir Valley, paving the way for improved connectivity and economic growth.

During the inspection, Shri Shobhan Choudhuri took stock of the various aspects of the railway system and made significant

observations regarding passenger amenities, infrastructure development, railway electrification and implementation of MEMU train services. Shri Choudhuri emphasized the urgency of putting MEMU train services into operation as soon as possible. These initiatives are expected to drive the Northern Railway's commitment to sustainability and efficiency while providing commuters with modern and eco-friendly travel options.

The General Manager expressed admiration for the successful implementation of the One Station One Product (OSOP) Scheme in the Kashmir Valley. This scheme has not only generated local employment opportunities but has also provided a significant boost to the promotion of indigenous products and the local economy.

## Director Agriculture Kashmir visits SMF Tapper Kreeri

### Tapper Farm becoming a Model Seed Multiplication Farm: Chowdhury Iqbal

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JULY 21: The Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhury Mohammad Iqbal today visited seed multiplication farm (SMF) Tapper Kreeri and took stock of various agriculture activities here.

During the visit the Director inspected different blocks, hi-tech poly houses at the farm and discussed various innovative interventions and technologies adopted at the farm.

Speaking to the experts and staff of the farm, Director expressed satisfaction over the transformation of the farm and appreciated their role in the successful implementation of different modern technologies. The Director said that the SM Farm Tapper is becoming a model farm so far as seed multiplication of different vegetable crops is concerned.

He said the impact of climate change, limited natural resources are immediate challenges confronting our cultivation process. He asked the concerned officers to strategize the cultivation operation in an environment friendly manner with minimum stress on natural resources.

Earlier, Farm Manager SMF Tapper Charan Gurdev Singh gave a detailed presentation of various agriculture activities at the farm. He also informed the Director regarding the new technologies that have been adopted during the cultivation of present crops for the first time at the farm.

The Technical Officer Seed Multiplication Farm Tapper Dr. Sharan Gurdev Singh presented various ideas for the cultivation of different crops during the coming season. He informed the Director regarding the some new programs of vegetable Cultivation that have been devised in line with the geographical conditions of the area and would be implemented in coming days.

Later, the Director also visited the field of some progressive farmers at Palhalan Pattan area of district and assured them of every possible technical guidance from the department during the cultivation of different agricultural crops.

He took feedback from different farmers regarding the implementation of different Centrally sponsored schemes by the department in the district.

Director Agriculture was accompanied by Chief Agriculture Officer Baramulla Yadvinder Singh and other senior officers of the department.

## Training on Drug Control measures

### Series of informative sessions held on Day 2 at Ramban

JJ NEWS SERVICE

RAMBAN, JULY 21 : A series of informative sessions were held on the day 2 of the ongoing 3-day Capacity Building Programme on Early Detection of Drug Abuse and Post Detection Management being organized by the department of Social Welfare here in the Conference Hall, Maitra. Participating in an interaction session, Deputy Commissioner Murrat Islam emphasized the importance of generating awareness and spreading knowledge on these topics to prevent drug abuse and promote sustainable livelihood.

The DC impressed upon the participants, especially youth, to become dedicated volunteers of the awareness campaign to prevent drug abuse and promote sustainable livelihood. He appreciated efforts of collaborating departments and said training experience will help the participants to work more effectively towards curbing this menace in the district.

Informing that enforcement agencies are on job to tighten noose around the drug peddlers, the DC said District Administration Ramban in coordination with Police and other stakeholder departments is committed to create a drug-free environment in the district.

During the Capacity Building Programme, the students from Government Degree College, Ramban, Government Higher Secondary school Ramban, Anganwari workers and other volunteers were trained on how to tackle the menace of drug abuse, early detection of drug addiction, counseling of youth and de-addiction.

BMO Ukhal, Dr. Mohd Iqbal, expert in mental health, delivered an effective lecture on the topic with the help of PowerPoint Presentation besides interacting with the participants. The programme was held under the supervision of District Social Welfare Officer, Rahul Gupta in association with the Education, Health and other departments.

## Seminar on 'Paanin Zaw Paanin Kath' held at GHSS Dangiwaacha

### Kashmiri literature and its vast dimensions elaborated threadbare

JJ NEWS SERVICE

BARAMULLA, JULY 21: In a bid to preserve and promote mother tongue which is akin to preservation of culture and ethnicity, a daylong seminar was held at Government Higher Secondary School Dangiwaacha on 'Paanin Zaw Paanin Kath'.

The day long seminar was presided over by Ex. Director General Doodarshan, Dr. Rafiq Masoodi, Renowned poet and writer, Shabir Ahmad Shabir besides other dignitaries of different walks of life.

At the outset, a welcome note was presented in the seminar wherein all the dignitaries and participants were paid salutation.

On the occasion, a series of deliberations were held during which the poetic genesis was discussed and the Kashmiri literature and its vast dimensions were elaborated threadbare.

During the seminar, speakers highlighted the importance of mother tongue, especially Kashmiri, Gojri, Pahadi and other languages spoken in various parts of Jammu and Kashmir.

## UIDAI conducts Capacity Building cum Awareness workshop on Aadhaar features in collaboration with District Admin Srinagar

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JULY 21: In order to sensitize the Civil and Police Officials of District Administration Srinagar about Aadhaar related services and its features, a Capacity Building and Awareness Session was organized by Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) here at Meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex Srinagar.

The programme was organized by District Administration Srinagar in collaboration with UIDAI RO Chandigarh.

On the occasion, the DDG UIDAI, Mrs. Bhawna Garg, presided over the Aadhaar Awareness Workshop, while Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad attended the programme as the Chief Guest.

During the workshop, the Project Manager UIDAI, Shoaib Khan gave a detailed presentation about the different aspects of Aadhaar including Aadhaar registration, updation, authentication and verification processes, Document Update in Aadhaar and enrolment of new Aadhaar for 18 years and above residents.

Speaking on the occasion, the DDG UIDAI highlighted the importance of the Aadhaar related ecosystem and stressed on to use mAadhaar app or Aadhaar QR scanner app and my Aadhaar portal (https://myaadhaar.uidai.gov.in) to verify Aadhaar in their daily activities while verifying the residents.

DDG UIDAI also stressed on the initiatives being taken by UIDAI to strengthen the Aadhaar ecosystem and appealed all residents to keep their Aadhaar updated to avoid any inconvenience in future. She urged Aadhaar holders who have not updated their Aadhaar in last 8 years to get their Aadhaar updated with valid supporting documents of Proof of Identity or Proof of Address either online or by visiting nearest Aadhaar Center.

