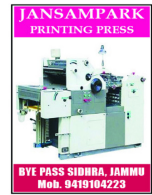




JINDRAH IMAGES



DAILY | JAMMU | VOL NO: 10 | ISSUE NO: 135 | PAGES: 12 | PRICE: Rs 2/- | RNI NO: JK/ENG/2013/49471 | POSTAL REGD. NO. JK-497/22-24 | dailyjindrahimages.com/Epaper.php | jindrahimages123@gmail.com

Nearly 29 CCTV cameras, 4 body scanners to be installed at Amarnath base camp as security measure

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUNE 12

Nearly 29 CCTV cameras will be installed in and around the main base camp for Amarnath pilgrims in the winter capital of Jammu and Kashmir, said an official on Monday.

The Yatri Niwas Bhagwati Nagar in Jammu serves as the main base camp for pilgrims from across the country before they leave for Kashmir to pay obeisance at the 3,880-metre-high holy cave shrine of Amarnath.

The pilgrimage is scheduled to commence from the twin tracks on July 1.

According to officials, the



Yatri Niwas will have nearly 29 CCTV cameras installed in and around the area with two big 360-degree cameras. These cameras will monitor

the entire area round the clock through an electronic eye, they said, adding that four body scanners will also be deployed at the site.

The Yatri Niwas based at Jammu's Bhagwatinagar area will also have close-circuited fire hydrant systems in all the buildings and setups of the basecamp besides an air-conditioned community kitchen halls for the first time.

The repair, renovation, and facilitating work is also going on here at a fast pace to ensure that the basecamp is ready before June 20.

"The work on the repair and renovation of the Yatri Niwas is going on smoothly. The facilitating is going at a fast pace. We expect that Yatri Niwas will be ready by June 20", an officer said.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

Democratisation of technology important tool to help bridge data divide: PM Modi

JNEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 12

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on June 12 pitched for the democratisation of technology to bridge the data divide and told G20 delegates that India is willing to share its experience with partner countries as digitalisation has brought about a revolutionary change here. Speaking to G20 Development Ministers through a video address, Mr. Modi also batted for reforms in multilateral financial institutions to expand their eligibility criteria to ensure that finance is accessible to those in need.

He underlined the growing data divide and said high quality data is critical to meaningful policy-making and efficient public delivery.

The health of the pilgrims, SASB has released a list of permitted and banned meals, food items at 'langars' and made it clear that no junk and fried food will be allowed to be served at around 120 langars," an official said.



A list of banned and permitted items has also been shared with the larger authorities.

The banned food items included poori, bathura, pizza, burger, stuffed parantha, dosa, fried roti, bread with butter, cream based foods, pickle, chutney, fried papad, chowmein and all other fried/ fast foods, cold drinks and karrah halwa, jalebi, gulab jamun, laddu, khoya burfi, rasgulla and all other halwai items besides snacks (high in fat and salts)

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

Dangri Terror Attack

Victims' Families Block Jammu-Poonch Highway; Demand Justice



JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUN 12

Family members of the seven civilians killed in a terror attack in Dangri village of Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district in January this year blocked the Jammu-Poonch National Highway on Monday.

Demanding justice, hundreds of villagers marched in a procession from Dangri and blocked the busy highway

near Muradpur, half-a-km away from the scene of the terror attack in Rajouri district.

The victim families sought identification and arrest of the culprits behind the attack without any further delay, officials said.

Terrorists had struck Dhangri village on January 1 and targeted villagers before fleeing the scene, leaving

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

Samosa, Jalebi, Pizza, Burger and more banned during Amarnath Yatra

JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUNE 12

Acting tough on junk and unhealthy food, Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board (SASB) said that foods, including halwa puri, samosas, jalebi, gulab jamun, etc., will not be served to Yatis during this year's Himalayan pilgrimage.

This year's 62-day long Amarnath Yatra will begin on July 1.

SASB officials said that over 120 langars (community Kitchens) are being established this year

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

Vimarsh Aryan calls on LG Manoj Sinha

JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUNE 12

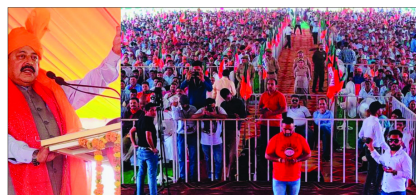
Vimarsh Aryan, Deputy High Commissioner of India in Mauri-

tius called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan, today.

He discussed various important matters with the Lt Governor, including successful G20 meeting, trade and tourism potential of J&K UT and investment opportunities in different sectors.



Udhampur among Country's most developed constituencies in Nine Years: Jitendra Singh



JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUN 12

Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh on Monday said that Udhampur-Kathua-Doda is among the country's most developed Lok Sabha constituencies in the last nine years.

Addressing a public rally in Udhampur district to mark the completion of nine years of the government headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Dr Singh said that this has been possible because Prime Minister Narendra Modi was forthcoming in giving high priority to the regions that had been neglected by the earlier governments, he said.

"Udhampur got North India's first river rejuvenation project in the form of Rs 190 cr Devika project,"

said Dr Singh adding that the question to ask is why no earlier

government or MP took it up even though river Devika has been there for centuries and has been worshipped by all as the elder sister of Ganga.

Udhampur also got its first Radio Station for which the demand had existed for over half a century, he said.

Dr Singh said Udhampur-Kathua-Doda Parliamentary Constituency is perhaps the only Constituency in India which got three medical Colleges from central funds in these 9 years.

He said, "this constituency has distinguished its name in India and in the world as the birthplace of 'Purple Revolution' which has given birth to Agri-tech Start-Ups and lavender farming not only in J&K but across the country."

"This Parliamentary Constituency has all the potential to contribute

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

Amarnath Yatra is a symbol of collective culture of India, J&K: Union Minister Jitendra Singh

JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUN 12

Union minister Jitendra Singh on Monday said the annual Amarnath Yatra is a symbol of the collective culture of the country and Jammu and Kashmir and was not a political issue.

Talking to reporters on the sidelines of a public rally organised by the BJP here to highlight the achievements of the Narendra Modi-led government over the past nine years, the minister, who is also the local MP, expressed confidence that a large number of devotees will join the pilgrimage this year.

"Amarnath Yatra is not a political issue. It is a symbol of the collective culture of the country and Jammu and Kashmir. The Hindu devotees join the yatra in large numbers and are welcomed by Muslims of Kashmir who also made arrangements for them," the minister said.

He said the tradition needs to be further strengthened instead

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

Light Rains forecast for tomorrow as night temp drops at most places in J&K

JNEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUN 12

Mainly dry weather has been forecast during next 24 hours and light rain and thunderstorm at scattered places of Jammu and Kashmir from June 13 to 17.

A meteorological department official said that today was expected to be "warmer" than yesterday.

From June 13-17, he said, weather was expected to be "partly to generally cloudy." "Light rain/thunderstorm

was expected at scattered places of Jammu & Kashmir," he said, adding, "Some places in Jammu region are likely to receive moderate to heavy thundershower during June 14-15th (60% chance)," he said.

Regarding the temper-

ature, he said, Srinagar recorded a low of 14.6°C against 16.6°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 0.3°C for the summer capital.

Qazigund, he said, recorded a low of 11.6°C against 14.8°C on the

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

3 drug smugglers arrested for shooting at locals in Samba, 2.8 Kg Heroin Seized



JNEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUN 12

Three alleged narcotic smugglers from Punjab were arrested after they shot at two local youths in a village near the International Border in Samba district of Jammu and Kashmir on Monday, police said.

Later, 2.8 kilograms of heroin worth crores of rupees was recovered at the instance of the accused who were identified as Jagdeep Singh (21) and Satinderpal Singh of Tarn Taran and Sunny Kumar (22) of Amritsar, they said.

The three accused were arrested after they shot at two youths during a scuffle between the two sides on the intervening night of Sunday and Monday, Samba Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Benam Tosh told reporters.

The youths, both from Ramgarh sector, and one of the smugglers were injured in the firing near Rangnoor bus

stand, he said.

"The arrest of the three heroin smugglers is a big achievement for police... no terror link has been established so far. It is a matter of investigation whether the smugglers had come to pick up a consignment or deliver one," the SSP said.

Giving details of the incident, Tosh said when the heroin smugglers from Punjab reached the border village of Rangoor Camp, they got into an argument with a group of eight local youths over letting their car pass through.

As the argument escalated, Satinderpal opened fire with a pistol, resulting in bullet injuries to two youths - Sunil Kumar (21) and Sunil Kumar (23) - and his associate Sunny Kumar, he said.

He said the smugglers, including Sunny, abandoned their car and tried to flee the spot on a motorcycle of one of the locals but were intercepted by police at a nearby checkpoint and arrested.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

Rs 7 Lakh, "believed to be proceeds of terrorism," seized from Poonch, one arrested

JNEWS SERVICE
POONCH, JUN 12

With the arrest of a person, police on Monday recovered Rs 7 lakh in cash, "believed to be proceeds of terrorism," from a house in village Allapoor here.

"The cash is believed to be proceeds of terrorism. Further investigation is underway," a police officer said. A case under sections 13/18 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act and sections 4/5 of the Explosive Substance Act has been registered at the Poonch police station, police said.

The operation was led by Poonch Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP), Vinay Sharma.

"During the questioning, the accused Mohd Safer disclosed that the cash amounting to Rs 7 lakh which is believed

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

DPAP holds strong protest against Ration curtailment, electricity, property tax, CUET exams



J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 12: Democratic Progressive Azad Party on Monday protested in Jammu and submitted the memorandum of demands to the Divisional Commissioner Jammu seeking his immediate intervention to address the growing public concerns over curtailments of Ration, price rise, rising electricity bills, CUET exams, and outsourcing of local minerals to outsiders. The protest was led by Senior party leadership including R.S.Chib, G.M Saroori, Jugal Kishore Sharma and others. "The people of Jammu and Kashmir have been pushed to the walls. While on one side the unemployment is on rise, on the other side there is a steep rise in prices of essential commodities. It is hurting the economic prospects of common people," said R.S Chib General Secretary DPAP.

"As if it was not enough, the government has also curtailed the scale of ration to the APL category people which has impacted them adversely and forced them to buy rice in open market at exorbitant rates," he added.

The DPAP workers later marched towards the Divisional

Commissioner office where they submitted the memorandum for demands. They demanded immediate roll back of all the policies of the government which allows outsourcing of resources. "No resources shall be outsourced at the cost of local people."

The people of Jammu and Kashmir have the first right over its resources, these resources have not been only building our economy but were fetching employment to thousands of people," G.M.Saroori said.

The protesters also asked to exempt the people from electricity charges who have meagre income. Due to mismanagement of National Testing Agency in conducting CUET exams for admission in Graduate and post graduate courses in Jammu and Kashmir, we demand that for this year CUET should not be made applicable for students of J&K and requesting to allow the students to take admissions in different colleges and Universities of J&K on the previous pattern. Jugal Kishore Sharma said, "The policy of installing digital metres is a good step but treating all in the same line irrespective of financial gaps is gross human rights violations.

So we urge those who have less

or meagre income to feed families must be exempted and provided free electricity." The economic condition of the people of J&K has gone from worse to worst, people are already under the burden of bank loans, unemployment is at peak, people are in hand to mouth situation and under these circumstances imposition of property tax is an arbitrary decision, such a decision is otherwise has to be taken by an elected Government and moreover such taxes are to be passed by general council of Municipal bodies. We strongly oppose the decision of imposition of property tax and request for its immediate roll back, also old age pension must be given and Kerosine oil and sugar should be introduced again said G.M.Saroori Vice Chairman.

Among others present on the occasion were R. S Chib, General Secretary, Vice Chairman G.M.Saroori, Jugal Kishore Sharma Provincial President, Vinod Sharma Gen Secretary, Arvind Singh Mickey Gen Secretary, Anita Thakur Gen Secretary, Ch. Garu Ram Zonal President, Zonal President P.R. Manhas, Zonal President, Subhash Gupta Provincial VP, Brijeshwar Singh Indoo Distt President Kathua, Maheshwar Singh Gen Secretary Provincial, Ashok Bhagat Distt President, Gourav Chopra Distt President, Hiralal Abrol Secretary, Masood Choudhary Secretary, Mrs. Prabha Salathia Mahila Chief, Gurmeet Kaur, Sunita Arora, G. Singh Majotra, Rajinder Singh Manhas, Anoop Khajuria, Vishal Chopra, Surinder Bhagat, Kulwant Singh Chib, Bishan Magotra, Suraj Prakash, Rattan Lal, Mohinder Sharma, Shammi Salathia, Zafarulla Sheikh, Sat Pal Mandi, Birinder Partap Singh, Vicky Mahajan, Ashok Khajuria and others.

BJP holds a massive public rally at Udhampur

J I NEWS SERVICE

UDHAMPUR, JUN 12: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) held a massive public rally at Udhampur under a series of programmes being organized in conjunction with the completion of nine years of Narendra Modi government.

BJP District Udhampur organized a massive public rally prominently addressed by J&K BJP President Ravinder Raina, Union MoS Dr. Jitendra Singh, Seh-Prabhari J&K Ashish Sood, J&K Vice Presidents Yudhvir Sethi and Pawan Khajuria.

Ravinder Raina, while addressing the public, said that the Modi government has benefited people in every manner in these 9 years, which has given rise to the concept of '9 Saal Bemisal'.

He said that such a huge gathering is an indicator that the people in every area are voluntarily coming forward to stand with the BJP as they are convinced that the BJP is the need of the nation and its citizens.



Ravinder Raina said that the Narendra Modi government has completed 9 years and this period has proved to be a golden time in the history of India. The people are watching them all. They counted various projects for connectivity, power generation, tourism, healthcare, and education and said that previous governments of Congress, NC and PDP were never concerned for J&K and its people.

Dr. Jitendra Singh, while addressing the rally, said that when entering J&K from Udhampur and moving ahead, one can see development works after

two kilometers. Every district in J&K has self-speaking development projects at the Tehsil and block levels. He said that the Narendra Modi government has gifted J&K with a record amount of progress and prosperity. The welfare of the Modi government during the past nine years has taken care of every section of society.

Ashish Sood said that a change on the ground is visible in the entire length and breadth of J&K and people are openly appreciating the nine years rule of PM Modi. He said that this government has given one of the biggest gifts of abro-

gation of Article 370, which has resulted in the beginning of an era of peace developments.

The Vice President of the J&K BJP, Yudhvir Sethi, conducted the proceedings of the event. BJP leaders Pawan Khajuria, Chander Mohan Gupta, Pawan Gupta, Dalip Singh Parihar, Noelam Lenghe, RS Pathania, Balwant Singh Mankotia, Pawan Sharma, Ankush Gupta, Tariq Keen, DDC Chairman Lal Chand, Pawan Sharma, Vipam, Som Raj Khajuria, Juhli Pathania, and Arun Gupta were prominent among those who were present at the public rally.

Manjit Singh concerned over increasing crime related incidents in Samba



J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 12: Apni Party Provincial President, Jammu, and Former Minister, S. Manjit Singh has expressed concern over the crime related incidents in District Samba.

Addressing a meeting of youth in Bari Brahmana which was organized by Youth Wing Block President of Bari Brahmana, Irshan Choudhary, the former minister said that the increase in crime related incidents is a serious cause of concern for the people in Samba.

He said that these incidents have posed a serious threat to the peaceful atmosphere in Samba.

"Today's firing in Ramgarh is an eye-opener. In this shocking incident outsiders opened fire on the

locals which left three people wounded with bullet injuries," he said.

He demanded stringent action against those involved in the firing incident and demanded that police must curb the criminal activities in the district. He questioned how the outsiders managed to enter Ramgarh with arms after crossing police checkpoints at various areas including on Jammu-Pathankot highway and targeting local people.

Besides, he also said that the robbery incidents have increased. He also highlighted how drug addiction has destroyed the future generation and the chain of smuggling drugs into the districts needs to be cracked.

"The police should not only arrest the drug addicts, and ped-

dlers, but they should break the supply chain to end the menace in the society," he said, and sought support of the civil society and family members in all the villages to get involved in the noble cause.

He said that without the involvement of families and members of civil society it would not be possible for the police to fight drug addiction.

He also appealed to the youth to involve themselves in sports activities at the village level and the civil administration should provide them with sports kits, besides, organizing motivational programmes from time to time for the guidance of the youth.

"The youth should be provided ample guidance on how to achieve their goals and coaching at their respective villages by the former civil servants, businessmen, prominent industrialists and ex-servicemen with regard to services in armed forces, civil jobs and private sector," he said. Prominent among those who were present on the occasion include Youth Wing, Provincial President Jammu, Vipul Bahi, District President Youth Wing Samba, Mangat Ram, Block President Youth Pramandal, Vikram, and others.

Blood donation camp organised by Bravo Coy of 4 J&K Bn DDC & DLC



J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 12: Under the Patronage of 4 J&K Bn NCC Unit and NSS Unit of Dogra Degree College and Dogra Law College organised Blood Donation Camp in collaboration with Govt. Hospital Samba. Total 50 cadets and students volunteered to donate blood during camp held at college premises. The camp was held to mark the "World Blood Donors Day" which is celebrated on 14th of June every year.

A mobile blood collection van of Govt. Hospital Samba was deployed and Para Medical Staff under the instructions and supervision of Dr. Sandeep Rangroo assisted in the blood donation drive.

The camp started with the motivational lecture by Dr. Sandeep Rangroo, Nodal Officer, Govt.

Hospital Samba. He explained to the cadets the importance of blood donation. He said it is difficult to get donors for patients suffering from thalassaemia and cancer and voluntary donations can serve the cause of such patients.

While inaugurating the camp Dr. Vidhi Bhatial, Chief Medical Officer, Samba said that it is a global call for the students and cadets to come forward to donate blood voluntarily and stressed that blood donation is a self less contribution which benefits the patients who need care.

The highlight of the day was a visit by Commanding Officer, Col. R M Sharma 4J&K NCC Battalion who not only motivated the cadets and students volunteers to donate blood but also led them by example by donating blood himself. The visiting officer also distributed the B

Certificates & Camp Certificates. The day long camp in which NCC Cadets of Dogra Law College, Dogra Degree College along with staff members and other students donated blood generously. It was heart warming and encouraging to see the overwhelming responses of students specially girls who queued up in large number for their turn to donate blood.

During the opening of the camp Dr. Samar Dev Singh Charak, Secretary, Dogra Educational Trust, Kr. Gambhir Dev Singh Charak, Member Trustee, Dogra Educational Trust , Dr. Darshana Sharma, Director, Dogra Group of Colleges & CD, Dr. Bela Thakur, Principal, Dogra Degree College, Prof. V P Magotra, Principal, Dogra Law College were present to motivate and applauded the volunteers. Director DGC & Principal DDC appreciated the efforts of Mr. Gulshan Sharma, CT/ANO Dogra Degree College and Ex-Subedar Om Prakash, CT/ANO Dogra Law College to initiated the idea of organizing camp and motivated students for this Nobel cause.

The voluntary blood donation camp was conducted successfully by Dr. Sandeep Rangroo, Nodal Officer, Govt. Hospital Samba, ably assisted by Dr. Deepika Kumari (Pathologist), Mr. Pariminder Singh (Senior Lab Technician), Ms. Neelam (Junior Staff Nurse), Mr. Satpal Bhagat (Basic Health Worker), Mr. Tejinder Singh (Driver).

