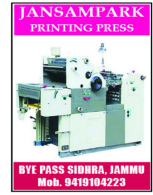




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Lt Governor visits Akhnoor, addresses public function at Garkhal Panchayat

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUNE 7

Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today addressed a public function at Garkhal border village Panchayat of Akhnoor, Jammu.

The Lt Governor appreciated the District administration for its efforts in accelerating the socio-economic development of Garkhal Panchayat.

"Border Gram Panchayat of Garkhal is scripting a golden chapter of development with active participation of residents and transforming it into a model village," said the Lt Governor.

Under the guidance of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji, the development of our villages will soon become the main driving force of nation's development, he added.

Poor have the first right over country's resources.



Earlier there was no provision to provide land to landless people by the Government. We have removed regressive land laws and the Government will provide land to poor landless and a house also under PMAY. A notification will be issued soon, announced the Lt Governor.

Government of India has allotted additional 1,99,550 houses under Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) to UT of Jammu Kashmir. Of these more than 19,000

houses are meant for Jammu District. This allocation will go a long way in achieving the objective of Housing for All, he said.

The Lt Governor highlighted the endeavours of District administration and stakeholder departments for effective implementation of schemes and execution of projects, which were pending for the past many years.

"It is our firm resolve to bridge the gap between rural and urban J&K. We are accelerating

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Lt Governor flags off J&K UT's 1st batch of Haj pilgrims from Srinagar International Airport



JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUNE 7

Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha flagged off the first batch of Haj pilgrims of the Union Territory of Jammu Kashmir from Srinagar International Airport, today.

The Lt Governor interacted with the pilgrims and conveyed his greetings and best wishes to them.

"I pray for the successful pilgrimage of the blessed pilgrims who are embarking upon the sacred

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SIA, JK Police acts tough against terror funding; Attach 124 properties situated across J&K

JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUNE 7

In consonance with the policy of the government for zero tolerance towards anti State activities, the State Investigation Agency (SIA) and the Executive Wing of J&K Police has widened the legal framework against terror funding by attaching 124 properties, land and buildings, situated across J&K at 86 locations.

These properties, during the course of investigation in terrorism related cases, have been



established prima facie to be either proceeds of terrorism or used in such activities which are aimed at furtherance of terrorism and secessionism.

Invoking provisions of section 8 and section

25 of Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA), SIA and executive wing of police, after orders from competent authorities designated under UAPA, have set into motion

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SD Singh appointed as Ladakh Police Chief

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUNE 7

The Ministry of Home Affairs on Wednesday posted Additional Director General of Police Shiv Darshan Singh Jamwal as police chief of the Union Territory of Ladakh.

Quoting an order, that



Jamwal has been transferred from Jammu and

Kashmir to Ladakh UT. "With the approval of the competent authority, Dr. Shiv Darshan Singh Jamwal, IPS (AGMUT: 1995), Additional Director General of Police, is transferred from Jammu & Kashmir and appointed as

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Visible dropout trend among Class VIII students in J&K: MoE

JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUN 7

The Ministry of Education (MoE) has said that in Jammu and Kashmir there was a visible dropout trend among the students studying in Class-VIII.

The Ministry has accordingly directed the Jammu and Kashmir administration to work on improving the issue.

According to the news agency, MoE in the Project Approval Board (PAB) meeting said, "A dropout trend is visible in Class VIII. UT is requested to look upon the data school wise in terms of data variation and work in coordination with UT labour department and capture the data of students pursuing ITIs and polytechnic

and capture them into the database."

In the meeting, Jammu and Kashmir administration has informed the MoE that in order to improve the retention rate at elementary and Primary Level, J&K UT, has developed and launched SAMIKSHA - performance Feedback of Teachers by per Students.

"It is web based and unique in nature. Besides, this STEER (Mentoring of Students) is being done and both the steps shall surely restore the confidence of parents and students on the education system in the state and will ensure to improve the retention rate," it reads.

MoE was further informed that over

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Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra 2023 should setup new benchmarks in efficient management: CS

JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUNE 7

The Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, today held a high level meeting of civil administration and police to take stock of arrangements for the upcoming Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra, 2023 in light of Supreme Court directions to ensure smooth conduct of yatra.

Dr Mehta observed that the yatra is filled with religious fervour and should be developed as benchmark in religious tourism. The yatra has significant impact on both our economy and composite culture.



He said that all arrangements made should make the Yatra a memorable experience. He also said that the pilgrims should fully enjoy this spiritual journey in the lap of nature without any haste

to cover more distance. The Chief Secretary took first hand appraisal from all the concerned Departments and Deputy Commissioners about the civil works related to

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

Two Soldiers injured in accidental firing in Rajouri

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUNE 7

Two Army personnel were injured on Wednesday when the service rifle of a soldier went off accidentally inside a camp in Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir, police said. The incident took place at Galthi in the Manjakote area when the soldiers of Rashtriya Rifles were unloading their weapons as per the protocol after returning from operational duty, a police official said.

He said two soldiers



were injured in the accidental firing and were hospitalised. It was not immediately

clear whether the injured soldiers included the one whose weapon went off, the official said.

Elections in J&K soon: BJP Gen Secretary Tarun Chug

JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUN 7

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), National General Secretary, and in Charge Jammu and Kashmir, Tarun Chug, on Wednesday said the elections in Jammu and Kashmir will be held soon and that J&K will no longer operate based on the agenda of separatism as it follows the agenda of faith and development set by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Chug further mentioned that the commission is diligently carrying out its responsibilities and will soon announce elections in Jammu and Kashmir.

Talking to media persons, Chug, as per the news agency, raised the question of who is engaging in boycott politics in Jammu and Kashmir. He emphasized the existence of democracy in the country and highlighted the people of Jammu and Kashmir's belief in democracy.

Chug further stated,



"Abdullah, Mufti, and Gandhi families have undermined democracy in Jammu and Kashmir, resulting in a loss of faith in the democratic process among the people."

"He also pointed out that since the revocation of Article 370, DDC Elections, BDC Elections, and Panchayat elections have taken place in Jammu and Kashmir," he said, adding that thousands of delegates have been elected, including 280 DDCs. The election commission is currently engaged in its tasks and will soon announce elections in Jammu and Kashmir." - (KNO)

DGP chairs NCORD meeting to review control measures against drug menace

JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUN 7

Director General of Police (DGP) Dilbag Singh Wednesday chaired a review meeting of Narco Coordination Centre (NCORD) here at Police Headquarters. The course of action to uproot the drug menace and narcotic trade from J&K was discussed during the meet-



ing. The meeting was

J&K A.K Choudhary, ADGP (Hqrs) PHQ M.K Sinha, Bhim Sen Tuti, DIG Crime

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Construction of Jaiswal Bridge over Chenab River completed on NH-44 in Ramban: Gadkari

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUNE 7

Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari on Wednesday said that the construction of the 2-lane Jaiswal Bridge over Chenab River was completed on NH-44 in Ramban district.

In a tweet, Union Minister Nitin Gadkari informed, "In Jammu and Kashmir, we have completed the construction



of a 2-lane Jaiswal Bridge over River Chenab on the Udhampur-Ramban section of NH-44. This meticulously designed Balanced Cantilever bridge spans 118 meters and has been built at a cost of Rs 20 Crore."

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J&K's Poonch gets first-ever automated cash recycler machine



JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUNE 7

Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district on Wednesday got its first-ever automated cash recycler machine which will ensure hassle-free deposit and withdrawal of cash and reduce long queues of customers at bank counters. According to officials, with the installation of a cash recycler a much-awaited demand of local businessmen has been fulfilled.

Poonch Municipal Council chairman Sunil Sharma along with J&K Bank's deputy general manager (DGM) Satish

Kumar inaugurated the cash recycler here.

"It is a great initiative of J&K Bank to fulfil the much-awaited demand of the people of the border region, particularly of the business community," Sharma told reporters.

He said that the bank needs to open more such machines in the town so that rush at branches is done away with. DGM Kumar said the cash recycler machine will cater to more than 60,000 people of the area.

Manager Deepak Bhan said that the J&K Bank the machine will help the bank improve its services for the customers.

Country witnessed unprecedented development in Modi's Regime:Puri



J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 7: The term of the Modi-led government has been "nine years of unwavering loyalty to the nation's growth," said Hardeep Puri, Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs in the Government of India. During the Mega Sanyukt Morcha Sammelan organized in RSPura Jammu South constituency of District Jammu South. The program was organized under the presidency of District President Jammu South Rekha Mahajan.

Member of Parliament Jugal Kishore Sharma, Former Minister Shamlat

Choudhary, District President Rekha Mahajan, District Prabhari Ayodhya Gupta, Deputy Mayor Baldev Billoria, DDC Prof Gharu Ram Bhagat, DDC Geetu Aulakh, DDC Vidhya Mottan, Seh Prabhari Adv DevRaj Sharma, Former MLC Vikram Randhawa, Former District President HSPummi, Chairman Municipal Committee SaIPal pappi, Ashok Kumar, P. Ashok Khajuria, Pushpinder Singh, Mandal Presidents Vikram Sandhu, Vijay Sharma, Ranjit Singh, and Morcha teams were present in the program.

District General Secretary Akash Chopra conducted the proceedings of the program.

While addressing the Sanyukt Morcha Sammelan, Union Minister GOI Hardeep Singh Puri lauded Prime Minister Narendra Modi saying his government's nine years have brought India safe borders, especially in the union territory of J&K, world-class infrastructure and increased its global esteem. He said India's "rising" global stature to emphasize on national security, welfare measures like housing and toilets for the poor, boost to piped water supply, infrastructure growth, and efforts to ramp up the manufacturing sector in every nook of the country. Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri highlighted that the country has

witnessed "unprecedented" development in every sector with the mantra of "nation first" Guiding Modi's policies in nine years have brought India safe borders, especially in J&K and world-class infrastructure and increased its global esteem and citing various central schemes.

Jugal Kishore Sharma educates the Modi government is working with focus on service, good governance, and the uplift of the poor, he said. Jougla asserted in 9 years of the successful term of the Modi-led government always be on the ground and take care of all segments of society. He said the 9 years of PM Narendra Modi's tenure has been dedicated to 'Jan Seva' (Public Service), he added.

Rekha Mahajan said that from MUDRA to Stand Up India, the Modi government has launched and implemented several welfare schemes to empower Indians in the last nine years. She also highlighted how crores of people have been provided with LPG connections, electricity, insurance, DBTs, etc. She also thanked all senior leaders and Karyakartas for their participation in large numbers.

Paytm Foundation distributes laptops in govt schools for girls in Jammu

J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 7: One97 Communications Limited (OCL) that owns the brand Paytm, India's leading payments and financial services company and the pioneer of QR and mobile payments, announced that its CSR arm, Paytm Foundation has donated 100 laptops to girls' government schools under the Directorate of School Education, Jammu, in an event held at Government Higher Secondary School, Mubarak Mandi on 29 May 2023. Paytm Foundation has been supporting education and bridging the digital gap in the country, as well as ensuring empowerment of girls in Jammu.

Paytm Foundation has distributed these laptops to 4 government schools - Government Girls Higher Secondary School (GGHSS) Mubarak Mandi, GGHSS Kathua, Higher Secondary School Girls



Kishtwar, and GGHSS Resai, to set up computer labs. This event was graced by Director of School Education, Jammu - Shri Ashok Kumar Sharma and the Chief Education Officer, Jammu - Shri Suraj Singh Rathore. With the continuation of this initiative, Paytm Foundation aims to empower over 4,000 girls to help them

progress academically and expand their horizons. It will help them to have a wide range of learning opportunities, access to education materials, engage in interactive learning sessions, and improve their basic computer skills. Paytm Foundation's commitment to promote gender equality in education."

address the digital divide and promote equal opportunities for education. These laptops can foster digital literacy and technological skills, empowering students to become more proficient in using digital tools and resources. This initiative reflects Paytm Foundation's commitment to promote gender equality in education."

Jammu Suffered a lot under present regime : Tara



J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 7: Senior Congress leader and former Deputy Chief Minister Tara Chand said that Jammu suffered a lot under present regime and asked people to question BJP the achievements after abolition of special status, down grading of the state and our rights to land and Jobs.

Addressing a monthly meeting of party delegates in Aijal Malal of Chhamb Constituency today Tara Chand said that people of Jammu region especially the youth feel betrayed by the BJP and the state lost its status, dignity and identity apart from the right to land and jobs guaranteed since maharaja time.

The BJP played with the sentiments of the people, who voted them to power.

He said that Jammu and Kashmir was a historical state with much better living conditions than most states in the country, but now it has been pushed into an atmosphere of political uncertainty.

Tara Chand lashed out at the Centre for the unprecedented price hike and record unemployment besides failing to address the grievances of people of J&K on every count after promising massive development in garb of their wrong policies in J&K.

He claimed that so far present rule has been of 'mismanagement', immense despair and agony" and the country today stands at a stage where the common people are suffering from the wounds inflicted by the government, where as

Congress has been continuing its efforts to listen to grievances of aggrieved people in various areas of J&K.

Launching a frontal attack on the BJP Govt for celebrating ninth anniversary, Tara Chand said in the last nine years has been of "Bravado, rhetoric and hyperbole". He said people don't want to hear speeches and false claims but want to know about the government's employment strategy based on hard facts of last nine years, he asked, adding that the prime minister promised the Two crore jobs, but what is the outcome".

Tara Chand asked the party activists to gear up their day today activities to address public issues

and be ready for ensuing Panchayat and Local Body elections. He said that all the functionaries must reach to the people in their respective areas and project their issues. Common man was suffering in the hands of the administration which has adopted an adamant attitude and is working on the line which is completely biased and anti people. He exhorted party leaders and workers to get united to fight the communal forces. Urging them to strengthen the Congress party at grass root level, as it is the only party which has served and shall continue to serve the people.

Prominent among those who addressed the gathering include, Member AICC Narinder Sharma, Spokesman Sahil Sharma, President BCC Jagat Singh, Santosh Manhas, Bansil Lal Gupta, Suresh Sharma, Davinder Singh Bitu, Sarpanch Avtar Singh, Madan Lal Sharma, Sarpanch Kali Dass, Sarpanch Ishar Dass, Sakundia Devi, Kewal Sharma, Sarpanch Jagdish Sharma, Sarpanch Bachan Lal, Hans Raj Bulla, Sham Lal and others.

JKAACL organises "Meet the Author" Pritpal Singh Betab

J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 7: The Jammu & Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture, and Languages (JKAACL), under the guidance of Shri Bharat Singh (JKAS), Secretary (JKAACL), organised Meet-the-Author at JKAACL premises in Jammu. The series intends to have a direct interaction of the writer with the audience, and these interactions shall aid the exploration of various life aspects and works which acts as a creative inspiration for the author/writer. Under this initiative, every weekend, the JKAACL shall host meet the authors of seven different languages: Urdu, Hindi, Kashmiri, Dogri, Punjabi, Gojri, and Pahari.

At the outset, Shri Bharat Singh (JKAS), Secretary (JKAACL), gave a heartfelt cordial welcome to everyone. While addressing the

audience, he expressed that authors are the face of society. "They (authors) represent the inner thoughts of the social fabric through their ink, and it is indeed a special skill," mentions the Secretary. He, in his address, further added that we (at JKAACL) started this series to promote the direct interaction with the author whom we have read in books; this would enable the audience to know about their life, literary intellect, and struggle they had faced. It shall be a source of inspiration for all. It is a priceless opportunity to interact with these authors/writers and learn from their literary journeys.

Today's event featured Pritpal Singh Betab, a renowned Urdu Ghazal writer, poet of international fame and retired IAS officer. Pritpal originally belongs to village Kharihi Sharmaal Distt. Poonch. Born on 26th July, 1949

AD, Betab graduated from Govt. Gandhi Memorial Science College Jammu, passed his Master's Degree in Political Science and LLB (professional) from Jammu University and joined J&K Government as Under Secretary in 1977 AD as a K.A.S. Officer. He shared his journey of literature with the audience.

A face of modern Urdu poetry in J&K State, Betab published his 1st collection of Ghazals and Nazms entitled "Pesh Khyama" in 1980 AD which received "Best Book Award" from J&K Cultural Academy in the year 1981-82. Betab published his second collection of poetry in 1984 AD entitled "Saraab-Dar-Saraab" and third collection entitled "Khud Rung" in 1995.

The "Third Strand" a translation of Betab's Urdu Nazms in English was published by "Writers' Workshop Calcutta" in 1999 AD. Another Ghazal

collection of Betab in Devnagri Script entitled "Cactus-Aur-Gulab" was also published in the year 1999 AD. "Maaj-e-Reis" a collection of Betab's Ghazals published in the year 2003 AD received "Bhasha-Bharti Sammaan 2004-05" from Central Institute of Indian Languages Mysore. Betab's poetry has been published in scores of literary magazines in India as well as Pakistan and some other countries also. Betab has attended hundreds of seminars, mushairas in various cities of India so far.

Dr Shahnaz Qaderi Conducted the Proceedings. The dignitaries and writers at the event included Padamshree Dr Jitender Udhampur, Ahmed Shamas, besides all renowned poet and authors of other languages.

Dr. Shahnaz, Editor cum Cultural officer, Gojri gave the vote of Thanks.

BJP scared of Assembly Polls in J&K: Harsh Dev

J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 7: Referring to the directives issued by ECI to five states namely Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Telangana and Chhattisgarh for holding preparations for conduct of Assembly polls during the current year, Mr Harsh Dev Singh former minister and NPP President said that J&K had once again been omitted from the itinerary of Elections thereby ruling out the possibility of such elections in the near future.

He said that having failed to deliver and to redeem its promises, the BJP was attempting to postpone elections on one pretext or the other.

Having antagonized its own electorates as well, the BJP was trying hard to buy time and thereby resorting to delay and deny tactics over the issue of conduct of Assembly elections in J&K.

Scared to face the people in the wake of its multiple betrayals with peoples' cause, it preferred repeated postponement of polls and contin-

tion of its proxy rule in the UT, said Mr. Singh. He was interacting with general public during his tour of villages Gantwal and Drouthal of Chenani constituency today.

Reiterating the need for the early elections to J&K Legislative Assembly in J&K, Mr. Singh said that any delay in this regard would not only amount to subversion of democracy but also violate the orders of the Supreme Court.

"The people could not be deprived of their democratic rights in the state only for the political expediencies of the ruling party at the centre by taking to frivolous excuses", said Mr. Singh.

He said that a full time elected govt was a must to deal with the armed insurgency in the erstwhile state besides coping with the multiple issues confronting the UT.

The militancy which had erupted in early 90s in J&K had gradually subsided after the formation of an elected govt in the state.

It had almost died down during popular govts but unfortunately got

revived during the centre's proxy rule.

Any delay therefore in handing over power to the sons of soil through free and fair elections could prove counterproductive and further complicate the already volatile situation in the UT said Harsh.

Pointing towards the growing tensions in various parts of the UT and the failure of administration to come up to the peoples' expectations, Mr. Singh said that bureaucratic rule has no answer to the prevalent crisis. The LG administration had lost connect with the masses. The unemployed, semi-employed and contractuals were on the roads with none to even take note of their sufferings and grievances.

The people inhabiting the rural areas were suffering badly for basic amenities with no access whatsoever to the corridors of power. With hardly any forum to ventilate their grievances, the people were suffering badly in the absence of a popular govt thereby resulting in growing alienation amongst the masses.

Maha Sampark Abhiyan: BJYM to showcase achievements of 9 yrs of Modi Govt

BJYM will make Maha Sampark Abhiyan a big success in Jammu Kashmir. Arun Prabhat

J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 7: Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM) Jammu Kashmir announced the launch of Maha Sampark Abhiyan to showcase the significant progress and transformation achieved by the Modi government in the last 9 years. The campaign will involve various programmes such as Labharthi Samvad, Nav Matdata Sammelan, Bike Yatras, Online Quiz Competitions, and voter registration drives for youth, among others.

Speaking at a press conference, Arun Prabhat, State President BJYM Jammu Kashmir, emphasized the need for engaging and empowering the youth in policies and governance, thereby strengthening our democracy. He also highlighted the various schemes and policies launched by the Modi government, including Ayushman Bharat, Mudra Yojna, Har Ghar Jal, PM Awas Yojna, Startup India, Standup India, PMSVANidhi, and job vacan-



cies filled in government jobs. "The Maha Jana Sampark Abhiyan will include BJYM organizing bike rallies for 6 days, covering every Mandal and village with a minimum of 25 rallies and 50 karyakartas in each district.