## Ensure all facilities for smooth observation of Muharram congregations & other events: Div Com Kashmir to Officers

### VISITS IMAMBARAS OF ZADIBAL, HASSANABAD IN SRINAGAR & MAGAM, BUDGAM; TAKES SPOT APPRAISAL OF ARRANGEMENTS

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JULY 21: The Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri today visited Imambaras Zadibal, Imam Bara Hassanabad and Imambaras Magam and Budgam to take spot appraisal of the facilities made available by the respective administrations for hassle free observation of Muharram congregations and other events.

The Div Com was accompanied by Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Commissioner SMC during visits to Imambaras of Zadibal and Hassanabad, and Deputy Commissioner Budgam, SSP Budgam during visit to Imambaras Magam, Budgam besides other officers and officials from line departments.

During the visit, Div Com issued on spot directions to the line Departments for ensuring elaborate arrangements and sustained efforts facilitating the



smooth observance of proceedings of Muharram-ul-Haram.

The Div Com took department wise appraisal of arrangements including electricity, water supply, sanitation, medicare, street lighting, macadamization, repairs of drainage and manholes, besides others at Imam bara Zadibal and Imambaras Hassanabad. Representatives, elders from the Shia community and other public representatives

thanked the Div Com for paying a visit to Imambaras and ensuring that all facilities are made available for the holy occasion.

They however raised a few issues with the chair and sought their immediate redressal which includes lifting of muck from drains, immediate repairing of a few identified street lights and high mast lights around Imambaras, macadamization at certain places, lifting of lowly

hanging wires, development of roads and other facilities in the town area.

The Div Com took strong note of the discrepancies and sought immediate redressal of all the issues by the line departments within a couple of days to ensure that mourners may not face any difficulty. Meanwhile, it was informed that adequate facilities/arrangements for providing smooth water supply, electricity, medicare, sanitation etc, to the people are in place. The Div Com directed SMC for deployment of mobile and sucker jet pumps to drain water at Sheribat Chowk.

He also directed the concerned for removal of encroachment on footpaths by shopkeepers besides roadside parking to ensure smooth passage to religious processions. At Magam, the Div Com took stock of various arrangements including supply of scheduled electricity and water supplies, installation and restoration

of street lights, development of roads and other facilities in the town area.

The Div Com directed the concerned Officer to ensure hassle-free arrangements for smooth conduct of mourning processions and congregations during the holy month of Muharram ul-Haram.

The chair was informed that installation and restoration of high mast and street lights at all Imam Baras and roads is being carried out on war footing for public convenience. Besides, repairing and macadamization works are also going on in full swing in all areas for smooth passage of Muharram processions.

The Div Com also met locals who raised their demands with him.

The Div Com directed concerned officers to facilitate prompt services and better facilities to the people during these auspicious days of Muharram.

## EMPHASISING FOR STRENGTHENING PACS AS VIBRANT ECONOMIC ENTITIES

JJ NEWS SERVICE

KUPWARA, JULY 21: In order to increase the viability of PACS and diversify their business activities to make them vibrant economic entities at grass-roots level, a meeting of District Level Cooperative



Development Committee (DCDC) was Friday held at DC Office Complex Kupwara under the Chairpersonship of District

Development Commissioner (DCDC) Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan. During the meeting, it was informed that there are a total of 22

PACS (Primary Agricultural Credit Societies) in the district wherein 19816 members are associated.

22 Panchayat Halgas of the district are covered by PACS. It was also apprised that a total of 89 Cooperatives stand registered in the district. Speaking on the occasion, the DDC deliberated on the objectives of the meeting and stressed on the committee members to make best efforts to strengthen the cooperative move-

ment in Kupwara district so that people can take benefits of Cooperative societies. The DDC emphasised for making PACS as vibrant economic entities. She directed all 22 PACS to operate as Jan Aushadi Kendras for improving access to generic medicines in villages.

She also directed that 22 PACS be on-boarded as CSCs (Common Service Centres) and Accountants to be trained to work as Resource Persons to operate CSCs.



# DC Srinagar inspects proposed site for establishment of District Export Hub; Finalises the Project

**ODOP-DEH INITIATIVE HAS THE POTENTIAL TO CREATE EPICENTRES OF ECONOMIC GROWTH: DC SRINAGAR**

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JULY 21: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Ajaz Asad today visited the proposed "District Export Hub" under the ODOP- DEH initiative being established at Kashmir Haat with an aim to boost the Export of Goods from Srinagar District with adequate market linkage to the Industry, provide guidance regarding exports, consultancy, IT solutions, data management etc under one umbrella, besides strengthen support at embassy level to facilitate exporters and importers.

During the visit, the DC was accompanied by Chief Planning Officer, Chief Designer Craft Development, Functional Manager DIC, Assistant Director Exports, Executive Engineer R&B, Officers from JKTPD and

other concerned. On the occasion, the DC took a detailed round of various components of the proposed District Export Hub and inspected the facilities and the works required to be taken for its repairs and upgradation to develop it on the State of the Art pattern. While reviewing the DPR regarding the upgradation works of the District Export Hub, the DC asked the concerned R&B Engineers to finalise the DPR and incorporate necessary alterations in it so that upgradation works are started at the earliest for setting up of DEH.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner said the initiative is aimed to give a fillip to the Export volume and to boost the local Economy, particularly focusing on identifying and promoting specific products or industries within the District that have good export potential,

thereby likely enhance production, improve quality, and facilitate marketing and export of these products.

The DC also said One District One Product- Districts as Export Hubs Initiative (ODOP - DEH) is not a scheme but rather an initiative aimed at fostering balanced regional development across all districts of the country.

"The idea is to select, brand, and promote one product from each district (One District - One Product) of the country for enabling holistic socioeconomic growth across all regions", he added.

The DC further underlined that ODOP has been merged with 'Districts as Export Hubs Initiative' being run by the Department of Commerce (DoC) with Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) as a major stakeholder.

While the initiative has the potential to create epicentres of economic growth. The DC also hoped that the initiative will also address the challenges for

exports of identified products/services, improving supply chains, market accessibility and handholding of local Artisans for increasing exports.

## GDC Reasi organises cleanliness drive

JJ NEWS SERVICE

REASI, JULY 21: NSS Unit of Government General Zorawar Singh Memorial Degree College Reasi on Friday organised a cleanliness drive at Salla Park.