Col Mahan lays foundation stone of Community Facility Center in Bilawar

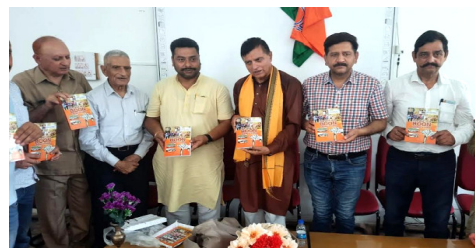
J I NEWS SERVICE

BILLAWAR, JUN 12: The District Development Council (DDC) Chairman of Kathua, Colonel Retd Mahan Singh, marked a significant milestone by laying the foundation stone of the Community Facility Center in Bhaddu, located in the Bilawar area of district Kathua.

Expressing his gratitude, the DDC Chairman extended his heartfelt thanks to Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh for his unwavering support and dedication towards the development of the region.

Dr. Jitendra Singh allocated Rs 25 lakh from his Member of Parliament Local Area Development (MPLAD) funds for the construction of this much-needed community center.

Speaking on the occasion, Col Mahan Singh emphasized that under the visionary leadership of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, rural areas have



witnessed unprecedented development, achieving growth at par with urban areas.

The initiation of the Community Facility Center in Bilawar is a testament to the government's commitment to providing essential infrastructure and facilities to every corner of the country.

Later, Col Mahan Singh also unveiled the new edition of the book titled "Vridhnavastha Vardaan Hai Aur Abhishaap Nahi"

authored by renowned social worker, Ishwar Soni. The Chairman praised the author's profound insights and valuable contributions in raising awareness about the challenges and blessings of old age.

Col Mahan Singh has also interacted with prominent personalities and intellectuals present during his visit to the area. He shared the remarkable achievements of the Modi government during its nine years of governance

at the Center, highlighting various developmental initiatives and transformative policies.

The event witnessed the presence of distinguished guests, including DDC members ND Tripathi and Vikram Singh, Municipal Council President Omakant Basotra, Sarpanch Poli Devi, CS Spolia, Kuldeep Kumar, as well as BJP functionaries Ravinder Billawaria, Dr. Bundeshwari Parsad, and Pooeyosh Raina.

Councillor Sahil Gupta felicitates Adha Mosoal for securing 94% marks in 12th Exam

J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 12: Bhartiya Janata Party Leader and Councillor from Municipal Committee Bishnah, Mr Sahil Gupta today honored Adha Mosoal, daughter of Raj Kumar's family living in Ward No 7. Councillor Sahil Gupta honored her by giving Momento and Mata ki chunri and wished the family Members.

Councillor Sahil Gupta told that Adha Mosoal has brought laurels to his ward and Bishnah by Securing 94% marks in Class 12th, for which he is very happy, Gupta



was accompanied by Vijay Kumar, Ajay Kumar, Bawa

Sharma and Rohit Kumar of the ward.

JASHN-E-DRUGMULLA - PARWAZ-E-KASHMIR" organised by Indian Army concludes on a high note of positivity



JJ NEWS SERVICE

Zubair Peerzada

Suprawa, Jun 12: The two days mega event "JASHN-E- DRUGMULLA - PARWAZ-E-KASHMIR" organized by Indian Army at Higher Secondary School, Drugmulla concluded on Sunday evening, amidst large gathering of people who participated in the event with full vigour and were seen enjoying with their families on both the days.

The two day mega event had free medical,dental and drug de-addiction camps, stalls from department of handicraft and handloom,

Krishni Vigyan Kendra and career counselling by Skyline.

The event also has singing and dancing talent hunt, free swings and various games for children with attractive prizes. A volleyball championship was also organised in the occasion in which Young Boys ,

Andherhama emerged victorious. People were seen taking full benefit of free medical and dental camp and children enjoyed the free swings and won attractive prizes by participating in number of games.

A tug of war was also organised wherein a total

of eight teams from different panchayats participated with full enthusiasm and Drugmulla C emerged victorious.

The event also had a scintillating dance performance on Kashmiri songs by Yemberzal Cultural Group. In addition to other cultural programmes, the main attraction of the mega event was exhilarating performance by Kashmir's own Arijit Singh - Ishfaq Kawa who mesmerized the audience with his soulful voice.

Speaking on the occasion, GOC Vajir Division, Major General Girish Kalia praised the local talent and complimented the artists for their wonderful renditions and carrying forward the rich heritage of Kashmiri culture.

The GOC quoted our late Honourable President Dr APJ Abdul Kalam and urged everyone to be part of Parwaz-e-Kashmir by contributing towards taking Kashmir to newer and greater heights.

At the conclusion of the event, all the participants were felicitated by the GOC. All the attendees went back satisfied as joyful souls with reverberating music in their heart and thanked Indian Army for organising such a mega event.

Sonia led UPA planned to surrender Siachen to Pakistan: Rana

JJ NEWS SERVICE

GHAZIABAD JUNE 12: "The Sonia Gandhi led UPA headed by the Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh at the behest of the foreign powers had decided to handover the strategic Siachen to Pakistan in 2006 probably on a quid pro quo basis for some personal benefits to some individuals" said Senior BJP leader, Mr. Devender Singh Rana while addressing the Sanyukta Morcha Sammelan of the BJP Karyakartas of the Loni Assembly Constituency at Ghaziabad.

Rana said had this action not been aborted on the instance of the Army and the security experts the country's defence would have been compromised and it would have been advantage Pakistan and China. He said Congress's nail India mission began with Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru taking the so-called Kashmir issue to the United Nation in 1947 thereby internationalising it and now following the same footsteps Rahul Gandhi is on defame-India slanderous campaign on the foreign soil.

Rana described the affirmation of the sensational disclosure on the Siachen Glacier in the Ladakh Region by none other than the former Foreign Secretary Shyam Saran and corroborated by Gen (Retd) JJ Singh as a classic example of wielding power without accountability or responsibility. But for pressing the last-minute safety valve by the Army and other Security experts, Sonia Gandhi would have gone away with inflicting a deep scar on the Indian pride and psyche he said adding that this has been how going on under dynastic control for the past 75 years since independence. Such a disastrous move reflects how the Congress is undermining the valour and sacrifices of the Indian soldiers, particularly in the backdrop of 890 valiant soldiers and officers achieving martyrdom during Operation Meghalot in 1984 to save this strategic piece of land, he added.

Devender Rana said the nation is now getting clarity on motivation behind the Congress inking Memorandum of Understanding with the ruling Communist Party of China signed by Mr. Rahul Gandhi in the presence of Xi-jinping and Sonia Gandhi ,meeting the

Dragon envoys amid bloody Doklam crisis. The buck did not stop there as the Gandhi scion is crying hoarse over democracy in danger in India during his ongoing US visit and more importantly China occupying the Indian territory, thus demoralising patriots and giving moral boost to Beijing, he said, adding this rhetoric cannot be deemed in the national interest.

He said the dubious Congress politics with its active support of its cohorts did much harm to the national interest, especially in Jammu and Kashmir, which remained the theatre of their dirty tricks for nearly three decades. And, when the course correction was made by the government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi by abrogating Article 370 and Article 35A, the Congress unleashed tirade, thus giving fodder to anti-India Pak canons, he said and dwelt in detail on the turn-around in the Kashmir situation post August 5, 2019 developments.

"Peaceful Kashmir is the latest eyecore for the Congress, which can go to any extent in its hate Modi campaign", Mr Devender Rana said, adding that the nation now roars in between the lines. He exhorted the BJP Karyakartas to inform the compatriots during their Sampark Abhiyan about the self-centric policies of the united opposition, especially the Congress.

During his day-long Abhiyan, Mr Devender Rana met the prominent citizens of Ghaziabad and addressed the beneficiary conference at Hapur, as part of the massive public outreach programme of the BJP.

Zila Adhikary Sanjwal Sharma, Dinesh Singh, Umesh Rana, MLA Sahibabad Sunil Sharma, Ex MLA Sahibabad Suresh Sharma besides Presidents of Morchas, Mandal Presidents and prominent party functionaries were present.

Vibodh highlights transformation in J&K under Modi govt

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU JUNE 11: BJP Jammu and Kashmir General Secretary Vibodh Gupta organised an impactful outreach programme as the part of "Sampark sa Samraath" campaign in RS PURA. During the outreach programme, Vibodh Gupta engaged in a productive dialogue with the prominent citizens of RS PURA. He visited the residence of Dr Ashwani Joja Founder member of Sechog India, Pardeep Agarwal a renowned Businessman, Kuldeep Raj gupta President Industry and trade at RSPura. He also interacted with General Public in RSPura Bazar. He listened to their feedback, concerns, and aspirations and assured them of the government's continuous efforts in addressing their needs and working towards the overall development and progress of the Union Territory.

District President BJP Jammu South Rekha Mahajan ,Former MLC Vikram Randhawa



,District General Secretary Akash Chopra ,Pt. Ashok khajuria ,Municipal Committee Chairman Satpal pappi ,Mandal President Bikram Sandhu and local karyakartas accompanied her during the programme.

Vibodh emphasized the significant developments and transformative measures undertaken by the government after the abrogation of Article 370.

He underscored the transformative changes that the Modi government has brought on various

sectors, including infrastructure development, education, healthcare, employment generation, and investment opportunities in Jammu and Kashmir. The BJP J&K General Secretary commended the unwavering commitment of the Modi government towards the welfare of the people of Union Territory. He spoke about the success of flagship schemes like Ayushman Bharat, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, and Skill India,

which have positively impacted the lives of millions of people across the union territory. Rekha Mahajan asserted that the outreach program under the Sampark Sa Samraath campaign reaffirms the BJP's commitment to building bridges and nurturing strong relationships with the people it serves.

It showcased the party's dedication to creating a positive impact, enhancing communication channels, and understanding the pulse of the community.

Five bovines smuggling attempts foiled, 59 bovines rescued, bovine smugglers arrested: Reasi Police

JJ NEWS SERVICE

REASI, JUN 12: Drive against bovines smuggling in District Reasi continues, teams of District Police Reasi laid special naks, arrested 07 bovine smugglers while rescuing 59 bovines being illegally carried by them.

Team of Police Station Mahore laid a surprise naka at Khatazi, Mahore Area during checking, intercepted one person namely Shamas din S/O Ghulam Din R/O Lar Mahore Tehsil Mahore District Reasi and rescued 30 bovines from his possession.

In this regards, a case FIR No. 60/2023 U/S 188 IPC has been registered at Police Station Mahore and investigation initiated. In another incident Team of PP Thanole rescued 12 Bovines at Jij Top from the clutches of Bovine Smuggler namely Mohd. Latif S/O Suba R/O Chakalsaita Tehsil Thakrakote Distt - Reasi who was carrying Bovines by

foot towards Srinagar without DM permission. In this regard a case FIR No. 60/2023 u/s 188 IPC has been registered at P/S Arnas and accused arrested.

While foiling another incident of bovines smuggling, Police team of SPP Chillad rescued 09 Bovines at Lapri Top from the clutches of Bovine Smuggler namely Gulzar Ahmed S/O Abdul Aziz R/O Hunder Tehsil Arnas who was carrying Bovines by foot towards Srinagar without DM permission. In this regard, a case fir no 59/2023 U/S 188 IPC has been registered at Police Station Arnas and accused arrested. In another incident Team of PP Dera Baba rescued 04 Bovines at Chappanoo from the clutches of Bovine Smuggler Alaf Hussain S/O Ghulam Hussain Caste Gujjer R/O Chapanoo Tehsil And District Reasi And Co-Driver Namely Hem Raj S/O Bhatgar Ram Caste Bhagat R/O Chub Tehsil And District Ramban who was carrying Bovines by one

Mahindra Load Carrier bearing Registration No. JK02CK/4650 without DM permission. In this regard, a case FIR No. 127/2023 U/S 188 IPC has been registered at Police Station Reasi and accused arrested.

In another incident Team of PP Dera Baba rescued 04 Bovines at naka Chappanoo from the clutches of Bovine Smuggler Abdul Majid S/O Ahmed Khan R/O Chappanoo And Co Driver Jeevan Singh S/O Kunj Lal Caste Rajput R/O Ganote Tehsil And Distt Ramban who was carrying Bovines by one vehicle bearing Registration No. JK02CG-9989 without DM permission. In this regard, a case FIR No 128/2023 U/S 188 IPC has been registered at Police Station Reasi and accused arrested.

SSP Reasi Sh. Amit Gupta - JKPS while sharing the details said that Reasi Police is leaving no stone unturned to eradicate the menace of Bovine Smuggling which is prerequisite to establish peace and tranquility in the region.

MAHA JAN SAMPARK ABHIYAN

BJP All Cells to hold Traders & Intellectual Conventions on June 20, 25 in J&K



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 12: Rakesh Mahajan, Incharge All Cells, BJP, J&K today chaired a meeting of Convener and Co-convener of All Cells to discuss the roadmap for the upcoming programmes being organized in Jammu and Kashmir in connection with Maha Jan Sampark Abhiyan with regard to the successful completion of 9 years of Modi government at the Centre.

The meeting was conducted on the directions of Ravinder Rana, President BJP J&K, and Ashok Koul, General Secretary (Org), J&K.

Rakesh Mahajan informed that the Party has directed to hold

Traders Convention and Intellectual Convention on June 20 and June 25 respectively as a part of the ongoing month-long Maha Jan Sampark Abhiyan. He stated that the Party High Command has asked Cells to hold the aforesaid conventions on every Parliamentary constituency to make people aware about the key-achievements of the Modi government at the centre in the last 9 years.

Rakesh Mahajan has discussed and prepared a roadmap and has also made In-charge and Co-Incharge for the successful conduct of upcoming conventions. He has asked Convener and Co-convener of all cells to ensure maximum presence of people from Jammu and

Udhampur Parliamentary constituencies to make the upcoming programmes successful.

Mahajan informed that the outline of both the conventions will be submitted to Vibodh Gupta, General Secretary.

Ved Sharma, Co-incharge, also briefed Rakesh Mahajan about the role being played by the Cells members in the upcoming conventions and assured to make every possible effort to make the aforesaid conventions successful.

The BJP leaders participated in the meeting and assured Rakesh Mahajan for making the aforesaid programmes a big success at the Parliamentary constituency level.

Those who were present in the meeting include Mukherjee Sharma, Retd IFS; SK Sharma, Retd Commissioner Income Tax; Sham Lal Langer, Convener Trade Cell, Neeraj Anand convener industry cell. Diwaker Sharma, Retd Additional Attorney General, Convener Legal Cell; Sumit Convener Sports Cell; Ashutosh Gupta Convener Transport Cell; Parmodh Sethi Convener human rights Cell and Sanjeev Sharma convener cooperative cell.

Burggrill, the popular burger joint, opens its doors in Jammu



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 12: Burggrill, the popular burger joint, has officially opened its doors in Jammu. On 12th June, Monday, the honorable Mayor of Jammu, Sh. Rajinder Sharma, cut

the ribbon at the Bahu Plaza location, marking the start of a new culinary hotspot in the city.

Burggrill is known for its healthier, grilled, big, juicy burgers that are sure to satisfy any burger lover's cravings. Alongside their mouthwa-

tering burgers, wraps and subs. They also offer a delectable array of sides including fries, wings, and onion rings, making it the perfect spot for those looking to chill and grill.

With over 50 outlets across the country, Burggrill has now arrived in Jammu to cater to the city's growing food scene. Whether you're looking for a quick bite or a place to hang out with friends, Burggrill promises to deliver a winning combination of good food and great company.

One of the standout features of Burggrill is its quirky setup, which adds to the overall dining experience. The restaurant's vibrant and inviting ambiance creates an atmosphere that is perfect for socializing and enjoying a delicious meal.

So gather your squad, head over to Bahu Plaza in Jammu, and make the most of your day with some delightful conversation and, of course, the delectable offerings at Burggrill.

Amarnath Yatra marching towards Swachh Teerth

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, JUNE 12

Under the Swachh Bharat Mission Urban 2.0, initiatives are taken to ensure a clean and waste-free environment for the yatri. Robust waste management systems are implemented along with clean sanitation facilities and awareness campaigns promoting cleanliness and responsible waste disposal. These measures have significantly enhanced the cleanliness standards of the Amarnath Yatra, transforming it into an environmentally conscious pilgrimage for devotees. The floating population witnesses a large number of devotees every year to the holy cave at Amarnath Yatra in South Kashmir between July and August, leads to a considerable amount of waste generation, necessitating effective waste management strategies to maintain the sanctity of the pilgrimage site.

During Amarnath Yatra in 2022, the Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) installed and maintained a total of 127 toilet seats, 119 urinals, and 40 bathing units along the route to improve sanitation. Additionally, the ULBs maintained over 780 toilets installed for the yatra. To achieve 100% waste collection, the ULBs utilized 10 twin compartment vehicles on a daily basis. They also installed 145 twin bins at all camps to facilitate waste segregation. Designated dustbins were placed at

female toilet facilities for the disposal of sanitary waste. Nearly 150 MT of wet waste, 130 MT of dry waste and 10-12 MT of plastic waste was generated



during the yatra last year. To handle the generated waste, the ULBs deployed 14 de-sludging vehicles daily along the Yatra route with additional vehicles on standby for emergencies. A total of 2596 KL of septage was successfully desludged and disposed of by the ULBs.

To maintain cleanliness and sanitation, the ULBs deployed 231 sanitation workers in the lodging areas, adjoining roads and other establishments. These workers were provided with appropriate uniforms, PPE kits, gloves, gum boots, masks, and brooms.

As part of the TULIP (The Urban Learning Internship Programme) program, many Swachhagrahis were deployed in the lodging areas during the Yatra. They monitored the overall cleanliness and sanitation, facilitated solid waste collection and segregation, advocated the use of SUPs, spread the message of swachhata. Through QR codes on toilets, langars, and camp facilities, the TULIP interns gathered feedback

from yatri. Special self-help points were installed for the yatri. As part of the Amarnath Yatra, several unique activities were undertaken to enhance the pilgrimage experience.

With an aim to ensure efficient waste processing, 9 Solid Waste Management facilities have been inaugurated on May 12, 2023 in 10 ULBs located in Jammu and Kashmir. Notably, three of these ULBs, Qazigund, Sumbal, and Ganderbal fall along the Yatra route.

These facilities will process 40 tonnes of waste daily. Each centre has a Material Recovery Facility for dry waste which includes segregation, bailing and shredding facilities. Compost pits are also provided for processing of wet waste. The preparations for the 2023 Amarnath Yatra involve various additional measures, like acquiring more prefabricated toilets, procuring tools and plants, disinfectants, hiring extra sanitation staff, engaging more Swachhagrahis, pre-yatra sanitation of lodging areas and the yatra route, de-sludging septic tanks, forming sanitation teams and appointing nodal officers among other initiatives. Through the Swachh Amarnath Yatra, the Swachh Bharat Mission Urban 2.0 has not only improved the overall pilgrimage experience but also reinforced the values of cleanliness and hygiene among the devotees.

In his presidential address, Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. (Dr.) Sudhakar Yedla congratulated Dr. Tahir A. Wani and Prof. Ramendra Singh for bringing the book on the relevant theme.

He said India that in India the rural-urban migration is significant and it is one of the drivers of economic growth.

JN NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUNE 12

The South Asia Edition of the book, 'Marketing to the Poor' was released at a function organized by Department of Humanities, Social Sciences, and Management (HSS&M) on Monday at the National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar.

The book is jointly edited by Prof. Ramendra Singh (IIM Calcutta) and Dr. Tahir A. Wani. Top academicians across the world have contributed chapters to the book and have covered all major aspects of post Covid19 scenario.