The Yatra will include a night stay at every village/mandal as per the BJYM schedule, and karyakartas from each district will document the activities and upload them through the Saral app," he added.

Arun said, "BJYM will

also engage with community organizations, youth organizations, gyms, sports clubs, Yuva Vyapar Mandals, and local professionals such as lawyers, doctors, engineers, and teachers to create awareness about good governance policies. BJYM units will reach out and encourage school and college students to register as voters and create awareness about beneficial Modi government schemes. Winners of the National-Level Quiz Competition will be rewarded with digital cer-

tificates." J&K BJYM President asserted that the main aim of Maha Jana Sampark Abhiyan is to connect with citizens across all levels, celebrate the last 9 years of transformative governance, and empower first-time voters by involving them in our nation's rich democratic traditions.

BJYM Vice-President Yuvraj Singh, General Secretaries Abhishek Salathia & Akhil Parashar, Media Secretary Chetan Wanchoo and Treasurer Rakesh Gupta were also present on the occasion.

AYUSH Organizes Iconic Yogotsav at GHSS Ghou Manashan

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 7: Under the guidance of Dr. Mohan Singh, Director of Ayush J&K UT and under the supervision of Dr. Vandana Dogra, District Ayush Officer Jammu, and Medical Superintendent Jammu, an iconic yogotsav program was organized in collaboration with Government Higher Secondary School Ghou Manashan Marh Jammu on Wednesday. The program was organized under the aegis of the Union Ministry of Ayush, Government of India, and J&K UT Ayush Department.

As a part of the countdown program to the 9th International Day of Yoga, a grand and iconic yogotsav program was organized at Govt. HSS Ghou Manashan. The Union Ministry of Ayush has come up with the promotional theme of 'Har Ghar Angan Yogi' to promote yoga and its benefits in the community and the nation. In these programs, yoga workshops, common yoga practice, and community-level yoga sessions are organized across the country and J&K UT.

In this session, a grand and iconic yoga session was organized at Border village Ghou Manashan Marh. More than 500 school children, staff of schools, local inhabitants, staff of local health centers, staff of municipal committee Ghou, participated in the yoga utsava program.

The yoga session program was attended by Dr. Vanadana Dogra, District Ayush Officer Jammu, and Medical Superintendent Jammu, Dr. Kalpana Jasrotia, Principal



Government HSS Ghou Manashan, Hans Raj Bhagat Teshildar Ghou Manashan, Bittu Rampal Chairman Municipal Committee Ghou, E.O Ghou Municipal Committee, Esha Dogra, Sr. Lecturer, Preeti Sachdeva, Ruhil Gupta, Seema Sambyal, Jagdeep, and others attended the yoga session. Dr. Himani Bhatnagar, Medical Officer, conducted the proceedings of the yoga session as per protocol, and yoga instructors demonstrated various yoga asanas and pranayama.

Dr. Vandana Dogra, District Ayush Officer Jammu, and Medical Superintendent thanked the Government HSS Ghou Manashan and said that these sessions shall continue till the final event of the 9th International Day of Yoga.

Vandana Dogra also appreciated the services of Dr. Jatinder Kumar, Medical Officer, Government Ayush Health and Wellness Center Ghou Manashan Marh for organizing an

iconic and grand yogotsav in the Ghou Manashan area.

Dr. Jatinder Kumar, Medical Officer Ghou Manashan, thanked Govt. HSS Ghou, local people, P.R.I.s, Municipal Committee Ghou, Asha workers, Aganwadi workers for their cooperation and support, which made yogotsava a grand success program. The Principal of Govt HSS Ghou Manashan, Dr. Kalpana Jasrotia, and staff of the Higher Secondary School Ghou thanked the Ayush Department for organizing the iconic yoga session in the school premises. Other officers and officials who rendered their services in yogotsav are Dr. Sunil Koul, Dr. Sandeep Bhagat, Vijay Bhat, Kamal Neter, Neelam Sharma yoga instructor, Jagandeep, Ishan, Jyothi Bali, Vanshika, and Mamta. At the end of the session, a mission life oath/pledge was taken by all participants to save the environment and trees.

PM Modi has given a new direction to India: MP Khatana

JJ NEWS SERVICE

BARAMULLA, JUNE 7: BJP MP Rajya Sabha Er. Gulam Ali Khatana said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given a new direction to the country in the field of development, national security, international politics, rural development, foreign affairs and others.

He said that during nine years Prime Ministership of Sh. Narendra Modi, India has new heights and innovative ideas like Make in India, Startups, implementation of One Nation, One Country, have been implemented and borders have been secured. Corruptions has become a thing of the past and if Rs. 100 are released for common man, it reaches to the bottom, he said adding the DBT(Direct benefit transfer) has made it sure that the benefits are reaped by the last man in the row and middlemen have been rooted out.

MP Gulam Ali said this while addressing a meeting of mediapersons and social media influencers at Baramulla alongwith Waqf Chairperson Darakshan Abbaj, Abhijeet Jasrotia, spokespersons and Anwar Khan, Prabhari, Baramulla parliamentary constituency, as part of month long 9 Saal Bemisal campaign to highlight the



achievements of the Narendra Modi led BJP government.

Prominent among others Gulam Mohiuddin Sofi, district president, Mudassar Wani, Sangathan Mantri, GM Mir spokesperson, Ex-MLC Surinder Ambarhar, Mudassar Hassan Teli, programme incharge were present. BJP spokesperson Abhijeet Jasrotia presented a power point presentation on the works of Modi led government.

Dr. Darakshan Andrabi highlighted the work of BJP govt especially for women and minorities. She said that bringing Jammu and Kashmir back on rails is a tough task and only BJP can do it. Participants raised some

burning issues of the Baramulla, Kupwara area including press club Baramulla, raising limit of ration, health facilities in peripheral areas of Baramulla especially tribal bastis, ATV etc.

Earlier Ex-MLC Surennder Ambarhar welcomed the guests. He said that hartals, violence and anti-national activities are now a thing of past. Prabhari Anwar Khan presented the vote of thanks.

Later MP Khatana conducted Sampark Se Samarthan campaign in Baramulla area and met various persons and apprised them about the policies and achievements of Narendra Modi led Govt.

Dy Mayor dedicates development works at Jwala Ji Colony



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 7: Continuing to provide better development as well as basic amenities to the people of Jammu, Jammu Deputy Mayor Baldev Singh Billawaria dedicated the development works at Jwala Ji Colony, Ward 56, Gangyal in RS Pura-Jammu South constituency. With the completion of these development works of lane, drain and the covering of the drain with grating work was also done. A thanksgiving ceremony was also organised by the local residents for getting this development work

done on priority. The local residents also expressed their gratitude to the Deputy Mayor Baldev Singh Billawaria for fulfilling their long pending demand. Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Mayor Jammu, Baldev Singh Billawaria said that Jwala ji colony will continue to do development work for the betterment of the people. He said that this development work was completed ahead of schedule and it was a long pending demand of the local people and now this demand has been fulfilled. He said that this lane and drain is adjacent to other lanes of the

ward, now with the construction of this lane there will be relief from the problem of water logging in the rainy season. Deputy Mayor Jammu said that we have got a lot of development works done in Ward No. 56, due to which it has emerged as a model ward. The Deputy Mayor of Jammu said that in the last four and a half years scores of rupees have been spent on development works to change the face of the ward. Some of the major projects completed in Ward in the last four and a half years include construction of new roads, installation of street lights, provision of

better waste management services, setting up of community halls and children's play parks. He assured the people of the ward that whatever other problems have remained, they will also be completed with priority. He said that the development work would be continued with the cooperation of the residents of the ward. The Deputy Mayor of Jammu said that the Jammu Municipal Corporation is taking all necessary steps to ensure that the citizens get the facilities at their doorstep. He said that the Corporation is committed to provide the best possible services to the citizens of the temple city of Jammu and develop all areas. He said that the Jammu Municipal Corporation is working on the policy of Prime Minister Narendra Bhai Modi's motto 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, and Sabka Prayas'. Mandal President Ranjit Singh, Harbans Chaudhary, Rakesh Sangral, Jugal Kishore, Sunil Sharma, Surjit Kumar, Surindra Jamwal, ML Raina, Dev Raj Sharma, Pawan Chib, KD Singh, Sohan Singh Katal, Suresh Moton and others were present.

'Suidha Nursing Home registration must be cancelled, Dr. Amita to be jailed for playing with lives of newborn babies'



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 7: Like other couples we planned for a baby and started a medical checkup at Suidha Mother & Child Nursing Home, Near Govt. Guest House Talab Tillo Road under the supervision of Dr. Amita Gupta (Owner of Nursing Home). All the tests of mother, as recommended by said doctor were done at same Nursing Home. It is pertinent to mention here that "Swastik Diagnostic Laboratory" is operating from Suidha Nursing Home. Before one month of the delivery i.e. on 01/05/2023, as we went for routine check up to Dr. Amita Gupta, she asked us to go for some NST test. When that graph comes, she asked us to immediately admit within one hour for C/Section operation as the graph showed less heart beat accord-

ing to Doctor. However, till date she (Dr.) neither showed report nor gave to us. As per her (Dr.) advice, we got admitted on the same day on and C/Section was done and baby boy was delivered on 01/05/2023 and Dr. Mahesh Gupta (Brother of Dr. Amita Gupta) and consultant Child Specialist at Suidha Nursing Home) showed baby to our Guardians sitting outside and told that child's facial features are some different and look like Chinese and otherwise he is okay.

Dr. Amita Gupta kept the child at NICU centre inside the Nursing Home for Three days i.e. upto 03/05/2023 and handed over baby on 04/05/2023. We were told by Nurse to do a medical test "Karyotyping" of a baby after 15 days. When we asked what is the test meant for. Nurse said it is the normal test as Dr. Mahesh

Gupta advised. We came home happily and were celebrating his birth and thank God that we have been gifted a baby. But over happiness becomes sorrow when we go for a medical checkup of our baby to some other Doctor (Child specialist). He told us about "Down syndrome" a genetic disease and we should go for a test "Trisomy". Unfortunately our baby got positive for "Down Syndrome". But all the tests like Quadruple and Down Syndrome done in Suidha Mother and Child Nursing Home at "5 month" of pregnancy showed Negative Report. When we visited at Suidha Mother and Child Nursing Home and contacted Dr. Amita Gupta, she didn't pay any attention and said that it can happen anytime after that. She also said that her son is also a special child and she can do nothing in this regard. How a Doctor can be like that. She must not show casual approach towards the new born babies. There is a nexus between Swastik Diagnostic Laboratory and Suidha Mother & Child Nursing Home. We all demand that they should be jailed for doing this to newborn baby. She (Dr. Amita Gupta) can do to other babies too in future. We request that Lieutenant Governor JK UT and District Administration Jammu shall take a serious note of it and to stop same to happen this in future with other parents, the registration of the Suidha Nursing Home must be cancelled and Dr. Amita Gupta be jailed for playing with the future and lives of newborn babies.

BJP remembers former MLA Rajesh Gupta on 1st death anniversary

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 7: On first Death anniversary of former MLA Rajesh Gupta, Jammu and Kashmir BJP organized a program at party headquarters, where in, BJP leaders remembered this leader, paid tributes and spoke on his socio-political career.

J&K BJP President Ravinder Raina said that Rajesh Gupta was a dedicated worker of the party, RSS activist, who served in various capacities in Jammu District before being elected MLA from East constituency. His role as Chief Whip was extraordinary. He was always at the back and call of the needy people.

BJP Ex President and Ex MLA Ashok Khajuria, described Rajesh Gupta as a leader of masses for whom serving the society was a mission. Rajesh Gupta had earned the dis-



inction of being one of the most popular political leaders of Jammu. General Secretary (Org) Ashok Koul said that Rajesh Gupta was a good manager of political activities and had developed very cordial relations with every community of Jammu East constituency as he paid equal attention to one and all in matters of development. He specifically said that he was elected District President for 3 consecutive terms due to his popularity. General Secretary Vibhoh Gupta said that Rajesh Gupta suffered major losses economically as his business was hit due to devoting less time to run the business smoothly. General Secretary Dr. Devender Kumar Manyal shared experience of his working with Rajesh Gupta, while he was chief whip and said

that every MLA of BJP was given equal opportunity to raise people's voice in the Assembly.

Priya Sethi said that he was a very dedicated activist of the party and remembered him for his great organizing skills as former Councilor and former Chief Whip. She said that his loss has caused a vacuum. Former MLC Vikram Randhawa, district President Parmod Kapahi, Dy. Mayor Baldev Billawaria, social leader Ajey Bharti, former Dy. Mayor Purnima Sharma, District Sec-Prabhari Vinay Gupta, President Ware House Association Deepak Gupta also spoke on the occasion remembering the deeds of former MLA.

Vice-President Yudhvir Sethi, Secretary Arvind Gupta, former MLAs Ashwani Sharma & Kuldeep Raj, Subhash Gupta, Arun Parbhat Singh, Ayodhya Gupta.

Shiv Sena alleges double standards by Centre, supports Brigadier Mishra's statement on Ladakh, J&K

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 7: The Jammu and Kashmir unit of Shiv Sena (Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray) has accused the Central Government of showing step-motherly treatment to the local people of Jammu and Kashmir and betraying them by facilitating the "tusharikaran" of Ladakh. Addressing a press conference at the Party office here today, Manish Sahni President Shiv Sena J&K welcomed Brigadier Mishra's statement, said that the people of Jammu and Kashmir have been feeling betrayed and hoodwinked by the central government's decision to separate



one state into two, especially since it has imposed a different set of rules for Ladakh and for the rest of J&K. "How can two representatives of the Centre have different opinions on the local people's rights? The Centre is imposing double standards by setting a different set of standards for Ladakh while subjecting the people of

J&K to step-motherly treatment," said Sahni. Sahni also demanded that the Modi-led Central Government must grant Ladakh and Kashmir the special privileges of reservation in education, jobs, and land ownership under Article 371. He also demanded that Brigadier Mishra be appointed as the Head of J&K. Responding

to a question from journalists during an event in Kargi, Lt. Governor of Ladakh Brigadier Mishra said that only local peoples should be eligible for jobs in Ladakh, we will do it. On this occasion Gen. Secretary Vikas Bakshi, President Kamgar wing Raj Singh, Secretary Youth Rajesh Handa were present.



IIM organizes Skill Development on High-end Research on day 4 of One Week One Lab Campaign

JAMMU, JUNE 7

CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (IIM) Jammu, as part of the One Week One Lab (OWOL) Campaign, organized a Skill Development programme on High-end Research which was attended about 200 participants drawn from various divisions of different institutions such as AIMS Jammu, Central University of Jammu, IIT Jammu, University of Jammu, SKUAST Jammu, Cluster University of Jammu and various Government Degree Colleges of Jammu district.

In a statement issued here, it was mentioned that in the skill development programme, in the first technical session, Dr Deepika Singh, Principal Scientist and Head, Quality Management & Instrumentation Division, CSIR-IIM Jammu, spoke on principles & applications of sophisticated analytical techniques in Drug Discovery. This was followed by the hands on training on the operation of sophisticated Instruments like HPTLC, HPLC, GC-MS/



MS, LC-MS/MS, ICPMS and NMR. The visiting students were made to see Quality Control & Quality Assurance and cGMP pilot plant facility of the institute where Chemistry, Manufacturing & Control studies are carried out as per regulatory guidelines. Further, hands on experience on standardized protocols for physicochemical analysis of honey as per regulatory guidelines and quality assessment of water as per IS specifications was also imparted.

In the second technical session, Dr. Mohd Jamal Dar, Principal Scientist, Pharmacology Division delivered a talk on the theme, "Preclinical Drug Development:

An Overview" wherein he explained the different steps involved in the pre-clinical development of drugs from new chemical entity (NCE) and phytochemicals. This was, again, followed by live demonstration of the animal experimentation where the visiting students have observed the various experimental models being used for exploratory studies in different disease areas of research.

Earlier, Dr. Zabeer Ahmed, Director CSIR-IIM, while interacting with the students said that the skill development session was aimed to enhance the skills of researchers and professionals in the field of advanced research, providing them with valuable insights and knowledge to advance their work. Such skill development sessions foster collaborative environment, knowledge sharing, and capacity building in the scientific community. He further told that the One Week One Lab Campaign is series of event being conducted by CSIR-IIM from 4th to 10th June and the skill development has been conducted on day 4. He also informed that tomorrow would be a training cum awareness Programme for farmers and young researcher meet would be scheduled which would be parallelly conducted at Chatha farm and main Campus respectively.

KU conference on environment concludes, 389 delegates present papers



SRINAGAR, JUNE 7

At least 389 delegates from different parts of the country presented their papers during a national conference on global environmental challenges which concluded at the University of Kashmir on Wednesday, June 7.

324 delegates joined the conference in offline mode, whereas 65 delegates presented their research work in the online mode during the mega event, organised by the Department of Environmental Science, KU, in collaboration with Zoological Society of India. The delegates had converged from at least 23 universities and other institutions in the coun-

try. Spanning 25 themes of critical importance, the conference deliberations were marked by insightful exchange of ideas, sharing of knowledge, academic debates and group discussions with a view to find long-term solutions for sustainability.

Of a total 16 technical sessions, eight were reserved for the oral offline presentations, four for oral online presentations and four for offline poster presentations. Two more sessions were reserved for the competition for young scientist and senior scientist awards by the ZSI.

Vice-Chancellor, Islamic University of Science and Technology, Awantipora, Prof Shakil A Romshoo chaired the valedictory session on Wednesday,

while Vice-Chancellor, Central University of Kashmir, Prof A Ravinder Nath, was the guest of honour. Other guests who shared the dais included Prof

Irshad A Nawchoo, Dean Research, KU; Prof B N Pandey, President ZSI; Dr Ashok K Saxena, Former General President ISCA; Dr B K Das, Director CIFRI; Prof B D Joshi, President IAES, Prof Gulam Jeelani, Dean School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, KU. Prof Romshoo talked about climate change, global warming, retreating glaciers, floods, calamities, uneven weather changes and highlighted the need to create a sustainable environment for the future generations.

Prof A Ravinder Nath emphasised the need to save the fragile ecosystem of J&K which has a potential to be one of the best tourist destinations in the country. Prof Nawchoo shared his experiences to highlight the declining population of plants and animals "because of excessive human interference" and called for "conserving the natural ecosystems". Prof Fayaz Ahmad, Head, Department of Environmental Science, presented the welcome address as convener of the conference, while Dr Yahya Bakhtyar conducted the proceedings of the valedictory session and presented a report of the three-day deliberations. Dr Mohammad Muslim presented the vote of thanks.

FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

Lt Governor visits...

Infrastructure development, strengthening health and education sectors and generating productive employment opportunities for our youth," he said.

We are taking up projects for execution as per the needs of the people. Our aim is to ensure that no one from the villages, especially the border dwellers, has to move to cities in search of basic facilities, employment and livelihood, added the Lt Governor.

He said the District officials in consultation with PRI members have chalked out a comprehensive development plan of 32 development projects worth Rs 12.19 crore for Garkhal.

A major step was taken today in the direction to provide sufficient water supply to every household in this panchayat. It is also being ensured that the small and marginal farmers of Garkhal and other border villages of the UT benefitted from the Holistic Agriculture Development Plan, added the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor impressed upon the PRI members and the people to start a mass movement to make the Garkhal Panchayat Swachh and Drug-free.

He motivated the youth for skill development and self-employment, and further encouraged the women folk to create many more Self Help Groups with the help of Rural Livelihood Mission.

Our aim is to empower the farmers, youth, women of border areas, and enable them to contribute in the developmental journey of J&K, said the Lt Governor.

The reformative initiatives taken by the government in the last three years have yielded favourable results and various sectors including tourism, industries, agriculture and allied sectors have witnessed unprecedented growth. We have to work together with the Whole of Government Approach to fulfill the resolve of strong and atmanirbhar Jammu Kashmir, he added.

Addressing the demands pertaining to border outpost, Chenab riverfront and promotion of border tourism, the Lt Governor assured that appropriate steps will be taken in this regard.