As many as 35 NSS volunteers of the college participated in the cleanliness drive organised at Salla Park under the supervision of NSS Programme Officer, Prof. Ajay Kumar and cleaned the area near the Bowley. Later, they also visited the office of the Range Officer Soil Reasi and collected plants under the Meri Mati Mera Desh Programme which will be planted on 26th July, 2023 in different locations to mark Kargil Diwas.

Meri Mati Mera Desh is a nationwide campaign of the Ministry of Youth Affairs of Sports under which NSS volunteers have to plant at least 75 saplings on 26th July, 2023. The volunteers were highly enthusiastic for the campaign and started preparation with full enthusiasm and zeal.

## Scan & Share OPD registration starts in SDH Baderwah

JJ NEWS SERVICE

DODA, JULY 21: Jammu & Kashmir Government has rolled out scan and share OPD registration facility in the Health Institutions in the UT J&K. The initiative launched by the Health & Medical Education Department aims to digitize healthcare records and streamline the process of availing services.

In this connection, the Scan & Share OPD registration facility was started today at Government Sub District Hospital Baderwah. Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Ab Hamid Zargar inaugurated the facility in presence of BMO, Dr. Mohammad Ashraf Kuchay.

The SDH Baderwah has become the first health facility in the Chenab region to start this new initiative and for availing this seamless service, the people have to create an ABHA ID through Aadhar and keep a mobile application with feature of ABHA, with them before visiting the hospital. The CMO informed that the Scan and Share facility forms part of the ongoing Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission. "It aims to bring ease to the patients and attendants by reducing wait time and eliminating the problem of long queues seeking OPD registration," he said. The QR code based rapid OPD registration service is being implemented by the National Health Authority under its flagship scheme Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission, which would guarantee seamless entry to hospitals as part of the digital interventions for improving citizen's ease of living, he added. Further CMO added that, very soon other health facilities like SDH Gandoh and CHC Thathri shall also be provided with this new initiative of Scan and Share OPD registration facility.

BMO Baderwah, while giving details about the new facility at SDH Baderwah, said that this service will enable patients to scan the QR code of the facility and share their demographic details and health records. The QR codes are displayed at multiple places in the waiting and registration area, where patients can easily identify them and scan them using their smartphones for faster OPD registration. Once a patient who's Scan and Share number is displayed on the screen arrives at the counter, the operator retrieves the demographic details from the system based on the token number and prints the OPD card in a hassle free manner.

## Phone Live- in Grievance Program receives overwhelming Public response in Rajouri; More than 60 calls received

JJ NEWS SERVICE

RAJOURI, JULY 21: The 5th episode of Phone Live-in Grievances redressal program held today witnessed a tremendous response with more than 60 calls received from the public in Rajouri. The program is aimed at providing residents of the district with a platform to share their grievances and get direct solutions from the district administration.

The residents from different parts of the district expressed their concerns on a range of issues. Deputy Commissioner, Vikas Kundal patiently listened to each caller and

provided them with valuable guidance and support to resolve their issues. The DC took note of the issues raised by the residents and assured them that all necessary measures would be taken to address their concerns in a time bound manner. The DC also urged the residents to continue to provide their feedback and suggestions, as it would help in improving the overall governance and development of the district.

The phone-live in grievance program is part of the district administration's ongoing efforts to improve public service delivery and strengthen the relationship between the gov-

ernment and citizens. The success of the phone live-in grievance program has been widely appreciated by the public as it provides them a platform to voice their concerns and seek redressal of their grievances directly from the District Administration.

The program has also helped in improving the transparency and accountability of the district administration. The 5th episode of the phone live in grievance program was a huge success as the efforts of the District Administration to connect with the people of Rajouri have been widely appreciated by all.

## DC Reasi reviews Independence Day arrangements

JJ NEWS SERVICE

REASI, JULY 21: Deputy Commissioner Reasi, Babila Rakwal, today reviewed the arrangements for Independence Day-2023 celebration here at a meeting held in the DC Office complex. During the meeting, it was decided that the main function will be held at Sports Stadium, where the VIP will unfurl the National Flag.

Threadbare discussion was held with regard to the security arrangements, traffic regulation, seating arrangements, Full Dress Rehearsal, decoration, PAS, Power and water supply,



transport arrangements, sanitation, Medicare facilities, Barricading at the venue of the function and other vital issues. The PDD and Jal Shakti Departments were directed to ensure proper management of power and water including water tankers at the venue.

The DC exhorted the officers to complete the preparations well in advance so that national function could be celebrated with traditional fervor. SSP, Amit Gupta; ADDC, Jyoti Slathia; ADC, Abdul Star; Tehsildar, EO Municipal, Chief Education Officer, CMO, Xen's PWD/PMCSY, Xen Jal Shakti Department and other concerned officers attended the meeting.

# CEO Kishtwar Development Authority applauds Team's Triumph in Conquering Mount Brammah



JJ NEWS SERVICE

KISHTWAR, JULY 21: Chief Executive Officer Kishtwar Development Authority, Dr. Rishi Kumar Sharma has extended his heartiest congratulations to the team trekkers for momentous achievement in summiting Mount Brammah, located in the Dachhan area of Kishtwar High Altitude National Park.

Scaling the majestic Mount Brammah, towering at an impres-

sive 6416 meters, exemplifies the unwavering dedication, exceptional skill, and sheer determination of the team members.

This remarkable expedition highlights the adventurous spirit and mountaineering prowess of nationals in India, signifying a profound connection with the awe-inspiring natural wonders our planet beholds. Such extraordinary accomplishments not only serve as an inspiration to others but also contribute significantly

to the exploration and comprehension of our world's untamed beauty. The team's discovery of a thrilling new route further amplifies the significance of their achievement.

Unraveling uncharted paths in remote and formidable terrains serves as a true testament to their intrepid spirit and exemplary mountaineering acumen.

This extraordinary feat not only underscores the capabilities of the club members but also

enriches the mountaineering community with invaluable insights into unexplored territories within the region of Jammu & Kashmir. It is certain that their triumph will ignite a spark of inspiration, motivating others to embark on their mountaineering endeavors and explore the captivating Himalayas and beyond.

The captivating video shared by the tourists encapsulates the essence of their arduous journey, showcasing breathtaking vistas from the summit. This monumental achievement will undoubtedly etch its place in history, instilling a profound sense of pride and motivation for future generations of mountaineers and adventure enthusiasts in Kishtwar, Jammu, and Kashmir. Kishtwar Development Authority extended its warmest congratulations to the entire team for this historic triumph.