The function was presided over by Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. (Dr.) Sudhakar Yedla, who was Chief Guest on the occasion. The function was attended by Institute's Registrar, Prof. Syed Kaiser Bukhari, Dean Faculty Welfare Prof. G.A. Harmain, Dean Alumni and International Affairs, Prof. Nazir Ahmad Sheikh, Dean Planning & Development Dr. J. A. Bhat, Dean Students Welfare Prof. Abdul Liman and Head HSS&M Prof. Neyaz Ahmad.

In his presidential address, Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. (Dr.) Sudhakar Yedla congratulated Dr. Tahir A. Wani and Prof. Ramendra Singh for bringing the book on the relevant theme.

He said India that in India the rural-urban migration is significant and it is one of the drivers of economic growth.



Major cities like New Delhi, Mumbai, and Bangalore are dependent on migrant populations, especially in the informal sector.

However, Covid19 essentially triggered the reverse migration in the country. The Government of India has given a lot of financial incentives for the returned migrants to encourage them to start SMEs which could in turn augment the rural economy.

"The original idea was to retain that returned migrant population in their respective areas so that the rural economy can also be brought up by promoting rural entrepreneurship" Director NIT said.

Prof. Yedla further said cities are called drivers of urban economic growth and especially in Asia. In that context, it is very important to identify marketing strategies, market approaches, and mechanisms for the rural area so

that the economic growth can be inclusive and firmly rooted.

"I really appreciate and congratulate Dr. Tahir and his team for their good efforts in bringing this timely book in that area, which is very important in the context of Covid19 and post-Covid scenarios etc," he said.

Prof. Yedla hoped that in the future more faculty members from NIT Srinagar will come up with more books on prevailing topics in engineering and non-engineering areas.

In his message, Institute's Registrar, Prof. Syed Kaiser Bukhari appreciated the efforts of Dr. Tahir and his team for the book. The book has addressed the rural economy and addressed the long-term effects of the pandemic and comprehensive strategies, he said.

Dean Faculty Welfare Prof. Harmain also congratulated Dr. Tahir and his entire team. In India,

proves but also serves as a valuable resource for students, researchers, and professionals alike," he added.

On the occasion, Dr. Tahir expressed his gratitude to the Director, Registrar, Deans, and Head HSS&M for their consistent support during the entire project.

The book is praised by authors across the globe including Jagdish N Sheth, GB School, Emory University USA, CB Bhattacharya (University of Pittsburgh, USA, Srinivas Venugopal (University of USA). Prof. Raymond P. Fisk, Texas State University USA Founder, and President, ServCollab has written the foreword of the book.

"The idea of working on this book came after I witnessed that the informal sector was least impacted during the long shutdowns in the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir. Then I contacted Prof. Ramendra Singh who is Professor of Marketing at IIM Calcutta to explore this sector of the rural economy," he said.

Dr. Tahir said top authors from across the globe have contributed to the book and brought together a wealth of knowledge, expertise, and experiences from various cultural, academic, and professional backgrounds.

"Their contributions ensure a well-rounded and comprehensive exploration of the subject matter, offering readers a rich and multifaceted understanding of the topic," he said.

FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

Amarnath Yatra is a symbol...

of playing politics over it and dividing society.

"I am fully confident that the yatra will attract pilgrims in large numbers from across the country," Singh said.

Besides the union minister, J&K BJP president Ravinder Raina and several other senior leaders, including former legislators, addressed the rally.

Singh along with Raina released a booklet, giving a briefing on some of the major works carried out by the government in the Udhampur parliamentary constituency.

The yatra to the 3,880-metre-high holy cave in south Kashmir Himalayas is scheduled to commence on July 1 from two tracks - the traditional 48-km Nuruwatal Pahalgam route in Anantnag district and the 14-km shorter but steep Baltal route in Ganderbal district. The minister said the Udhampur constituency is the most developed among the 550 Lok Sabha seats in the country having seen tremendous development in the last nine years.

"The 'Udhampur-Doda-Kathua' parliamentary constituency is the only constituency in India that has three medical colleges with the best infrastructure and All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) is also located in this constituency, making it the best in India with the state-of-the-art health care facilities," Singh said.

The minister claimed that the constituency has earned its name in the country and in the world as the birthplace of the 'purple revolution', which has introduced Agri-tech start-ups not only in Jammu and Kashmir but across the country.

"This parliamentary constituency has all the potential to contribute to the start-up movement promoted by PM Modi," he said. Enumerating various infrastructural developments that have taken place over the last many years in this constituency, the minister said the Chenab Bridge, the highest railway bridge in the world, and Shyama Prasad Mookherjee tunnel, the longest road tunnel in India, are located in this constituency, making it an infrastructural marvel in the country.

In terms of road and highway development, Singh said the Vande-Bharat Express from Katra to Delhi, North India's first-ever cable-stayed bridge Atal Setu and the first express road corridor from Delhi to Katra via Kathua, the new national highway from Lakhampur-Bani-Basohli-Doda via Chattargala Tunnel have made this constituency best connected, leading to its tremendous development compared to the other constituencies in the country.

He said with the establishment of an Inter-Modal Station (IMS) at Katra, a world-class state-of-the-art project in this constituency will not only improve the travelling experience of the pilgrims visiting Mata Vaishno Devi shrine but will open numerous opportunities in terms of employment and trade for the people of this constituency. (Agencies)

Samosa, Jalebi...

for the pilgrims along the twin routes of Pahalgam and Baltal leading to the cave shrine.

"Focusing on it also included non-vegetarian foods, alcohol, tobacco, gutka, pan masala, cigarettes, other intoxicants.

The meals in the permitted menu include cereals, pulses, green vegetables, green salad, fruits and sprouts, rice, jaggery, sambar, idli, uttapam, qoha, herbal tea, coffee, low fat curd, sharbat, lemon squash/water, figs, raisins, apricots, and other dry fruits.

Moreover, Director Health Services Jammu and Kashmir have directed all concerned officials not to sanction or forward leave applications of doctors and para medical staff during the period of Yatra. (Agencies)

Democratisation of technology...

chips/kurkure, mathi, namkeen mixture, pakora, samosa, fried dry fruits and all other deep fried items. "In India digitalisation has brought about a revolutionary change. Technology is being used as a tool to empower people," he said.

Mr. Modi spoke about his government's work to boost development in over 100 aspirational districts, a reference to underdeveloped areas.

Experience has shown that these districts have emerged as a catalyst for the country's growth and urged the delegates to study the model as they may find it relevant.

Noting that development is a core issue for the Global South, he said these countries were severely impacted by the disruptions created by the global Covid pandemic. And, the food, fuel, and fertilizer crises because of geo-political tensions have delivered another blow, he added.

"In such circumstances, the decisions you make carry great significance for humanity as a whole. I strongly believe that it is our collective responsibility not to let the Sustainable Development Goals fall behind. We must ensure that no one is left behind. It is imperative for this group to send a strong message to the world that we have an action plan to achieve this," he said.

Describing Varanasi, where the meeting is taking place, as the oldest living city of the mother of democracy, the prime minister said it is a fitting location for the G20 development ministers' meeting. "Kashi has been a centre of knowledge, discussion, debate, culture, and spirituality for centuries. It has the essence of India's diverse heritage and serves as a convergence point for people from all parts of the country," he said. (Agencies)

Nearly 29 CCTV...

He said this time facilities have been further improved with the introduction of close-circuited fire hydrants and air conditions eating halls.

"We have installed six ACs each to make two eating halls fully air-conditioned so that pilgrims get better facilities. We have also installed close circuited fire hydrant systems," he said.

The first batch of pilgrims is expected to leave the Jammu base camp one day prior to the start of the yatra on July 1. (Agencies)

Victims' Families Block...

for an improvised explosive device (IED). While five people were killed in the firing by terrorists, two others died in the IED explosion the next morning. As many as 14 villagers were injured in the twin attacks.

On May 6, the army killed a terrorist during an anti-terrorist operation in the forested Kandi area of Rajouri. Some locals later identified the slain terrorist as one of the Dhangri village attackers.

Carrying pictures of the slain civilians and chanting slogans in support of justice, the villagers staged a sit-in on the highway around 9 am on Monday and also burnt tyres, leading to traffic jams.

Senior civil and police officials rushed to the scene and are trying to persuade the protesters to disperse, officials said.

Saroj Bala, who lost her two sons in the terror attack, said she had been waiting for justice for the last six months.

"We have been hearing that the case has almost been solved, but there is no trace of the terrorists involved in the attack. The terrorist supporters, who facilitated the attack, are also yet to be identified," Bala, who was leading the protest, said.

She had addressed a press conference in Jammu on June 5 and said "I simply want justice for my children".

Bala's two sons - Prince and Deepak - were killed in the terrorist attack, leaving her the only surviving member in the family as she had lost her husband to a disease sometime back. "Six months have passed since the attack happened, but no solid action has taken place till date," she added. (Agencies)

Rs 7 Lakh, "believed..."

to be proceeds of terrorism was kept hidden in his house at AllaPeer," the officer said.

Investigating officer, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Mohd Shafiq, DySP Dar Poonch along with a police party and executive Magistrate first class Poonch were also present. (Agencies)

3 drug smugglers...

The injured were provided preliminary treatment at a local medical facility and later referred to Government Medical College and Hospital, Jammu for specialised treatment, the SSP said.

The arrested smugglers later led the police to a spot near the scene of the crime from where 2.8 kilograms of heroin worth crores of rupees in the international market, a pistol with a magazine and some rounds, cash worth Rs 93,200 and four costly mobile phones were recovered, he said.

A case has been registered in the matter under sections of the Indian Penal Code, the Arms Act, and the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, Tosh said.

Udhampur among...

to the Start-Up movement promoted by PM Narendra Modi, Dr Jitendra Singh said and recalled that only recently PM Modi had referred twice to Baderwah's lavender cultivation, first in Mann Ki Baat and later in a tweet.

Enumerating various infrastructural developments that have taken place over the last many years in this constituency, Dr Singh said, the highest railway bridge in

the world, however the Eiffel Tower and Dr Shyama Prasad Mookherjee tunnel, the longest road tunnel in Asia are both located in this constituency making it an infrastructural marvel in the country.

In terms of road and highway development in this constituency, Dr Singh said, the Vande-Bharat Express from Katra to Delhi, North India's first ever Cable-Stayed Bridge Atal Setu, J&K's first interState bridge at Keerian-Gandval, North India's first Express Road Corridor from Delhi to Katra via Kathua, the new National Highway from Lakhampur-Bani-Basohli-Doda via Chattargala Tunnel have made this constituency best connected leading to its tremendous development compared to the other constituencies.

"Udhampur district located in this constituency has stood number one in the country in terms of construction of roads under PMGSY," Dr Jitendra Singh added.

He further said that the establishment of an Inter-Modal Station (IMS) at Katra, a world-class state of the art project in this constituency will not only improve the travelling experience of the pilgrims visiting Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine but will open numerous opportunities in terms of employment, trade etc. for the people of this constituency.

With half a dozen power projects in different stages of construction, Kishtwar is all set to emerge as North India's "power hub", the Minister said.

Further, Dr Jitendra Singh said, India's first-of-its-kind National Institute of High Altitude Medicine has come up in Baderwah.

The constituency got two Passport offices in Kathua and Udhampur respectively, he said.

A statue of Maharaja Gulab Singh, founder Dogra ruler, has been put up at the entry point at Lakhampur while Patnitop got a Gandola in the last few years, said Dr Jitendra Singh.

Light rains forecast...

Previous night and it was below normal by 1.3°C for the gateway town of Kashmir.

Pahalgam, he said, recorded a low of 7.2°C against 10.3°C on the previous night and it was 1.0°C below normal for the famous tourist resort in south Kashmir's Anantnag district.

In Kupwara town, he said, the mercury settled at 13.7°C against 16.0°C on the previous night and it was 1.1°C above normal for the north Kashmir area.

Kokernag recorded a low of 12.4°C against 14.6°C on the previous night and it was 0.3°C above normal for the place, the officials said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of 10.0°C against 11.0°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 1.2°C for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, he said.

Jammu recorded a low of 25.3°C against 24.1°C on the previous night and it was 0.4°C below normal for J&K's winter capital, he said.

Banihal recorded a low of 12.1°C (0.4°C below normal), Batote 14.7°C (1.2°C below normal), Katra 20.5°C (1.6°C below normal) and Baderwah 10.5°C (below normal by 3.0°C). Ladakh's Leh and Kargil recorded a low of 6.0°C, he said.

Na Khaonga, Na Khane Doonga is not just a slogan: MP Khatana



JI NEWS SERVICE

KUPWARA, JUNE 12: BJP MP Rajya Sabha Er. Gulam Ali Khatana today said that parties, separatist as well as half separatists, who exploited and looted people of Jammu and Kashmir will be made to pay for the crimes and corruption perpetrated against the people of Jammu and Kashmir. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given the slogan of Na Khaonga Na Khane Doonga, not just for the sake of it but he means what he says and promises, he said. MP Khatana while addressing a

meeting of BJP Sanyukt Morcha in Kupwara and during his door to door campaign in Vilgam area of Handwara said that he was appalled to see the worst condition of district Kupwara viz a viz development and other facilities. He said that strong and powerful leaders of Cong, NC, People's Conference represented district Kupwara but what appears is that they only filled their own coffers while leaving people in the lurch. MP Khatana said that PM Narendra Modi has given the slogan of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas and Sabka Vishwas and he has imple-

mented it on ground while these parties only believed in Apna Vikas Baki sab bakwas. He said that these parties used both religion and sentiments to exploit the people for own gains and are responsible for the death and mayhem in J&K for last 70 years. He said that PM Modi has ensured all round development and connectivity, digitization, corruption free administration, no scam in 9 years, DBTL are hall marks of the modi regime.

Balanced development of Jammu and Kashmir, restoration of peace and faith of the common man in good governance are BJP Govt's focus. He said that previous govts tagged minorities as mafia and troublemongs but PM Modi gave the slogan of Ek Haath Mein Koran, Ek Haath Mein Computer. He said that minorities have not been more safe than ever as under present BJP Govt.

As part of 9 Saal Bemisaal campaign of BJP on completion of 9 years of Modi Govt, MP Khatana addressed Waqf Chairperson Dr. Darakshan Andrabji, BJP Dist. President Abdul Lone, senior leader MM War, Shabir Ahmed, Surender Ambarad addressed Sanyukt Morcha meeting at Kupwara.

Modi launched record schemes in 9 years: Sat

BJP HOLDS BENEFICIARY SAMMELAN IN JAMMU NORTH



JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 11: Addressing a large gathering of the beneficiaries of the Modi Government's schemes, Sat said, adding that history will stand witness to the fact that India, under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, touched new heights in development and welfare. Sat Sharma, along with party leaders namely Shansher Singh Manhas, Bharat Bhushan, DCC

No other government in the past was so serious about the betterment of the people belonging to poor and marginalized sections, Sat said, adding that history will stand witness to the fact that India, under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, touched new heights in development and welfare. Sat Sharma, along with party leaders namely Shansher Singh Manhas, Bharat Bhushan, DCC

Chairman and Ex MLA Shiv Dev Singh, also interacted with the beneficiaries who have availed themselves of the benefits of Modi schemes.

These beneficiaries had come from Janipur, Paloura-Muthi, Raipur-Domana, Mathwar and Garhota mandals falling in Jammu North assembly constituency.

In his address, former MP Shansher Singh Manhas said that although

nine years is not a long time, the list of welfare schemes during the period under PM Narendra Modi is very long. He said that "justice to all and appeasement to none" has been the working line of Modi and every section of society has been included in programmes and policies of the government.

DCC Chairman Bharat Bhushan said that the elected representatives of the BJP, working as members, are putting their best efforts in their respective areas to help people avail themselves of the benefits of welfare schemes.

Ex MLA Shiv Dev Singh also spoke about various schemes that have reached the doorstep of the people and brought great relief for them.

Omi Khajuria thanked all the participants of the meeting.

This beneficiary sammelan was also attended by party leaders Karan Singh, Vinay Gupta, Praduman Singh, Ashish Sharma, Ajay Sharma and others.

Shiv Sena, SSP organize Jan Chaupal; public expresses strong resentment over property taxes, electricity, water bills



JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 12: Former minister and Senior Vice President BJP, Mr Surjeet Singh Slathia today spelled out the achievements of Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his nine year government, saying one of the major highlights has been restoration of peace in Jammu and Kashmir, making it safe destination for travellers and investors from across the world.

Addressing people during Maha Jansampark Abhyan, to mark the completion of the nine years of the Modi government, along with senior BJP karyakartas at village Swankha in the Ramgarh Assembly Constituency, Mr Slathia referred to the recently concluded three day Working Group meeting of G20 Conclave in Srinagar and said this reflected the changing times in Kashmir and peoples deep yearning for peace and stability.

He said more than doubling of the investment in J&K to Rs 75,000 crore by this year end, five times the investment happened in the past 74 years holds promise about the huge turnaround in the economic and developmental scenario in the Union Territory.

While the influx of tourists has crossed all time high mark of 1.80 crore last year, this year the numbers are expected to go over two crore,

nocrats, educated unemployed besides skilled and unskilled workforce.

Slathia asserted that the BJP believes in inclusive Jammu and Kashmir, with every segment of society, irrespective of region, religion, race or caste having equal opportunities to prosper and progress and equal rights in the governance. The people's power will triumph under the cherished agenda of Modi's Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas, he maintained.

Slathia said the Prime Minister's vision of Atma Nirbhar (self-reliant) Bharat is Sashaktikaran (empowerment) of all, irrespective of religion, region or caste. It is with this mantra that every BJP Karyakarta is reaching out to the people, making them aware about the schemes tailored by the government for their welfare, listen to their problems and make every effort in getting these resolved by taking up the grievances or issues with appropriate forums in the administration, he added.

The Senior Vice President emphasized the need for sustaining the prevailing era of peace and harmony, saying this is key to taking the Union Territory to a new era of progress and development. A situation has to be created towards growth in the traditional sectors for generating employment. Large scale investments mean wider opportunities to prosper, he said, adding that a grand beginning has already been made due to concerted efforts of the Centre and the UT administration and this moment has to be taken to its logical conclusion, Mr Slathia added.

Prominent among those who spoke on the occasion included EX Minister Chander Parakash Ganga, Davinder Kumar Manyal, DDC Chairman Keshav Sharma, DDC Member Anita Choudhary, Asha Rani, Subhash Bhagat, Sarabjeet Singh Johal and others.

NSF celebrates 126th birth anniversary of Ram Prasad Bismil

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUNE 12: National Secular Forum (NSF), University Unit organized a programme in University Campus, and on the Birth anniversary of Ram Prasad Bismil who laid his life for the country.

A programme in this connection was organized wherein Dr Vikas Sharma Coordinator Jammu District (Urban) and Zonal Secretary JKNC was the Chief Guest while TR Sharma KAS (Retd), Presided over the function. Dr Sukhdev Singh State President NSF was the guest of honour.

The activists of NSF paid tributes to Ram Prasad Bismil and garlanded the portraits of the son of soil, who laid down his life for the sake of the country. Speaking on the occasion Dr Vikas Sharma threw light on the life history of Ram Prasad Bismil and appreciated the efforts of NSF

and appealed to the youth to come forward to eliminate all evils from the society.

Dr. Vikas Sharma expressed that present day youth was frustrated due to lack of job opportunities and neck deep corruption in the recruitment process being followed by the UT administration.