During his visit, the Lt Governor inaugurated a training programme for Women Self-Help Groups and various other development works.

Self-Help Groups will not only help in rapid rural development but also make the individual household prosperous. This training programme will enhance the capacity and make the women entrepreneurs facilitator of overall development, said the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor also laid the foundation stone for retrofitting of Water Supply Scheme Garkhal and other works under Jal Jeevan Mission.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor handed over sanction letters and distributed wheelchairs and medical aids to the beneficiaries.

He also interacted with the youth and assured all necessary support and assistance to the budding entrepreneurs and the talented sportspersons of the panchayat.

Sh Bharat Bhushan, Chairman District Development Council, Jammu; Sh Shaheen Kabra, Financial Commissioner Revenue; Sh Mukesh Singh, ADGP Jammu; Sh Ramesh Kumar, Divisional Commissioner Jammu; Ms Anvy Lavasa, Deputy Commissioner, Jammu; PRI members, youth and people in large numbers were present.

Lt Governor flags off...

journey for performing the Haj," said the Lt Governor. He also prayed for peace and prosperity for Jammu Kashmir and well-being of its people.

A total of 40 flights will be operating between 7th to 22nd June from Srinagar International Airport. This year, around 12,079 pilgrims from Union Territory of Jammu Kashmir and 452 from Ladakh UT will perform Haj pilgrimage.

The Haj pilgrims will be received by the Consulate General of India, Ministry of External Affairs, GoI, at Jeddah.

Ms Safina Baig, Chairperson J&K Haj Committee; Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary; Sh Vijay Kumar, ADGP Kashmir; Sh Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, Deputy Commissioner Kashmir; Sh Akshay Labroo, Divisional Commissioner Budgam and members of J&K Haj Committee, senior officers of Airport Authority, Civil and Police administration were present on the occasion.

SIA, JK Police acts tough...

legal process for forfeiture of these tainted properties, by courts having relevant legal and territorial jurisdiction.

Nearly, 77 of these properties belong to proscribed organisation Jamat-e-Islami, which have been notified under Section 08 of UAPA in Case FIR number 17/2019 U/S 10, 11 and 13 UA (P) Act of Police Station Batamaloo being investigated by SIA.

Exhibiting strong resolve against terrorism, the action therefore has been taken following due process of law, to decimate the terror support system, as per requirements of international charters and conventions against terrorism.

SD Singh appointed...

Head of Police, UT of Ladakh with effect from the date of assumption of charge of the post and until further orders," read the order.

Visible dropout trend...

the last two years, there is increasing trend in enrolment and which reflects the faith of the parents in government education system.

"Last year, there was hike of 17.34 per cent (2,17,000) in the enrolment of previous year," it reads - (KNO)

Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra...

the smooth conduct of the yatra. He enquired from them the kind of arrangements and back up plans for providing reliable accommodation, water, electricity facilities made by each of them in their districts.

He directed the Divisional and District Administration to ensure that no Langar, tenement or any other service is established in disaster prone areas. He urged the concerned DCs to certify the same before commencement of yatra. He also asked for deployment of NDRF, SDRF and mountain rescue team personnel in adequate numbers at all the vulnerable spots enroute Holy Cave.

Dr Mehta also laid stress on ensuring that appropriate number of washrooms, dustbins, sanitation works should be in place at each location. He stressed on making all the base camps and other sites comfortable, clean and hygienic using modern techniques especially around Langar areas. He asked for deploying adequate manpower for maintenance of public utilities and providing of all the paraphernalia required in these utilities.

Moreover the Chief Secretary made out that all the Departments should prominently display their achievements right from entering the UT at Lakhnappur till reaching holy cave. He laid stress on improving the aura and face lifting of the entry points at Lakhnappur, Railway Stations and Airports of J&K.

Dr Mehta asked the Deputy Commissioners of Anantnag and Ganderbal to examine both the routes up to holy cave themselves and see that all critical, protective works have been carried out satisfactorily. He asked them to ensure proper cleanliness and illumination of all the routes and areas so that the ambience is festive in the whole of the UT.

He further said that the SHGs registered under JKRLM, Mission Youth and other agencies should be provided an opportunity to showcase their products enroute yatra. He also called for providing ample opportunities to the locals to do their business as per the

regulations made for each trade.

He took note of all the preparations made till date by departments like Health, Jal Shakti, PDD, PWD, RDD, H&UDD, BRO, Shrine Board, and the divisional and district administration. He directed them that there should be high end arrangements from each quarter with inter-departmental coordination so that the arrangements made are both efficient and established on time.

On the occasion, the Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor, Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, who is also CEO of the Shrine Board gave detailed presentation of the arrangements made for smooth conduct of this year's yatra.

It was given out that nearly 4000 sanitation workers and 12000 service providers are going to be roped in this year for providing different services to the pilgrims. Further it was revealed that RFID passes after Aadhar based eKYC of each registered yatri would be granted for better management and avoiding of overcrowding and rush during yatra this year.

It was made out that all the facilities are being upgraded from last year with provision for better health, connectivity, telecom, water, electricity facilities along with a disaster mitigation plan.

The meeting was informed that accommodation facilities for some 70000 pilgrims at base camps and around 53000 at other lodgements is going to be provided to the devotees. Regarding the telecom services it was said that 25 towers would be installed by BSNL, 7 by Airtel and 29 by Reliance Jio besides high speed internet through lease line to yatra camps. The yatra would be monitored on real time basis in the Integrated Command & Control Centre located centrally.

It was also made out that 29 health facilities are going to be established enroute to be manned by around 1800 medicines/paramedics to be provided by GoI (488), other States/UTs (695) and the J&K Government (907) itself. This year the 100 bedded hospitals at Baltal and Chanderwadi are going to greatly enhance the health facilities for yatrias with additional feature of telemedicine and super speciality services through e-Sanjeevani portal, the meeting was apprised.

It was made out that weather forecasting infrastructure is upgraded with use of RADARs and Automatic weather stations (AWS). The damaged bridges on both the axis are being re-launched besides widening/upgradation of narrow and vulnerable stretches as per the Supreme Court directions, as was learnt during this meeting.

DGP chairs NCORD...

detailed review of the measures undertaken for combating illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and its consumption in the UT to save youth from the dangerous affects of the drugs.

Speaking on the occasion, the DGP stressed upon the Officers to ensure better coordination with all stakeholders in imposing greater deterrence to combat dangerous trade of drug trafficking.

The DGP stressed upon officers for devising a plan under which the record of drug consumers is collected at Panchayat/Block levels which he said could be helpful in identifying source of supply. He said the drug menace is a major threat to the socio-economic structure and it has become imperative for all the stakeholders to come together to uproot this menace and work in unison to make Jammu and Kashmir drugs free.

The DGP directed for establishing the ANTF secretariat in Crime Branch J&K to be headed by DGC crime branch for better coordination, feedback and analyzing of successful as well as failed cases. He said that secretariat would also identify the grey areas where gaps need to be plugged in.

He emphasized for automatic flow of information regarding the drugs and action taken against the drug peddlers and narco-traders. He also emphasized for

ating awareness by screening the documentaries regarding misuse, effects of drugs on the health of people.

He said that lectures on narcotics and its ill effects must be organized in schools, colleges as also in panchayat levels for which he said that content already available on different platform as also new contents must be discussed with youth.

He said that crack down on drug trafficking and its peddlers has to be further intensified to punish those involved in this heinous crime adding that to improve the conviction rate chain of custody and documentation has to be maintained properly. He stressed for creating SOPs and their adherence for achieving conviction in narco-cases. He also stressed for publishing a compendium of circulars, orders, SOPs etc.

The DGP desired for constituting the district level task forces to deal with the narco-cases and added that progress of cases should be reviewed every month. He directed for conducting the court drills in moot court constituted for the purpose to understand the trials in courts better so that errors are fixed well in time. He also stressed for quality examination and review at prosecution level to ensure conviction of the accused. He stressed for extensively utilizing the NIDHAN portal for information and action plans.

The DGP directed Crime Branch JK to prepare guidelines and investigation modules to be followed by IOs investigating Narco-related cases to achieve better results. With regard to the poppy cultivation, he stressed for mapping up of hostels and providing alternate crops option under oversight Government of India policy to the cultivators. He however, directed for strict action against the repeated offenders and directed for booking them under relevant laws/PSA.

The DGP directed for attachment of property acquired through drug trade and also stressed for attachment, freezing of bank accounts and identifying known and suspected drug traders, smugglers in border areas and subsequently initiating action against them. He also emphasized for identifying the payment methods being done through hidden channels including dark net.

Singh directed the officers to identify the competent and well versed investigators to be tasked for investigation of narco cases. He stressed for analyzing the judgments to identify the shortcoming of the investigation which he said would be helpful in rectifying the errors in future.

He directed crime Headquarters to issue the directions to all stakeholders for maintaining collection of the records. The DGP directed for establishing the intelligence cell and making optimum use of resources to achieve better result. He also directed for

The DGP also reviewed working of canines and stressed for using services of Dog Squad for law and order and crime detection in an increased manner. The counter measures for use of mobile phones in jails were also discussed during the meeting.

Spl DGP Crime, A.K Choudhary and other officers briefed the DGP JK regarding the measures taken and measure planned for keeping the drug abuse in check and also steps taken for better investigate of the narco cases - (KNO)

Construction of Jaiswal...

Amarnath Yatra" on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway 44, which is scheduled to commence shortly", he said.

Gadkari said, "Under the visionary leadership of Hon'ble PM Narendra modi ji, we remain steadfast in our commitment to providing Jammu and Kashmir with exceptional highway infrastructure. This transformative development not only contributes to the region's economic growth but also enhances its allure as a prime tourist destination."

Despite declaration, notification on OBC status not issued yet: Ch Manmohan



JJ NEWS SERVICE

AKHNOOR, JUN 7: Ch Manmohan Singh, President All India Jat MahaSabha (AIJMS), Jammu and Kashmir, on Wednesday warned that the Jat community will start an agitation if notification on OBC status shall not be issued sooner than later.

The senior Jat leader said it is really unfortunate that despite announcing the same the government has not yet issued the desired notification to grant the OBC status to the Jat community in the UT of J&K.

He was addressing a meeting organized by Kuldeep Kour Tehsil President AIJMS Akhnoor.

Earlier Ch Manmohan along with other senior members of AIJMS felicitated Major Abhinandan Singh for clearing the prestigious Civil Services examination. He wished a bright future and vibrant career to Abhinandan and asked the young lot of the community to take cue from Abhinandan's success and try to be the same line for ensuring phenomenal success in life.

Major Abhinandan expressed gratitude to the AIJMS for the encouragement and best wishes.

Later, Ch Manmohan Singh also raised the issue of denying the ownership rights of land which is in possession of Jat Community members for the last more than 60 years. He asked the government to work towards finding a solution to this issue and ensure that the land rights of the Jat community are protected.

Singh also appealed to the Jat community not to sell their land claiming that in that case their identity as farmers will be lost.

He urged the Jat community to continue their work as farmers and maintain their crucial role in the growth and development of the country's agricultural sector.

Later, Onkar Choudhary, Retd Joint Director Agri, was unanimously nominated as Coordinator of Akhnoor, Jaurian and Khour Tehsils.

Ch Manmohan said that Onkar Choudhary has earned a good reputation and he will play a vital role in steering the community to new

heights of progress and prosperity.

Onkar Choudhary has expressed gratitude to Ch Manmohan Singh and members of the Jat Sabha for giving him an opportunity to serve the community.

Kuldeep Kour, Tehsil President Akhnoor raised problems being faced by the members of Jat Community. She asked the community members to come forward and strengthen the hands of Ch Manmohan Singh who is working day and night for the welfare of the community.

Brig Pawan Sauntra, Vice President AIJMS laid stress on educating children of Jat community. "Education helps to create responsible citizens who can contribute positively to their communities. It also provides the foundation for economic development, as educated individuals are better equipped to find employment or start their own businesses. Therefore, it is important for the Jat community to prioritize education for their children," he added.

Col Shiv Choudhary pledged that he is always ready to work for the betterment of the Jat community. He also emphasized the importance of unity among Jats and urged everyone to work together towards the progress of the community. He further stated that education is the key to success and encouraged the youth to pursue higher education to enhance their skills and knowledge. He also offered assistance and guidance to the community youth in the field of education.

Among others who were present include Ch Jung Bahadur, Tarsem Choudhary, Pardeep Choudhary, Ankush Choudhary, Surinder Choudhary and Narayan Choudhary.

Manjit condemns authorities for failure to implement water supply schemes in Kandi belt

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SAMBA, JUN 7: Apni Party Provincial President Jammu, and Former Minister, S. Manjit Singh has condemned the lackadaisical attitude of the administration in providing basic facilities to the people in Kandi villages of District Samba.

The Former Minister was addressing a meeting at village Nagrota falling in Block Parmandal in Samba District where people informed him about the difficulties faced by them due to improper drinking water and unsheduled electricity cuts. The meeting was also attended by Apni Party District President, Samba, Raman Thappa, District Youth President Samba, Mangat



Ram, and others.

In his address, Manjit Singh said that the civil administration gets funds in crores from the Central Govt to supply drinking water in every house across Jammu and Kashmir.

"I am amazed at the inability of the authorities to ensure clean drinking tap water to the people. The people in many Kandi areas suffer because of no

water supply.

Even if the taps are laid, the supply of drinking water is improper and irregular," he said.

He further stated that the huge population in Kandi belt suffers because of poor planning and implementation of water supply schemes in many areas including Parmandal block.

"The unsheduled power

cuts during the soaring temperature has also affected normal life as well as affected the supply of drinking water," he said.

He demanded that the water supply schemes should be implemented on the ground to benefit the Kandi area as well.

"The pick and choose policy should not be adopted by the authorities," he added.

BJP Kashmir Displaced holds beneficiary Sammelan at Jagti

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 7: Bharatiya Janata Party Kashmir Displaced District (KDD) organized a Beneficiary Sammelan under the leadership of its President Chand Ji Bhat, in Tika Lal Taploo Mandal, Jagti.

The programme was organized in conjunction with various events and programmes under Jan Maha Sampark Abhiyaan of BJP at PAN India level.

Munish Sharma, senior BJP leader & Prabhari District Kathua, Girdhari Lal Raina, former MLC, J&K BJP Spokesperson & Prabhari KDD, Hira Lal Bhat (Sch-Prabhari KDD) were the prominent leaders on the occasion, while Pt. Tota Ram Terali, a veteran party worker of Jana Sangha times, presided over the function.

Programme began with the recitation of the National Song, "Vande Matram" followed by a song, hailing 9 years of Modi government, sung by Smt Shama, KDD Mahila Morcha activist.

A large number of beneficiaries who have availed the benefits of various welfare schemes of Modi government like Ayushman Bharat health insurance, Jan Aushadhalaya, PM Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) & other schemes were honored by Munish Sharma and other BJP leaders.

Girdhari Lal Raina brought the his-

torical perspective of ethnic cleansing of Kashmiri Hindus in Kashmir into the focus and said that the population of Hindus in Kashmir in 1931 was 15%, which was reduced to 8% in 1947. Thereafter the ill conceived and anti Hindu policies adopted by the Congress, NC, and their likes resulted in complete ethnic cleansing of Hindus in Kashmir and now there is less than 1% Hindu population in Kashmir. However, under the Modi government, historical decisions of scrapping of Article 370 & 35A were taken and now a ray of hope has awakened that Kashmiri Hindus will again retrieve back their homes, hearths, temples & shrines in Kashmir.

Munish Sharma thoroughly discussed the public welfare policies of Modi government starting from Jan Dhan accounts, Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan, Aushman Bharat scheme, Jan Aushadhalaya, Ujjwala gas Yojna, Beti bachao, beti padhao, Surakshist Matritu, Matri Vandana scheme, Kisan, Nidhi, Start-ups, Sukanya yojna, hike in old age & destitute pension and other welfare schemes. He said that the matter of some welfare schemes, which are not being implemented in favour of the displaced community, shall be taken up with the authorities. Chand Jee Bhat, in his speech, described the welfare initiatives taken by Modi government to ameliorate sufferings of Kashmiri dis-

placed community and reminded the tortures, trauma and atrocities inflicted on the Kashmiri displaced Hindu community during the rule of Congress & other parties before 2014.

Smt Dolly Raina, KDD Mahila Morcha President, told how helping hand was extended to Displaced community womenfolk by Modi government and in Jagti our hand made products, cushion covers, bags etc are being online marketed in USA and they get exceptionally good returns.

H.L. Bhat while presenting vote of thanks urged them to take the message of what they heard from the leaders here to every member of the community and trust the strong & able leadership of Modi Ji.

Pyare Lal Pandita, Mandal President, Tika Lal Taploo Mandal, welcomed the guests, while ML Padro (Mandal Vice president) anchored the program. Besides, dozens of beneficiaries of various centrally sponsored public welfare schemes participated in the programme. BJP leaders who attended the programme were District General Secretary ML Bhat, Vimal Raina, Sanjay Bhat, Rajeev Pandita, Anil Dhar, Rakesh Sadhu, PK Bhat, Chaman Lal Pandita, Rohit Ganjoo, Smt Dolly Raina, Kuldeep Razdan, all Mandal Office bearers, all both Presidents of TLT Mandal, other booth workers, Mahila Morcha and Yuva Morcha workers.

Rude setback to JK film, music industry, Surinder Manhas no more

JKCA JOIN IN CONDOLENCES, PRAYERS FOR THE DEPARTED SOUL

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 6: The Jammu and Kashmir film and music industry today received a rude setback as it lost its son of soil, a very unfortunate incident. Surinder Singh Manhas, a name synonymous with great success and worth in the art world of Jammu and Kashmir today breathed his last to the shock and disappointment of people of the UT, particularly Jammu.

In his endeavours in the field of art, Surinder Singh Manhas occupied the frontline position, be it music, films, singing and other allied utilities. To his name was an unending string of awards, honours and recognition as he stood apart in his élan among his contemporaries as well as the next generation.

His command over his expertise in the music industry has earned him a distinctive reputation and has been first choice among the theatre and film doers.

Expressing deep condolences to the family of the bereaved, Jammu and Kashmir Cine Association termed the



loss as a personnel saying that the bereaved had been always a great support to the cine world of Jammu and his untimely death has left many shattered.

"His death has created a great void in the society and personnel loss to many art doers who have been in close association with Surinder Singh Manhas for their various pursuits in singing and filmmaking," said Dharminder Kohli, president JKCA.

General Secretary Atul Vinod Duggal said that the demise of Surinder Singh Manhas has not only

left his family bereaved, but the entire artists' fraternity that has very close association with him as an artist as well as a family member. "It is purely a personnel loss," he grieved.

At his individual demonstration, Surinder Singh Manhas had done B Music and was a music composer as well as Sound Engineer. He was A-Grade Dogri Folk Singer and B-Grade Music Composer in Hindi and Dogri. He had worked with Doordarshan, Radio Kashmir and J&K Cultural Academy and had given music to many feature films like 'Kuggi Maar Duari', 'Mauj Masti' and others.

He was also the recipient of 10 times Academy awards for annual drama festivals held in erstwhile state and present UT of Jammu and Kashmir. He had rendered recordings of music and was the first choice of many directors.

The JKCA governing and members body today held a 2-minute silence in prayers for the departed soul and expressed condolences to the family to bear the irreparable loss.

TBS, JU organises doctoral workshop on 'E-Views'



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 7: In an effort to enrich the research scholars from various functional areas in management, a one-day Workshop on 'E-Views' was organized by The Business School, University of Jammu. The workshop was conducted by Dr. Ritu Rana, Post Doctoral Fellow at Indian Institute of Management (IIM), who presented in-

depth sessions about the E-views software and its application within the discipline of management. During the inaugural session, Dean Research Studies, Prof. Rajnikant, who was the Chief Guest at the event, complimented The Business School for organizing a meaningful academic venture of contemporary relevance and said that this workshop entails the objectives of NEP 2020 concerning interdisciplinary research and the need of the hour is to create new knowledge from disparate sources in the present knowledge-based society.

He emphasized that a proper knowledge of research software such as E-views is important and that makes this workshop of critical importance as knowledgeable experts can share insights about how

different softwares can be used in research. Earlier Prof. Vinay Chauhan, Director, The Business School, delivered the welcome address and deliberated upon the relevance of the workshop and detailed the various themes to be covered during the workshop.