## DEO reviews Summary Revision of Municipal Electoral Rolls in Udhampur

JJ NEWS SERVICE

UDHAMPUR, JULY 21: To review the progress of ongoing Summary Revision of Municipal electoral rolls, District Election Officer Udhampur Sachin Kumar Vaishya today convened a meeting of officers of Urban Local Bodies here in his office Chamber.

Parvati District Election Officer, Gurdev Kumar, SDM, Chenani, Parvati Naik, all EOs and officials attended the meeting. During the meeting, the DEO exhorted the functionaries to complete the summary Revision including addition of new voters/left out voters and deletion of duplicate voters before the assigned due date.

The DEO asked the officers to activate men and machinery and complete the process within the given timeline. The Dy DEO was asked to submit a report on a daily basis.

## Regional Transport Authority meeting held at Ramban

JJ NEWS SERVICE

RAMBAN, JULY 21: Deputy Commissioner Ramban, Mussarat Islam, who is also the chairman of the Regional Transport Authority (RTA), today chaired a meeting of the Authority in his office chamber and discussed the cases related to issuance of fresh route permits to the applicants.

It was decided in the meeting that three wheeler auto permits will be given for rural routes on priority basis and three wheeler contract carriage permits for city route cases will be decided after the parking facility is augmented.

Meanwhile, some cases regarding change of routes were also discussed and eligible cases were approved. For all J&K contract carriage cases, applicants are advised to apply as per SO 653 Dated: 1 December, 2022. Additional Deputy Commissioner, Harbansh Sharma, besides Members of RTA including Additional SP, Gourav Mahajan and ARTO, Samrindar Singh attended the meeting.

## DC B'la visits various Markazi Imambara; takes stock of Muharram arrangements

**Interacts with people; directs Depts to provide basic amenities for hassle free processions**

JJ NEWS SERVICE

BARAMULLA, JULY 21: In order to take first hand appraisal of arrangements being put in place for holy month of Muharram, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Dr Syed Shrish Asgar accompanied by various senior officers of the district today conducted an extensive tour of various Imambaras including Imambara Hanjivera and Goom Ahmadorpora.

During her visit, the DC took stock of the availability of essential arrangements put in place for the smooth conduct of congregations and mourning processions during the month of Muharram-ul-Haram.

On the occasion, the DC interacted with Imambara Intizamia Committees and enquired about the facilities available for them.

The DC directed the concerned officers to ensure availability of uninterrupted water and power supply during the holy days.

## NABARD organises awareness programme at Sangaldan

JJ NEWS SERVICE

RAMBAN JULY 21: The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), Ramban today organised an awareness event at Sangaldan under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav and on the theme 'Achievements @75 transforming lives and NABARD's Contribution' in Jammu & Kashmir.

BRANCH Managers J&K Bank, JCC Bank, UMEED beneficiaries, CFL Sangaldan, RSETI Ramban and FPO Sangaldan members participated in the event. Speaking on the occasion, DDM Arushi Sharma highlighted the role of NABARD in organising training and capacity building programs for SHG members to boost their income resources under Micro Enterprise Development Programme (MEDP) and Livelihood and Enterprise Development Programme (LEDP).

## DC Kulgam reviews progress on PWD, PDD, JKPC, RBD work projects under District Capex



JJ NEWS SERVICE

KULGAM, JULY 21: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat today chaired a meeting of officers to review the progress of works being executed by PWD (R&B), RDD, PDD, JKPC departments under District Capex.

The DC directed the executing departments to pace up the speed to achieve maximum target works within the stipulated time.

During the meeting, it was informed by the concerned from JKPC that residential quarters at Liroo are near to completion and will be ready to put in use very shortly.

It was also shared that Gujjar Bakerwal hostel is at final stage of completion and direction was passed by the DC to complete the project within days to put it on service.

While taking stock of physical and financial achievements made under District Capex and other schemes, JD planning shared that there are 2421 approved works under District capex which includes 2270 new works and 151 ongoing projects. 1770 works have been Administratively approved for execution.

While reviewing progress under centrally sponsored schemes, the DC instructed concerned officers to achieve the set targets so that the potential outcome can be achieved.

He stressed to utilize the working season properly to complete works well in time.

Dr Bilal urged the concerned to work religiously and to induce extra efforts to achieve the desired results.

## No Purpose Will Be Served By Taking Brij Bhushan In Custody At This Stage: Delhi Court Order

new delhi : Allegations of sexual harassment against outgoing WFI chief Brij Bhushan Sharma Singh were 'serious' but no purpose will be served by taking him in custody at this stage, a Delhi court order released on Friday said. The court on Thursday granted regular bail to Mr Singh, a six-time BJP MP, and also allowed the bail application of suspended Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) assistant secretary Vinod Tomar. Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Harjeet Singh Jaspal made the observations in his nine-page order passed on Thursday, which was made available on Friday.

In the order, the judge said, "In the instant case, the allegations are serious. In my view, the seriousness of the allegations, no doubt, is one of the relevant considerations while considering bail applications but it is not the only test or the factor to decide the same. When the undertrial prisoners are detained in jail for an indefinite period, Article 21 (right to life and personal liberty) of the Constitution is violated." "In the matter



at hand, in my considered opinion, at this stage, no purpose will be served by taking the accused persons in custody, at this stage," he said. The court noted that Mr Singh and Mr Tomar were accused of sexual assault, which carried a maximum punishment of seven years imprisonment. The judge further noted that the accused were not arrested during the investigation and as per the police report, they cooperated in the investigation.

"At no stage, the Investigating Agency, speaking through the Additional Public Prosecutor, has expressed its apprehension that the accused persons are abusing their positions or are making attempts to tamper with evidence," the judge

and may try to influence them in future, however, the present entails no such detail, the judge further noted.

"The law of the land is equal for all, it can neither be pulled in the favour of the victims nor in till in the favour of the accused," the judge said.

The judge directed that the accused shall not tamper or make any evidence, or make any threat, inducement or promise to any victim or any other witness in any manner whatsoever. "The accused persons shall attend the court whenever called. The accused persons shall not commit any similar crimes, of which they are suspected. The accused persons shall not leave the country without the prior permission of the court," the judge directed.

The Delhi Police had filed a charge sheet against the six-time MP on June 15 under sections 354 (assault or criminal force to woman with intent to outrage her modesty), 354A (sexual harassment), 354D (stalking) and 506 (criminal intimidation) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC).

## Biren Singh Announces State-Wide Condemnation Events For Horrific Video

NEW DELHI : Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh today said that his government is "condemning" the viral video of two women being paraded naked on a road by a group of men.