He mentioned that people have suffered a lot during the last four years especially after the abrogation of Article 370, bifurcation of Jammu and Kashmir and downgraded of State to a Union Territory. He urged the young generation to strengthen the hands of J&K National Conference (JKNC) enabling it to redouble its efforts to get the status of Jammu and Kashmir statehood restored. While Speaking TR Sharma stressed upon the youth to shun their self-centered outlook and contribute in the development of the nation. He also threw light on the

Devise fool-proof mechanism for timely completion of ongoing tourism projects: Sham Langer

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 12: Sham Lal Langer, Convener Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Trade Cell Jammu and Kashmir while welcoming the heavy footfall of visitors at the Jammu Zoo has urged the J&K Union Territory Administration to complete all the ongoing tourism related projects in Jammu region as these will give a huge boost to the tourism and economy of this region.

In a statement issued to media here today, the senior BJP leader said that the heavy foot fall of visitors in a few days after the inauguration of Jammu Zoo is ample indication of this destination becoming a big tourist puller boosting the economy in the coming time. He said that now there is a dire need to complete

the ongoing tourism projects of Jammu Province as these will augment the Tourism sector of J&K besides giving an economic thrust and last but not the least creating multiple employment/job avenues for the unemployed J&K youth. Sham Langer appealed to the Government to take immediate steps to make Jammu an independent tourist destination so that over five lakh souls dependent on tourism, whose livelihood is at stake have a sigh of relief and the number of people related to tourism sector in J&K multiplies very soon.

While further welcoming the information that Artificial Lake Jammu's civil works will be completed by Oct-Nov, he said that this destination too will be a big tourist puller in Jammu region after its completion.

He said that the work on the Tawi River View Front on the pattern of Sabarmati River Front of Gujarat should also be completed within the shortest period of time.

The senior BJP leader asserted that these speedy developments indicate the Govt's commitment towards unprecedented development in J&K especially the Jammu region that was discriminated and neglected during the past over seven decades.

He suggested devising a fool-proof mechanism for timely completion of the ongoing tourism related projects in Jammu region so that equal employment avenues get created for unemployed youth of Jammu region like Kashmir province.

Sood, Koul reviews ongoing programmes with Ex MLAs, MLCs

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 12: In a meeting of Ex-MLA and MLCs, held at party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu, BJP Seh-Prabhari Ashish Sood, along with General Secretary (organization) Ashok Koul and General Secretaries Dr. Devender Manyal and Adv. Vibodh Gupta, sought feedback regarding the ongoing programmes under the "9 Saal Bemisaal" slogan on the completion of nine years of the Narendra Modi government.

The BJP leaders also discussed the future programmes with those attending the meeting and stressed upon them to devote more time to the successful conduct of each programme to be held across the Union Territory.

Ashish Sood, while speaking in the meeting, said that any leader of the



party going in public during the Maha Jansampark Abhyayan" must be fully prepared with the achievements of the Modi government and share the same with the masses in a simple way. He said that the leaders should also prepare a list of prominent social personalities in each assembly segment and approach them with what the Modi government has done for the nation and its people.

Ashok Koul said that Ex MLAs and MLCs are the faces of the party and

whatever they speak in public reflects the ideology of the party, programmes and policies of the government and as such it is must that party ethics and discipline should be kept in mind in every movement. He also sought details regarding various events like public rallies, mass contact with activists, the distribution of printed literature in public and paying visits to hallmark spots of development.

BJP's former MLAs and MLCs, who attended the

meeting, included Kavindra Gupta, Sat Sharma, Surjeet Singh Salathia, Shakti Parihar, Chander Prakash Ganga, Abdul Gani Kohli, Shyam Choudhary, Rajeev Jasrotia, Sukhnaandan Kumar, Ashwini Sharma, Prof. Gharu Ram, Baldev Sharma, Rajeev Sharma, Dr. KL Bhagat, RS Pathania, Neelam Lenghe, Kuldeep Kumar, Dalip Parihar, Vikram Randhawa, G. Raina, Ajtashtrai Singh, Balwant Singh Mankotia, Shiv Dev Singh, and Suman Bhagat.

Majid demands holding of early assembly elections in J&K

JI NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JUN 12: Apni Party Vice President, Usman Majid has demanded holding of early assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir to address growing public issues. As per the press release, Usman Majid chaired a review meeting with the District Presidents of Kashmir Province here at the Apni Party Headquarters.

During the meeting, the District Presidents highlighted issues being faced by the people across the valley. Besides, a threadbare discussion was also held with regard to public outreach programmes and redressal of

issues of the people. While addressing the meeting, Majid directed the District Presidents to work among the people and educate them about the policies and programmes of the Apni Party with regard to equitable development, social security schemes, protect to land, jobs for the locals, promotion to tourism in unexplored areas and exploring opportunities in industrial and private sector for employment, besides Govt sector.

He said that "The people are in great distress because there is no elected Govt. To end the public woes, it is important to hold assembly elections as the elected Govt is responsible to the people whereas the bureau-

crats are not answerable to the people."

He said that "The administration should address the growing public issues at the respective districts and the issues of unscheduled power cuts needs to be checked to ensure round the clock electricity."

"The consumers feel cheated as it was promised to them that electricity would be provided with the metering of their colonies. However, the authorities have failed to do the needful in this regard and the electricity crisis in Kashmir valley has deepened," he said and appealed to the Govt to address the power crises.

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

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

JINDRAH IMAGES

Fragile PDD infra and need for thorough probe

The onset of monsoon season has exposed the preparedness of the Power Development Department (PDD), commonly known as electricity department, as downpour of light rains and light winds, many a times, plunge several areas into darkness during night hours. Consequently, the people are having sleepless nights amid hot and humid conditions, notwithstanding the fact that the government has pumped crores of rupees in upgradation of infrastructure. Unfortunately, there are still critical gaps in power infrastructure that leave nearly 15-lakh people in Jammu district without electricity during the sweltering conditions, especially night hours. Despite implementation of centrally sponsored schemes, transformers and feeding stations face deficiencies including isolators, transformer breakers and spare power cables. Due to failure of the power department to act strictly against the illegal connections, there is overloading at various feeders. At many places transformer breakers, an important component to prevent overloading and damages to the transformers have not been installed. If one looks at the official stats, nearly Rs 4,000 crore invested in two centrally sponsored schemes-Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) and Restructured-APDRP since 2004 had gone down the drain due to poor execution of works and corrupt practices. Unscheduled power cuts, grid failures and frequent tripping of transmission cables at peak demand in summer and winter months remain a norm contradicting claims of government and PDD, now changed into Corporation to provide uninterrupted 24x7 electricity supply to households. Tripping at 33 KV and 11 KV level is a major reason for the frequent tripping leading to unscheduled power cuts in Jammu. Receiving stations, including those at Gajansoo, Marh, Purkhoo, Kanachak, Purkhoo and Barnai face deficiencies including isolators, transformer breakers, spare power cables and LAS. To make engineers and staff accountable, authorities have directed to submit monthly reports containing details about inspections conducted, revenue generated and fine recovered by officials from the level of Junior Engineer up to the level of AEE. Added to this is decades of neglect in erstwhile J&K state to stop theft of power as unregistered load is destroying critical infrastructure. As per the data, the electricity department operates and maintains an intra-state transmission network having a transformation capacity of 4,050 Mega Volt Amp (MVA) at 220/132 KV level and 4,503 MVA at 132/66-33 KV level. Power is distributed to about 2,077,275 registered household consumers across 20 districts of J&K UT and two districts of Ladakh Union territory. What raises the question mark on the functioning of PDD is where millions of rupees, which were claimed to have spent on improving infrastructure and replacing old wires and poles, have gone. It is high time that the government should order a high level inquiry to look into the serious power crisis, particularly in Jammu region. An audit should be conducted to find out whether the funds allocated for improving power infrastructure had been utilised properly over the period of time. The government should fix the responsibility of officials and officers besides taking all measures to further improve its infrastructure.

INDIA NEEDS CUTTING-EDGE TECHNOLOGY TO COUNTER CHINA

INDIA HAS TO DEVELOP CLOSER TIES WITH THE US TO SECURE POLITICAL SUPPORT, NEW INVESTMENTS AND SUPPLY CHAINS.

YOGESH GUPTA

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's forthcoming visit to the US could be a game-changer as the Joe Biden administration has decided to boost India's resilience in key technologies and assist its indigenous capabilities to manufacture modern fighter aircraft, artillery systems and armoured infantry vehicles. It is part of the Biden administration's overall plan to reduce the vast asymmetry in the technological and military capabilities of India and China, assist New Delhi in countering the Beijing threat and play a more prominent role as a security provider in the region.

According to Ely Ratner, Assistant Secretary of Defence for Indo-Pacific Security Affairs, who recently accompanied US Secretary of Defence Lloyd Austin to India, "a stronger India that can defend its interests and sovereignty is good for the US."

In recent months, the US-China relationship has deteriorated considerably. China has not only started defying the US writ, but is also brazenly challenging the American security apparatus. In January-end, it sent a balloon over US airspace to collect intelligence from several sensitive military installations; instead of expressing regret, China accused the US of 'overreaction' when the latter's military shot down the balloon.

Last week, Chinese fighter jets and naval ships carried out threatening manoeuvres near American military planes and naval warships in the Taiwan Strait and South China Sea, over which Beijing has started claiming sovereignty in defiance of international law. Recently, it declined a proposed meeting of its Defence Minister with the US Secretary of Defence that was intended to ease tensions and improve communication between the two militaries. China wants to increase pressure on the US to leave East Asia so that it could expand its hegemony in the region. Similarly, India-China ties have suffered setbacks over the past year or so as Beijing has refused to withdraw troops from Depsang and Demchok, besides making incursions in the Tawang sector of Arunachal Pradesh in December 2022 and giving Chinese names to several places in the border state. A delegation of the Chinese People's



Liberation Army (PLA) recently said, "India is incapable of challenging China in defence manufacturing and military modernisation due to its weak industrial infrastructure, and thus poses no security threat to the country." According to PLA delegates, India would "not be a loyal partner of the US Indo-Pacific strategy due to its independent diplomatic policy." In other words, China could do whatever it wishes on the borders and in India's vicinity.

India has not reacted aggressively to the Chinese incursions due to the asymmetry in their economies and vast difference in the size of the Indian and Chinese air force and navy. India needs to manufacture its own fighter aircraft soon as it lacks the funds to import a large number of them and replace the damaged ones rapidly during a conflict. There is also a considerable mismatch between India and China in terms of the variety of drones, lasers, unmanned aerial, surface and underwater vehicles, space warfare capabilities to disable enemy satellites, cyberwarfare, semiconductors, microchips and informationised warfare.

President Biden and PM Modi announced the US-India Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology in May 2022 when they met in Tokyo on the sidelines of the Quad summit. Following that and subsequent meetings between the National Security Advisers and

other senior officers, the two countries have agreed in principle to collaborate on manufacturing the GE F-414 jet engine, which will be used to power new Tejas fighter aircraft. This will be a significant milestone as it is a proprietary technology owned by the US, UK, France and Russia, which they have not shared with any other country.

During the recent visit of the US Defence Secretary, India and the US finalised a roadmap for defence industrial cooperation to fast-track technology cooperation and co-production in air combat, land mobility systems, intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance, manufacturing of smart munitions and the undersea domain.

The two sides also discussed cooperation in space, cybersecurity and artificial intelligence. According to Ratner, there will be big announcements during Modi's visit regarding projects that would support India's military modernisation and integration of the defence industrial bases of the two countries through co-production and co-development.

India is likely to buy more MQ-9B predator drones from the US to equip its military with the capability to carry out surveillance of Chinese troops along the Line of Actual Control in the Indian Ocean.

The PM's itinerary is being planned to allow intensive interaction between him and Biden,

including the possibility of informal discussions at the Camp David retreat near Washington. Despite differences between the two countries on Russia's invasion of Ukraine and India's reluctance to come on board as a defence ally, the Biden administration wants India to remain a part of its security architecture in the Indo-Pacific.

America's other plans include reducing India's dependence on Moscow, expanding its capacity so that it can provide security to others, creating new supply chains to take advantage of the rapidly growing Indian economy, accelerating the induction of green technologies for developing a carbon-free economy and making efforts to boost ties with the Global South to moderate China's growing influence.

India has realised that despite numerous rounds of talks at the political and military levels, there is no abatement of China's aggression and hostility, which, in fact, have increased in the past six months. China is preparing for a long-term confrontation with India. Russia's ability to provide new military equipment and spares for its old weapons has considerably weakened due to its involvement in the Ukraine war.

India has to develop closer ties with the US to secure political support, new investments, markets, supply chains and technologies for critical industries and build its indigenous defence industry.

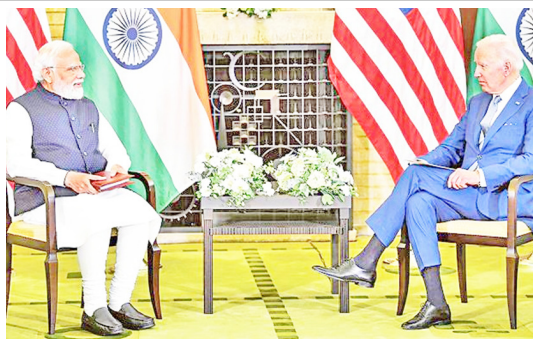
Indo-US ties amid neo-mercantilism

PM MODI'S PRIORITY SHOULD BE TO MINIMISE THE SCOPE FOR A US-CHINA CONFLICT

MENAKA GURUSWAMY

In less than 10 days, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be visiting the US. The US Secretary of State, Antony Blinken, anticipated that the "visit will celebrate the deep partnership" between the two countries. As for its content, shorn of the trappings of a state visit, the US focus is on arms export. Hopes have been raised that beyond military exercises on 'beaches, landing grounds, in fields, in streets and on the hills,' so as to strengthen defence preparedness to wage war against some indeterminate enemy in an inchoate future, Washington may pay heed to long-standing Indian entreaties to dip its toes into co-production of weapons in India. How far nascent hopes will turn into reality remains uncertain but the 'mood-setting' visit by US Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin to New Delhi offers a clue. Austin may not be much of a combat veteran, but he is immensely experienced in the

working of the military-industrial complex in the US, having served in the board of directors of arms manufacturing companies. 'Have money, will travel,' to tweak the catchy title of the Richard Boone television series of yesteryear, would have been Austin's core message to the Indian government, padded up with the geopolitical discourse in relation to the Indo-Pacific. In the estimation of the US Department of State, the sales of American military equipment to foreign governments rose by a whopping 49 per cent to \$205.6 billion in 2022-23. The war in Ukraine significantly helped boost business. Indeed, under the lend-and-lease agreement, Ukraine is expected to pay for the US weaponry being supplied. Besides, NATO allies which transferred their existing Cold War inventory of outdated weapons to Ukraine are getting replacements with newly produced American weaponry. Fundamentally, however, the question remains how far the bilateral trade, investment, technology transfer and so on would be gaining from Modi's visit to the US. Here, also, the signals from the 'new Washington consensus' are discouraging. A



speech at the Brookings Institution in late April by President Biden's National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan barely registered among the Indian commentators; he declared national security and industrial policy as the guiding lights for US trade, while departing radically from the market-oriented, neo-liberal 'Washington Consensus' and invoking neo-mercantilist

themes. Thus, industrial policy is essential to spark innovation in neglected sectors; heavy direct US subsidies and indirect subsidies through import protection are needed to attract private investment; tariff cuts are not on the table; market access provisions are out of the question; a rules-based trading system respecting market principles under WTO is not a priority. Quintessentially, it is

'America First' - turning the back on free trade and globalist policies and focusing on bringing back manufacturing jobs. Sounds familiar? Yes, Sullivan recreated the spectre of a hollowed out US heartland - which helped Donald Trump win the presidency in 2016. It is a safe bet that between now and the US presidential election in November 2024 at least, the compass is set the

Biden administration has no interest in being an accommodating economic partner and market. Yet, this is happening at a time when the breaking news is that Eurozone, led by Germany, is sinking into depression. If the US can have a stony heart vis-a-vis the travails of its closest ally, what can India expect? What optics does this convey? Indeed, Sullivan's field of vision will prompt America's partners to be extremely wary of the perverse growth effects of US protectionist policies. This is particularly disheartening for the basic openness of economic development in the Asian region, including India, for which high growth is sustainable only with access to international markets and investment. On the other hand, like Biden, Modi is entering an election cycle and India's responses will also be mediated by political pressures within the country. The challenges from 'below' include calls for greater redistribution, for the abandonment of export-driven political economies in favour of greater domestic consumption and for more attention to poverty alleviation.

Besides, the government also faces the challenge of integrating broader political movements - e.g. the farmers' agitation. The response to these challenges will also vary from attempts at greater inclusivity to the mobilisation of vertical allegiances that distract attention and would seek to displace material grievances through the politicisation of race, religion, caste, etc. The cycle of violence in Manipur bears testimony to the policy dilemma. Furthermore, the Asian region is grappling with more than a transitory escalation in competition between great powers. For India, weathering the power transition in East Asia is particularly challenging too, as it is inextricably entangled with the unresolved boundary dispute with China and the explosive nationalist sentiments that complicate the resolution of differences and disputes rationally from a long-term perspective. In the past three decades, the Asian region prospered through increased integration into a Chinese-centric regional economy, while the US security role limited the incipient concerns of the regional states over an asymmetric interdependence.

Vicky Kaushal reveals how Katrina Kaif plans his birthday: 'I can't even think at the level at which she plans'

Vicky Kaushal celebrated his birthday on May 16. Recently, when the actor appeared on the Kapil Sharma Show along with Sara Ali Khan to promote their film Zara Hatke Zara Bachke, he shared how his actor-wife Katrina Kaif plans his birthday to the minutest of details.

A new video from The Kapil Sharma Show has Kapil congratulating Vicky on his birthday. He said in a lighter vein, "Jise din sapka jannam hua use dim mere jannam ki tayari shuru hue thi as mere mummy papa ka anniversary hota hai May 16 ko (The day you were born, the preparations for my birth had started, as it is my parents' anniversary is on 16th)."

Kapil then went on to ask Vicky that

after the wedding he must have been celebrating his birthday with friends as bachelors, but what has changed after the wedding? Vicky shared, "Pichla saal wo pehle birthday tha, shaadi k baad wala. Humne phir doston ke saath hi manaya.

Uss group me ab Katrina bhi thi, toh hum sab ne saath me hin manaya (Last year was that first birthday after marriage, and we again celebrated with friends.

Katrina was also in that group now, so we all celebrated together)." Kapil then asked, "But Katrina planning krti hai aapke birthday ki (But, Katrina plans your birthday)?," to which Vicky said, "Bohot bohot karti hai (Yes, a lot)."



Sutapa Sikdar says she 'ragged' Irrfan Khan at NSD: 'He was so angry, honesty was very important to him'



At the book launch of Irrfan Khan: A Life in Movies, written by Indian Express film critic Shubhra Gupta, wife Sutapa Sikdar opened up about their first meeting. She also revealed how she 'ragged' the late actor, leaving him quite angry.

The writer-producer shared that she bumped into Irrfan at National School of Drama, and he asked her for directions. However, she not only misguided him but also led that she was his senior. "I am born and brought up in Delhi. We studied at NSD which is in Delhi too. Irrfan was from Jaipur brought up in a very conventional household. So, it was huge for him, like a pilgrimage. He had this seriousness and I knew this. So, I ragged him," she shared with a smile.