Prof. Chauhan called upon the participating scholars to make the most of the workshop for undertaking quality research. Prof. Alka Sharma spoke about the relevance of learning new techniques and softwares for carrying out effective research. More than 50 scholars from different functional areas of management registered for the workshop.

The workshop was also attended by the faculty of The Business School. Dr. Amisha Gupta presented a formal vote of thanks while Dr. Komal Nagar, Coordinator, Research and PhD program conducted proceedings of the event.

JSCL organises workshop on the eve of World Food Safety Day

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 7: Food safety is a shared responsibility between governments, producers, and consumers. Everybody has a role to play from farm to table to ensure the food we consume is safe and will not cause damage to our health. Through the World Food Safety Day, Honourable PM Sh. Narendra Modi ji envisions mainstreaming food safety in the public agenda and reducing the burden of foodborne diseases. World Food Safety Day was celebrated across the globe on 07 June every year, in this context and under the Eat Right Initiatives, Jammu smart city has organised a one day workshop on world food safety day to generate awareness of food safety among the stakeholders and general public with this year theme 'Food Standards Save Lives'. The Workshop on Food Safety with Hygiene and Sanitation for Street Food Vendors and Meat and poultry handlers was organised under the Eat Right Initiatives of Jammu Smart City Ltd (JSL) which is also among the top 11 smart cities in India in the recently concluded Eat Right Smart City Challenge, a Nationwide campaign by FSSAI.

The Workshop Chief Guest, Honourable Chairman Health & Sanitation, Sh. Arun Khanna, launched the workshop and while addressing it, he said that this is such an important topic for which stakeholders and the public in general need to sensitise at the mass level and take this movement to every house-



hold. Kulbhushan Khajuria, Joint Commissioner, Health and Sanitation as Guest of Honour has highlighted the importance of this programme and appreciated JSCL initiative to be carried out at the root level. Dr. Vinod Sharma, Municipal Medical Officer was a special guest and he also explained the action taken by the municipality on the topic.

The programme was designed to highlight the essentials of Hygiene and Sanitation and what further steps can be taken to sensitise the general public at the mass level and to take this movement to every

household, the programme was introduced by Dr. Parvesh Kumar, Project Coordinator, Eat Right Initiatives and Dr. Sushil Sharma, Medical Officer, Eat Right Initiatives, Jammu Smart City Ltd. Dr. Sushil Sharma and Mr. Satish Kumar, an IEC consultant from Mavis IT Services Pvt Ltd, New Delhi jointly presented a detailed presentation on the "Role of Hygiene and Sanitation in Meat and Poultry". Associate Prof. Ashwani Khajuria, and Dr. Divya Sharma delivered presentations on various facets of food safety practices, in meat and slaughtering etc.

DC Bandipora inspects Yatra Transit Camp Shadipora; reviews Yatra arrangements

JJ NEWS SERVICE

BANDIPORA, JUNE 07: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Dr. Owais Ahmed on Wednesday visited Yatra Transit Camp at Shadipora Sumbal to review the arrangements and other facilities for pilgrims of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra (SANJY)-2023. Dr. Owais, on the occasion, inspected the upgraded facilities for the convenience of the stay of Yatra visiting for the pilgrimage.

It was informed that all necessary arrangements, including facilities of drinking water and electricity, etc. at Yatra Transit Camp have been made in advance besides the deployment of sufficient staff at the camp.

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

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

JINDRAH IMAGES

A temporary halt in unhealthy bout

The ongoing fight between top wrestlers and Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh has come to an halt for the time being with protesters suspending their stir till June 15. It followed a meeting of the protesting sports-women with the Union Sports Minister Anurag Thakur. Sports-women had accused WFI chief of sexual harassment and they received overwhelming support from different quarters. Even politicians too had jumped into the bout to make maximum out of it politically. Among the assurances the protestors got, the existing WFI chief won't contest the WFI poll while a new women panel to hold probe into all aspects that led to the controversy. Among the world-class, medal-winning wrestlers leading the fight for justice are Vinesh Phogat, Sakshi Malik and Bajrang Punia. The WFI chief has even offered to resign from the post with a precondition that the wrestlers would return from the protest site. It is seen as a major win for protesting sportswomen who had been forced to move the Supreme Court because their pleas to sports authorities and the Delhi Police were in vain. Thereafter, on the SC's order, the Delhi Police on Friday lodged two FIRs against Singh, including one under the POCSO Act for sexually abusing a minor wrestler. The WFI chief, now being booked under a non-bailable offence, has been put in the dock after the SC decision. The controversial Singh, who is also a powerful BJP MP, claims to be innocent but definitely the SC ruling has brought a lot of worries for him. Singh had been evading action over the heinous charges levelled against him. The agitation of the aggrieved players, who are backed by international stars, began for justice in January. Feted by the country for their feats, they were confident of their cry being heard by the powers that be. They even turned down support offered by political bigwigs from the CPM and the Congress. Displaying the sporting spirit, they called off their dharna on January 23 after being assured of an investigation into their complaints by the Indian Olympic Association's Oversight Committee (OC), headed by champion boxer Mary Kom. The government had succumbed to the relentless protests by some of the country's top wrestlers and appointed boxing great MC Mary Kom-lead five-member Oversight Committee to probe sexual harassment charges against the powerful WFI president. At that time, an ugly bout had been played out, not in the sporting arena but at Jantar Mantar in Delhi where female wrestlers had leveled serious allegations against the WFI president. It was a courageous attempt to clean up the management of wrestling which has been bringing glory to India with its rich haul of medals at global platforms. However, last week, they suffered a jolt and were forced to amp up their protest when the OC report was not made public by the Sports Ministry. They sat on a dharna again and, this time, welcomed the support of politicians and fellow players. The field of sports is no stranger to complaints of sexual misconduct by those at the helm. Only exemplary action against sexual predators can clean up the mess. The need of the hour is that the government should ensure a fair investigation and trial in the matter so that truth comes out.

Wrestlers pitted against a powerful MP in uneven power play

AS IN MISMATCHED BATTLES, THE VULNERABLE WRESTLERS MIGHT HAVE TO SETTLE FOR WHAT'S HANDED TO THEM.

PK VASUDEVA

A MEETING on June 3 between Union Home Minister Amit Shah and protesting wrestlers Bajrang Punia, Sakshi Malik and Vinesh Phogat marked the first effort on the Centre's part to end the impasse. The events preceding the meeting were rooted in an uneven power play in which young sportspersons were pitted against a powerful MP heading the Wrestling Federation of India by dint of the clout he derives from belonging to the ruling BJP in the electorally weighty Uttar Pradesh.

Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, the MP from Kaiserganj (to the east of Lucknow), has been accused of sexual misconduct and victimisation of female wrestlers, including a minor; this should have straightforwardly led to his arrest under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act. But he roams scot-free, drumming up support for himself in UP among influencers such as Ayodhya's clergy who were about to call a meeting to pressure the Centre to tweak the POCSO Act but decided against it.

That the meeting with Shah carried the contours of a breakthrough or an understanding was apparent when a day later, the lone minor among the seven women wrestlers withdrew her allegations against Brij Bhushan and recorded a fresh statement before a magistrate under Section 164 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. The fresh statement effectively implied that it was for the court to decide if the charges could be pursued.

The protests at Delhi's Jantar Mantar took a violent turn when the cops roughed up the wrestlers as they marched towards the new Parliament building, which was unveiled by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on May 28. Until the crackdown, the presence of a 'political hand' in the dissent was merely insinuated. After the police dragged the protesters away, pinning Vinesh and Sangeta Phogat to the ground at one point, the episode got ineffectually political. So political that the Centre, callous and high-handed by turn, was forced to speak to the wrestlers because the situation nearly got out of hand when they threatened to immerse their medals in the Ganga, but were dissuaded from



going ahead. Saturday's meeting and the announcement that the wrestlers would rejoin their jobs with the Railways triggered speculation that all issues were sorted out and the government was spared a big headache. The 'outcome' - the fine print of which is not yet known - was already billed as a triumph of the Centre's 'flexibility' and 'pragmatism'. However, there is still no sign that action will be taken against Brij Bhushan.

In a tweet, Sakshi clarified that they had not called off their protest. She added that along with the 'satyagraha', she was fulfilling her responsibility in the Railways, while Vinesh emphasised that she would quit work if the officials threatened her with dire consequences. Ostensibly, there was no easy or quick resolution to a face-off that primarily impinges on gender rights and justice, which are not to be expected from a disordered political system without putting in an arduous struggle. It seems that the protesting wrestlers would not yield, at least as of now.

Haryana might not be a political hotbed like UP or Punjab, but in recent years, it has been a part and parcel of the historic farmers' agitation, which originated in Punjab, against the three contentious farm laws the Centre brought in but was forced to repeal under duress. The protests spilled over to western UP and Delhi. The police action against

the wrestlers reactivated the state's agrarian community, which expressed solidarity with the young wrestlers by convening serial 'mahapanchayats' with political overtones.

The congregation held on June 4 at Mundiana (Sonapat) witnessed the participation of former J&K Governor Satya Pal Malik, Rashtriya Lok Dal chief Chaudhary Jayanti Singh and Azad Samaj Party president Chandrasekhar Azad Ravan. Bharatiya Kisan Union leader Gurnam Singh Chaduni anchored the event. Malik, who has lately fulminated against the Centre on security issues, urged Sakshi, Bajrang and Vinesh to visit Rajasthan, while that people were ready to support them and they, in turn, could charge up the political ambience before the Assembly polls. That was an unambiguous political message as a leader could possibly disseminate.

Apparently disconcerted by the signals from Sonapat, Bajrang counselled Chaduni to hold his horses and not announce a precipitate move. The idea was that politics should not overwhelm the reason for their sit-in, which was to seek reparation for the harm and injustice inflicted on them by Brij Bhushan.

The protests have a larger and more significant resonance which impinges on the future of sportspersons at large and of young women in particular. The khaps, which dou-

ble as kangaroo courts, are not known to be gender-friendly. But they also function as pressure groups and are courted by politicians for their crowd mobilisation skills. Would the khaps give a thought to the alarming reports coming from Haryana of parents reluctant to send their daughters to coaching schools for wrestlers for fear of predators like the Kaiserganj MP? In a state with a badly skewed sex ratio, the idea of women encouraged by families to take to wrestling symbolised light at the tunnel's end; this might get snuffed out if Brij Bhushan is not punished.

Cynics believe that even if the charges against this alleged serial offender are established, the penalty could amount to tokenism followed by bail in the run-up to the 2024 General Election because he would be needed to canvass support for the BJP.

As in any mismatched battle, even if the Centre finds a middle ground to end the stalemate, the vulnerable might have to settle for what's handed to them, while the powerful five-term MP will get away 'unscathed'. Recall how reluctant the BJP was to bring to book alleged sex offenders in UP, Kuldeep Singh Sengar and Chinmayanand, because of their local spheres of influence.

The redeeming feature is that the girls, backed by Bajrang, continue to hold out despite reports of their 'compromise' with the establishment.

Managing diplomatic contradictions

VIVEK KADU

EXTERNAL Affairs Minister (EAM) S Jaishankar concluded his opening statement at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) meeting in Goa on May 5 thus: "I, sincerely hope that we can together make the SCO Heads of State Summit meeting in New Delhi a great success." These words show that the SCO summit was planned to be held in New Delhi in the physical format and, if some of the SCO leaders did not come, it would have been conducted in a hybrid manner. Hence, the Ministry of External Affairs' announcement on May 30 that the summit "will be held in the virtual format on July 4, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi" was surprising. The absence of a mention of the venue of the meeting in the May 30 announcement - in contrast to the EAM's words - reveals the changed decision regarding the summit's format; no reason was given for the change.

According to SCO rules, no bilateral issues can be raised during its meetings, including those at the summit level.

Last year, the SCO summit was held in a hybrid manner in Samarkand. It was on the sidelines of this summit that Modi made his, by now, oft-quoted remark to Russian President Vladimir Putin that today's era is not "an era of war".

DECISION TO HOLD THE UPCOMING SCO SUMMIT IN THE VIRTUAL MODE IS INTRIGUING



India has stressed the importance it attaches to its SCO membership and the seriousness which it has accorded to its SCO presidency. The May 30 statement itself emphasised that "India has hosted a total of 134 meetings and events, including 14 ministerial-level meetings." It also noted that during its presidency, India had established 'new pillars of cooperation' - startups and innovation, traditional medicine, digital inclusion, youth empowerment and shared Buddhist heritage. The theme selected by Modi for the Indian presidency was "Towards a secure SCO".

All this work and positivity naturally should have led to a physical/hybrid New Delhi summit to crown the great efforts made during its

presidency, but India deliberately decided to give up that option and go in for the virtual format. There is an enormous difference between direct physical meetings of leaders and virtual ones. Certainly, the decision to go virtual would have been taken at the highest level of government. One reason for the decision can be ruled out outright. This relates to infrastructure or venue issues. A summit involving eight current member states, including India, and four other Heads of State as observers or guests, could easily be held in Delhi. What, then, could have led to the virtual summit decision?

A reason which may have weighed with the Modi government was the presence of Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, who would not have

missed the opportunity to show up. Modi and Jaishankar may not have wished to give Sharif a platform to spew venom against India, on Indian soil, like Pakistan's Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari did during his visit to Goa to attend the SCO foreign ministers' meeting. This point deserves an analysis.

The SCO rules require that no bilateral issues be raised during its meetings, including those at the summit level. This can be stretched to imply that SCO officials, ministers and even Heads of State or government should not raise controversial bilateral issues outside the meetings' venues during their visits. Bilawal did so and India would have been well within its rights to complain to SCO member states

against his conduct - and, perhaps, it did. However, the apprehension that Pakistan would indulge in such behaviour at the summit and, therefore, India giving up the physical/hybrid format is to give Pakistan the ability to influence India's choices on the format of meetings. This should obviously not be given to any participating member state. Besides, India has the instrumentalities to deny the misuse of its territory by a visiting Pakistani leader and there should be no reluctance to use them. Another reason for India's decision may have been the presence of Putin, who may have made strong statements against the West. It would have been difficult to deny him the opportunity to interact with the Indian media. While a virtual summit takes care of this possibility, the problem is that the G20 summit is going to take place in September and it is unlikely that Putin will not come for that. That will be a far more difficult issue to handle, for western leaders may decide not to be in the same room with him. Are we then, based on the SCO summit example, looking at the possibility of a G20 summit in the virtual mode?

There would also have been a natural sensitivity to the presence of Chinese President Xi Jinping in Delhi for the SCO summit, if he decided to come, even though Chinese intransigence on border issues continues. The

problem, though, is that Xi, like Putin, is unlikely to avoid the G20 summit and the dilemma of how to deal with his presence would be the same then as it would have been if he was here for the SCO meeting.

Besides, the same argument as in the case of Pakistan - of not allowing any member state to decide on the choice of a multilateral meeting's format - would apply in the case of China.

Certainly, Iran which is due to join the SCO as a full member, would have liked to have a physical summit. So too the Central Asian Republics (CAR). They had perhaps already given their consent to be in Delhi for the summit. With the Chinese moving rapidly ahead to create a sphere of influence in Eurasia, India has to use every opportunity to counter its northern neighbour's moves in the region. The presence of all CAR leaders in Delhi would have been one such opportunity.

Modi is going on an important state visit to the US later this month. It is difficult to believe that this invitation would have had a bearing on India's decision to hold the SCO summit in the virtual format. This is because Indian diplomacy has the dexterity to manage contradictions. There is no reason to believe, as yet, that it has lost that touch! Hence, the reason for going in for a virtual SCO summit is so intriguing.

'Pyaar Ka Punchnama' actor Sonnalli Seygall ties the knot with hotelier Ashesh L. Sajjani

P'yaar Ka Punchnama' actress Sonnalli Seygall tied the nuptial knot with her long-time partner Ashesh L. Sajjani on Wednesday. The couple had an intimate gurdwara wedding ceremony in Mumbai and were surrounded by their family and loved ones.

The two were in a relationship for the last six years. Ashesh is a hotelier and restaurateur by profession. They had a traditional roka ceremony amongst their families in May.

For her wedding ceremony, Sonnalli wore a Manish Malhotra saree and Ashesh opted for an off white sherwani by Kunal Rawal with a turban matching the colour of her bride's out-

fit. Talking about the new phase of her life, Sonnalli said: "Ashesh and I were very sure about this one thing that we wanted, a very simple wedding with people who mean something to us. It's a very private moment for us and hence, we chose to have our wedding in a gurdwara. It is what both our mothers wanted and we feel glad that we could do it for them. We really look forward to exploring this new phase of our life together."

The actress made her bridal entry on the song she had always envisioned and much to her delight, it is a part of Pakki Gurbani. The theme of the wedding was kept in the tones of pink and green.



Remo D'Souza says new season of 'Dance +' will showcase 'future of dance'



Filmmaker and dance choreographer Remo D'Souza is gearing up for the new season of Dance+. He said that the reality show will showcase the "future of dance". The popular dance reality show will only stream on Disney+ Hotstar. Remo will only stream on Disney+ Hotstar. Remo said, "Talking about the season of Dance+, Remo said, "Dance+ is like my second home and I am happy to be back here each time. Every year, the talent we get on the show grows phenomenally and it makes me proud to see this level of love and passion for the art of dance in today's generation."

He added, "In this new season on Disney+Hotstar, we will showcase the future of dance and I am confident that what India imagines as the dance of tomorrow is what Dance+ will showcase today." The new season of Dance+ is set to stream soon on Disney+ Hotstar.

AMITABH BACHCHAN REMEMBERS 'GENTLE CARING' ON-SCREEN MOTHER SULOCHANA

Megastar Amitabh Bachchan on Monday said the Indian film industry lost "another great" in the death of noted actor Sulochana Lalkar, his colleague of several films.

Known for her innumerable mother roles in Hindi and Marathi cinema, Sulochana died on Sunday due to prolonged illness at a hospital here. She was 94.

Bachchan, who had played Sulochana's on-screen son in the 1974 film 'Maqbool', paid tribute to the actor on his personal blog.

"We have lost another great of our Cinema World - Sulochana ji .. the gentle, generous, caring



Mother that played in several films with me .. she had been ailing for some time," he wrote.

The screen icon said he was in touch with Sulochana's family regarding her health.

"I had been monitoring here condition with her family .. but finally the sad news! We can only pray in such unforgiving circumstances .. I am hesitant to write anymore.." he added.

Bachchan and Sulochana also starred in films such as "Keshma Aur Shera", "Roti Kapada Aur Makan", "Muqaddar Ka Sikandar", and "Dostana".

A well-known actor of Marathi and Hindi cinema, Sulochana started her career in the 1940s and went on to feature in over 250 films.

She largely played on-screen mother in the Bollywood films of the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s, almost invariably dressed in a white saree.

Besides Bachchan, she worked with all the lead stars of the era, including Sunil Dutt, Dev Anand, Rajesh Khanna, and Dilip Kumar.

Cinema personalities such as

Madhuri Dixit Nene and Jackie Shroff also conolded the veteran actor's demise.

Dixit Nene remembered Sulochana as "one of the most loved and graceful actresses cinema has seen".

"My favourite film of hers will always be Sangate Aika. Her performance in every film was memorable. I will miss our conversations may you rest in peace. Your contribution to Indian cinema will always be remembered," she wrote on Twitter.

Shroff, who played the actor's on-screen son in 1984's "Andar Bahar", shared his photograph with Sulochana with a broken heart emoticon.

Naga Chaitanya's 'Custody' set for streaming debut on Prime Video



Actor Naga Chaitanya's action-thriller "Custody" will make its OTT debut on Prime Video on June 9, the streamer announced Wednesday. The Telugu feature, written and directed by Prabhu, was released in theatres countrywide in May. It also stars actor Kriti Shetty. The film will be available for streaming in Telugu and Tamil along with dubs in Malayalam and Kannada, Prime Video said in a statement.

"Custody" sees Chaitanya playing the role of Shiva, a young constable tasked with the high-risk responsibility of transporting a dangerous criminal named Raju (Arvind Swami) to the court in Bengaluru. Unaware of Raju's role as a key witness against a powerful senior minister, Shiva finds himself becoming a target, along with the criminal he's escorting. As they navigate a treacherous journey, Shiva must protect Raju and ensure his testimony reaches the courtroom. Prabhu said "Custody" presents a unique "blend of drama, action, and thrill", catering to the tastes of the audience. "With Naga Chaitanya in the lead, we have explored a new layer to the character, which he plays to perfection.