"We are condemning it state-wide, both in valley and hills. The people of the state regard women as mothers. Some miscreants tarnished our image by doing this," Mr Singh said, according to a video tweeted by news agency PTI. The public is demanding the strictest punishment for the accused, the chief minister further said.

Mr Singh was also seen participating in a massive public gathering organised in condemnation over the viral videos.

Biren Singh has called the incident a "crime against humanity" and promised that the state will make all efforts to catch the culprits.

"I have ordered a probe in this case and am personally monitoring the investigation. It is a heinous crime against humanity and the state government will make all efforts to catch the culprits," Mr Singh told NDTV on Thursday.

He earlier said the video of the incident surfaced when the government

was trying to identify the case.

"As there were many cases filed on different incidents that happened in the state and while the government was trying to identify the particular case, the video on the incident suddenly came to the surface," Mr Singh told reporters at Imphal while announcing the arrest of "one of the main accused" of the incident.

"Hundreds of such incidents have happened, that is why internet is banned," he told India Today yesterday. Four people - including the prime accused in the case, Huiem Herodas Meitei - have been arrested over their involvement in the case. Herodas's house was set on fire yesterday by the women of Petchi Village. Union Minister Smriti Irani has also condemned the incident and asked the Manipur Chief Minister to spare no effort in bringing the "perpetrators to justice".

"The horrific video of sexual assault of two women emanating from Manipur is condemnable and downright inhuman. Spoke to Chief Minister N Biren Singh ji, who has informed me that investigation is currently underway and assured that no effort will be spared to bring perpetra-

tors to justice," Ms Irani tweeted yesterday. Prime Minister Narendra Modi broke his silence on the Manipur violence yesterday, saying his heart was filled with anguish and anger over the horrific video.

"I want to assure the nation, no guilty will be spared. Action will be taken according to the law. What happened to the daughters of Manipur can never be forgiven," PM Modi said in his remarks before the start of the monsoon session of parliament.

"As I stand next to this temple of democracy, my heart is filled with pain and anger. The Manipur incident is shameful for any civilised nation. The entire country has been shamed," he said.

The PM also referred to incidents in Congress-ruled Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh and said: "I appeal to all Chief Ministers to strengthen law and order in their state". Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge slammed the PM for not making a statement inside the Parliament.

"If you were angry then instead of making false equivalence with Congress governed states, you could have first dismissed your Chief Minister of Manipur," he tweeted.

## Before Parading Women Naked, Manipur Mob Killed Many, Torched Homes: Police Report

Imphal: The FIR registered in connection with the parading of two women naked in Manipur, charged that before kidnaping them, a group of armed men came to the village in Kangpokpi district and torched and looted houses, attacked people killing many besides sexually assaulting women. The FIR, a copy of which is available with agencies, claimed that one person was killed by the mob as he tried to protect his sister from being raped on May 4 before the two were paraded naked and molested in front of others. "Around 900-1000 persons carrying sophisticated weapons like AK rifles, SLR, INSAS and .303 rifles forcefully entered our village... in Island subdivision, Kangpokpi district, about 68 km south from Saikul police station."

"The violent mob vandalised all the houses and burnt them to the ground after looting all the moveable properties," the FIR lodged at Saikul police station claimed.

They took away cash, furniture, electronic items, foodgrains, furniture and cattle heads, it said.

The mob also snatched away five people who were rescued by police personnel from a nearby forest, the FIR claimed, according to agencies. The police arrested four people in connection with parading the women naked and molesting them a day after a video showing their humiliation surfaced on July 19.

The arrests were made a day after the video surfaced, the complaint in this connection was lodged around a month ago - June 21 - at Saikul police station in Kangpokpi district.

Meanwhile, the husband of one of two women paraded naked and molested by a group of men is a Kargil war veteran who said that though he protected the country but could not save his wife.

"I fought for the nation in the Kargil war and was also in Sri Lanka as part of the Indian Peace Keeping Force.

I protected the nation but am dejected that I could not protect my wife and fellow villagers," he told a local news channel. He said that on the fateful May 4 morning, a mob burnt down several houses in the locality, disrobed the two women and made them walk on the village paths in front of people.

"Police were present but took no action. I want that all those people who burnt the houses and humiliated the women get exemplary punishment," he said.

More than 150 people have lost their lives, and several injured since ethnic violence broke out in the state on May 3, when a 'Tribal Solidarity March' was organised in the hill districts to protest against the Meitei community's demand for Scheduled Tribe (ST) status. Meiteis account for about 53 per cent of Manipur's population and live mostly in the Imphal Valley, while tribals, which include Nagas and Kukis, constitute 40 per cent and reside mostly in the hill districts.

## Will See If Parliament Can...: What Supreme Court Said On Delhi Ordinance

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court has said a five-judge constitution bench will examine whether Parliament can "abrogate the constitutional principles of governance" for the Delhi government by making a law to take away its control over services.

The Centre recently issued an ordinance on the Delhi services matter by exercising its powers under Article 239-AA, a special provision in the Constitution pertaining to the national capital.

The top court, which on Thursday referred to a constitution bench the Delhi government's plea challenging the Centre's ordinance, uploaded its order on its website containing the legal questions to be dealt by the larger bench.

"We accordingly refer the following questions to a constitution bench: (i) What are the contours of the power of Parliament to enact a law under Article 239-AA(7); and (ii) Whether Parliament in the exercise of its power under Article 239-AA(7) can abrogate the constitutional principles of governance for the National Capital Territory of Delhi (NCTD)," said the order passed by a bench of Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and justices PS Narasimha and Manoj Misra.

A 10-page order, penned by the Chief Justice of India, said there were two

preliminary issues which arose for the consideration by a larger bench.

"The first is on the import of Section 3A (of the ordinance). Section 3A removes Entry 41 (services) of List II (State List) from the legislative competence of the NCTD. On the exclusion of Entry 41 from the NCTD's legislative power, the government of the NCTD ceases to have executive power over services because executive power is co-terminus with the legislative power," the order said.

The issue, therefore, is whether a law could completely remove Delhi government's executive power over services, it said, adding that the aspect of services under Entry 41 was

also "interconnected with the validity of Section 3A" of the ordinance.

While referring the Delhi government's plea to the constitution bench, it had rejected the vehement submission of the city dispensation that there was no need for referring the matter to a constitution bench as it will "paralyse the whole system" during its pendency.

On Thursday, the bench raised a query with regard to the ordinance and said it took away the control of services from the control of the Delhi government.