Sutapa further revealed that he had respectfully asked her directions using words like 'sumey' and 'aap' and she sent him somewhere completely different. She recalled how he was upset when she tried to dissuade him from the course. He also was angry at her as honesty meant a lot to Irrfan. "When I met him, I asked him, 'Tumhe kyu lagta hai tumhara yaha ho jaega (why do you think you will get through)?' He said, 'Humme bhi natak kiyie hai' (even I have done theatre). Then he politely asked me, 'Apska lagta hai mera nahi hogat? (why do you think I will go fail)?' Later, he saw me writing the second exam with him too. He was so angry because honesty to him was very important. For me, it was a very frivolous thing, like taking panga.

Kangana Ranaut launches fresh attack on Ranbir Kapoor and Karan Johar, calls them 'Duryodhan and Shakuni'; again brings up Sushant Singh Rajput

Actor Kangana Ranaut launched a fresh, unprovoked attack — without taking any names — against actor Ranbir Kapoor and filmmaker Karan Johar. In an indirect dig against both, Kangana doubled down on Ranbir and Karan, claiming they were behind "nasty" rumours against her. Digging up the tragic demise of actor Sushant Singh Rajput, ahead of his third death anniversary on June 14, Kangana claimed that the "jodi" was behind the blind items against the late actor.

She alleged they also "forcibly" played referees in her public and legal fight with Hritik Roshan. "Elaborating more on yesterday's stories there are all kinds of menaces in the film industry but the worse is this Duryodhan (white rat) and Shakuni (papa jo) jodi... They self admittedly call themselves most gossipy, jealous, bitchy and insecure... they refer to themselves as information and broadcasting ministry of gossip in films ... Entire film industry knows this, they were the main suspects behind all fake blind items against Sushant Singh Rajput... that



pushed him to commit suicide. They also spread all kinds of nasty rumours against me and forcibly played

referees in mine and HR fight," she posted on her Instagram stories. In another post, Kangana—who has been vocal about disliking Karan Johar and Ranbir Kapoor in the past—continued her statement without mentioning any names and said after she had opened up about how she was being spied upon, she was the victim of vicious PR attacks, which have now reduced. The actor, however, said today she might be in a "vulnerable place" but vowed to "expose" the "illegal activities" about the duo she claimed to know of. "I take a vow as and when I will be in the position of power I will expose significant illegal activities that they indulge in such as dark web, hacking, spying and illegal underhand defamation.... These will be enough for them to be behind bars.... Thank you for listening to my ordeal I have been talking about this for more than a decade now recently their sinking careers have made them focus more on their own lives otherwise it was next to impossible to work in this industry....," she added.

Anushka Sharma's reaction after Virat Kohli's dismissal in WTC final goes viral; netizens call it 'collective sentiment of Indians'



Crushing the hopes of millions of cricket fans across the country, Australia defeated India by 209 runs to win the 2023 edition of the World Test Championship on Sunday. Despite India's efforts to mount a respectable challenge, Australia dashed the aspirations of the Rohit Sharma-led from the very beginning.

Neither Rohit Sharma's score of 43 runs from 60 deliveries nor former skipper Virat Kohli's 49 runs from 78 balls in the second innings could shield the sinking Indian team from their impending defeat. Meanwhile, an image of a visibly devastated Anushka Sharma, who was present at the Oval, has now gone viral with captions that dub it as the collective sentiment of cricket enthusiasts across India.

Taken right after the Australian team claimed Kohli's wicket, the image shows a shattered Anushka leaning forward, her hands folded and pressed against her chin, reflecting her deep distress. "Anushka Sharma is literally the whole India after Virat Kohli dismissal. Boland ended hopes of billion fans," one Twitterati wrote.

Meanwhile, a couple of others were quick to launch yet another cyberattack against the actor claiming that her presence was the reason behind India's debacle. However, a good number of netizens retorted against this and condemned the tweets. "Idiots trolling #Anushkasharma again.... Common...It's players who practiced in they need to be blamed for their poor perf

Every wife want to witness their partner playing...what's wrong in that," one Twitterati noted. "Anushka Sharma A lady can't be her hubby's weakness #WTCFinal2023. Stop dragging a player's family in between every time. Stand with this lady @Anushka Sharma #AnushkaSharma," another user wrote.

Zara Hatke Zara Bachke box office collection Day 9: Vicky Kaushal, Sara Ali Khan film eyes Rs 50 cr, stays steady



Despite garnering mixed reviews from critics, the romantic drama Zara Hatke Zara Bachke starring Vicky Kaushal and Sara Ali Khan is displaying a decent performance at the box office. Since its release on June 2, the film directed by Laxman Utekar has accumulated a worldwide total of approximately Rs 59.9 crore, with an India net of around Rs 46.53 crore, as reported by industry tracker Sacnilk. On the second Saturday, it earned Rs 5.76 crore with Sunday (June 11) expected to generate around Rs 6.50 crore. Despite starting with a modest India net of Rs 5.49 crore on its release day, the film experienced a significant surge in numbers over the weekend. With earnings of Rs 7.2 crore on Saturday and Rs 9.9 crore on Sunday, the film displayed impressive growth during the first weekend.

However, the figures dipped below Rs 4 crore during the previous week, resulting in a first-week collection of Rs 37.35 crore. Nevertheless, the film regained momentum over this weekend, offering renewed optimism to its makers.

Deepika Padukone gives a glimpse of her life with Ranveer Singh in a meme

Deepika Padukone and Ranveer Singh are one of the most loved Bollywood couples. While they rarely indulge in social media PDA, when they do, they take fans totally by surprise with their wit and cuteness. On Saturday, Deepika posted a hilarious meme on social media giving a glimpse of their banter about getting more plants at home.

The meme has one person moving towards pots of plants, while the other person is trying to hold them back. The text above them reads, "You have enough plants," while the other one exclaims, "But I don't have THESE plants."

While it's not clear who between Deepika and Ranveer is the real plant-lover, given DP's love for nature, it can be safely assumed it's Ranveer who tries to stop her from getting more plants at home. Given she tagged her husband, fans were quick to believe this is a usual occurrence at their home.

Deepika Padukone opened up about her equation with Ranveer, saying she can be at her "most vulnerable" around him. The couple, after years of dating, tied the knot in November 2018. Reflecting on her marriage with Ranveer, Deepika said much like everyone else, for her the ingredient for a successful relationship is "patience".

She said, "We either grow up being influenced by the movies or the relationships and marriages around us. The sooner you accept that the journey two people are going to be on is going to be very different from someone else's journey, the better it is. Having said that, not just with my parents but I think with that entire generation. Patience is probably one of the main things that I feel like couples today—I sound like some love guru but—lack. That's something we can all learn from, not just Ranveer and I from our parents, but all of us from the generation before. Lots of other things, but patience being the main thing."

On the work front, Deepika Padukone will be next seen in Fighter, alongside Hritik Roshan. She also has Nag Ashwin's Project K with Prabhas and Amitabh Bachchan in the pipeline.

On the other hand, Ranveer Singh's Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahani with Alia Bhatt is up for release next month. Deepika Padukone and Ranveer Singh are one of the most loved Bollywood couples.

While they rarely indulge in social media PDA, when they do, they take fans totally by surprise with their wit and cuteness. On Saturday, Deepika posted a hilarious meme on social media giving a glimpse of their banter about getting more plants at home.

The meme has one person moving towards pots of plants, while the other person is trying to hold them back. The text above them reads, "You have enough plants," while the other one exclaims, "But I don't have THESE plants."

While it's not clear who between Deepika and Ranveer is the real plant-lover, given DP's love for nature, it can be safely assumed it's Ranveer who tries to stop her from getting more plants at home. Given she tagged her husband, fans were quick to believe this is a usual occurrence at their home.

Deepika Padukone opened up about her equation with Ranveer, saying she can be at her "most vulnerable" around him. The couple, after years of dating, tied the knot in November 2018.

Reflecting on her marriage with Ranveer, Deepika said much like everyone else, for her the ingredient for a successful relationship is "patience".



Twinkle Khanna 'questions sanity' as she pursues masters degree at 48: 'Getting old is a math equation'

Twinkle Khanna says she is enjoying the new experiences at her university but she is still questioning her choices in life.

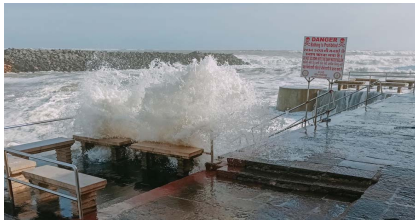
It's her '50th year' on Earth and Twinkle Khanna is back to being a university student. How is it to be a student, who worries about grades and submissions, at this age? She says she is enjoying the new experiences but she is still questioning her choices in life.

Twinkle shared a video of herself 'sprinting' around her classes at the Goldsmiths, University of London. Along with the video, she penned a note reflecting upon her decision to be a student at her age. She wrote, "What's it like going back to Uni on the cusp of my fiftieth year on this planet?" She added, "Well, it's now been nine months of attending classes and questioning my sanity as I sprint along the last stretch of finishing my Masters. Who knew I would be willing to put myself through submissions, grades, and a thousand mugs of coffee as I try to focus through lec-

tures?" The tension of grades and submissions makes Twinkle wonder, "I should have applied for a master's in strange life choices instead of one in writing!" But then she remembers the girl gang she found at her college. The actor-turned-author, continued, "But on the other hand, I would not have all these new experiences and even a uni gang, fabulous women I can count on to pull me through deadlines and make me laugh

Fans hailed Twinkle's post. Film producer Deepshikha Deshmukh commented, "How amazing!! Truly a Rockstar." A fan added, "Loved the last lines. Totally agree??". Another wrote, "Such an awesome movie. It's really inspiring for me who is 51??" Twinkle Khanna, daughter of renowned Hindi film actors Dimple Kapadia and Rajesh Khanna, married Bollywood film star Akshay Kumar in 2001.

Cyclone Biparjoy to make landfall near Jakhau on June 15; around 7 500 persons moved to safety



AHMEDABAD, JUN 12: Cyclone 'Biparjoy' was likely to make landfall near Jakhau port in Gujarat's Kutch district on Thursday afternoon as a 'very severe cyclonic storm' with maximum wind speed reaching up to 150 kilometres per hour, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said on Monday. Officials said authorities in the coastal districts of Kutch, Porbandar, Devbhumi Dwarka, Jamnagar, Junagadh and Morbi began evacuating people residing near the sea and had suspended fishing activities as well as hoisted warning signals at ports.

"The cyclone is likely to make landfall near Jakhau port. It will hit Gujarat coast around noon on June 15. It will be preceded by winds with speeds of 135-145 kmph gusting to 150 kmph and extremely heavy rainfall," said IMD Ahmedabad centre director Manorama Mohanty.

A warning has been issued for heavy rainfall for Saurashtra-Kutch and Gujarat regions during June 15-16 and fishermen have been warned not to venture into the sea till June

16, she said. Around 7,500 people have been shifted to safer places, and a proper evacuation operation will begin from Tuesday for people residing in villages located within a distance of 10 kilometres from the coast in Kutch-Saurashtra districts, officials said. More than 3,000 people were evacuated from 31 villages in Porbandar, while in Devbhumi Dwarka, more than 1,500 people were shifted to safer places, they informed. "Some 3,000 people, especially fishermen and labourers working at a port, were shifted in Kandla. Residents of some slums near the sea have also been shifted in Mandvi. Around 23,000 people residing in villages within a radius of 10 km from the coast will be moved to (makshifit) shelter homes from Tuesday," Kutch collector Amit Arora said.

In a tweet, the IMD said, "Cyclone Alert for Saurashtra and Kutch Coast: Orange Message. ESCS BIPARJOY lat at 0830 IST today, about 320km SW of Porbandar, 360km SSW of Devbhumi Dwarka,

440 km South of Jakhau Port, 440 km SSW of Naliya. To cross near Jakhau Port (Gujarat) by noon of 15th June as VSCS." Authorities in Kutch district imposed section 144 in the coastal areas and all schools and colleges were shut down till June 15, officials said. Meanwhile, some parts of coastal districts in south and north Gujarat such as Valsad, Gir Somnath, Bhavnagar and Amreli received light rainfall on Monday morning.

Teams of National and State Disaster Response Forces (NDRF and SDRF) were being kept on stand-by in affected districts and the administration was in touch with the Army, Navy and Indian Coast Guard, officials said.

In its latest bulletin issued during the day, the IMD said the cyclone moved northwards with a speed of 7 kmph and lay centred around 320 km southwest of Porbandar, 360 km south-southwest of Devbhumi Dwarka, 440 km south of Jakhau Port, 440 km south-southwest of Naliya and 620 km south of Karachi (Pakistan). The met department said the cyclone was very likely to move nearly northward till the morning of June 14. Warning signals have been hoisted along the coasts for fishermen, and they have been advised not to venture into the central Arabian sea till June 15, and northern Arabian sea during June 12. Fishermen out at sea have been advised to return to the coast. The Centre has directed the state government to regulate onshore and offshore activities and mobilise evacuation from coastal areas of Saurashtra and Kutch from districts including Kutch.

Home Ministry names 51 to Manipur peace panel; Kukis object: no consent

IMPHAL: The Governor-led committee announced by the Centre to restore peace in Manipur, which has been roiled by ethnic clashes, comprises 51 members including those from the warring Meitei and Kuki communi but several representatives of Kuki groups said Sunday they are not happy that they have been appointed to the committee without their consent. They said the Centre should be part of the committee, instead of leaving everything to the state government and the Chief Minister.

Of those named by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) to represent the ethnic groups, 25 are from the majority Meitei community, 11 belong to Kuki groups and 10 are from the Naga community. The Muslim and the Nepali communities will be represented by three and two members, respectively. The peace panel is part of a series of measures, including a judicial probe panel, announced by Union Home Minister Amit Shah at the end of his four-day visit (May 29 to June 1) to Manipur. The committee was announced Saturday, with the

Ministry of Home Affairs naming Governor Anusuya Uikey as its chairperson and Chief Minister N Biren Singh, a few ministers in the state, MPs, MLAs and leaders of different political parties as its members.

While announcing the committee, the MHA also said that it will have "representatives of different ethnic groups" but gave no further details on its composition.

In an order issued by Deputy Secretary Naarendra Gautam on June 10, the MHA has named the representatives. The political leaders named in the order are: State ministers Y Khemchand and Nemcha Kipgen; Lok Sabha MP Lorho S Pioze; BJP Manipur unit chief Adhikarimayum Sharda Devi; former minister and JD (U) leader Md Abdul Nasir; CPI leader Dr Moirangthem Nara, and MLAs T Shanti Singh and K Ranjit Singh.

The civil society will be represented by two retired professors of Manipur University, the chairman of the Bar Council of Manipur, five social workers and retired government officials. The committee has also included for-

mer Director General of Police P Doung.

"Some of the presidents of the organisations are in the peace committee - Ajay Khongais, President (Kuki Inpi Manipur), David K Shimray, President (Tangkul Naga Long), Lourembam Nganbi, President (Apuna Manipur Kanba Ina Lup), Hmila Hmar, working President (Hmar Tribe Union), RK Sanahamb, President (Kanglei Ina Lup), K Sunathang, President (Paite Tribe Council), Awangbow Newmai, President (the Naga People's Front), Lourembam Memchoubi, President (Poirei Leimarol Meria Paibi Apubna), S M Jalal, President (All Manipur Muslim Organisations Coordinating Committee), Md Rajuadind, President (Manipuri Muslim Council Moreh), R Machundobor, President (Joint Tribe Council, Zeliangrong Council)," Gautam said. When his comments were sought, retired Indian Defence Accounts Service officer J Lungdung told over phone that his name had been included in the committee without his consent.

Ground floor of three-storey Ram Temple in Ayodhya in final stages of construction

Engineering teams of Larsen & Toubro and Tata Consulting Engineers and representatives of Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust participated in the review of the construction work



LUCKNOW: The ground floor of the three-storey Ram Temple in Ayodhya is in its final stages and the work on ancillary structures is going on in full swing for their completion by October this year, the temple authorities said on Monday.

"The progress (in construction) of the ground floor of the Ram Temple was reviewed recently by senior members of the trust, including chairman of construction committee Nripendra Misra," according to a statement.

Engineering teams of Larsen & Toubro and Tata Consulting Engineers and representatives of Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust participated in the review of the construction work, it added. "Shri Ram

Temple, Ayodhya, enters final ground floor construction phase.... The construction work on infrastructure buildings is in full swing for completion by October 2023," the statement said.

The progress of the construction work is monitored on a daily basis by senior functionaries and actual issues are addressed, it added.

The committee said that after the completion of the temple foundation, raft and plinth, the placement of Rajasthan's Bansi Paharpur stone on the three-storey temple is in full swing.

Apart from the sanctum sanctorum, the temple has five mandaps - Gudh Mandap, Rang Mandap, Nritya Mandap, Prathana Mandap and

Kirtan Mandap. "The dome size of the five mandaps are 34 feet in width and 32 feet in length and height from the courtyard ranging from 69 feet to 111 feet," the statement said.

The temple is 380 feet in length, 250 feet in width and 161 feet high from the courtyard, it added.

The entire sanctum sanctorum has been aesthetically carved with Makrana marble pillars, beams, ceiling and wall cladding.

There are 392 pillars which have been structurally provided taking into consideration the load factor and other climatic challenges.

The door of sanctum sanctorum will be designed with gold, the statement said.

To provide longevity and durability, the construction committee said, the material has been selectively picked up for the temple.

"The total area of the temple, including the peripheral 'parkota', is 8,64 acres. The 'parkota' is 762 metres long with provision for six temples and a facility of 'parikrama' by devotees," it said.

The temple is being constructed following the Supreme Court verdict in the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid land dispute.

Detained in West Africa for nine months, 16 Indian sailors return

Accused of oil theft, they were in detention in Equatorial Guinea and Nigeria since 2022

MUMBAI: The Indian sailors who had been detained in Equatorial Guinea and Nigeria for nine months returned home on Saturday, following months of efforts by the Indian government.

Sixteen sailors from the ship MT Heroic Idun, who had faced accusations of oil theft by Nigerian authorities, arrived at Kochi Airport in Kerala after undergoing trials and reaching a settlement.

The ship had a total of 26 crew members. The 16 Indians were first detained in Equatorial Guinea in August 2022 and later moved to Nigeria in November 2022.

The Indian government through its missions in Equatorial Guinea and Nigeria, and in bilateral meetings, took up the matter with the respective foreign authorities at various levels. They were pressed



for early resolution of the issue and repatriation of the Indian crew members, sources said.

Sources also said that following interventions with the Nigerian government, the crew were allowed to remain on board with provision of regular food, instead of being detained on land. "They were also allowed periodic contact with their families. Indian mission officials remained in regular touch with the crew and also undertook consular access on numerous occasions," a source said. Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, Brij Bhushan sexual harassment, Brij Bhushan police complaint, women wrestlers, BJP MP, Wrestling Federation of India, WFI President

Officials aware of the matter said that the Indian mission worked with the

shipping company to arrange legal representation for the crew. "It was highlighted to the Nigerian authorities that there had been no oil theft; necessary permissions had apparently been accorded; and that the crew was not privy to the decisions of operations. Humanitarian issues of some of the crew members were also highlighted," one of the sources said.

'Defamatory' remarks against PM Modi : Bombay HC extends interim relief for Rahul from court appearance till Aug 2

MUMBAI, JUN 12: The Bombay High Court on Monday extended till August 2 the interim relief granted to Congress leader Rahul Gandhi from appearance before a court here in a defamation complaint on his alleged remarks against Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2018.

The complainant, who claims to be a BJP worker, had alleged that Gandhi's "commander-in-thief" remark in the context of the Rafale fighter jet deal amounted to defamation.

A single bench of Justice S V Kowlaj adjourned the hearing on the plea filed by Gandhi challenging the summons issued to him by the local court in 2021 after the complainant's lawyer sought time.