Didn't want to be a blotch in his beauteous career graph Karan Johar on not directing Irrfan

The fear of being a "blotch" in late actor Irrfan Khan's otherwise "beauteous career graph" kept filmmaker Karan Johar from directing the "very sexy" star.

In an interview with journalist-author Shubhra Gupta for her book "Irrfan: A Life in Movies", Johar admitted that he did not want to be the filmmaker who gave an actor of Irrfan's calibre a "substandard mainstream film".



"He (Irrfan) was way stronger than anything I could have ever offered him. I never arrived at a screenplay, a film, a thought or an idea that would warrant the presence of the magnitude that Irrfan Khan brought to the table.

"That's the reason I've never had a film with Irrfan because I've never wanted to be that filmmaker that gave him a substandard mainstream film. I didn't want to be the blotch in his otherwise beauteous career graph," said Johar, as quoted in the book. The director remembered being stunned by Irrfan's performance in "Maqbool" and telling that to the film's director Vishal Bhardwaj.

"Because no other actor, I think, has a combination of the various characteristics that Irrfan brought to the table: charisma, cinema intel-

lect, presence, performance, all in equal measure. "You can slot many other actors into boxes. You can't generalize Irrfan Khan, you can't put him into a box. It's simply because he was so unique and individualistic," Johar said.

The filmmaker, known for directing blockbusters like "Kuch Kuch Hota Hai", "Kabhi Khushi Kabhie Gham", "My Name Is Khan" and "Ae Dil Hai Mushkil", said he did not have the ability to look beyond big stars and spectacle movies in the beginning of his career. "So while Irrfan Khan had this trajectory that began properly in 1998, and he had all those movies that were breaking through, I was busy making these big spectacle entertainers; I didn't have the bandwidth or

understanding of how to accommodate the magic and magnitude of Irrfan," he explained.

Ironically, after Irrfan's death at least "five scripts" landed on Johar's table that the director believed would have been perfect for the "Paan Singh Tonak" actor.

"There are at least five scripts that landed on my table after he passed away that were screaming Irrfan Khan. I just feel terrible. And you know why those scripts came to my table now? Because now is the time that cinema is ready for that material and that material was all Irrfan Khan," he explained. The 51-year-old filmmaker counts not directing Irrfan and Sridevi among the two regrets of his life.

Recalling how he and his friend, fellow director Zoya Akhtar, agreed that there was "no other actor like Irrfan Khan", Johar also spoke about the late actor's little discussed but "tremendous sex appeal".

"It's very important to say that women found him sexy; he had tremendous sex appeal. You know, always, it's the actors who do the more cerebral, the more intellectual, the more critic-friendly cinema that you don't associate with sex appeal, somehow.

LUST STORIES 2 PROMISES MORE LUST, DRAMA & UBER COOL NEENA GUPTA IN ITS TEASER



The streaming anthology Lust Stories is set to return with its second part. Titled Lust Stories 2, the anthology will star actors like Amruta Subhash, Angad Bedi, Kajol, Kumud Mishra, Mrunal Thakur, Neena Gupta, Tamannaah Bhatia, Tillotama Shome and Vijay Varma.

The stories have been crafted by four directors - Amit Ravindthem Sharma, R. Balki, Konkona Sen Sharma and Sujoy Ghosh.

The teaser for Lust Stories 2 was unveiled on Tuesday and is a perfect confection of sass, class and multiple shades of lust.

The teaser, which is under a minute in length, features shots from the anthology held together by rib-tickling dialogues and pearls of wisdom on lust by Neena Gupta, who essays a cool dadi in the anthology.

While the teaser shows all the leading actors, it's Neena Gupta's dialogue delivery and performance which takes the cake.

Her dialogues like, "Ek choti si gaadi lene se pehle test drive karte ho na? Toh baadi se pehle no test drive? (You go for a test drive before buying a car, don't you? Then why are you so shy of a test drive before marriage)" pointing towards sexual compatibility, and her telling her son, "Jo kar ke tu pauda hua, wo bakwaas hai? (The act which led to your birth, is it utter nonsense)" shine through the teaser.

The anthology has been produced by RSVP and Flying Unicorn Ent, and is a collection of films that shed light on relationships from the female lens of women, stringing them together thematically.

All good things come to an end Maitreyi Ramakrishnan on 'Never Have I Ever' final season

There is sadness but also hope that the friendships that she formed on "Never Have I Ever" will continue to thrive beyond the show, says series lead Maitreyi Ramakrishnan ahead of the premiere of the final season of the popular young-adult drama.

The fourth and the final season of the Netflix series, created by Mindy Kaling and Lang Fisher, will premiere on June 8. Ramakrishnan and her co-stars Darren Barnett and Jaren Levison sat down for an interview with PTI where they spoke about the show that changed their life and life ahead.



"Definitely, there is sadness... More of this sadness comes because such a great thing is ending. We all know all good things come to an end, right? We are just sad that we won't be able to create this one specific project together. That does not mean we won't be able to create anymore," Ramakrishnan said.

"We are definitely going to portray amazing characters going forward. It is just that

this one specific project 'Never Have I Ever' will be done, which is sad to think about but the nice part about it is that it is not fully a goodbye because our friendship has grown outside of the show. I'm not like never seeing these guys again," she added.

Ramakrishnan, a Sri Lankan-Canadian, was just 17 when she landed the role of Devi, an overachieving Indian-American teenager growing up in Southern California, US, who is mourning the death of her father while navigating life as a high school student in the hit Netflix show.

Whether it's about dealing with life's anxieties or sweet

cravings, the 21-year-old actor said she will reach out to Barnett and Levison whenever she is Los Angeles.

"I'm still going to both Darren like 'Hey, what are you doing?' and just respond to all the cool things he does on Instagram and I'm like 'Dude, I'm jealous of your entire life. I just wanna be you!'"

"Anytime I have any bother in life, I am just anxious. I will be like 'Hey Jaren! Or anything dumb or I see anything baking related and I am like 'Can you bake this for me?' Anytime I come to LA, I tell these guys, 'Can we hang out? I'm free.' So, that part is good," she added.

Levison, who started his act-

ing career at the age of five but gained global popularity with the series as Ben Gross, Devi's school nemesis-turned-friend and later a love interest, said getting the opportunity to star in a series that has reached to people of over 190 countries is what dreams are made of.

"It changed all of our lives... I was a kid who was five years old and dreaming of something like this and to have that come true and the magnitude and the way it did..."

"I don't think I could have fathomed that I would be a part of this show, a show created by Mindy Kaling and Lang Fisher, a show seen by people of over 190 countries... It is mind blowing and a dream come true for a little kid from Dallas who wanted to be an actor and loved attention," the 22-year-old said.

The actor, who stars as Paxton Hall Yoshida, the guy Devi has a crush on and later develops a friendship with, said they could not have predicted the popularity of the show when they began in 2019.

"It is something we all dreamed of and wanted. We are still kind of pinching ourselves at the moment that we have a whole new season to go, a whole new story that hopefully touches and inspires people, makes them laugh, makes them cry," he said.

'Other sources' supplying weapons in strife-torn Manipur; govt orders combing operations

Tribal groups seek more autonomy, govt says territorial integrity will remain intact

IMPHAL: Few weapons have gone missing from the near 1,000 stockpile of arms and ammunition in Kuki militant camps in Manipur, raising fresh suspicion that the widespread use of bullets from unaccounted for weapons in the state in the last several days could be the handiwork of inter-state militant groups as well as foreign hand supplying weapons to stoke unrest in the state.

The government ordered a weapons audit at the camps of the Kuki militant groups which have signed Suspension of Operations (SoO) pact with the Centre and Manipur government in the wake of continuing violence in the state. Concerns were being raised that sophisticated weapons surrendered at the time of peace talks had gone missing and were being used in the clashes between the Meitei and Kuki communities even as Union Home Minister Amit Shah visited Manipur and urged all communities to maintain peace and hold consultations. The fact that only a couple of weapons are missing from the 1,000 surrendered weapons across 14 camps of nearly 30 Kuki militant groups has put the security agencies on their toes as the widespread use of bullets from unaccounted weapons could either be looted from the police armoury or mostly supplied from outside the state.

The latter becomes a huge security challenge for the government which has been raising alarm over illegal migration from Myanmar in recent months. Senior security officials said the process of counting the arms in the militant camps is over, and except a few, all are accounted for, which indicates that the groups indulging in violence are being supplied arms from "other sources". "These sources are



being investigated and security agencies are looking at all possibilities. Nothing can be ruled out at the moment," said a senior official in Manipur. There are around 2,200 cadres in 14 camps set up in the hill districts of Manipur after the Kuki umbrella organisations—United People's Front and Kuki National Organisation—signed SoO with the government.

The home minister's visit to the state made two things very clear. Sources said it has been clarified to both sides that the government will not break even an inch of land in Manipur-whose territorial integrity will remain intact. Secondly, security agencies will ensure the mindless use of arms and ammunition is stopped immediately to curb the violence and killings.

Combing operations have begun in various districts to recover arms and looted weaponry from police armouries. The home department has written to district magistrates in Kamjong, Tengnoupal, Chandel, Churachandpur, Pherzawl, Imphal West, Imphal East, Kakching, Bishnupur, Jiribam and Kangpokpi, saying that in view of the law and order situation, the army formations have been requested to conduct combing operations with the assistance of executive magistrates who are required to be physically present at that time.

Shah met at least ten civil society organisations and women Meitei leaders in Imphal where he is learnt to have spent more than an hour understanding their concerns on May 30. However, during the interaction it was noted that there have been more casualties of Kukis, an aspect which is being examined both by the state government as well as the civil society groups, sources said. However, the involvement of militant groups in the violence remains a matter of concern for the home ministry. When Shah met the Kuki groups the next day, a similar message was conveyed that there can be no division of the state even as the talks continue on their demands for local self governance. As efforts double up to disarm the violent protests in the state, security officials said peace can return only if the public wants peace—a long road ahead for both the Kukis and Meiteis.

North Dakota Gov Doug Burgum launches long-shot bid for 2024 GOP presidential nomination

BISMARCK (US), JUN 7: North Dakota Governor Doug Burgum announced his candidacy for the 2024 Republican presidential nomination, adding his name to the long list of contenders hoping to dent former President Donald Trump's early lead in the race.



Burgum, 66, made the announcement in The Wall Street Journal and was expected to kick off his campaign Wednesday in the city of Fargo, where he lives and which is near the tiny farm town of Arthur, where he grew up.

Known to few outside North Dakota, Burgum faces an immense challenge in a field dominated by Trump and the better-known governor in the race, Ron DeSantis of Florida.

As evidence of Burgum's long odds, he isn't even the most notable candidate to announce a presidential campaign on Wednesday. Four hundred miles to the south, former Vice President Mike Pence was launching his White House bid in Iowa, taking on the president he served loyally for four years.

Burgum, a former computer software entrepreneur, plans to visit early voting states right away. He will campaign Thursday and Friday in Iowa, home of the first-in-the-nation

Republican caucuses, and Saturday and Sunday in New Hampshire, which hosts the first GOP primary.

In a video previewing his announcement, Burgum portrayed himself as a common-sense, rural state conservative, distinctly experienced in energy policy and far removed from the bitter war of words between Trump and DeSantis as the 2024 GOP campaign heats up.

"Anger, yelling, infighting, that's not going to cut it anymore," Burgum said in the video, which features breathtaking vistas from across North Dakota. "Let's get things done. In North Dakota, we listen with respect, and we talk things out. That's how we can get America back on track."

As governor of the state's fourth-least populous state, he signed measures this year advancing conservative policies on culture war issues. They include prohibiting schools and government from requiring teachers and employees from referring to transgender people by their preferred pronouns, barring transgender girls and women from competing in women's sports, and banning abortion with few exceptions up to six weeks' gestation, before most women know they are pregnant.

His preview video also touched subtly on his opposition to "woke" ideology, a catch-all term that conservatives use derogatorily to refer to policies or ideas that acknowledge the existence of social injustice and racial inequality.

"I grew up in a tiny town in North Dakota," Burgum said. "Woke was what you did at 5 a.m. to start the day."

Burgum enters the race with a more advanced background in energy policy than most of the Republican field in light of North Dakota's decade-long petroleum industry boom, and his administration's effort to capture carbon dioxide from around the country.

"Instead of shutting down American oil and gas, we should unleash energy production," he said in the video, "and start selling energy to our allies, instead of buying it from our enemies."

In addition to Trump, DeSantis and Pence, Burgum will be facing off against former United Nations Ambassador Nikki Haley, US Senator Tim Scott of South Carolina, former New Jersey Governor Chris Christie, former Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson, anti-woke activist Vivek Ramaswamy, conservative talk radio host Larry Elder and businessman Perry Johnson. Burgum was first elected as governor in 2016, reelected in 2020 and is eligible to run for a third time in 2024. In 1985, he founded Great Plains Software, which was acquired by Microsoft in 2011, and Burgum stayed on as a Microsoft vice president until 2007. The GOP nominee is expected to face Democratic President Joe Biden in November 2024.

Mevani's Swabhiman Helpline gets as many as 30 calls a day

The helpline was set up for dalits, women, STs and Muslims

NEW DELHI: A fortnight ago, dalit leader and Congress MLA from Vadgam Jignesh Mevani launched a Swabhiman Helpline for the support of dalits, women, scheduled tribe, DNT and Muslims in Gujarat.

Even as Mevani and his team are still trying to use social media to spread the word for the Swabhiman Helpline Number 972434406, just a few days into it, the helpline has started getting as many as 30 calls a day.

"I have been getting many calls after the USA flagging incident. It is my responsibility as well to help people out," Mevani told THE WEEK. He alleged that the atrocities on dalits, women and Muslims have been on the rise ever since the BJP came to power and Gujarat is no exception. Alleging

callous attitude of the authorities, Mevani questioned where the people would go.

According to him, even the recent case of June 4 in which a group of upper caste men allegedly chopped off a thumb of a dalit in Patan district was communicated to them through the Helpline.

The attack was the result of a minor issue of a tennis ball of the victim's son straying where a group of upper caste people were playing.

A few people have been arrested and stringent IPC sections have been applied after representations.

The 42-year-old lawmaker said that there have been at least nine cases in which they have succeeded in getting FIRs registered ever since the Helpline was launched.

Vinod Parmar, handling the Helpline, cited an instance in which a dalit woman in the western part of the city had to sit in the police station a week ago to get an FIR registered on her complaint.

"It is only after our intervention that the police registered an FIR after more than 12 hours," he said. Every now and then there have been reports of atrocities on the dalits for flimsy reasons like sporting a beard, getting on to a horseback, flaunting dog glares, keeping a moustache and so on.

Alleging that the society is not ashamed of the feudal nature and the political class remains indifferent, Mevani said such atrocities would end the day the caste system ends.

Previous Governments Worked For Vested Interests: Punjab CM Mann

CHANDIGARH: Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on Wednesday said that the successive governments of ignoring interests of common people for their vested interests and also said they "ruined" government institutions. Mann was addressing a gathering after dedicating the 35th Mother and Child Care Centre to the people, according to an official release. He said this newly constructed hospital built at a cost of Rs 8 crore will act as a catalyst to impart quality healthcare to pregnant women and newly born children.

These leaders were so greedy that they did not even spare food joints which were attracting huge crowds and tried to get a share in them too, he claimed. "These corrupt leaders did irreparable damage to the health and education sector by joining hands with private players, thereby causing huge loss to the general public. Likewise, the transport mafia too flexed their muscles during their tenures that also at the cost of public transport service," Mann said.

However, the "tyrannical" days of these selfish politicians are over and now every decision is being taken for the well-being of the state and its people, he claimed.

Claiming that he was working dedicatedly for the people of state, Mann said due to efforts of the state government, Pepsu Road Transport Corporation (PRTC), which was reeling under huge losses during their tenures, is now heading towards being a profitable body.

Likewise, he said concerted efforts are afoot to expand operations of milk cooperative Milkfed thereby supporting the dairy farmers of the state.

Describing the entire Opposition as a "coterie of rejected politicians", the CM said in death of any issue against the state government, these leaders are "stooping too low" by leveling personal allegations against him.

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader said his government has "locked their

shops for looting the people so they have joined their hands to stop a common man from serving the state and its people."

The gimmicks of these politicians will not work as people are well aware of their dubious character and they had already given a biting reply to them by ousting them in the Jalandhar Lok Sabha bypoll, he said.

Referring to the recent hug leader Congress leader Navjot Singh Sidhu and Akali leader Birkam Singh Majithia at the office of a Punjabi daily in Jalandhar, Mann said it reflects the fact that "these people are bereft of any ideological commitment and can join hands anytime for securing their political interests".

He said these leaders were trounced by the AAP legislator Jyotirmay Jyoti Kaur Dhillon to which they have been now forced to hug each other.

Toshakhana case: Another case registered against former PM Imran Khan wife for "forgery fraud"

ISLAMABAD, JUN 7: The Pakistan government has registered a case of fraud and forgery against former prime minister Imran Khan, his wife Bushra Bibi and their close aides for allegedly preparing and submitting fake and forged receipts regarding Toshakhana gifts, a media report said on Wednesday. A case has been registered here against Khan, 70, Bushra Bibi, former accountability minister Shehzad Akbar, Zulfi Bukhari, Farah Gogi (a close aide of Bushra Bibi) and others for getting "illegal benefits" and for "active collusion, connivance, by assisting, abetting, conspiring, and engaging with each other fraudulently", Geo News reported. The Toshakhana is a department under the administrative control of the Cabinet Division and stores precious gifts given to rulers, parliamentarians, bureaucrats, and officials by heads of other governments and states and foreign dignitaries. The accused "not only prepared, fake, forged receipts regarding Toshakhana gifts such as a watch, cuff links but also submitted/executed the same as genuine on which an independent verification is being conducted and the same has established these



receipts as fake and forged", the report said.

The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief and his associates submitted forged receipts of the Toshakhana gifts including the rare Graff wristwatch gifted by Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman to the former premier. After months of evading the topic, Khan confirmed in September last year that he had sold at least four presents he had received during his tenure and Dubai-based multi-millionaire businessman Umar Fanoqi Zahoor, who currently owns the watch, had shown the watch on live TV saying he had bought the MasterGraff Tourbillon Minute Repeater from Farah Gogi for USD 2 million. The watch was worth approximately Rs 280 million at the time of sale in 2019. The new FIR has been registered after Islamabad's leading watch dealer and "Art of Time" shop owner Muhammad Shafiq said in a

written affidavit that he had not sold the Rolex watch and that the PTI leaders had faked his shop's name and forged receipts for their political purposes in the Toshakhana scandal.

The FIR also said the accused persons were involved in acts of forgery supported by the fact that the shop owner has also confirmed the fabrication on the part of the accused persons.

"As per the record, no such transaction regarding the sale and purchase of the above-mentioned items has ever taken place with such nominated accused persons and neither the accused person has sold them any such items nor such items were purchased by him in person or through any of his agent/associate," the FIR stated.

The application is supported by an affidavit provided by Shafiq. "I do hereby declare that we have never bought or sold Rolex watches (Platinum or Steel

Gold) worth PKR 7 Million to anyone. My shop's name and our company's letter head/receipt along with the stamp are being misused without our permission to cater to certain politically motivated media houses. I shall pursue legal action and criminal proceedings against anyone who wishes to banish our company's reputation. This statement is being issued in accordance with Pakistani laws and we have the right to file a claim in courts to protect our customers and their reputation," he alleged in the FIR. The Toshakhana issue over the sale of state gifts received by the cricketer-turned-politician became a major issue in national politics after the Election Commission of Pakistan disqualified the former premier for making "false statements and incorrect declaration". Khan is facing over 100 cases, while Bushra is nominated in two cases - Toshakhana (gifts) and the Al-Qadir Trust case. The Al-Qadir Trust case alleges that the PTI chief and his wife obtained billions of rupees and land from a real estate firm for legalising Rs 50 billion which was identified and returned to the country by the UK during the previous PTI government.