## Office of the District Soil Conservation Officer Soil & Water Conservation Department, Jammu Corrigendum

Name of the work : NIT No 01 of 2023-24 Dated: 20.06.2023

1. Planting and Soil / Moisture Conservation work at Pangali Mohalla Near Ghoshalla Panchayat Shiba Constituency Nagrota District Jammu
2. Laying of Crate work at Nandani Nallah (W.No 5 Near Rattan Lal Residence) Panchayat Nadore Constituency Nagrota District Jammu
3. Laying of Crate work at Chinore (Backside of Kailash Ashram) Panchayat Keran Block Bhalwal Constituency Raipur Domana District Jammu
4. Laying of Crate work at Mora Nallah, Village Dhar Dharlochan (Near Devi Dayal Residence) Panchayat Seri Pandita Block Bhalwal Constituency Nagrota District Jammu
5. Laying of Crate work at Village Dhar Dharlochan (Mora Nallah Near Tarseem Singh Residence) W.No 8, Panchayat Seri Pandita, Block Bhalwal Constituency Nagrota District Jammu
6. Laying of Crate work Mora Nallah Near Govt. School at Village Dhar Dharlochan Panchayat Seri Pandita, Block Bhalwal, Constituency Nagrota District Jammu
7. Laying of Crate work Mora Nallah Near Chain Singh Residence at Village Dhar Dharlochan Panchayat Seri Pandita, Block Bhalwal Constituency Nagrota District Jammu

Due to poor response, the date schedule of above subjected works are re-scheduled as under:-

Item	Advertised Date	Revised Date
Published date	20-06-2023	20-06-2023
Download Start Date	20-06-2023 from 12.00 P.M	20-06-2023 from 12.00 P.M
Bid submission Start Date	20-06-2023 from 01.00 P.M	20-06-2023 from 01.00 P.M
Bid Submission End Date	19-07-2023 upto 6.00 P.M	27-07-2023 upto 6.00 P.M
Date of Opening of Fin. Bid (On-line)	20-07-2023 at 01:00 PM (in Office of The Joint Director, Soil & Water Conservation Department, Jammu	29-07-2023 at 01:00 PM (in Office of The Joint Director, Soil & Water Conservation Department, Jammu

All other terms and conditions shall remain unchanged. SD/ No. DSCO/J-F-Tender/287-92 DISTRICT SOIL CONSERVATION OFFICER, Date: 20.07.2023 DIP/J-5499/23 SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT JAMMU

## Office of the District Soil Conservation Officer Soil & Water Conservation Department, Jammu / Samba Corrigendum

Name of the work : NIT No 04 of 2023-24 Dated: 03.07.2023

1. Laying of Crate work at Brahmhal / Prianghal (Co.11 & 12/B) Constituency and District Samba
2. Laying of Crate work at Chirk (Co.47/D) Constituency and District Samba
3. Laying of Crate work at Chirk Talab Shama (Co.48, 49 & 50/D) Constituency and District Samba
4. Laying of Crate work at Kueli Karnal (Co.42, 43 & 44/D) Constituency and District Samba
5. Laying of Crate work at Sangar Mandal (Co. 23, 24 & 25/D) Constituency and District Samba.

Due to poor response, the SD/ DISTRICT SOIL CONSERVATION OFFICER, SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT JAMMU eduled as under-

Item	Advertised Date	Revised Date
Published date		023
Download Start Date	03-07-2023 from 5.00 P.M	03-07-2023 from 5.00 P.M
Bid submission Start Date	03-07-2023 from 6.00 P.M	03-07-2023 from 6.00 P.M
Bid Submission End Date	19-07-2023 upto 4.00 P.M	27-07-2023 upto 6.00 P.M
Date of Opening of Fin. Bid (On-line)	20-07-2023 at 01:00 PM (in Office of The Joint Director, Soil & Water Conservation Department, Jammu	29-07-2023 at 01:00 PM (in Office of The Joint Director, Soil & Water Conservation Department, Jammu

All other terms and conditions shall remain unchanged. SD/ No. DSCOS/F-Tender/226-31 DISTRICT SOIL CONSERVATION OFFICER, Date: 20.07.2023 SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT JAMMU

### TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF TRAIN

For the convenience of rail passengers, Railways have decided to extend the service of 19226/19225 Jammu Tawi - Jodhpur-Jammu Tawi Express upto/ from Bhagati Ki Kothi on temporary basis for a period of 30 days w.e.f. 23.07.2023. The timings of this train service will be as under:-

19226 Jammu Tawi - Jodhpur-Bhagati Ki Kothi Express Train				19225 Bhagati Ki Kothi - Jodhpur-Jammu Tawi Express Train			
Existing Timings		Revised Timings		Existing Timings		Revised Timings	
Arr.	Dep.	Arr.	Dep.	Arr.	Dep.	Arr.	Dep.
--	21:00	--	21:00	Jammu Tawi	06:20	--	06:20
20:00	--	19:50	20:00	Jodhpur Jn.	--	06:45	06:45
--	--	20:30	--	Bhagati Ki Kothi	--	--	06:20

Visit RailMadad website: [www.railmadad.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.railmadad.indianrailways.gov.in)  
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# Ashok Kumar Parmar assumes charge as Pr. Secy SDD

### Assesses functioning of Deptt, also takes stock of various ongoing projects

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JULY 21: After assuming charge of Principal Secretary Skill Development Department (SDD), Ashok Kumar Parmar today chaired a meeting to assess the functioning of Skill Development Department at Civil Secretariat, here.

During the meeting, the Principal Secretary also took stock of progress made during the current year under Capex budget for Skill Development projects. The meeting also included a comprehensive review of the Central Sponsored schemes that are currently being implemented in the Skill Development Department.

The meeting was attended by Mission Director Skill Development, Mission Leena Padhar, Director Skill Development Department Sudershan Kumar; Additional Secretary, Skill Development Department Narayan Dutt; Heads of different institutes and other officers of Skill Development Department.



Addressing the officers during the meeting, the Principal Secretary emphasized on importance of timely execution and effective utilization of funds to boost skill development opportunities in the region. He instructed controlling officers to expedite the process of accord- ing Administrative Approvals, technical sanctions, and tendering of pending civil works to accelerate the implementation of various Skill Development projects and ensure that they benefit the intended beneficiaries promptly. Principal Secretary highlighted the critical importance of fostering robust inter-

departmental coordination, particularly with the Industries & Commerce Department, Labour & Employment Department, Entrepreneurship Development Institute and private industry players, to achieve superior outcomes in the field of skill development. He added that this collaborative approach aims to bolster Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory workforce, empower the youth, and drive economic growth. During the meeting, the Principal Secretary also discussed the need of launching of a dedicated web portal, aimed at bridging the gap between job providers, industries and skilled

workers. He added that by creating this online platform, industries and traders can efficiently communicate their workforce requirements, while job seekers can access various opportunities catered to their skills and expertise.