"The interim relief granted earlier to continue till August 2," Justice Kowlaj said.

Earlier, Gandhi was directed by the local court to appear before it November 2021 in a defamation complaint filed by Mahesh Shrishrimal. Gandhi then approached the HC challenging the summons issued to him. The high

court in November 2021 directed the magistrate to defer hearing on the defamation complaint which meant the Congress leader would not be required to appear before the magistrate.

Since then hearing on Gandhi's plea has been adjourned from time to time and the interim relief granted to him was also extended.

The magistrate initiated criminal proceedings against Gandhi in August 2019. However, the Congress leader in his petition before the high court claimed that he learnt about the same only in July 2021. The complainant alleged that Gandhi made defamatory statements against PM Modi at a rally held in Rajasthan in September 2018.

As per the complaint, four days later (after the rally), Gandhi purportedly commented on a video and posted on his personal Twitter account: "The sad truth about India's commander in chief." The complainant alleged that Gandhi was making "defamatory statements against Modi and by calling him 'Commander in Thief' made a direct

allegation of theft against all members of BJP and Indian citizens connected to Modi".

In his petition filed through advocate Kushal Mor, Gandhi stated that the instant complaint was a classic example of frivolous and vexatious litigation motivated by the sole purpose of furthering the complainant's latent political agenda.

The petition said the complainant had no locus to file the complaint since defamation can be initiated only by the person who has been allegedly defamed.

The Congress leader had sought to quash the order of the magistrate and a stay on the proceedings pending the hearing of the petition.

Notably, a court in Surat had convicted Rahul Gandhi in a criminal defamation case over his 'Modi surname' remark and sentenced him to two years in the jail. The decision had led to his disqualification as a Member of Parliament.

The plea of Gandhi seeking a stay on his conviction is heard by the Gujarat High Court.

Principal of school at centre of headscarf row arrested in Madhya Pradesh

INDORE: The principal of Ganga Jamuna Higher Secondary School in Madhya Pradesh's Damoh district and two other school staff have been arrested, days after a controversy erupted over girl students allegedly being forced to wear a headscarf, police said Monday.

Late last month, a poster celebrating the school's success in class 10 Board exams was put up outside the premises, featuring non-Muslim students in headscarves. This set off a series of protests by right-wing groups, who raised allegations of religious conversion.

On May 31, the state's Home Minister Narottam Mishra ordered a probe into the incident, and on June 2, the education department derecognised the school, citing inadequate infrastructure. On June 2, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, while referring to Urdu poet-philosopher Iqbal, alleged that the school administration was "teaching poetry of a man who talked about the division of the country" and warned that "such acts won't be allowed in Madhya Pradesh". MP damoh school Established by the Ganga Jamuna Welfare Society in 2010, this is the only English-medium school in the town's

Futera ward, catering to its largely working-class population of farmhands, beed makers and labourers. The state government also consti-

tuted a high-level committee to investigate the matter.

Police identified the arrested persons as Afsha Sheikh, the school principal; Anas Atahar, a mathematics teacher; and Rastan Ali, the security guard. They were produced before a local court on Sunday and sent to judicial custody.

Damoh Superintendent of Police Rakesh Singh told The Indian Express the three were "arrested on the basis of statements of six-seven witnesses comprising mainly of the school students and their family members".

"damoh school "They were arrested after raids were undertaken. We are conducting raids in the district as other persons are also accused in this case and they are absconding. We have also invoked section 120B (punishment for criminal conspiracy) of the IPC," Singh said. The defence counsel for the accused denied the allegations. "They were produced before a Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's court where police did not seek further investigation. The police have shared their case diary with the court. We will prove our case before the court," said a defence counsel.

On June 7, police had filed a case against 11 members of the school management committee. They were initially booked under IPC sections 295 (damaging or defiling any object held

as sacred by any class of persons) and 506 (criminal intimidation), as well as provisions of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act. The FIR was based on the statements of three students.

The school administration had earlier dismissed the allegations and said that the headscarf was part of their uniform, introduced after class VI. School administration had also clarified that students were not forced to wear it. It had also told the District Collector on June 8 that they will "discontinue their old dress code and give children the option of choosing between dupatta and scarf" and "sing the national anthem every day".

Damoh District Collector Mayank Agrawal, meanwhile, constituted a high-level committee to investigate the school's registration, funding and school rules. He said, "Our high-powered committee report is yet to be finalised."

The GST, forest and food safety departments were also made part of the committee. Police made arrests on the basis of the statements recorded by the committee." Established by the Ganga Jamuna Welfare Society in 2010, this is the only English-medium school in the town's Futera ward, catering to its largely working-class population of farmhands, beed makers and labourers.

Statue erected before Hockey World Cup collapses in Odisha's Rourkela Rourkela

NEW DELHI: A 40-feet-high statue depicting an Indian hockey player erected in Rourkela city in Odisha's Sundargarh district ahead of this year's Men's Hockey World Cup collapsed due to a thunderstorm on Sunday, officials said.

The iron statue was installed near Rourkela Airport adjacent to Birsra Munda International Hockey Stadium in January ahead of the FIH Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup 2023.

Both legs of the statue broke due to strong winds and it fell sideways, they said.

The statue was built by a Bhubaneswar-based firm at a cost of Rs 30.68 lakh.

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik had unveiled the statue ahead of the World Cup.

Rourkela Municipal Corporation Commission-ioner Subhankar Mohapatra said a committee has been formed to look into the reasons behind the collapse of the statue, which was erected barely five months ago.

JKPCC conducts Public Hearing at Panchayat Ghar Dhok Khalsa Akhnoor

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUNE 12: A Public Hearing was organized today at Panchayat Ghar, Dhok Khalsa, Akhnoor for 5/22, 5/23, 5/24 and 5/26 minor mineral Blocks situated at Jad Khud in terms of Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India for eliciting view-points and suggestions of the locals and other stakeholders for renewal of environmental clearance of minor mineral mining project for above mentioned blocks.

The panel of Public Hearing was headed by Harvinder Singh, Additional DC Jammu and comprised Dr. Gulshan Kumar, District Mineral Officer, Geology and Mining department Jammu, Bader Hussain, Divisional Officer JKC Udhampur representing Regional Director JKPCC Jammu



and Anil Sharma, Divisional Officer, JKPCC Jammu North.

The Additional DC Jammu gave a patient hearing to the issues raised during the public hearing and assured the gathering that mining will be carried out in legal, scientific and transparent manner. He also assured that all the important points raised by the people during the public hearing are recorded and

sent to Competent Authority i.e. JKEIAA for consideration so that those issues are appropriately addressed before the grant of Environmental Clearance. Anil Sharma, Divisional officer, PCC Jammu North in his opening address apprised the general public that the purpose of conducting public hearing was to hear the views of the people of surrounding areas regarding the

mining block for renewal of Environmental Clearance. Dr. Gulshan Kumar, DMO Jammu informed that the current public hearing is for the grant of renewal of EC for above blocks and replied to the queries raised by the public during the proceedings.

Bader Hussain, Divisional Officer, Pollution Control Committee, Udhampur repre-

sented on behalf of Regional Office, JKPCC Jammu also briefed the participants during the public hearing.

The public representatives including Vice Chairman DDC Jammu, Suraj Singh Bhu and DDC Member Bharat Bhushan Baral, Sarpanches, Naib Sarpanch, Ex-Sarpanches and other prominent citizens also presented their viewpoints and suggestions before the panel.

Project Consultant of M/s Vitasta Enviro Services Pvt Ltd Jaipur, gave the details about salient features of the EIA and mining project for block no. 22/5, 23/5, 24/5 and 26/5.

Vote of thanks to the chair was presented by Dimple Sharma, FI Divisional Officer PCC Jammu North. In addition to the Public Hearing programme, a pledge was taken to promote Mission Life Campaign 2023.

Central Nodal Officer JSA, CTR visits Banihal; inspects Amrit Sarovars, interacts with PRIs

JI NEWS SERVICE

RAMBAN, JUNE 12: Director (Law & Order), Internal Security/Division, Union Ministry of Home Affairs, and Central Nodal Officer (CNO) for Jammu & Kashmir (JSA), Catch the Rain (CTR), Nishtha Tiwari, along with Scientist Central Ground water, Chandreyee De, today visited Banihal area and inspected Amrit Sarovars besides interacting with PRIs and panel.

Central Nodal Officer-JSA-CTR, Scientist CGW and members of Jal Shakti Abhiyan, on second day of their four day visit to the district, interacted with the PRI members and took stock of their issues and concerns. They inspected various Amrit Sarovars in sub division Banihal constructed by the Rural Development Department.

The Jal Shakti Abhiyan is a flagship program of Government of India focused on ensuring water security and conservation in the country. The program aims to raise awareness about the importance of water conservation, promote water harvesting and improve infrastructure for water storage and distribution.

During the interaction, CNO asked the PRIs to plan GPPD, MGNREGA and other development schemes for creation of infrastructure required for water conservation and rain water harvesting in the district. She asked them to understand the need and importance for water conservation and its judicious use, protection of water sources and rain water harvesting to ensure safe and sufficient water availability for our future generations.

She was accompanied by SDM Banihal, Zaher Abbas, members of Jal Shakti Abhiyan besides DFO, ACD, CHO, Executive Engineer, JSD and other concerned agencies and officials.

Among others Vice Chairperson DDC, Rabia Hamid, BDC Chairman, DDC member, officers from Jal Shakti Department besides other officers and officials and PRI members present on the occasion.

DC reviews implementation of Swachh Bharat Mission (G) work Plan in Rajouri district

96,514 IHHL units, 165 segregation sheds, 312 community sanitary complexes completed

JI NEWS SERVICE

RAJOURI, JUNE 12: Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal, today reviewed the progress of Swachh Bharat Mission Gramen work and activities. The review covered a range of initiatives and projects aimed at improving the quality of life in the rural areas of the district. The meeting was informed that against the target of construction of 312 Community Sanitary Complexes 161 have been completed till date, besides constructing 96,514 IHHL units and 165 segregation sheds. In addition to these achievements, the DC also emphasized the need for effective management of grey water to prevent contamination of water sources.

The progress on soakage pits was also reviewed and the DC emphasized the need for proper maintenance and monitoring of soakage pits to ensure their effectiveness in managing water resources.

Meanwhile, the meeting also discussed the location plan for the construction of plastic waste management units in each block of the district. The DC asked the BDOs to formulate the plan in consultation with the public representatives. The review highlighted the significant progress made by the RDD sector in Rajouri in improving sanitation and hygiene facilities in rural areas.

Officers present in the meeting were Chief Planning Officer, Mohammad Khurshid; Assistant Commissioner Development, Vijay Kumar; Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, Sheraz Chowhan; EXEN REW, Zahir Khan and Block Development Officers.

DLSA Udhampur hosts awareness program on World Day against Child Labour

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUNE 12: District Legal Services Authority, Udhampur, under the Guidance of Chairman DLSA, Haq Nawaz Zargar and under overall supervision of Secretary DLSA, Ajay Kumar organized an Awareness Programme on World Day against Child Labour at Trikuta Brick Kiln, at Neeli Nalha. The Programme was organized in coordination with the Labour Department and under the supervision of Pradyot Gupta, Assistant Labour Commissioner.

The aim of the Programme was to raise awareness about the serious consequences of Child Labour and educate the masses especially Children about the various provisions provided under Law against Child Labour.

The resource persons ensured that no child is engaged as Labour in the Brick kiln.

The Resource persons of the Programme were Panel Lawyers Adv. Nikhileshwar Singh and Advocate Aakash Samrotia and assisted by P.Vs Rajinder Kumar and Sham Lal.

Later, Resource Persons thanked the Staff from the Labour Department present in the program and all the participants for the smooth conduct of the Awareness Programme.

Doda: Director Panchayati Raj visits PMAY-G Awas Plus registration camps

JI NEWS SERVICE

DODA, JUNE 12: Director Panchayati Raj, Khalid Majeed today visited block Bhalla to oversee PMAY-G Awas Plus registration camps. Assistant Commissioner Development, Phulail Singh and Assistant Commissioner Panchayati, Ashfaq Khanji also accompanied the Director Panchayati Raj. During the visit Director Panchayati Raj reviewed the functioning of PMAY-G Awas Plus registration camps.

He directed concerned officers and officials to provide Hassle free services under government sponsored welfare schemes like PMAY-G Awas Plus Yujna to the needy people.

The Director Panchayati Raj also interacted with the beneficiaries and PRIs at the camps.

DLSA Ganderbal organises legal awareness programme on Child Labour

JI NEWS SERVICE

GANDERBAL, JUNE 12: The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Ganderbal, today observed a legal awareness programme on "World Day against Child Labour" at Vijay Memorial Educational Institute Ganderbal.

The programme was held under the supervision of Chairman DLSA Ganderbal, Ritesh Kumar Dubey, and under the guidance of Secretary DLSA Ganderbal, Nusrat Ali Hakak.

The main objective of this programme was to raise awareness and promote action towards ending child labour globally and also served as a platform to highlight the negative impacts of child labour on children's physical and mental health, social development, and future opportunities. Speaking on the occasion, Advocate S.M. Mustehseen addressing the participants, on the concerning issue of child labour stressed the importance of educating the children. Furthermore, he emphasized the role of the DLSA Ganderbal in promoting legal literacy and creating awareness among the students about the legal provisions and mechanisms available to combat child labour. He also threw light about the negative impacts of child labour and emphasized the importance of education in shaping a better future for the children. Sanjay Koul, Principal of Vijay Memorial Educational Institute high-



lighted the basic fundamental rights of children to education, protection from exploitation, and a safe and healthy environment to grow up in. Children are the future of the world, and it is the responsibility of everyone to protect them, they have a right to protection from physical, emotional, and mental abuse, and exploitation, he maintained.

The event was filled with informative speeches and interactive sessions

and was a great success.

DLSA Ganderbal expressed hope that these efforts will result in a positive impact and serve as a catalyst for change, against child labour and work towards a brighter future for all children. The event was attended by Principal, teachers, staff members and students of Vijay Memorial Educational Institute, Ganderbal, Panel Lawyer and PLVs of DLSA, Ganderbal.

CMO inspects healthcare facilities in old SDH Baderwah

DODA, JUNE 12: To assess the quality of medical services & punctuality of staff, Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Doda, Dr Abdul Hamid Zargar visited Old Sub District Hospital Baderwah. He took stock of the health care arrangements and received first hand appraisal about the functioning of the Medical Aid Centre. The CMO inspected all sections of the hospital and interacted with locals regarding the provision of the healthcare facilities in the MAC. The CMO directed the health staff to work with dedication to ensure better health care facilities to the patients besides observing proper dress code and punctuality while discharging duties.

uphold the highest standards of governance and public service. During inspection, the ADC stresses on officers/officials to mark biometric attendance without fail and redress public grievances on priority. The ADC was accompanied by ACR Banihara Shabir Ahmad, Accounts officer to Deputy Commissioner and other concerned.

Surprise Inspection conducted in Bandipora Offices

JI NEWS SERVICE

BANDIPORA, JUNE 12: On the directions of Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Dr. Owais Ahmed and in an effort to ensure efficiency, transparency and accountability, the Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Bandipora, Umar Shafi Pandit on Monday conducted surprise inspections of

various government offices located at mini secretariat, Bandipora.

The inspection was part of the commitment to maintain a high standard of public service delivery and enhance administrative functioning. The team thoroughly assessed the overall functioning of offices

including workflow management, Biometric attendance and other records.

The ADC said that the primary aim of the inspection was to check adherence to biometric attendance, maintain punctuality and enhance public service delivery.

He said the inspections are conducted to

JKEDI hosts Investor Meet & Pitching Session with Angel Investor Mahavir Pratap Sharma

SRINAGAR, JUNE 12: The Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI) today organized a successful Investor Meet and Pitching Session, aimed at fostering the growth and development of startups in the UT of J&K at Sempora campus of the Institute.

The event brought together Mahavir Pratap Sharma, a renowned Angel Investor and a motivational speaker, aspiring entrepreneurs and industry experts to explore innovative business ideas and facilitate meaningful connections.

The event was held under the guidance of Ajaz Ahmad Bhat, Director JKEDI and served as a platform for startups from J&K to showcase their innovative ideas, business models, and growth potential in front of the investor.



The event witnessed a meaningful turnout of enthusiastic entrepreneurs, reflecting the growing entrepreneurial spirit in the region. Sheikh Ashfaq, a leading entrepreneur of J&K and former President of Kashmir Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) among other

Industry experts was also present on the occasion. Mahavir Pratap Sharma, a serial entrepreneur who also served as the chair of THE Global Angel Investors, brought his vast experience and expertise to the event.

As a renowned angel investor and mentor,

Sharma shared valuable insights into the startup ecosystem, investment strategies, and the qualities that investors seek in potential ventures. His presence added immense value to the event, inspiring and guiding the participating entrepreneurs.

"There is no dearth of talent here and I want all of you to think of solutions that have a global appeal and can be scalable. I will be available to all the aspiring startups and will share my experience and knowledge."

Some of the ideas presented today have immense potential and I will work with them and help them to scale up. Government support and grants are also important," said Mahavir Sharma.

"We need to encourage local ownership of funding and make use of the latest marketing methods to

expand our reach," he added.

Speaking on the occasion, Director, JKEDI said that this event gave an exceptional opportunity for startups in J&K to gain exposure and forge valuable connections with potential investors.

He said women need to come forward and be a valuable part of the entrepreneurial ecosystem. The Institute is going to organize a workshop for women entrepreneurs on 19th and 20th of June, which can be a wonderful platform for them, he added.

The participants had the opportunity to deliver compelling pitches, highlighting their unique value propositions, market opportunities, and revenue models.

The participating startups spanned various sectors including technology, agriculture, healthcare and



Commissioner Secretary reviews functioning of Floriculture, Gardens & Parks Department

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JUNE 12: Commissioner Secretary Floriculture, Gardens and Parks, Sheikh Fayaz, chaired a meeting to review functioning of the department.

The meeting was attended by Director Floriculture, Kashmir, Director Finance, Floriculture, Additional Secretary Floriculture and other concerned officers, both in person and through virtual mode.

Director Floriculture presented an overview of financial progress made during the fiscal year 2022-23.

It was revealed that out of the allocated budget of Rs 13.85 crore, Rs 10.58 crore had been expended. Moreover, 115 works were undertaken in the year



2023-24, amounting Rs 16.55 crore, with Rs 6.15 crore already released for various projects. Furthermore, it was informed that the department had surpassed revenue targets, generating Rs 12.60 crore in the financial

year 2022-23 against a target of Rs 8.52 crore. Additionally, as of the end of May 2023, Rs 3.66 crore had been realized out of the revenue target of Rs 11.84 crore for the year 2023-24, so far.

Commissioner Secretary assured the officers that the remaining funds would be disbursed promptly to ensure timely completion of ongoing projects across different locations in the Kashmir division.

He commended the department for successful organization of Tulip Festival at the iconic Tulip Garden in Srinagar, labeling it the best ever festival.

Highlighting dedication of Floriculture department, Commissioner Secretary mentioned and appreciated their efforts in beautifying meeting avenues and parks during the G20 Working Tourism meeting. He expressed satisfaction with the transformation of floriculture and gardens landscape over the past three years.

Commissioner Secretary encouraged the officers to propose action plans for upcoming projects in their respective areas.

He applauded their commitment towards renovating and enhancing parks under their jurisdiction.