Andhra Pradesh Cabinet Approves Guaranteed Pension Scheme, Regularisation Of 10,000 Contract Staff



AMARAVATI: Approving Guaranteed Pension Scheme (GPS) to employees, 6,840 new government jobs and regularisation of nearly 10,000 contract employees are some of the key decisions taken by the Andhra Pradesh Cabinet approved by Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy on Wednesday.

Under the GPS scheme, eligible employees will receive 50 per cent of their last drawn salary as pension, including receiving dearness relief (DR) on the lines of the Central Government (CG) pension scheme. The scheme also provides for a 12th pay revision Commission twice a year. With respect to contract employees, all such staff who logged service of at least five years by June 2, 2014 would be regularised.

Likewise, the Cabinet has decided to offer uniform House Rent Allowance (HRA) for all employees working in a district headquarters at 16 per cent. Similarly, the Cabinet has approved the sanction of

DA and DR at 273 per cent starting January 1, 2022, which will further cost the exchequer Rs 200 crore and has also approved the establishment of the 12th Pay Revision Commission. Further, the Cabinet has decided to set up two junior colleges in the two most populous places in every mandal of each district. The Cabinet has decided to lease out 28.3 acres of Chittoor Dairy land to Amul for 99 years and sanctioned 65 jobs for the fisheries university coming up at Narasapuram in West Godavari district. In prepara-

tion for three new medical colleges that will get ready by next year at Pulivudula, Paderu and Adoni, the Cabinet has approved 2,118 posts with 70% for each one.

Likewise, the Cabinet has decided to appoint watchmen at 476 junior colleges, including appointing a deputy educational officer at revenue divisional rank, to oversee the transformation occurring in government schools. On the education front, the state has entered into an agreement with Educational Testing Services (ETS), which is based out of Princeton in the

United States, to extend TOEFL examinations to government school students starting from Class 3. Out of the 6,840 new jobs, four armed reserve police battalions will be set up with a strength of 980 posts each, adding up to 3,920 posts. These battalions will come up in S M Puram in Srikakulam district; Chittoor; Anangiri in Prakasam district and Rajamahendravaram.

Likewise, the Cabinet has approved green hydrogen and green ammonia policy with an aim to produce 0.5 million metric tonne of hydrogen and 2 billion metric tonne of ammonia in the next five years.

The Cabinet has allowed Andhra Pradesh State FiberNet Limited (AFSPFL) to bid for one crore for providing digital services and sanctioned two acres land to set up the National Centre for Design Control (NCDC) at Tadepalli in Guntur district among others.

Advisor Bhatnagar addresses 19th Management Development Program at SKIMS

JI NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JUNE 07: Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, today addressed the three day 19th Management Development Program (MDP) at Sher-e-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS) here.

The MDP was organized by the department of Hospital Administration SKIMS in association with Academy of Hospital Administration India for Medical Officers, hospital administrators, paramedical staff and other healthcare professionals.

Addressing gathering of scholars, medical researchers, doctors and other medical practitioners, Advisor Bhatnagar said that an important aspect of service delivery in medical care is being addressed through conduct of this MDP. He added that management, visionary leadership, teamwork and innovation in optimizing healthcare system to meet the evolving needs of patients and communities are most critical aspects for success of any organisation. This MDP will prove fruitful for enhancing the hospital administration not only in this prestigious institution but for whole J&K, he added. Speaking on different aspects of this program, Advisor Bhatnagar high-



lighted that this MDP is aimed to equip healthcare professionals with essential skills required to navigate the complex landscape of healthcare management effectively. He gave some valuable insights on enhancing patient experience, improving operational efficiency, implementing best practices, managing change, having a

problem solving approach, leadership and team involvement besides motivation for successful healthcare management. While complimenting SKIMS for being the front runner in providing patient care services in any situation, Advisor Bhatnagar said that the UT government is committed to provide excellent medicine to the people of

Jammu and Kashmir. He added that with the concerted efforts of Union and UT governments, there has been a sea change in healthcare system across J&K with world class medical infrastructure being established in the entire UT. Speaking on the occasion, Director SKIMS, Professor Parvaiz A Koul appreciated the department of Hospital Administration for organizing three day event where diverse topics in hospital administration are being deliberated by the experts. He expressed hope that these deliberations will benefit all the participants as well as students. National President Academy of Hospital Administration, Dr. Yashpal Sharma and Dean Medical Faculty SKIMS, Professor Bashir A Laway also spoke on the occasion and complimented the department of Hospital Administration SKIMS for hosting this event. He underlined the significance of such programs in delivery of patient care management. HoD, Hospital Administration, SKIMS, Professor G H Yattoo while speaking on the occasion, gave a detailed description about the program saying that the experts will deliberate on various topics of importance on Hospital Administration and Management administration for support.

NIPUN BHARAT MISSION: DC Doda flags off massive students' Rally

JI NEWS SERVICE

DODA, JUNE 7: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Doda, Vishesh Paul Mahajan today flagged off a grand rally here from the iconic Clock Tower Chowk organized under the aegis of Janbhagidari program, a joint effort of the Ministry of Education and the Government of India, aimed at promoting the key principles of the new education policy.

The District Institute of Education and Training (DIET) Doda played a pivotal role in coordinating the rally organised on the theme of G20 and NIPUN. The rally witnessed enthusiastic participation of students drawn from the schools from across the district. Carrying banners and chanting slogans about the new education policy, the students marched through downtown Doda, spreading awareness about the importance of quality education and its transformative impact on society.

Deputy Commissioner Doda, accompanied by the principal of DIET Doda and the staff members, led the rally, highlighting the significance of the NIPUN BHARAT mission. The collective effort aimed to engage the community in the pursuit of educational excellence. The Deputy Commissioner emphasized the need for active participation of all stakeholders to ensure the successful implementation of the new education policy.

The event served as a platform to foster collaboration among the district administration, educational institutions and the local community.

Doda Administration listens to Public Grievances at Weekly Block Diwas events

JI NEWS SERVICE

DODA, JUNE 7: To address the concerns and aspirations of the public, the District Administration of Doda today organised weekly Block Diwas programmes at five different locations across the district.

The teams of officers actively listened to the genuine issues raised by the attendees and engaged in discussions to formulate a comprehensive development plan for the Panchayats. The Block Diwas programme, held every Wednesday, serves as a regular platform for residents to voice their grievances.

This week the programme was organised at BLOCK headquarters in Bhalla, sub-division Bhaderwah; Panchayat Ghar Ganota, Sub-Division Assar; Tehsil Headquarters Thathri, sub-division Thathri; Gundra Block and Tehsil Gundra and Village Bharthi, sub-division Gandoh.

Deputy Commissioner, Vishesh Paul Mahajan, presided over the Block Diwas program held at Gundra block and listened to the issues of public importance and demands.

The attendees demanded adequate health staff, improved road infrastructure, access to clean water, and implementation of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MG-NREGA). The participants also emphasized the importance of promoting sports activities in the area.

Meanwhile, the DC inspected the functioning of local Government High School and Primary Health Center (PHC), besides evaluating the construction of a new PHC.

A large number of people attended the Block Diwas at all designated locations seeking the upgradation infrastructure in healthcare and education, as well as improved road connectivity, water supply, and electricity facilities. Various demands were raised during the programme, such as the repair of roads, the execution of MG-NREGA projects, and the enhancement of electric poles, among others.

DC Kathua presides over Block Diwas in border block Marheen



JI NEWS SERVICE

KATHUA, JUNE 07: As part of weekly Block Diwas initiative of the government, Deputy Commissioner, Kathua Rakesh Minhas today presided over a public outreach programme here at Village Gujjar Chak, Manyari in border block Marheen.

The stakeholders, including PRIs and civil society members of the area attended the programme in large numbers and projected various demands, requirements and issues of public importance.

The delegations from different areas put forth their issues and grievances and sought upgradation of Government Primary School Pansar, construction of remaining border bunkers, access to mechanism for farmers having land near zero line, filling of vacant posts of JEs in PWD department, solar pump scheme for border dwellers, up-gradation of transformer in Hariachack, redevelopment of water station at ward no 1, Chandwal, special recruitment drive for border areas and other issues of public importance.

The DC gave a patient hearing to all the demands and grievances and assured that all issues shall be taken with the concerned authorities for their timely redressal. While interacting with the public, the DC urged upon them to play an active part in the development process so that inclusive and public oriented projects and schemes are framed in larger public interest. The DC also assured PRIs and others that the issues and demands that they have put forth and registered will be seriously looked into. Moreover, the DC also gave on spot directions for redressal of many issues. While interacting with the public, the DC assured that district administration along with PRIs will make a holistic development plan to look after the aspirations of the people of border areas. He directed CEO Kathua to make a plan for augmentation of infrastructure in all schools especially in border areas. The DC also directed XEN PDD to expedite the ongoing works of Receiving Station Chakra which will improve the electricity scenario in border villages of Marheen block.

Coordination Meeting of Judicial Officers, Civil and Police Administration held at Pulwama

JI NEWS SERVICE

PULWAMA, JUNE 07: Acting on the directions of Chief Justice, High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, the coordination committee meeting of various stakeholders of justice delivery system of district Pulwama was held in the Conference Hall of District Court Complex, here.

Principal District and Sessions Judge (PD&S), Pulwama (Chairman Coordination Committee) Naseer Ahmad Dar chaired the meeting.

Additional Sessions Judge, Pulwama O.P. Thoker; Chief Judicial Magistrate Pulwama, Mansoor Ahmad Lone; Secretary of Committee, Sushel Singh Rangela, Secretary DLSA, Pulwama, Majid Farooq; Munsif, JMJC, Pulwama, Mohammad Yousef Chowdhary; SSP Pulwama; ADC, Tral, Sajid Yehya Naqash; ACR, Pulwama, JDP for Pulwama/Anantnag, Bar President Bar Association Pulwama, S.E., PDD Pulwama and Shopian, Dy.S.P., Awantipora,

District Floriculture Officer, Pulwama, Superintendent Jail Pulwama, AEEs and other concerned attended the meeting. PD&S Pulwama highlighted the aim and objective of the meeting.

The meeting discussed ways and means for ensuring delivery of timely justice to the litigants besides other issues. The PD&S, Pulwama emphasized upon the participants for streamlining and enhancing the level of coordination between the courts and other stakeholders for strengthening the justice delivery system. The PD&S assured that the security has already been enhanced in and outside the court complex in view of the assignment of the charge of special court under NIA Act to the court of Additional Sessions Judge, Pulwama. The chairman of the committee extended gratitude to all the participants of the meeting and appreciated the steps taken by stakeholders to address and resolve various issues raised in the meeting.

Chairman DDC Budgam inaugurates Macadamisation Work in Utligam Village

JI NEWS SERVICE

BUDGAM, JUNE 07: In a significant development aimed at improving the road infrastructure and connectivity in Budgam district, Chairman District Development Council (DDC), Nazir Ahmad Khan today inaugurated the macadamisation work in Utligam village.

The project marks a crucial step towards enhancing the quality of life for the residents and fostering economic growth in the region.

Utligam village, located in Budgam district, is an important community hub comprising several households and serving as a connecting point for various neighboring villages. Recognizing the necessity for better road conditions to facilitate smoother transportation and overall development, the Chairman DDC, Nazir Ahmad Khan, initiated the macadamisation project as part of the district's comprehensive infrastructure plan. During the inaugural ceremony, Chairman DDC highlighted the significance of improving road networks in enhancing the socio-economic fabric of the region. He emphasized the administration's commitment to inclusive growth and its efforts to bridge the infrastructural gaps in rural areas.

The macadamisation work in Utligam village is a testament to the administration's dedication to improving the lives of the residents and providing them with better opportunities.

World Environment Day: DC Doda participates in Tree Plantation Drive at Suigwari

JI NEWS SERVICE

DODA, JUNE 07: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Doda Vishesh Paul Mahajan today visited Suigwari area and participated in a tree plantation drive conducted to mark the World Environment Day. The event was organized by the National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL) in collaboration with the Police Department. Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP) and NHIDCL officers were also present. The primary objective of the drive was to



booster the green cover in Doda and foster a sustainable environment for future generations. During the plantation drive, numerous saplings were planted, symbolizing the unwavering commitment of the participants towards nurturing and safeguarding nature. The initiative aimed to create a more ecologically balanced region. Deputy Commissioner personally supervised the execution of the project and assessed the effectiveness of the measures implemented. In addition to overseeing the

tree plantation, Deputy Commissioner Doda engaged in discussions with relevant authorities regarding public safety. Concerns regarding potential mishaps were addressed and measures to prevent them were evaluated. Emphasizing the well-being of commuters, the DC directed the NHIDCL authorities to prioritize widening of stretches prone to accidents.

Furthermore, he urged for immediate installation of crash barriers and milestones to ensure the safety of travelers.

Enabling ease of doing business priority of Distt Admin: DC Pulwama

JI NEWS SERVICE

PULWAMA, JUNE 07: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, Dr. Basharat Qayoom visited IGC Lassipora and inspected various industrial units, besides he also interacted with various Unit holders and other stakeholders. During the interaction, President, Industrial Estates, Lassipora, Muzafar Ahmed apprised the DC about various issues and problems faced by the Unit Holders. The association apprised DC about different issues including smooth supply of drinking water in the Industrial Estates, health care facilities, proper dumping of solid waste in the

Industrial Estates, macadamization of roads including inner roads, power supply, land encroachment and smooth transportation of products to outside states. It was informed that 668 Units of Industrial Estates Lassipora provides employment to 9000 people of the district and the total turnover is 6000 Crores. The DC issued on spot directions to accompanying officers and fixed timelines for redressal of issues that are in advanced stages of compliance. He also directed the concerned from FDD for speeding up the ongoing construction and developmental work of Receiving Station by pressing its men and machinery into service

to make it functional within a week's time. Considering IGC as a crown of Industrial Estates of the Valley, DC said that it is our collective responsibility to keep the surroundings of Industrial Estates Lassipora neat and clean and make it pollution free. He directed the concerned department looking after estates to come up with a concrete plan of waste management within a fortnight. DC also visited several cold storage units and inspected various sections including CA Store, Grading Line, Packaging Section and Plant Room. Haleeb Dairy Milk, Zum Milk Products, M/S Sunrise Poly wood industries and MAS Cement Products and providing banking facilities.

Weekly Block Diwas held at remote Rampora Rajpora Area of Sopore, Baramulla

JI NEWS SERVICE

BARAMULLA, JUNE 07: Continuing the process of weekly Public Outreach Programme with an aim to listen to the issues and grievances of people at their door steps, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Dr Syed Shershah Asgar today visited Dangerspora Sopore where he chaired a day long Block Diwas Camp at remote Rampora Rajpora area. The programme witnessed large participation of people from Zaingeer, Harwan Tujar, besides other adjoining areas of Dangerspora Sopore. Among others, the Public Grievance Redressal Camp was attended by Joint Director Planning M Yousuf Rather and all district and sectoral officers of the district. During the Grievance

Redressal Camp, various Public delegations and scores of individuals projected various developmental issues before the DC and sought timely resolution of their grievances and demands. The demands put forth included providing of Ambulance for the area, augmentation of health institutions besides providing of sufficient staff for Hospital, macadamization, widening and renovation of inner links, establishment of road from Harwan to Zaiwara and renovation of Zaiwara Road. Development of tourism, providing of drinking water facility, sufficient staff for Higher Secondary School were also among the major demands of people. After giving a patient hearing to the grievances and demands of the public.



Weekly Block Diwas: DC Rajouri listens to public grievances at outreach camp in Koteranka block

JJ NEWS SERVICE

RAJOURI, MAY 07: As a part of the weekly Block Diwas, Vikas Kundal on Wednesday presided over a public outreach camp in Koteranka block to redress the public grievances at their doorsteps.

During the camp, the Deputy Commissioner interacted with the locals and listened to their issues and concerns. He assured them that their problems would be addressed on a priority basis and directed the concerned officials to take necessary action.

The camp witnessed a good turnout, with people from various parts of the block coming forward to voice their concerns. The issues raised by the locals included the macadamization of roads, up-gradation of schools, meeting payroll of staff in Government institu-



During the public outreach camp, the officers of different departments also took the opportunity to educate the locals about the government schemes and programs and urged them to take advantage of these initiatives. The Deputy Commissioner sought active cooperation from the general public in achieving the developmental goals and called for coordination among departments and PRIs. He also urged the youth to avail themselves of the various self-employment schemes launched by the government to become self-reliant.

He also said that a number of schemes have been launched by the Govt for the welfare of the public and urged them to avail the benefits of the same. Responding to the issues and demands raised during the public outreach camp, the DC passed on the spot directions to the concerned departments for ensuring the redressal of issues highlighted by the public on priority and in a time-bound manner.

Regarding the problem of water scarcity, he said that every effort is being made to achieve the goal of providing tap water to all households in a time bound manner. He also said that a number of schemes have been launched by the Govt for the welfare of the public and urged them to avail the benefits of the same.

tion and the augmentation of health infrastructure etc. Specific issues and demands highlighted during the camp were renovation of teshil road Koteranka, completion of work on road from Kandit to Mohra, new building for GPS Padayara and GPS Gura Sarkari; SBI Bank branch at Koteranka etc.

During the public outreach camp, the officers of different departments also took the opportunity to educate the locals about the government schemes and programs and urged them to take advantage of these initiatives. The Deputy Commissioner sought active cooperation from the general public in achieving the developmental goals and called for coordination among departments and PRIs.

He also said that a number of schemes have been launched by the Govt for the welfare of the public and urged them to avail the benefits of the same.

As envisaged in the Jal Jeevan Mission.

The public outreach camp was a success with the locals appreciating the efforts of the administration in reaching out to them and addressing their grievances. It served as an effective platform for the public to voice their concerns and for the government officials to take necessary actions to address them.

The timely and quality disposal of issues faced by the general public is a top priority of the district administration, and officers have been directed to work with added zeal to mitigate the sufferings of the people. Among the others present at the public outreach camp were DDC Member Budhal Old-A, Shazia Kouser; ADC Koteranka, Surinder Mohan Sharma; CPO, Mohammad Khurshid besides other district and sectoral officers.

J&K Bank Commissions CRM at Main Bazar Poonch

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JUNE 07: Carrying forward the ease-of-banking mission by expanding its digital and alternate channels network, J&K Bank today commissioned a Cash Recycler Machine in Main Bazar Poonch at its Poonch Branch.

The Bank's Zonal Head Rajouri, Satish Kumar inaugurated the CRM in presence of Cluster Head Poonch, Aneet Kanwal Singh, Chairman Municipal Council Poonch, elected public representatives amid a gathering of valuable customers, local businessmen and other Bank officials.

Speaking on the occasion, Zonal Head Satish Kumar said, "The machine has been commissioned for the convenience of our customers and people at large. The machines will specifically help the traders and businessmen of the area in better cash-management through automation while saving their valuable time and efforts."

"By accepting as well as dispensing cash during late hours and even on holidays, the self-service terminal will also ease the rush at adjacent branches", he added.

The locals especially from trading and business community appreciated the bank for its people-friendly initiatives and commitment to facilitate better customer experience through other channels of banking.

Perthently, this is the second CRM in the district and has taken the total tally of such machines in the Zone comprising of twin districts Rajouri and Poonch to seven.

DC Kulgam visits KP colony Vessu; takes stock of pace & progress of residential quarters

JJ NEWS SERVICE

KULGAM, JUNE 07: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Dr Bilal Moti-Ud-Din Bhat today visited Kashmiri Pandit/ PM Employee-colony Vessu and took a detailed stock of facilities and services available in the colony.

During the visit, the DC interacted with the inhabitants and enquired about the facilities and services available there and took a detailed stock of sanitation.

The residing employees appreciated the DC about various issues and raised several demands.

After giving a patient hearing to the issues and demands the DC assured early redressal of the issues raised by them. Acting on the demands of the inhabitants, the DC on spot instructed A&C to start work on the development of Yoga Park, establishment of open air gym and execution of other approved works in the colony.

Earlier, the DC took stock of pace and progress on construction of residential quarters which are under execution of JKPC.

The concerned informed the DC, that out of 13 towers, 08 are completed and work on 05 towers is in truss level. The DC instructed the officers of the executing agency to speed up the pace of work and complete all towers by September 2023.

DC B'pora presides over Block Diwas at Shadipora

JJ NEWS SERVICE

BANDIPORA, JUNE 07: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Dr. Owais Ahmed on Wednesday conducted a grievance redressal camp at Higher Secondary School at Shadipora as part of the weekly Block Diwas program.