He further said that this web portal will serve as a one-stop solution, streamlining the hiring process and catalysing job placements.

Recognizing the dynamic landscape of the job market, Ashok Kumar underscored the significance of introducing modern technologies in technical institutes, with a specific focus

on institutions like the Central for Innovation, innovation, incubation and training. He remarked that the possibility of integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Cyber security into the curriculum will empower students with cutting-edge knowledge and skills, equipping them to meet the demands of emerging industries and secure Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory digital future. Ashok Kumar further emphasized the need to optimize the utilization of resources and monitor the progress of these schemes meticulously. He urged all officers to work with utmost integrity, efficiency, and zeal to create a positive impact and foster skill development in the region. The Principal Secretary further expressed his confidence in the collective efforts of the team and reiterated commitment of the Department to advance the Skill Development initiatives in line with the Government's vision for a skilled and empowered workforce.

# Juhi for pro-active approach in dealing with rain, flood damages

JI NEWS SERVICE

UDHAMPUR, JULY 21: Vice Chairperson, District Development Council Udhampur, Juhi Pathania has called for a pro active approach, while assessing and processing the relief cases for damages caused due to incessant rains and flash-floods.

She was speaking at a meeting of senior officers of local administration, PRLs and prominent people in Khoon.

Excessive landslides caused whopping losses to houses, roads, public infrastructure and animal stock of people. Pathania

issued instructions for immediate restoration of civil supplies and meeting the shortage of essential commodities like LPG, kerosene, household articles and power and clean drinking water.

Mrs. Pathania, while making a fervent appeal, has sought unfolding of immediate crash measures so as to restore power, drinking water, ration supplies and spur up human and animal healthcare facilities in the area to mitigate the miseries and hardships of the people.

While taking up the cases pro- jected by locals/PRLs regarding

house collapses due to land- slides, she called for immediate processing the relief cases under SDRF.

She also called for clearing Gadena to Kutt, Babey to Laa, Jagwal to Jansal roads.

She took a strong note of the slipshod execution of work by contractor agencies under JIM schemes whereby the personal land holdings of the people have been ripped apart and damaged. She called for immediately making good these damages.

While dealing with potential threats of erosion to houses of

people due to incessant rains, she called for immediate provision of protection works by RDD and Irrigation & Flood Control department. She called upon the PRLs to come up with respective cases of losses to their properties in their respective areas. The meeting was also addressed by Dina Nath Bhagat, Chairman, BDC Majalta, who was all praise for quick follow up of local administration.

The administration was represented by Uttam Singh Palsar, Tehsildar Majalta, Vishal Kumar, BDO Majalta/Khoon, Pushpender Singh, SHO Majalta

and several other officials of different line departments.

Prominent among those who addressed the meeting included Ramesh Chander Gupta, Sarpanch Khoon; Mohan Lal, Sarpanch S.K.Bair; Monika Devi, Sarpanch Battal; Sunita Devi, Sarpanch Dhamma; Manoj Kumar, Sarpanch Bilaspur; Raman Khajuria, Sarpanch Sundla; Hans Raj Sarpanch, Jansal; Surinder, Sarpanch C-Panjan; Nimrata Bali, Naib Sarpanch Khoon; Captain Gopal Singh Mankotia, Shiv Ram, Ved Sharma and others.

# Manasbal Lake Festival-2023 organised by Tourism department, will focus on scaling up activities on Manasbal: Dr. Abid

### Declares open various water sports activities

JI NEWS SERVICE

MANASBAL, (GANDERBAL), JULY 21: The picturesque valley of Manasbal witnessed the grand inauguration of the Manasbal Festival-2023, as the Secretary of Tourism, Dr Syed Abid Rasheed Shah, reaffirmed the government's commitment to boost tourism in the region.

The festival aims to showcase the mesmerizing beauty of Manasbal and attract both national and international tourists to this magnificent destination. Speaking at the event, Secretary Tourism, Dr Syed Abid Rasheed Shah, highlighted the significance of the Manasbal Festival in promoting tourism in the region. He emphasized that this unique festival is a stepping stone towards projecting Manasbal as a prime tourist spot.

He said that Yehya department is committed to unveiling the hidden gems of Jammu & Kashmir to the world, and the Manasbal Festival plays a pivotal role in achieving this goal.

"With its enthralling landscape and abundant water sports opportunities, Manasbal is becoming increasingly popular among tourists. The festival has seen a massive influx of water sports enthusiasts from across India, further contributing to the region's growth in tourism."

Director Tourism Kashmir, Raja Yaqoob Farooq, Deputy Directors Tourism Kashmir, Chief Executive Officer, Ullar-Manasbal Development Authority and other concerned accompanied the Secretary during his visit.

He revealed that the Tourism Department's ambitious plan for the fiscal year includes targeting 300 new destinations, and Manasbal is a proud addition to this list.

# J&K Bank becomes the 1st Scheduled Commercial Bank in India to achieve PCIDSS V4 Certification

### A great badge of honour for us as a financial institution: Baldev Prakash

JI NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JULY 21: In a major boost to its cyber-security system, J&K Bank has become the first Scheduled Commercial Bank (SCB) in the country to attain the esteemed Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI DSS) Version 4 Certification for both Issuance and Acquiring Business. PCI DSS is a globally recognized set of security standards established by leading payment card brands such as Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover, JCB etc. and governed by the Payment Card Industry Security Standards Council (PCI SSC).

Proudly announcing the ground-breaking achievement, the Bank's MD & CEO, Baldev Prakash extended his heartfelt congratulations to the dedicated teams involved in achieving this exceptional certification. He said, "This remark-



able accomplishment reaffirms Bank's unwavering commitment to customer-privacy and security-excellence. Being the first SCB as PCI DSS (V-4.0) compliant in the country is a great badge of honour for us as a financial institution and I would like to congratulate every member of our exceptional team whose hard work and commitment have made this achievement possible. Their unwavering dedication to our customers' safety and satisfaction has been instrumental in attaining

"this recognition." "While revolutionising the scope and scale of banking industry, the fast-paced digitization continues to increase exposure of banks to cyber security risks.

In such a situation, this highly prestigious certification is a great acknowledgment of our in-place information-security protocols", he added.

While reaffirming Bank's commitment to the clientele and stakeholders of Bank, MD & CEO emphasized that achieving the

PCIDSS V4 certification marks a pivotal moment in its journey towards becoming a Bank with unparalleled security and unflinching trust in the realm of digital banking.