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav; Free AYUSH & NCD screening camp held at PHC Gundna

JJ NEWS SERVICE

DODA, JUNE 12: Reaching out to the people at their door steps to provide them better health-care facilities, the Health Department organized a day long free AYUSH and NCD

screening camp at Government Primary Health Centre Gundna.

The camp was organised as a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav and Adhutt Doda initiative of District Administration.

Around 110 patients were

examined for different ailments with NCD screening by the health team.

The health department has been holding series of screening camps in every nook and corner of the District to detect hypertension, diabetes, cancer etc.

Besides emphasizes is being laid on the preventive and promotive healthcare, as screening plays a pivotal role in detecting patients early and treating them effectively. Medicines were also provided to the people free of cost.

The medical team headed by Dr Hamid Parry (Medical Officer ISM) along with Yasmeena Akhter (JN), Pamosha Begum (Lab Tech) and Ghulam Rasool (MIS) rendered their services during the camp.

ADDC Kulgam participates in Kisan Sampark Abhiyan programme at K.B.Pora

JJ NEWS SERVICE

KULGAM, JUNE 12: The Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Kulgam, Showkat Ahmad Rather today presided over Kisan Sampark Abhiyan programme at K.B.Pora.

The programme was organized by Agriculture and Allied Departments under Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) and focused on raising awareness among farmers about various government schemes, initiatives, and technological advancements in the agriculture, horticulture, fisheries and other sectors.

Addressing the gathering, the ADDC empha-

sized the government's commitment to uplift the agricultural community and ensuring their socio-economic welfare. He highlighted the significance of adopting modern agricultural techniques, including the use of organic fertilizers, advanced irrigation methods, and high-yielding crop varieties.

The Kisan Sampark Abhiyan programme also featured interactive sessions, where farmers had the opportunity to seek guidance from experts and clarify their doubts related to agriculture and horticulture. Chief Agriculture Officer, Chief Horticulture Officer, Chief Fisheries Officer, besides other officers from line departments participated in the programme.

DIET Doda, Pratham Collaborate to empower Grade 1-3 Mothers with Developmental Skills Workshop

JJ NEWS SERVICE

DODA, JUNE 12: District Institute of Education Research & Training (DIET), in collaboration with Pratham Education Foundation Doda, organized a workshop for mothers of children in grades 1, 2, and 3.

This empowering workshop was hosted across 10 educational zones in the District with the aim of discussing the developmental skills goals of NIPUN BHARAT and FLN. Recognizing the vital role of mothers in their children's life, the workshop emphasized the importance of their involvement in nurturing and shaping their young ones. During the first five years of a child's life, the synaptic



networks in their brain are still forming, making this stage particularly crucial for development. Children are highly receptive to human contact and interaction during this period, making it essential for parents to engage them in cognitive, social, and emotional activities that will shape their future selves. One of the key aspects discussed in the workshop was the significance of maintaining communication between mothers and their child's

teacher. By staying updated on what their child is learning in the classroom, mothers can reinforce and transfer this knowledge in the home setting. This collaborative approach extends the teaching beyond the classroom, resulting in a more positive learning experience for children. Ultimately, it helps children perform better in school, fostering their confidence and overall ability.

The success of such workshops lies in their ability to establish a strong bridge between government schools and communities, and other stakeholders, these workshops pave the way for achieving the goals of NIPUN BHARAT and FLN. Continued efforts in organizing such workshops in the future will further enhance the partnership between schools and families, leading to the holistic development of children and the realization of educational targets.

The DIET Doda and Pratham collaboration have demonstrated a commitment to empowering mothers and harnessing their vital role in their child's education.

PSPS GCW Gandhinagar organises Seminar cum Awareness Camp on Banking Products, Schemes & Digital Tools

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUNE 12: Career Counselling and Placement Cell of Padma Shri Padma Sachdev Government College for Women Gandhinagar today organized "A Seminar Cum Awareness Camp on Banking Products / Schemes and Digital Tools".

The Programme started with the formal welcome of team of J&K Bank, Gandhinagar including Anil Sharma, Branch Head; Shruti Srikul, Retail Incharge; Anuradha,



Savings Incharge; Pranav, Financial Services and Surinder Kumar, Financial Inclusion Dept. from Gandhinagar, Branch.

Prof. Minu Mahajan, Principal of the College, in her address encouraged the

participants to make use of mobile banking, e banking and other digital services offered by the bank. She added that lack of guidance hinders us from doing well but the efforts of the College Career Counselling

Cell has provided the opportunity at their doorstep. Anil Kumar, branch head, discussed in detail about the different schemes like Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana and Pradhan

Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana.

Accidental Insurance etc. Ms Shruti talked in length about the DOs and DON'Ts of banking like not to share OTP or open any link. She insisted on visiting the bank rather than providing any information to strangers or fraudsters. Ms. Anuradha Sharma, Incharge Savings provided the minute details of Savings and other deposits in the bank and responded to the queries of students. Pranav from J&K Bank Financial Services discussed the Mutual

Funds and DEMat Account.

Later, the team invited the students to visit any branch of J&K Bank to seek help and banking information. The programme were conducted by Prof. Suman Bala and concluded with the formal Vote of thanks by Prof. Minu Mahajan. The whole programme was coordinated by Prof. Rajni Kumari, Convener Career Counselling & Placement Cell and members Prof. Sugandha Mahajan, Prof. Rajinder Kumar.

Seminar on World Day against Child Labour held at IM-GDC, Shopian

SPEAKERS CALLED FOR REPORTING CHILD LABOUR TO CHILD PROTECTION AUTHORITIES PROMPTLY

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JUNE 12: In a bid to create awareness and show individual and collective resolve to eliminate the menace of Child Labour, a Seminar was held today at Imtiaz Memorial Govt. Degree College (IM-GDC) Shopian by the Department of Labour, Shopian in collaboration with District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Shopian.

Various speakers on the occasion stressed upon the responsibility of citizens in contributing their part towards the eradication of this evil. Assistant Commissioner, Labour, Shopian, Peer Zameer Ahmad spoke on the history



of Celebration of the World Day against Child Labour and

Child Labour Act, 1986 and penal provisions. He raised

awareness among the audience about the need of controlling the menace of child labour through Legislative, welfare, protection measures and through integration of child labourers into maintain education sector.

District Information Officer, Shopian, Showkat Hussain Ganie, while speaking on the occasion elucidated the role of society in taking care of the economically weaker sections of the society and government authorities towards the goal of Child labour free society.

Advocate, Mushtaq Ahmad Paul from DLSA, Shopian enumerated the provisions of the Child Labour Act and

emphasised upon the gathering to report cases of the Child Labour before Inspectors notified under the Act besides spoke at length on the need of eradication of poverty in society in order to control and arrest the child labour.

Labour Officer, Parvaiz Ahmad Thoker anchored the Seminar and spoke on the topic and called for spreading of word against the menace.

Various student speakers also took part in the deliberations of the topic.

The program was attended by Students, officials of labour, school education, higher education, DLSA and other child welfare and protection stakeholders.

Director Agriculture visits different areas of Budgam district

Says integrated farming has huge potential for the sustainable agriculture economy in the region

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JUNE 12: The Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhury Mohammed Iqbal today visited different areas of Budgam and took stock of the agriculture scenario in the district.

During the visit, Director Agriculture reviewed the paddy transplanting scenario in the area. He marked the importance of integrated farming for the area and asked the farmers that the geo-climatic conditions of the concerned area are suitably conducive for the adoption of integrated way of cultivation.

Chowdhury Iqbal assured the farming community of every possible technical guidance from the department.

He asked the concerned officers to prepare for successful implementation of paddy for the implementation of various initiatives under Holistic Agriculture Development Program.

He asked the farmers to come forward and take benefit from all approved projects under HADP.

Amid prevailing weather conditions Director Agriculture asked the farmers to follow the guidance and advisories by the department. He directed the concerned officers to closely monitor the agriculture activities in the area.

Director Agriculture also met a number of farmer delegations and took feedback from them regarding the implementation of different programs by the department.

D. H Shopian first in Kashmir to start AI in Radiology department for qXR

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SHOPIAN, JUNE 12: The District Hospital (DH) Shopian under the aegis of Directorate of Health Services Kashmir started assessing artificial intelligence (AI) tools for pilot project qXR to deploy in Radiology department (X-ray) for more efficient diagnoses.

It has been given out that it can instantly point out abnormal areas in X-rays with over 90% accuracy, making the final diagnosis easier for radiologists.

Artificial intelligence has been revolutionizing the medical domain for intelligent computing which aims to solve practical healthcare problems.

By introducing Artificial Intelligence at District Hospital Shopian, it will bring several benefits for Radiologists, which ease their work. Some key benefits include More Accurate Classification, Enhanced Analysis and Quicker results.

The patients lauded the steps taken by Jammu and Kashmir administration and have expressed gratitude to Administrative Secretary Bhopinder Kumar, Deputy Commissioner Shopian, Director Health Services Kashmir, Chief Medical Officer Shopian and Medical Superintendent District Hospital Shopian, as these types of latest medical facilities will enhance healthcare in the district and making DH Shopian functional at par with the other leading DHs of the UT.

DC B'pora visits DDRC; distributes aids among specially-abled persons

REHABILITATION CENTRE IS A VITAL INSTITUTION PROVIDING SUPPORT, CARE & REHABILITATION SERVICES TO INDIVIDUALS IN NEED- DR. OWAIS

JJ NEWS SERVICE

BANDIPORA, JUNE 12: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Dr Owais Ahmad on Monday visited District Disability and Rehabilitation Centre (DDRC) Bandipora to review the functioning of (DDRC), assess its operations and distribute various aids and appliances among specially-abled persons.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC said that the Rehabilitation Centre is a vital institution providing support, care and rehabilitation services to individuals in need.

He said the visit was aimed to gain firsthand understanding of the facility's operations, evaluate its performance, and explore areas of improvement.

The DC on the occasion interacted with the staff and specially-abled persons to assess the services provided, challenges faced and the overall effectiveness of the rehabilitation centre. Dr. Owais also distributed various aids and appliances among the specially-abled persons and said that administration is committed towards welfare and upliftment of specially-abled persons.

Later the deputy commissioner also visited the Addiction Treatment Facility at Old District Hospital Bandipora to take stock of its functioning.

World Day Against Child Labour (2023)

DLSA Samba hosts awareness camps on the theme "Social Justice for All; End Child Labour"

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SAMBA, JUNE 12: District Legal Services Authority, Samba on Monday organized an awareness camp to mark the observance of "World Day Against Child Labour (2023)" under the theme "Social Justice for All; End Child Labour".

The awareness campaign was held under the aegis of JKLSA and as per the Action plan for the month of June, 2023 issued by Jammu & Kashmir Legal Services Authority (JKLSA) and also under the directions of Yash Paul Kotwal, Chairman, District Legal Services Authority, Samba (Pr. Distt. & Sessions Judge Samba

The camp held in slum areas behind the 17 Miles Road, Vijaypur, Samba was attended by Rekha Kapoor Nischal, Secretary District Legal Services Authority Samba and Namisha Rajput, Chairperson, Child Welfare Committee Samba.

They distributed food kits among the children of the slum area. The program was also attended by Para Legal Volunteers of District Legal Services Authority Samba.

Besides this, District Legal Services Authority Samba through P.L.V.s of DLSA Samba organized another awareness camp at Village- Rakh Baroi, Teh. Bar-Brahmanua to observe World Day Against Child Labour (2023).

District Skill Committee meeting held at Anantnag

J1 NEWS SERVICE

ANANTNAG, JUNE 12: District Skill Committee meeting was today held under the chairmanship of Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Anantnag, Bashir Ahmad Wani at DC Office, here.

The meeting was briefed about the progress of Skill Training under B2VA, MTMP and PMKVY.

The committee reviewed the progress of skill training programs implemented under various initiatives, including Mission Youth's Training and Placement Program (MTMP), and Pradhan Mantri Kausal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY). They discussed the achievements, challenges, and

future plans for these programs.

The committee discussed the utilization of funds under the SANKALP (Skills Acquisition and Knowledge Awareness for Livelihood Promotion) scheme. It also reviewed the projects and activities supported by the fund and assessed their impact. Strategies to optimize the utilization of the fund were also considered.

The committee also discussed a proposal for Entrepreneurship Development Program (EDP) training through the Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (KEDI). It examined the potential benefits and feasibility of the proposal and discussed its alignment with the broader skill development goals. The committee shared their findings

on the One District One Product (ODOP) initiative, which aims to promote local traditional crafts and industries. It also discussed the skill requirements, market potential, and strategies for enhancing the competitiveness of ODOP products. This sharing of findings would likely inform future interventions and skill development efforts.

Further, the committee discussed the provision of skill training programs specifically targeting candidates from Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) through the National Career Service (NCS). It explored ways to ensure equitable access to training opportunities and promote inclusivity in skill development initiatives. ADCD while addressing

the committee members said that the line departments must come with an action plan for option and identification and directed IIT Principal to devise a result-oriented action plan. He further directed for close coordination among the line departments for training and enrollments with trainee centric trades. Wani emphasized on the officers for introduction of employment generating courses as the motive of the skill training courses is to reduce unemployment and to secure the future of youth. He said that after completion of academics the students must be skilled. The meeting was attended by JD Planning, Principles of Boys & Women GDC's, Principal IIT, CEO, DSWO, NRLM, EDL, KVIB and other committee members.

GDC Reasi organises Yoga Awareness Lecture

J1 NEWS SERVICE

REASI, JUNE 12: Government General Zorawar Singh Memorial Degree College, Reasi today organised Yoga Awareness Lecture and Demonstration as a part of the celebrations of International Yoga Day-2023.

Around 100 students and staff members of the college attended the Awareness Lecture. Soumiya Gupta, National Yoga Player from Udhampur demonstrated various Asanas for the students. Abdul Majid (YOGA INSTRUCTOR, Ayush Health and Wellness Centre, Reasi) explained the importance of Yoga in human life.

The principal of the college, Dr. Kulvinder Kour was the Chief Guest on the occasion. She explained the level of stress in the present day and other negative tendencies like mood swings, lack of concentration etc. which can be improved and cured with the help of YOGA. Ajay Kumar, NSS Programme Officer detailed the students about the upcoming activities as a part of International Yoga Day-2023.

The stage was managed by Shahi Kumar Sharma, Physical Training Instructor. Others present on the occasion were Dr. Samriti Aggarwal, Prof. Kewal Krishan, Dr. Saleem Ahmed, Prof. Sunil Mangotra (NCC Officer) etc. The whole Programme was conducted with the joint collaboration of the College, NSS & NCC Units (Boys & Girls), College Healthcare, and NCCORD Committee.

ADDC Kishtwar conducts 2 Day extensive tour of Dachhan area

J1 NEWS SERVICE

KISHTWAR, JUNE 12: Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Kishtwar Sham Lal undertook a two-day extensive tour of the far-flung Dachhan area to accelerate the pace of development and reach out to the local populace at their doorstep.

The ADCD, along with the entourage, covered a distance of 22 km on foot, traversing the challenging terrain to reach the remote panchayats in the region.

Accompanied by BDO Dachhan Ravi Kumar and Prabhari Panchayat Lopara, Dr. Jeevan Dhar (Principal GDC Paddar), ADCD Sham Lal inspected visited several Panchayats including Soundar A, Soundar B, Soundar C, Lohama, Lopara, and Janakpur. The entourage also comprised officers and officials from the Revenue, RDD, R&B, Horticulture, and other departments.

During the visit, the ADCD Kishtwar interacted with several delegations led by local PRIs and listened to their concerns and grievances related to the development of local infrastructure. Responding to the demands, the ADCD Kishtwar assured immediate redressal of their genuine grievances. A majority of the issues raised were promptly addressed in consultation with the respective officers and field functionaries. The ADCD Kishtwar received several memorandums of demands at various locations, highlighting the pressing needs and aspirations of the local community. Concurrently, ADCD Kishtwar assessed the progress of various ongoing developmental activities in the Panchayats and issued necessary directions to the concerned authorities to expedite the completion of these works within the stipulated time frame. In addition, ADCD also participated in the demarcation of land identified for the construction of a hospital under the RRP plan & Skill Upgradation Centre under the BDC plan at Sirchi. The ADCD also visited HSS Panjdhara and HSS Soundar, engaging with staff members, reviewing ongoing development activities, and assessing the infrastructure requirements of these educational institutions.

Sports Council promotes yoga for transformative impact on health

J1 NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JUNE 12: J&K Sports Council's focus on community sports, promoting healthy lifestyles and providing result-oriented coaching to youth and ensuring gender equality in sports by supporting events like North Kashmir Women's Premier League have contributed to the growth and development of sports in the region. The North Kashmir Women's Premier League is a serious effort to provide the Valley's female cricketers with equal opportunities and recognition as their male counterparts.

In addition, initiatives such as roller field hockey at the M.A. Stadium in Jammu, cricket training at the TRC Cricket Academy



in Srinagar and the South Kashmir Cricket Academy in Bijbehara provide ample opportunities for players to improve their skills and compete at a higher level.

The intense efforts of the Sports Council at the grassroots level have led to the remarkable success of J&K athletes at almost every arena they step in, which has become the norm in recent

times. Yesterday's pretenders are today's contenders, highlighting the promising potential of budding athletes in the region.

By mentoring youth in various academies, the Sports Council ensures that young athletes have the skills and support they need to compete and succeed at a high level. These initiatives are critical to fostering a culture of sports and wellness in Jammu and

Kashmir and help promote healthy lifestyles and personal development for citizens.

The J&K Sports Council, apart from its regular activities, also plays an important role in promoting physical fitness and healthy lifestyle by collaborating for events like Prayas International Yoga Day. The event was organized at K.K Haku Stadium in Jammu and was a great success.

The event enjoyed lively participation from all walks of life and highlighted the importance of yoga for mental and physical well-being. Through informative sessions, interactive discussions and expert-led demonstrations, participants gained a deep understanding of the benefits of yoga and were motivated to

incorporate it into their daily routines.

"Such events play a crucial role in promoting yoga and its transformative impact on the overall health and well-being of individuals," said Vijay Kumar, one of the participants at the event. Another participant, Kulbhushan Mahajan, said events like this help raise awareness about the benefits of yoga, such as improved flexibility, strength, and mental well-being.

Meanwhile, the Kabbadi and athletics events were organized on the second day today at Government Higher Secondary School Lalore in Samba district.

More than 80 students participated in the day-long sports event, which was still in progress when the report was being filed.

DLSA Srinagar raises Awareness about Child Labour on 'World Day against Child Labour'

J1 NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JUNE 12: The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Srinagar in collaboration with the students of Kashmir Law circle (NGO), in its continuous endeavor to promote social justice and protect the rights of children, today organized a heartwarming event to commemorate the 'World Day against Child Labour' at Dhara, Harwan.

The event was also aimed to bring attention of people to the pressing issue of child labour and provide much-needed support to the children belonging to the labour and

poor class in our community.

Child labour continues to be a grave concern worldwide, and its eradication demands collective efforts from society. DLSA Srinagar took a significant step by organizing a distribution drive on the World Day against Child Labour. The event was held at Harwan Srinagar and witnessed the participation of prominent officials, para-legal volunteers, volunteers, and members of the community who are dedicated to ensuring the well-being of children.

During the event, the children of labourers and families belonging to the poor

class were given the utmost priority. In a display of compassion and solidarity, the DLSA Srinagar distributed a variety of nutritious fruits and delectable sweets among these children. This gesture not only brought smiles to their faces but also aimed to enhance their nutritional intake, promoting their overall health and well-being.

Furthermore, as part of the awareness campaign against child labour, the DLSA Srinagar also distributed warm blankets to the families of these children. The blankets symbolize our commitment to providing a safe and nurturing environment for chil-

dren, ensuring that they are protected from the harsh realities they might face while working as child labourers.