Locals, including PRIs enthusiastically participated in the program to present their developmental aspirations and sought redressal of various grievances. Issues raised were with regard to roads, water supply, and irrigation, availability of teachers in schools, ration, and implementation of other social security schemes. The DC patiently listened to the grievances and suggestions of locals and PRIs and passed on spot directions for redressal of various issues. Dr. Owais urged the public to keep a watch on their wards to prevent them from falling into the trap of drug addiction. He directed Principal Higher Secondary Shadipora to conduct Drug De-addiction programmes and directed school administration to hold occasional parent-teacher meetings so that the parents could monitor their wards at home.

Locals on the occasion appreciated the administration, including police in tackling the drug menace and assured every possible support from the general public to deal with it. Later, Dr. Owais also inspected High Density Apple Orchard Shilvath facilitated by the Horticulture Department. He interacted with the farmers and urged them to avail the benefit of the schemes that are aimed to double their income.

He said the government is also keen to improve the socio-economic status of the farmers and in this regard several initiatives are being taken up to improve the farmers' produce and subsequent income by improving irrigation facilities, better fertilizers, High Density plants, and seeds besides crop insurance.

World Food Safety Day-2023 celebrated at Anantnag

JJ NEWS SERVICE

ANANTNAG, JUNE 07: To promote awareness and understanding of Food Safety, Food Safety Department Anantnag today organized a function to celebrate 'World Food Safety Day-2023' at Govt. Girls Higher Secondary School Anantnag and Govt. Boys Higher Secondary School Bijbehara on the theme 'Food Standards Save Lives'.

During the program, the attention of students was drawn towards the importance of Food standards as a way of ensuring safety and quality of food and ways to prevent, detect and manage food borne risks. The event was celebrated with a variety of activities including painting competitions, display of good hygienic practices and seminars.

Later, the students participated in the rally organized by the department to promote awareness among masses regarding safe and healthy food choices. Services of Mobile Food Testing Van were also utilized during the programme to provide general awareness among the participants regarding the detection of common adulterants in food by rapid food testing methods.

DDC Member, DC Rajouri launch construction of 7 Km PMGSY road at Hubbi

JJ NEWS SERVICE

RAJOURI, JUNE 7: District Development Council Member, Shazia Kouser and District Development Commissioner (DC) Rajouri, Vikas Kundal today launched the construction work on a 7-kilometer road under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) here from Hubbi to Bugyalokote.

Being constructed at an estimated cost of Rs 8.84 crore, the ambitious road project would benefit around a population 15,000 souls living in the area.

On its completion, the road is expected to usher in a new era of enhanced accessibility, fostering socio-economic development and empowering the residents in the surrounding areas.

After the inauguration of the work, DDC Member Shazia Kouser expressed her gratitude to all those involved in making this project a reality. She emphasized the transformative impact this road would have on the lives of the people of the area. The improved connectivity will not only facilitate safer and more efficient transportation but also provide better access to essential services and amenities, ultimately improving the overall quality of life of the residents.

The District Development Commissioner highlighted the significance of the road project in accelerating the socio-economic development of the area. He reiterated the commitment of the district administration to create a robust road infrastructure to connect rural regions with urban centers, fostering trade, commerce, and overall progress. The road's completion is expected to unlock new opportunities for economic growth and development, positively impacting the lives of the people residing in the region.

The commencement of the construction work on the Hubbi to Bugyalokote PMGSY road marks a major step towards achieving enhanced connectivity and socio-economic development in the district.

District Health Society Doda celebrates World Environment Day 2023

JJ NEWS SERVICE

DODA, JUNE 07: To raise awareness about the environment & ecology among the masses, the District Health Society Doda organized numerous activities in the District to celebrate World Environment Day 2023 on the theme "Beat Plastic Pollution".

The main programme was held at Trauma Hospital Khellani in Block Assar, which was attended by Chief Medical Officer Dr. Ab Hamid Zargar as the Chief Guest.

Speaking on the occasion, the CMO said that day is dedicated to

educate people about the environment, promote tree plantation and clean surroundings.

He advised youth to voluntarily take part in keeping their surroundings neat and clean, adding that "We all should do our bit to keep this universe safe from every type of pollution."

CMO Doda on this occasion also urged the participants and civil society to protect the mother earth by planting more and more trees as well as replacing the single use plastic with biodegradable matter, so that mother earth can be saved and remain sustainable.

Sanitary Inspector Zaheer Gattu, as the Resource Person explained about the significance of the day and how to beat the plastic pollution for the safety of the environment and healthy life.

A plantation drive was also launched by the CMO in coordination with other stakeholders. A pledge was taken by the audience to protect and conserve the environment. Other than the Health Department, the programme was attended by Principal GHSS Khellani, staff of Forest Department, local PRIs besides ASHAs of the block.

District Level Yuva Utsav on 'Panch Pran of Amritkaal' organised at Degree College Pulwama

JJ NEWS SERVICE

PULWAMA, JUNE 07: Yuva Kendra Pulwama has organised District Level Yuva Utsav on the theme 'Panch Pran of Amritkaal' in the new Auditorium of Government Degree College Boys Pulwama.

Member Parliament (MP), Hsaini Masoodi was the chief guest on the occasion.

The main objective of the programme was to celebrate the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' in the spirit of Yuva Shakti se Jan Bhagidari and to form a fraternity of young artists, writers, photographers and orators of the district under the mentorship of experts. Similar programmes are being organised across the district.

Speaking on the occasion, the Member Parliament said that the Utsav is an opportunity for the youth to take part

in various talent hunt programmes and showcase their diverse potentialities.

He said that the UT is marching towards higher echelons of progress in many fields including sports and youth development. He said the Yuva Utsav is being celebrated under the banner of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, in the spirit of recognising and cherishing the Yuva Shakti. He appreciated girl students for their best performance in day to day activities and every sphere of life. DDC Chairperson, Syed Abdul Bari Anarabi said that the objective of the programme is to provide a platform to the talented youth of the district. Deputy Director, NYK explained the five objectives of Panch Pran which includes a resolve of developed India, taking pride in our legacy, our strength of unity and fulfilling the duties of citizens with honesty.

CAHO Bandipora conducts two days tour to Gurez Valley; number of activities held

JJ NEWS SERVICE

BANDIPORA, JUNE 07: Chief Animal Husbandry Officer (CAHO) Bandipora, Dr. Gh Ahmad Lone, during his two-day tour to Gurez valley conducted a number of activities.

The tour commenced with a grand Mega Awareness cum Kisan Credit Card (KCC) Camp, where Dr. Mudasar Gul, the Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Gurez, graced the occasion as the special guest.

During the camp, 35 KCC

cases and 35 PMSBY cases were sponsored on the spot through various banks.

The attendees were informed about the ongoing schemes of the department, including Counselling (BDC) Gurez, and Sarpanchs to address various concerns. Later, CAHO Bandipora, along with his team inaugurated the AI facility at the Sub Centre in Badogam. A Cryocan, along with an AI Kit, was handed over to the Veterinary Assistant Surgeon (VAS) Badogam and

briefing about the department's activities.

In addition, fruitful discussions were held with the District Development Councilor (DDC) Gurez, Block Development Councilor (BDC) Gurez, and Sarpanchs to address various concerns.

Later, CAHO Bandipora, along with his team inaugurated the AI facility at the Sub Centre in Badogam. A Cryocan, along with an AI Kit, was handed over to the Veterinary Assistant Surgeon (VAS) Badogam and

his staff members.

CAHO Bandipora raised awareness among the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) members and the local community about the significance of Artificial Insemination (AI) and encouraged them to utilize the facilities provided by the Animal Husbandry Department (AHD). Detailed information about the various departmental schemes was also shared. Furthermore, a similar AI facility was introduced in Baktore, where Dr. Khalid

Hamid, in charge ABS, handed over the Cryocan and AI kit to the Veterinary Assistant Surgeon (VAS) Baktore.

The para-vet staff members were given comprehensive training on AI techniques, and the general public was enlightened about the role of AI in enhancing animal productivity. Dr. Khalid Hamid, in charge of Animal Breeding Section (ABS), and Dr. Shahid Hassan, Veterinary Assistant Surgeon (VAS) Ajas were part of the team that visited Gurez.

Interstate U17 Boys CVPPL Kishtwar Football Cup 2023 concludes

JJ NEWS SERVICE

KISHTWAR, JUNE 07: The interstate Under 17 Boys CVPPL Kishtwar Football Cup 2023 concluded amid a thrilling final match and the launch of the Nasha Mukht Kishtwar Abhiyan in a magnificent manner.

Hosted by District Administration Kishtwar, District Youth Services and Sports Office and Chenab Valley Power Project Pvt. Ltd, CVPPL the tournament ended with a splendid closing ceremony attended by Deputy Commissioner, Dr. Devansh Yadav as the Chief Guest. The final match was played between Sudava Delhi FC and LoneStar Kashmir FC. Sudava Delhi emerged victorious with a score of 6-1. The Deputy Commissioner presented certificates of participa-

tion to all 132 players of six teams hailing from Kishtwar, Kashmir, Jammu, Uttarpradesh and Delhi. He also presented trophies and a cash award of Rs 50,000 and Rs 25,000 to the winners and runners-up team, respectively.

In his address, the Deputy Commissioner highlighted the significance of sports in nurturing talent, promoting unity, and fostering a healthy and drug-free society. He expressed his appreciation for the remarkable performances displayed by the players during the tournament and commended the efforts of all the participants, officials, and organizers.

He encouraged the youth of Kishtwar to take a keen interest in football, emphasizing that the game offers equal opportunities for excellence and career development. Among the dignitaries

present at the event were ADDC Kishtwar Sham Lal, DSP Kishtwar Rajinder Singh, DySP Vishal Singh, HOP CVPPL Ramesh Mukhiya, DYSSO Kharati Lal Sharma, DSWO Zubair Ahmed, and the staff of DYSSO. The presence of prominent individuals and project authorities, including HOP Keru HEPP Ramesh Ojha, GM Keru R. P. Singh, Rishi Sharma (Project Manager of Pat Engineering Ltd), GM Mechanical Sudhir Kumar, AGM AFCON Naseer Masoodi, GM Patel Dool Anant Thambare, HOP Karthiabe Rajinder Kumar, further added to the event's success.

A captivating awareness activity took place during the closing ceremony, wherein students from AI-Hilal Educational Institute and Mother's Pride School under the

guidance of Javed Iqbal Kripak participated in the mesmerising formation of 'Nasha Mukht Kishtwar' activity in the Chowgan ground during the programme. The pledge for Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan was also administered during the event, reaffirming the commitment to a drug-free India. Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar also felicitated the Football team of Kishtwar that had earlier participated in the Inter-District U19 Divisional Level Football Tournament held in Jammu. Under the initiative of CVPPL Kishtwar Football Cup, District Administration Kishtwar aims to create a nurturing environment for youth, empowering them to lead meaningful and fulfilling lives besides fostering a spirit of sportsmanship.



KIC Centers of Sports Council grooming champions

J1 NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JUNE 07: The sports culture of J&K is developing with a new spirit of enthusiasm and entering a phase where play fields and indoor stadiums remain abuzz with sports activities all through and J&K Sports Council is fully committed to bringing out the best sporting talents to the fore.

Through from time-to-time interventions for making the union territory of J&K a sports hub were made, the Khelo India centers specifically allotted to J&K have given further impetus to sporting culture in J&K. The Khelo India centers have reached all the districts of J&K and its number has swelled above hundred now. The centers hone the

abilities of the young talent of J&K, and for this purpose the past champions and qualified coaches for each center were appointed who provide training and mentorship to the budding talent in various sports disciplines.

While J&K Sports Council is working on a multi-pronged strategy for the promotion of sports in the region and developing state-of-the-art sports infrastructure and creating modern facilities for the all-round development of youth, the continued support to budding sports persons from the far-flung and other areas which did not figure on the sports map earlier is laying a solid foundation for grooming of the talent for the higher forms.

In addition to scouting the best

talent in the district, each of these centers lays special emphasis on taking sports to the grassroots level and acting as an alternative arrangement for the places where no sports activities existed earlier.

The Khelo India center in Banihal is promoting the most popular game in the area, Volleyball. With more than 55 players, including 25 female trainees all the players try to give their best during the class and coincidentally each one of them dreams to play for the country and make a name in sports. The center trains both senior and junior players.

The Indoor sports complex in Bhagwati Nagar Jammu houses Khelo India Center for Wushu. With 40 trainees registered in the center, the trainees are seen practicing the skill much after the

classes are over.

Similarly, Khelo India Kho Kho center in Chattro Kishtwar has enrolled 35 trainees in the center who are also pursuing their dream to train and upskill in the most popular sport in the area.

Thanks to the Khelo India initiative, several talented athletes across Jammu and Kashmir have been given a platform to showcase their skills and get the necessary exposure and training to excel in their respective sports. The Khelo India centers have been instrumental in tapping into the sporting potential of the region and nurturing it from a grassroots level.

Most of the Khelo India centers are equipped with state-of-the-art

facilities, highly qualified coaches, and a range of training programs that cater to the needs of athletes from various age groups and disciplines. This has not only helped in the overall development of sports in the region but has also encouraged more and more children to take up sports as a viable career option.

In recent years, the demand for more Khelo India centers has significantly increased as sports enthusiasts and parents are realizing the immense potential that these centers have in shaping young talent. With the increasing demand, it is hoped that more Khelo India centers will be set up across the J&K is expected to produce top-class athletes and contribute to country's sporting legacy.

DC Anantnag flags-off Hajj Pilgrims from district

J1 NEWS SERVICE

ANANTNAG, JUNE 07: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Anantnag, SF Hamid today flagged-off the batch of Hajj pilgrims of District Anantnag at a ceremony held in Dak Bunglow Khanbal.

A comprehensive plan has been put in place to facilitate the departure of the pilgrims from Anantnag district. The plan includes arrangements for transportation, accommodation, healthcare, and other essential services to ensure a safe and comfortable journey for the pilgrims.

Speaking at the flagging-off ceremony, the DC extended his best wishes to the Hajj pilgrims and emphasized the significance of this spiritual journey. He commended the efforts of the administration and various departments involved in making the arrangements, ensuring that all necessary facilities are in place for the smooth conduct of the pilgrimage.

SDM Mendhar inspects developmental works, government offices in village Ghani

J1 NEWS SERVICE

POONCH, JUNE 07: SDM Mendhar, Jahangir Khan, along with the Tehsildar Mankote, Mohammad Maroof Qadri, ZEO Mankote and officials of line departments visited village Ghani to inspect ongoing developmental works and government offices in the area.

During the tour, the Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) visited Higher Secondary School Ghani to inspect the basic amenities and check the quality of education being provided to the students. The SDM inspected the electricity and water arrangements and also took a test of the students to check the quality of education being imparted and their original base. The school management put forwarded their requirement, which included electricity, facility of water, adequate teaching staff etc. Earlier, the SDM interacted with the locals and listened to their grievances. The locals of Village Upper Ghani raised several issues, including network problem, shortage of water, need for a health center and provision of other basic infrastructure and amenities.

Public outreach cum grievances redressal camp held at Town Hall Ramnagar

J1 NEWS SERVICE

UDHAMPUR, JUNE 07: To listen to the issues and demands of the public, a public outreach cum grievances redressal camp was conducted by Deputy Commissioner, Udhampur Sachin Kumar Vaishya here in the Town Hall Ramnagar.



BDC, Ramnagar, Des Raj, DDC, Ramnagar-I, Mool Raj SSP, Udhampur, Dr Vinod Kumar, SDM, Ramnagar, Shishir Gupta, Councillors, and other district and tehsil heads of line departments attended the camp. The camp witnessed

overwhelming participation of BDCs, DDCs besides Sarpanches, Panches and the general public of the area. They apprised the DC about a range of issues pertaining to their areas and sought

adequate drinking water supply, Maintenance of the PMGSY & PWD roads, Check on drug menace, filling up of vacant posts in health and educational institutions, Up-gradation of GHS, Sunetar &

Kaghote, Sports Stadium at Kaghote, restoration of Ultrasound and x-ray machine in SDH Ramnagar, Construction of Boundary wall of Sports Stadium, posting of adequate staff in Batyari

Animal Husbandry sub centre, construction of double lane Ramnagar - Udhampur and Dudu, Sudhmahadev road.

Responding to the demands, the DC informed the public that the work of Kunju Nallah road will be started within a week time and assured that the repair of Ramnagar Udhampur road would also be started in the first week of July.

The DC directed the Executive Engineer PMGSY to start the repair work of all the roads pertaining to the department. Further, the EO, Municipal

Committee, Ramnagar was asked to open all the locked bathrooms in the town as complained by the locals. He also informed about the beautification plan formulated for Ramnagar and Chennai towns. Later, the DC also visited SDH, Ramnagar and interacted with doctors. The DC sanctioned Rs 12 lakh for the installation of an X-Ray machine in the Hospital.

3 Kashmiri Students nominated for Japan-Asia Youth Exchange Program

J1 NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JUNE 07: In a significant achievement, three Kashmiri students have been nominated for the prestigious Japan-Asia Youth Exchange Programme in Science under the SAKURA Exchange Programme in Science.

The students, Danish Javed from UPS, Machipora, Kupwara, Mehvish Reyaz from Class 8, Govt High School, Akhbar, Kulgam, and Shaida Bano from Boys Middle School, Sheeri Payeen, Baramulla, have been selected for this elite

program. The students' nomination is a result of their remarkable achievement as they emerged among the top 60 candidates nationwide by securing their place through various innovative projects in the prestigious National Level Exhibition and Project Competition (SLEPC).

Following their nomination, the students will embark on an exciting journey to Japan. The Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, will sponsor their expenses up to Delhi, while in Japan, the Japan Science Department (JSD) will take

care of all their financial requirements. The Japan-Asia Youth Exchange Programme in Science, conducted under the SAKURA Exchange Programme in Science, is a collaborative effort between Japan and various Asian countries.

The program promotes international cooperation and cultural exchange in the field of science and technology. It offers young minds from different nations a unique chance to interact, collaborate, and learn from each other's scientific advancements, fostering mutual understanding and

building bonds of friendship. Jubilant over the development, Prof Parikhat Singh Manhas, Director of State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT), Jammu and Kashmir, emphasized the significance of increasing nominations for the INSPIRE-Awards MANAK 2023-24, compared to previous years.

"Encouraging a larger participation in the INSPIRE programme will ultimately foster scientific temperament, creativity, and entrepreneurial skills in the next generation," reiterated Prof Manhas.

The scheme, Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE), is one of the flagship programs of the Department of Science & Technology (DST), Government of India that aims to motivate students in the age group of 10-15 years and studying in classes 6 to 10.

According to the Inspire website, the program's goal is to target one million unique discoveries or ideas with scientific roots and social applications in order to promote a climate of creativity and original thought among school-children.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI (PHE) MECH RURAL DIVISION JAMMU

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

e-NIT No. 53 of 2023-24

For and on behalf of Lieutenant Governor of J&K UT, Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Mech. Rural Division Jammu, invites tenders by e-tendering mode from the reputed/registered firms/individuals for the below mentioned work:-

S. No.	Name of work	Est. cost (in lakh)	Cost of document / tender fee (in Rs.)	Bid Securing Declaration	Validity of Rates	Bid validity
1.	Replacement of wornout components of HC pump set of 10000 GPH x 250 mtrs head installed at F/P Jhajar Kotli (Unit-I)	0.492	Rs. 100/-	Bid Securing Declaration form as per Annexure "A".	180 days	180 days
2.	Replacement of wornout components of HC pump set of 4000 GPH x 275 mtrs head installed at P/s Gandhi Nallah.	0.479	Rs. 100/-	Bid Securing Declaration form as per Annexure "A".	180 days	180 days
3.	Replacement of wornout components of HC pump set of 7000 GPH x 250 mtrs head installed at F/P Kishanpur (manwal side).	0.551	Rs. 100/-	Bid Securing Declaration form as per Annexure "A".	180 days	180 days
4.	Providing/Replacement of damaged components of LT control panel along with allied works installed at F/P Nagrota.	0.675	Rs. 100/-	Bid Securing Declaration form as per Annexure "A".	180 days	180 days
5.	Providing/Replacement of damaged components of LT control panel (Guardian type) installed at T/well Sari Rakwalan	0.422	Rs. 100/-	Bid Securing Declaration form as per Annexure "A".	180 days	180 days

Date of Publishing: 06/06/2023
1. Bid documents can be seen at and downloaded from the website <http://jtenders.gov.in> from 06/06/2023 (02.50 P.m.)
2. The Bids shall be deposited on the website <http://jtenders.gov.in> from 06/06/2023 (02.50 P.m.) to 14/06/2023 (2.00 P.m.)
3. After opening the tender Bids must be accompanied by bid security and cost of Tender Document as specified in column 4 & 5 of the table (and for DIC/SSI registered firms as per Industrial Policy of J&K Govt.) payable at Jammu collected in favour of Executive Engineer PHE Mech. Rural Division Jammu.
4. Bid security will have to be in form of CDR/DR of any scheduled bank and shall have to be valid for one year from the date of issuance of tender. The cost of downloaded tender documents should be in form of Treasury Challan/e-Challan in favour of Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Mech. Rural Division Jammu payable at Jammu.