"With security of our customers' financial data as a top priority, this certification is also a testament of J&K Bank as a reliable financial partner with unwavering commitment to safeguarding the interests of its valued customers", he said, adding that the Bank will continue to innovate and invest in the latest technologies to uphold and enhance the trust of its valuable customers.

Notably, this certification process involves a comprehensive audit conducted by a team of Qualified Security Assessors (QSA) Certified by PCI Security Standards Council to evaluate an organization's adherence to stringent security controls and protocols during payment card transactions.

# Women's Polytechnic students complete Training course at DIPR

JI NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JULY 21: A batch of 7 students of Office Management and Computer Application course, from Women's Polytechnic, Bemina, Srinagar, under the supervision of Project Coordinator Mrs. Raziya Majeed, today, completed 15 days on the job training course at the Divisional Office of Information Department Kashmir. The training programme commenced from July 7, 2023 and during this period the students were imparted training about the functioning of different wings of the department including Divisional Office, PR Section, Field Publicity Wing and Cultural Unit.

During the training, the students were acquainted with the official procedure, file handling, file maintenance, receipt, dispatch, note writing, handling of different computer software applications, being used in the department, grading of documents, e-mail, budgeting, accounting, biometric attendance, EPM, job of PA and personal section etc.

They were also given a demonstration of the working of technical Units of the department like photo Unit and Field Publicity Wing, as to how the officials of these sections are carrying out their duties while on job outside the office.

# DC Kishtwar discusses arrangements for Independence Day 2023



JI NEWS SERVICE

KISHTWAR, JULY 21: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kishtwar, Dr. Devansh Yadav today chaired a meeting of line departments and other stakeholders here in the Conference Hall of DC Office Complex to discuss the arrangements for the celebration of Independence Day-2023. The meeting was informed that the main function would be held at district headquarter Kishtwar, while local administration would hold celebrations at Sub-Division, Block and Tehsil levels.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the district heads of different departments to ensure their presence as well as the subordinate officers and officials in the Independence Day function both at the district headquarter as well as SDM, Tehsil and Block levels.

It was decided in the meeting that the venue for the main Independence Day function shall be Historic Chowgan Grounds. Meanwhile, the arrangements for flag Hoisting, March past, Cultural items, sitting arrangements, stage setting and Venue preparation and refreshment for the 1-Day celebration were discussed in the meeting.

# Managing Committee IRCS Jammu elects Chairman, other office bearers

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JULY 21: The newly elected 10 member Managing Committee of Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS) Jammu has elected Dinesh Gupta as Chairman here at its meeting held today in Red Cross Office Kachi Chawni.

The Management Committee Members Jugal Kishore Mahajan, Dinesh Gupta, Rajinder Vijay Magotra, Vikram Jain, S. Rajinder Singh, Avinash Anand, Mairie Jain, Raman Jandyal, Surinder Gupta and Yashpal Magotra unanimously elected Dinesh Gupta as Chairman, Vikram Jain as Vice-Chairman, Surinder Gupta as Treasurer and S. Rajinder Singh as the Secretary of the Branch.

All the members present expressed their sincere thanks to the Deputy Commissioner, Jammu and Assistant Commissioner (Revenue) Jammu for the timely peaceful completion of the whole election process. A two minutes silence was also observed to pay homage to Santosh Magotra, Subhash C. Bali, O.P. Gupta, Smt. Rita Koul and Mahadev Singh all deceased members of IRCS Jammu.

# Power shutdown

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JULY 21: Chief Engineer (Distribution) JPDCJL Jammu has informed that the power supply to Dhanna, Thein, RTIC Pump House, Lakhanpur City, Lakhanpur Village, Excise Feeder and adjoining areas shall remain affected on July 24 from 6 am to 10 am.

Similarly, the power supply to Keerian Local, CNC, Keerian Industry and other adjoining areas shall remain affected on July 25 from 6 am to 10 am.

Likewise, the power supply to Channi Himmat and its adjoining areas shall remain affected on July 25 from 8 am to 10 am.

Similarly, the power supply to Miran Sahib, Simbal, Kirpind, Darsopur, Kotli, MES, JJC, Trishul Bottle, Food Mall, Tanda and its adjoining areas shall remain affected on July 25 from 7 am to 10 am.

Likewise, the power supply to Chatha, Bhour Camp, Chatha Peer Baba, Lower Gadigarh, Upper Gadigarh, Khandwal, Indra Nagar, Dharap and its adjoining areas shall remain affected on July 25 from 6 am to 10 am.

Similarly, the power supply to Gura Utterbheini, Mandal, Sandhi, Purmandal and its adjoining areas shall remain affected on July 25 from 6 am to 10 am.

Likewise, the power supply to Sainik Colony and its adjoining areas shall remain affected on July 26 from 8 am to 10 am. Meanwhile, the Superintending Engineer O&M Circle-III, JPDCJL Batote has informed that the power supply to Pumping Station Baryal, Kshirah and South shall remain affected on July 25 from 9 am to 12 noon.

# Training program on Rainfed Area Development held at panchayat Kothian-Pouni

JI NEWS SERVICE

REASI, JULY 21: Training programme on Rain-Fed Area Development was held today at panchayat Kothian of block Pouni under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY).

The Training Program organised under the guidance of Director Agriculture Jammu K.K Sharma, was inaugurated by

Chief Agriculture Officer, Harbans Singh in presence of Sarpanch Kothian, Neelam Sharma, PRI members and concerned agriculture extension Assistant.

As many as 30 farmers attended the training programme.

The Chief Agriculture Officer Reasi said that rain-fed agriculture plays a pivotal role in the

lives of millions of people, providing a source of livelihood for farmers and sustenance for their families.

He said Reasi district is blessed with natural beauty where farmers are primarily dependent on rain-fed agriculture and there is a need to take strategic steps towards holistic development of available natural resources. He said conserva-

tion of natural resources and promoting eco-friendly practices is essential to safeguard the environment and preserve the ecological balance.

District Agriculture Officer Extension Dharnari, Rajesh Verma stressed on afforestation and promotion of sustainable agro-forestry to aid in carbon sequestration, improve soil quality and enhance biodiversi-

ty.

Sub Divisional Agriculture Officer Reasi, Vinod Khajuria said that inclusion of women and youth in these initiatives is equally important as they play a significant role in the agriculture sector.

Vote of thanks was presented by incharge Agriculture Extension officer Pouni Amit Pathania.