Jawad Ahmad, Chairman DLSA Srinagar emphasized the importance of eradicating child labour and creating awareness about this issue. He, in his message stated "Child labour robs children of their childhood, denies them education, and jeopardizes their future. By organizing this event, we aim to send a strong message to the community that every child deserves a childhood filled with love, education, and the opportunity to develop their full potential".

DC Rajouri takes comprehensive review of RDD sector schemes

RAJOURI, JUNE 12: Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal, today held a meeting to review the progress of various schemes under the Rural Development Department (RDD) sector.

Those in attendance were Chief Planning Officer, Mohammad Khurshid, the Assistant Commissioner Development, Vijay Kumar, Assistant

Commissioner Panchayat, Sheraz Chohan, Executive Engineer (EXEN) REW Zahir Khan, District Panchayat Officer, Aaqil Nuvaid, and Block Development Officers.

During the meeting, the DC reviewed the implementation of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), Awas Plus, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment

Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), Construction of bunkers, creation of soakage pits, and activities being carried out in the district under Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) (SBM(G)). These activities include door-to-door collection of waste, installation of baling machines, soakage pits, segregation sheds and community sanitary complexes.

DC Kishtwar chairs meeting to finalize arrangements for Sarthal Devi Ji Yatra

Appeals local residents, pilgrims to uphold sanctity and environmental serenity of region by strictly adhering to government's guidelines, including avoidance of plastic use

KISHTWAR, JUNE 12: Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar, Dr. Devansh Yadav today presided over a meeting of line departments and religious representatives to discuss and finalize the necessary arrangements for the upcoming Sarthal Devi Ji Yatra.

The meeting was attended by ADC, Inspector Singh Parihar, J&K Varunjeet Singh Charak; ACD/DFO, Sunil Bhutyal; Vice Chairman, Shri Sarthal Devi Ji Trust, Sanjeev Parihar; President of SD Sabha, Surinder Sen besides District heads of various line Departments and other religious representatives. During the meeting, the Shri Sarthal Devi Ji Management Council informed the chair that the annual Sarthal Devi Yatra, in honor of Shri Ashtadashbhujia Mata Sarthal Devi Ji, will take place on June 26th and 27th, 2023. The Shobha Yatra will commence from Gauri Shankar Mandir Sarkoot at 2 PM on June 26th, 2023, following the conclusion of the Hawan (religious ceremony) and Puraan Ahuti (offering).

Emphasizing the importance of timely arrangements, the Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar urged the line departments to ensure that all nec-

essary preparations are made ahead of time.

Police Authorities assured the meeting that foolproof security measures will be put in place, starting from the Gauri Shankar Mandir and extending along the route to Sarthal Mata Bhawan, on both days of the Yatra.

To ensure the successful conduct of the Yatra, the Deputy Commissioner directed all concerned line departments to make necessary arrangements, including uninterrupted water supply and provision of water tankers, power supply, installation of high mast lights at Sarthal Bhawan and other temples, provision of healthcare facilities at the specially established Medical Camp at Bhawan, provision of an ambulance with medical staff and allied medicines, and the placement of fire tenders for emergency response. Furthermore, ARO Kishtwar was instructed to ensure an adequate number of vehicles with valid technical fitness certificates, as well as the preparation traffic plan within the town to mitigate congestion and traffic. Assistant Commissioner Development, District Panchayat Officer, and Municipal Council

Authorities were specifically tasked with maintaining cleanliness and ensuring the upkeep of streets, lanes, and drains under their respective jurisdictions to guarantee the safety and well-being of the pilgrims.

The Deputy commissioner Kishtwar also instructed the ACD Kishtwar to expedite the beautification of Sarkot Pond before the Yatra. This initiative aims to safeguard and promote the historical water body in the Kishtwar area, providing a tranquil experience for pilgrims and tourists visiting the Gauri Shankar Mandir.

The executing agencies responsible for road maintenance were directed to conduct necessary repairs and upkeep on the roads from Hasti to Sarthal.

ACD Kishtwar was entrusted with the responsibility of installing dustbins at the venue and taking appropriate measures to provide sanitary and toilet facilities at Bhawan.

Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar appealed to both the local residents and pilgrims to uphold the Religious sanctity and environmental serenity of the region by strictly adhering to the government's guidelines, including the avoidance of plastic usage.

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOREST PROTECTION FORCE

GAMMA UNIT J-02, SIDHRA, JAMMU

TENDER NOTICE

e-NIT No.- 08 of 2023-24 Dated:- 09-06-2023

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

S.No	Name of Work	Advised Cost (Amount in lacs)	Earnest Money @ 2% of the advertised cost (Amount in rupees)	Class of Contractor	Cost of Tender (Document (Amount in rupees)	Time of Completion (Days)	Receiving /Opening Authority
1	Construction of room and allied works for already installed submersible pump at FPP Gamma Unit J02 Sidhra	4.00	Rs. 8000/-	"D" only	Rs.600/-	120 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.jktenders.gov.in

Position of funds: Partially Available
Position of AA / TS: Accorded

Publishing Date	09-06-2023
Download Start Date	09-06-2023 from 6.50 P.M
Bid Submission Start Date	09-06-2023 from 6.50 P.M
Bid Submission End Date	01-07-2023 upto 1:00 P.M
Date of opening of Technical / Financial Bid (online)	01-07-2023 at 01:05 PM (in the office of the Joint Director, Forest Protection Force, Jammu)

- The Bids shall be deposited in electronic form at the Departmental Website- www.jktenders.gov.in
- The price bids uploaded on the website in time will be opened on 01-07-2023 at 01:05 PM in the office of the Joint Director, Forest Protection Force, 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.

No.: DP/FP/J-02/Tender/CAPEX/237-41
Dated: 09.06.2023

DIP/J-3155/23

(JUGAL KISHORE)
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
FOREST PROTECTION FORCE,
GAMMA UNIT, J-02, SIDHRA
JAMMU

DC Jammu reviews arrangements for Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra 2023

DIRECTS STAKEHOLDER DEPARTMENTS TO PUT IN PLACE ALL ARRANGEMENTS WELL IN ADVANCE

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUNE 12: Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Avny Lavasa today convened a meeting to review the arrangements for smooth conduct of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra 2023 here in DC Office complex. SSP Chandan Kohli; Commissioner JMC, Rahul Yadav, ADC, AIDM Sandeep Seoningsan, RTO, CMO SDMS, along with senior officers from Jal Shakti, JPCL, Tourism, Information & PR, Security, Health, CRPF and representatives from various religious organizations and other stakeholders were present in the meeting.

At the outset, the Deputy Commissioner took a detailed review regarding arrangements of all the facilities including accommodation, barricading,



security arrangements, installation of technical equipment and wi-fi, Public Address System, the provision of power and water supply cleanliness, sanitation and medical facilities at registration counters, Lodgement centres and especially in the Jammu Base Camp-Yatri Niwas.

It was informed to the Chair that in all five counters have been established for Iatkal registration of the pilgrims at Vaishnavi Dham, Mahajan Sabha, Panchayat Ghar and two at Geeta

Bhawan and Ram Mandir for the registration of Sadhus.

It was also apprised that a token counter has also been established at Saraswati Dham for the disbursement of pilgrims and crowd management.

The meeting was further informed that the pilgrims can get their RIFD cards from counters at Vaishnavi Dham and Railway Station.

Regarding cleanliness, sanitation, lights and mobile toilet facilities at Yatri Niwas, lodge-

ment centres, registration counters etc. the Municipal Commissioner, Jammu assured that needful will be done as per the past practice. The DC directed the senior officers of police department to ensure that every langar should be equipped with CCTV and proper lighting system. She also asked them to ensure proper barricading and deployment of security personnel at checkpoints.

Regarding health-care, the DC asked the CMO to depute ade-

quate teams of doctors along with para medical staff and ambulances at yatri niwas and other required sites, who will perform their duties round the clock for the convenience of the pilgrims.

The Deputy Commissioner directed all the officers present in the meeting to ensure that all necessary arrangements for smooth conduct of Yatra to be carried out by their respective department are put in place well in time before the commencement of Yatra. She also directed the concerned officers to gear up their men and machinery to ensure adequate arrangements for the comfortable journey and stay of Yatriis. She asked the concerned departments to make sure that the pilgrims do not face any hardship on account of basic amenities.

DDC Poonch chairs Rogi Kalyan Samiti meeting

Directs Hospital Administration to work with dedication to provide better patient care facilities

JJ NEWS SERVICE



POONCH, JUNE 12: The District Development Commissioner Poonch, Yasin M. Choudhary visited the Raja Sukhdev Singh District Hospital Poonch to take stock of health care facilities and patient care provided by the institution.

During the visit, the DDC conducted a section-wise round of the hospital and inspected various wards and sections including emergency ward, Dialysis unit, laboratories, ICU wards, Operation theatre, OPD and interacted with the patients.

Later, he chaired a Rogi Kalyan Samiti meeting which was attended by RKS members, Programme officer ICDS, Khalid Hussain Wafa, District Social Welfare Officer, Mohinder Paul, Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Anees Altaf Nabi including EXN R&B, AEE PDD, EXN Jal Shakti, ADMO, and other concerned officers.

During the meeting, the Medical Superintendent, Dr Zulfiqar Ahmed, presented a detailed powerpoint presentation and apprised the DDC about the functioning of the Hospital.

The Chairman, along with all the members, appreciated the hospital's working and directed the Hospital Administration to work with more dedication to provide better patient care, including surgeries, dialysis, emergency, chemotherapy services, mother and newborn care.

The Rogi Kalyan Samiti meeting approved one Sevo for power backup and early starting of the hospital's main gate erection work with the hospital boundary wall. All the members expressed satisfaction for the establishment of more than 50 beds in hospital infrastructure by the government under ERCP 2nd and phase-wise functioning of ICU services.

SCERT's ESM Wing Gears Up For RBVP Competition

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JUNE 12: The Education in Science and Mathematics (ESM) Wing of the State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT) is all set to organize zonal level competitions for model exhibitions cum seminars under Rashtriya Bal Vaigyanik Pradarshani (RBVP).

In line with the National Education Policy 2020, the advisory committee responsible for guiding the science exhibition had in 2022 rechristened the National Science Exhibition as Rashtriya Bal Vaigyanik Pradarshani (RBVP).

By fostering curiosity, innovation, and excellence, RBVP strives to inspire young minds

and contribute to the development of a vibrant scientific community in India. It aims to promote a scientific temperament among students by providing a platform for them to showcase their innovative projects and ideas.

RBVP seeks to enhance Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education, encourage collaboration, nurture future scientists, and create awareness about scientific advancements.

In line with the goals of the RBVP, the SCERT has directed all the District Institutes of Education and Training (DIETs) in the Kashmir Division to ensure maximum student participation in these events.

The theme chosen for the sci-

ence innovation models is "Technology and Toys," which comprises seven different sub-themes. This theme aims to foster creativity and problem-solving skills among students while exploring the interplay between technology and toys.

In addition to the model exhibitions, a seminar will be conducted on the topic "Scientific Innovations for A Sustainable Future." This seminar aims to create awareness about the importance of scientific advancements and their role in building a sustainable future for society.

The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) had issued a notification in October of last year, disseminating the guidelines and instructions for the

competitions to all the DIETs well in advance. This ensured that the schools had ample time to prepare and participate in the event.

The competition is open to all schools, including government, private, Kendriya Vidyalayas, Navodaya Vidyalayas, and others.

Students from grades 9 to 12 are eligible to participate, providing an opportunity for young innovators across different educational backgrounds to showcase their talents.

The competition will progress through various levels, including zonal/cluster, district and provincial, where students will compete against each other. From the Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory, a total of 21

models will be selected to represent the region in the national level competition.

Recognizing the potential impact of these innovative ideas, the selected models will be transferred to the industry for further development. Moreover, the inventors will be provided with patent protection to secure their intellectual property rights.

The zonal level competitions organized by SCERT's Education in Science and Mathematics Wing are expected to fuel scientific curiosity among students and pave the way for a more innovative and sustainable future.

Through these initiatives, SCERT aims to inspire and nurture the budding scientists and inventors of tomorrow.

Safeena Beigh chairs meeting, discusses issues related to current year Projects/ 2022-23 Expenditure

RS 136 CRORE BUDGET APPROVED FOR DISTRICT CAPEX & RS. 110 CRORES FOR AREA DEVELOPMENT FUND FOR FY. 2023-24

JJ NEWS SERVICE

BARAMULLA, JUNE 12: The Chairperson, District Development Council (DDC) Baramulla, Safeena Beigh today chaired a meeting of all the concerned Officers at Dak Bungalow here to discuss various issues related to current year projects and last year expenditure under District CAPEX/ADP/UT Capex/CD and Panchayat.

At the outset, the Chairperson DDC was apprised with regard to projects being executed by various departments in the district for the year 2023-24.

During the meeting, it was also informed that budget of Rs. 136 Crores was approved for District Capex and Rs. 110 Crores for Area Development Fund for the current financial year.

A comprehensive discussion was also held on the expenditure of the year 2022-23.

After reviewing the sector wise progress of the projects, the chairperson impressed upon all the departments/ executing agencies to ensure timely completion of all developmental works in a time bound manner.

Reviewing the issues hampering the pace of progress, the chairperson asked the concerned to monitor the pace of progress on a regular basis and resolve the issues hampering the progress of several works at an earliest.

DC Srinagar takes stock of works on under-construction Hostel for wards of Ex-Servicemen/Martyrs at Peerbagh

Inspects progress of works on 120 Bedded Specialized Orthopaedic Block at B&J Hospital and New 200-bedded Extension Block of Lal Ded Hospital

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JUNE 12:- The Deputy Commissioner(DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad Monday undertook the site visit of different works being executed on major developmental projects in Srinagar District to inspect the pace of the works for augmentation of healthcare infrastructure at Bone & Joint Hospital and Lal Ded Hospital. He also visited the site for construction of the Hostel for Wards of Armed Forces(Ex-Servicemen)/Martyrs at Peerbagh.

During the visit, the Deputy Commissioner was accompanied by the Chief Planning Officer, District Social Welfare Officer, Tehsildar South Executive Engineers of R&B, JKPC, besides concerned Medical Superintendents and other Officers.

At Bone & Joint Hospital, Barzulla, the Deputy Commissioner took stock

of the progress of works on Rs 88.95 crore World Bank funded project for construction of 120 Bedded Specialized Orthopaedic Block including Six Bedded ICU, 2 Private Wards, 12 Bedded Pre OP & Post OP Room, 3 Modular OIS, Radiology, Physiotherapy and Faculty Rooms to augment and upgrade the healthcare infrastructure in B&J Hospital.

On the occasion, the DC took round of under construction building and directed the executing agency to redouble the manpower and work in night shifts also to complete the vital project under the set timeline so that patients are provided better Orthopaedic facilities. The DC asked the Medical Superintendent B&J, Dr Suhail and other Health functionaries to monitor the progress of works on a

daily basis to pace up the speed of works of the ongoing project. At Lal Ded (LD) Maternity Hospital, the Deputy Commissioner inspected the development works on Rs 152.0 crore project taken up for construction of a new 200-bedded Extension Block of Lal Ded Hospital to overcome the extra burden and heavy flow of patients.

While inspecting the progress on the project, the DC took stock of the pace and progress of works of the project and stressed the JKPC authorities to accelerate the pace of works to ensure its time bound completion.

The DC was informed that as soon as Base Isolators of the project are procured the pace of work on the prestigious project will speed up.



District Child Protection Unit organises Anti-Child Labour Day in Kishtwar

JJ NEWS SERVICE

KISHTWAR, JUNE 12: The District Child Protection Unit Kishtwar, in collaboration with the Special Juvenile Police Unit Kishtwar, organised an Anti-Child Labour Day in the slum areas of Kishtwar. The event aimed to raise awareness about the importance of education and discourage child labor.

Parents and guardians were encouraged to prioritise education and enroll their children in schools. An Aadhaar center operator was also present to assist in creating Aadhaar cards for the children, ensuring their eligibility for school admission.

The District Child Protection Unit is committed to protecting the rights of children and eliminating child labor in the region. Events like the Anti-Child Labour Day aim to create a safe environment for children, fostering their growth and providing them with opportunities for a better future.

Speakers at the event included Special Juvenile Welfare Officer (Sub Inspector) Manjeet Singh, Protection Officer (National Informatics Centre) DCPU Kishtwar, Touseef Iqbal Butti, Legal cum Officer DCPU/JJB Basharat Nazir and Protection Officer (Investigation Cell) Deepika Bandari.

Power shutdown

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUNE 12: Chief Engineer (Distribution) JPCL, Jammu has informed that the power supply to Gura Uterbehni, Mandal, Sandhi, Parnmandal and adjoining areas shall remain affected on June 15 from 6 am to 10 am.

Similarly, the power supply to Vijaypur Town, Kolpur, Bandal and adjoining areas shall remain affected on June 15 from 5 am to 11 am.

Likewise, the power supply to Changa, Gundoh, Bhalessa, Doda and adjoining areas shall remain affected on June 15 from 6 am to 12 noon.

Similarly, the power supply to Akhnour Town, Sohail, Ambaran, Thathi, Garkhal and adjoining areas shall remain affected on June 16 from 6 am to 8 am.

ADDC Poonch Reviews Arrangements for 9th International Yoga Day

JJ NEWS SERVICE

POONCH, JUNE 12: The preparations for the 9th International Day of Yoga, set to take place on June 21, 2023, at the sports stadium in Poonch, are in full swing. Chaired by the Additional District Development Commissioner, Malikzada Shera Ul Haq, a meeting was held to discuss the necessary arrangements for the successful execution of the event. Several officials attended the meeting, including CMO Poonch, Dr. Anees Altaf Nabi, District Ayush Officer, Sanjay Raina and other concerned officers from various departments.

Chief Executive Officer of Municipal Council Poonch was entrusted with maintaining the cleanliness of the venue and its surroundings while the District Youth Services and Sports Officer, was tasked with the installation of tents and chairs, ensuring a comfortable experience for the participants.

DC Poonch chairs District level NCORD Meeting, discusses measures to curb drug menace

JJ NEWS SERVICE

POONCH, JUNE 12: Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Yasin M. Choudhary chaired a district level NCORD meeting to review the action taken regarding prevention of the menace of drugs and review drug de-addiction strategies.

The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Tahir Mustafa Malik, Senior Superintendent of Police, Vinay Sharma, PO ICDS, Khalid Hussain Wafa, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Zahir



Ahmed Kaifi, SDM Mendhar, Rizwan Asgar, Principal Dwrgre Jahangir Khan, SDM Surankote, College Poonch, Dr.Jasbir Singh,

Principal Degree College Surankote, Prof.Rani Mendhar, Dr.Mohd Azam besides all tehsiladars and concerned officers were present.

During the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner directed the district social welfare officer, Mohinder Paul and concerned officers to install handings, pamphlets, and conduct IEC activities to raise awareness among the public about the ill-effects of drug abuse and promote a Nasha-mukta (drug-free) lifestyle.

The Deputy Commissioner

emphasized on the need for demonstrative action to be taken against drug peddlers. The Principals of all degree colleges also attended the meeting and the DC directed them to hold regular parent-teacher meetings to educate the students about the dangers of drug abuse. The Deputy Commissioner also instructed the colleges to constitute a committee to monitor the addicted students and help them to overcome. The Tehsiladars were directed to constitute village-level and Panchayat-level committees for proper reporting of peddlers.