DIP/J-2812/23

SD/ (ER. HARINDER SINGH) EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI (PHE) MECH. RURAL DIVISION JAMMU

OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER, URBAN FORESTRY DIVISION, JAMMU

E-TENDERING

Tender Notice: e-NIT No. 08 of 2023-24 dated: 02.06.2023

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory, e-tenders are invited from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K Govt./Central Govt. Organizations for the following works:-

S. No.	Name of work	Adv. Cost (Rs. in lac)	Estimate Money (Rs.)	Class of Contractor	Cost of Document	Time of completion	Reserving Opening Authority
1	Construction of Internal Road for parking area at FRMC ICT Lab, Building Narwal, Jammu, Urban Forestry Division for the year 2023-24	6.41	Rs 19230	"C & D" Class	Rs. 600/-	90 days	Tender Opening Committee

The e-NIT consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, bill of quantities, (B.O.Q), Set of Terms & Conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental Website: www.jtenders.gov.in

Position of funds: Sanctioned

Position of AATS: In Process

Publishing Date	02.06.2023
Download Start Date	02.06.2023
Bid Submission Start Date	02.06.2023
Bid submission End Date	06.06.2023
Date of opening of Technical Bid	12.06.2023 (in the Office of Conservator of Forests, East Circle, Forest Complex, Dogra Hall Jammu).
Date of opening of Financial Bid (online)	13.06.2023 (in the Office of Conservator of Forests, East Circle, Forest Complex, Dogra Hall Jammu).

- The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the Departmental Website - <https://jtenders.gov.in>.
- The price bids uploaded on the website in time will be opened on 13.05.2023 at 03.00 PM in the office of (Conservator of Forests, East Circle, Forest Complex, Dogra Hall Jammu). In case of public holiday on the date of opening of the bid, the same will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.
- Bids must accompany cost of tender document as shown against each work in the shape of e-challan or treasury receipt in favour of Divisional Forest Officer, Urban Forestry Division, Jammu and earnest money in shape of CDR/DRF pledge to Divisional Forest Officer, Urban Forestry Division, Jammu. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 30 days from the date of opening of bids.
- In case of the cost of lowest bidder is found below the advertised amount, the bidder has to deposit an additional security performance in the shape of CDR/DRF before issuance of award of contract to the tune as per below details:
 - Upto 10% below rate over advertised cost Nil
 - 10% to 20% below rate over advertised cost 3% of advertised cost in shape of CDR/DRF.
 - 20% to 30% below rate over advertised cost 5% of advertised cost in shape of CDR/DRF.
 - Upto 30% below rate over advertised cost 5% in shape of CDR/DRF of advertised cost & 5% in shape of bank guarantee of advertised cost.
- Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" options as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jtenders.gov.in
- To participate in bidding process, Bidders have to get Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) as per IT Act, bidders can get Digital Signature Certificate from approved vendor.
- The Bidders have to submit their financial bids online in electronic format with digital signature. No financial bid will be accepted in physical/hard form.
- Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned above.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents i.e CDR, PAN, Treasury receipt/Challan, Registration Card, GST etc for the financial year 2023-24.
- The Department will not be responsible for any delay in online submission of the bid due to any reason (Technical or otherwise).
- The Department shall not be held responsible for selection/criteria/policy matter being adopted by the Directorate of Information regarding publishing the e-NIT, in any of the newspaper under circulation.
- The accepting department however reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons thereof.
- The contractor shall arrange the key materials like Cement, Steel in his own from authorized dealers for the above said work and quality of material shall be ISI marked and have to be verified/checked by the concerned Asst. Executive Engineer and Officers of the department before start of work.
- All other terms and conditions shall remain same as per PWD Form 25(double leaf) and as per the detailed document.

No. UFD/Tender/99-103
Date: 02-06-2023.
DIP/J-2824/23

SD/ DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER URBAN FORESTRY DIVISION, JAMMU

LMD J&K organizes training programme for repairers of weights & measures

J1 NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JUNE 07: In an effort to keep repairers of weights and measures abreast with the latest developments in the field and enhance their skill sets, the Legal Metrology Department (LMD) J&K on the directions of Controller LMD J&K, Majid K. A. Drabu organized a training programme at Srinagar.

The Controller exhorted the participants to take benefit from these training sessions and provide quality service to the users of weights and measures in view of the changing trends in the legal metrology field.

During the day-long programme, lectures along with practical demonstration were given on classification/verification of non-automatic weighing instruments and procedure of sealing as per the model approval of equipment.

The participants appreciated the initiative taken by the department in organizing such training programmes.

Inter Zone district Level sports competition for girls concludes in Ramban

J1 NEWS SERVICE

RAMBAN, JUNE 07: The Department of Youth Services and Sports, Ramban organised a series of exhilarating sports activities as part of the Annual calendar.

The events witnessed enthusiastic participation of the youth promoting the spirit of sportsmanship and healthy competition.

A four day long Inter Zone district Level Competitions for U14 and U17 Girls in the discipline Kabaddi, Kho-Kho and Volleyball was successfully conducted today at DPL Ramban.

Deputy Commissioner Ramban Musarat Islam was the chief guest on the occasion. Chief Planning Officer, Kasturi Lal, Dy. DEO Lal Chand, DYSSO Dharamveer Singh, ZPEO Banihal, Khari and others were also present on the occasion. The competition witnessed the participation of a huge number of talented girls representing 6 zones of the district. Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner advised the participating students to maintain team spirit, cooperation and coordination while participating in the sports competitions.

Jugal tours Sunderbani constituency District Rajouri, visits Wikaas Tirath

JI NEWS SERVICE

Jugal Kishore Sharma Member of Parliament Lok Sabha Jammu today tours Sunderbani Constituency at village Sloa, Bakhar, Thandapani, Channi Praat and Sunderbani in Sunderbani assembly constituency along with and Senior leaders BJP.

Member of Parliament held a series of public meetings and held Sampark Se Smarthan in Sunderbani.

He while interacting with the Labharthis of Jan Kalyankari Yojnas said that after the formation of BJP lead Government in center under the leadership of Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi Ji a tremendous develop-



ment have been seen in every nook and corner.

He said that Jammu to Akhnoor four Lane and its widening upto Sunderbani Rajouri and Poonch is the burning demand of inhabitants and

heavy road congestion & frequent accidents observed during the past times. He said that construction of National Highway is in fastest mode and construction of turnels are in great speed to give relief to the

people. He while targeting the previous government s said that they always befooled the people and done dirty politics. He always treated people as their votebanks only and neglected their development.He also inau-

gured development works done under MPLADS in Sunderbani Constituency.

Member of Parliament also visited Banpuri Ashram & Mata Sunita Ji Ashram and took blessings and visited house of Senior leaders BJP under Sampark Se Smarthan Abhiyaan.

DDC Rajinder Sharma, DDC Sangeta, BDC Balkrishan, District President BJP Neena Sharma, Gen Secretary Pritam Sharma, Mandal President Sukhdev, Senior Leaders BJP Thakur Randhir Singh, Corporator Sanjay Baru, Capt. Som Rakesh, Sarpanch Nareish Singh, Abhinav, Rajinder, Sarpanches Panches and others also present.

Ministry of Culture, GoI and Swar Dharohar Foundation celebrates Amrit Mahotsav of Independence in five states



JI NEWS SERVICE

Swar Dharohar Foundation is organizing confluence of music connoisseurs and multilingual in five states of the country Organized by Ministry of Culture and Swar Dharohar Foundation. This event was organized in Ramnagar Fort, Jammu and Kashmir in this event, the country's renowned Quawwali artists, Folk artist and Dogri singer artist were given the place to perform. The festival is showcasing the culture in five different states of the country. Swar Virasat Mahotsav, Music's Fun Writer and Majority Literary Festival is being organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture. Presentation on the first day of the festival was done by famous Quawwali singers Sameer Hayat & Saif Hayat and on the second day, the country's renowned Folk Artists from Punjab, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir and Rajasthan give their folk dance performances.

This is felt through this festival. If the countrymen of the whole of India unite with love, then God is with us and this is also the message of 'Amrit Mahotsav of Independence' i.e. Sabka Saath Sabka Vikaas.

According to Ghulam Mohammad Khan, President of Swar Dharohar Foundation, India is an example of unity in diversity for the whole world. This is the truth. It is not a responsibility to save our heritage, but it is the duty of every Indian to follow the heritage.

DC Srinagar holds Public Grievance Redressal Camp at Takiya Sangreshi Khimber

NEW BUILDING FOR GOVERNMENT BOYS MIDDLE SCHOOL TO BE TAKEN UP UNDER SAMAGRA SCHEME

1.5 KM LONG TAKIYA SANGRESHI-MONGI DAJAN ROAD BEING UPGRADED UNDER NABARD AT A COST OF RS 3.10 RORE

JI NEWS SERVICE



SRINAGAR, JUNE 07:- In its endeavour to bring Administration to the door steps of the people particularly living in remote areas of the District, the Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad today held a Public Grievance Redressal Camp under weekly Block Diwas at Takiya Sangreshi, Khimber, the last habitation of Srinagar District to listen to the developmental demands of the local people and

address their issues. DDC Member, Qaiser Ahmad Ganai, DDC Member Shahr Ahmad, Panchayat representatives and a large number of people of Takiya Sangreshi, Khimber and adjoining areas in North Tehsil of the District were part of the Public Grievance Redressal Camp.

While, Chief Planning Officer Srinagar, District Statistics & Evaluation Officer, Chief

Agriculture Officer, Assistant Commissioner Development, Chief Horticulture officer, Chief Animal Husbandry Officer, Tehsildar North, BDO Harwan, Executive Engineer R&B, Lead District Manager and other District Officers were also present on the occasion. During the Grievance Redressal Camp, the DDC members and the people of the area expressed their gratitude to the Deputy Commissioner for

bringing the District Administration at their doorsteps by holding Block Diwas at Takiya Sangreshi, Khimber the last habitation of Srinagar District. On the occasion, local DDC member, PRI representatives projected various issues and demands before the Deputy Commissioner including infrastructure upgradation of Government Boys Middle School, construction/upgradation of road from Takiya Sangreshi to Mongi Dajan, providing local transportation facility, installation of mobile tower in area for mobile connectivity, renovation of Ziyarat Takiya Sangreshi providing employment opportunities to local youth and other development related matters. The Deputy Commissioner after giving patient hearing to the grievances and demands of the public issued on the spot instructions for their time bound redressal. He assured them that all other genuine

demands and issues projected by them will be taken up with concerned authorities on priority. Addressing the gathering, the Deputy Commissioner said the purpose of holding such grievance redressal Camps is to take appraisal of local issues from the general public and ensure their time bound redressal without visiting the DC Office or other Government Offices. With regard to the demand related to upgradation of road, the DC said that upgradation work on 1.5 kilometre road from Takiya Sangreshi to Mongi Dajan via Government Boys Middle School is being taken up under NABARD at a cost of Rs 3.10 crore so that local people and school going children are benefited. Similarly, the DC asked the Tehsilidar North to identify suitable land for infrastructure upgradation of Government Boys Middle School.

GCW Gandhinagar organises Fabric Embellishment Entrepreneurship Workshop



JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUNE 07: "Passion to Profit: Fabric Embellishment Entrepreneurship Workshop organised for the students of Home Science Department concluded today at Padma Shri Padma Sachdev Government College for Women Gandhinagar.

The workshop, which spanned six days from 31st May to 7th June 2023, attracted an overwhelming response with a total of 120 enthusiastic participants. These students had the opportunity to unlock the potential of fabric embellishment and acquire the necessary skills and knowledge to start their own entrepreneurial ventures in this creative field. Under the guidance of the expert instructor, Pankaj Kapoor, from Mahit Fine Art, partici-

pants learned a variety of fabric embellishment techniques, including tie and dye, block printing, fabric painting, batik, stencil, and more. Additionally, they mastered essential business strategies such as marketing, leveraging online platforms for selling their products, and understanding the marketplace dynamics.

The success of the workshop was further amplified by the support and encouragement from the college principal, who applauded the efforts of the department members in organizing such a valuable learning experience. In a message to the participants, the principal motivated them to utilize the skills and knowledge gained during the workshop to pursue their entrepreneurial aspirations and start their own enterprises.

During the planning meeting, the

logistics and resource requirements were discussed. Participants were informed in advance to bring their own colours, fabric samples, brushes, and other relevant materials. This ensured a seamless and engaging workshop experience for all attendees. The workshop registration process was streamlined through an online registration link, providing interested individuals with the opportunity to secure their spots for this unique and empowering workshop.

The "Passion to Profit: Fabric Embellishment Entrepreneurship Workshop" not only equipped participants with artistic techniques but also instilled in them the entrepreneurial mindset necessary to succeed in the creative industry. PSFS GCW Gandhinagar is a leading institution dedicated to fostering creativity and entrepreneurship. Through workshops, seminars, and programs, college empowers individuals to explore their passions and transform them into successful ventures. The value-

edictory function was held today with participants displaying their creativity to the staff and students of the college. The organizing committee included Dr. Irvinder Kour, Head of Department of Home Science, Dr. Anjali Bhat, Prof. Neelam Bhagat, Dr. Ramandeep Kour, Dr. Neelima Gupta and Prof. Shivani Sawhney.

DC Reasi conducts extensive tour of remote Panchayat Khanikote in Block Arnas

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUNE 07: Deputy Commissioner Reasi Babila Rakwal today conducted an extensive tour of villages Sarthol Kote and Khanikote of Block Arnas.

She also listened to the public grievances at the Block Diwas programme held near CFC Khanikote. The DC acquainted the locals about various Central and UT sponsored schemes for the promotion of entrepreneurship in agriculture and allied sectors. She urged the people to reap the maximum benefit of these programmes meant for the socio-economic uplift of rural areas.

PRIs projected several demands pertaining to the rural connectivity, power scenario, school education and drinking water facilities.

They demanded early restoration of the khuls damaged during the construction of roads by railways and the PMGSY department.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the executing agency to ensure speedy restoration of these khuls. Issues regarding shortage of staff in the schools in Khanikote Panchayat, besides inflated bills of electricity were also raised by the general public & PRIs. They also complained about scarcity of water.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the executing agency for immediate maintenance and repair of existing water supply schemes till the completion of Water Supply scheme under JIM. Issues regarding land compensation and crop compensation were also raised.

Earlier, the DC laid the foundation stone of Water Supply Scheme Khanikote and Sarthalkote. She also visited Government High School Khanikote and directed the executing agency R&B to verify the status of the school building. She directed the Executive Engineer REW to prepare estimates of the work for the construction of Protection wall at GHS Khanikote under PRIs grant.

DC Kathua reviews preparations for Shri Amarnathji Yatra-2023



JI NEWS SERVICE

KATHUA, JUNE 07: In view of ensuing annual Shri Amarnathji Yatra (SANJY) 2023, Deputy Commissioner Kathua, Rakesh Minhas today convened a meeting of district officers to review the arrangements being put in place at Lakhampur and along the Yatra route.

DC State Taxes Department, Ranjit Singh, Registrar, Suresh Kumar, Executive Engineers of Jal Shakti, PDD and other officers of line departments, besides representatives of civil society members and Industrial houses attended the meeting.

At the outset, threadbare discussion was held regarding the preparations and arrangements being made by different departments including provision of water and electricity, Medicare facilities, sanitation, security, besides status of ongoing works and other related arrangements.

The officers from all concerned departments apprised the DC about preparations and progress of works going on, at Lakhampur and other identified locations to facilitate yatra.

While reviewing the arrangements, the DC directed officials to make better planning and maintain inter-departmental coordination at all levels to complete the arrangements well ahead of the start of the annual Yatra. He further stressed on early execution of all development works for the smooth conduct of Yatra. He exhorted the departments to maintain sanitation and cleanliness and sufficient public convenience/toilets at Lakhampur and other halting places for Yatries. The special stress was laid on an efficient drainage system, adequate water supply and 24x7 power supply. While interacting with industrialists, the DC sought active participation from Industrial houses under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) during the ensuing Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra.

Power shutdown

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUNE 07: Chief Engineer (Distribution) JPDCI, Jammu has informed that the power supply to Industrial Area, IGC, DC Office, Rahiyan, BSF, Bainglad and adjoining areas shall remain affected on June 10 from 9 am to 10 am.

Similarly, the power supply to Industrial Area, DC Office, Rahiyan, BSF, Bainglad, Mawa, PHE, Rangoor, Rangarh, Nanga, Dadyal, SM Pura, Abtal, Lambari, Bagnot, Narian, Chowki-Jangher, Ola Darhal, Lam, Jaroka, Dalbar, Dharat, Gagrote, Kowsheera town, Channi Tana, Rajpura, Halimthor, Tara Nagar, Kalibari, Patel Nagar, Shiv Nagar, Chak Luddan, Shastri Nagar, Ram Nagar, GMC, PHE installations, Police Line and adjoining areas shall remain affected on June 11 from 6 am to 10 am.

Meanwhile, Superintendent Engineer (Distribution) JPDCI, O&M Circle, Kathua has informed that the power supply to Industry Feeder Area and adjoining areas shall remain affected on June 08 from 6 am to 10 am.

Similarly, the power supply to Joggur, 17 Miles, Swankha Morh, Najwal and adjoining areas shall remain affected on June 09 from 6 am to 10 am. Likewise, the power supply to Mangloor, Dinga Amb, Kheri, Thein, Kakra and adjoining areas shall remain affected on June 08 from 7 am to 10 am.

Jammu Smart City Ltd organises awareness workshop for street food vendors, Mutton, Poultry handlers

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUNE 07: A Workshop on Food Safety with Hygiene and Sanitation for Street Food Vendors and Mutton and poultry handlers was organised today here under the Eat Right Initiatives of Jammu Smart City Ltd (JSCIL) which is also among the top 11 smart cities in India in the recently concluded Eat Right Smart City Challenge, a Nationwide campaign by FSSAI. Food safety is a shared responsibility between governments, producers, and consumers. Everybody has a role to play from farm to table to ensure the food



we consume is safe and will not cause damage to our health. Through the World Food Safety Day, Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi has envisioned mainstreaming food safety in the public agenda and reducing the burden of food borne diseases.

World Food Safety Day is celebrated across the globe on 7th June every year. In this context, under the Eat Right Initiatives, Jammu smart city organised a one day workshop to generate awareness about food safety among the stakeholders and general public

with the year 2023 theme "Food Standards Save Lives". The Chief Guest of the programme, the Chairman Health & Sanitation, Arun Khanna inaugurated the workshop. In his inaugural address, he said that this is such an important topic for which stakeholders and the public in general need to be sensitized at a mass level and take this movement to every household. Kulbhushan Khajuria, Joint Commissioner, Health and Sanitation - the Guest of honour of the event, highlighted the importance of the programme and appreciated JSCIL initiatives for organising such workshop on orientation programmes to sensitize/aware the stakeholders and general public at grassroots level. Municipal Health Officer, Dr. Vinod Sharma explained the role of Municipal Corporation for maintaining sanitary conditions in all the 75 wards of JMC and launching of evening auto service for the collection and disposal of mass level and take this movement to every household. The programme was designed to highlight the essentials of Hygiene and Sanitisation and what further steps can be taken to sensitize the general public at the mass level and to take this movement to every household.