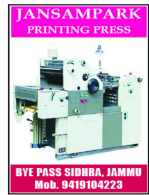




# JINDRAH IMAGES



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## Make education a powerful medium for independent research: LG Sinha

JNEWSSERVICE  
SRINAGAR, JUN 15

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha interacted with the students of Delhi Public School, Srinagar, today.

The Lt Governor encouraged and motivated the students to be creative, curious, innovative and always learn from the mistakes to transform the dreams into reality.

Every student must follow the four Mantras in life. Knowing one's inner self, finding the inner voice, learning through practice and learning through collaboration, the Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor impressed upon the teaching syllabus to make the learning process engaging and collaborative, and provide the children with the



space to enrich their personality and individuality.

"The learning environment that exists beyond syllabus sows the seeds of curiosity, creativity and individuality in the children. Education must inculcate curiosity in young minds,

provide an opportunity to their inner creativity to shine and help them to achieve their individuality," the Lt Governor said. "Education awakens the mind, instills doubt and curiosity in the students, and ignites critical thinking, scientific

temper and creativity. It nurtures their unique personality. Children are the future of our nation and they need to learn skills that will prepare them for the real world," he said.

It is collective responsibility of teachers and school management to transform the school campus into a campus of curiosity, where the focus is on creativity rather than rote learning and where the innovativeness of the children is rewarded and not just top marks, added the Lt Governor.

Addressing the students, the Lt Governor also talked about the reforms introduced, over the past few years, to overhaul the education sector.

Under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi Ji, an unprecedented task of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

## Three dead, 4 injured in separate accidents in Rajouri & Kishtwar



JNEWSSERVICE  
JAMMU, JUN 15

Three people were killed and four injured in two separate road accidents in Rajouri and Kishtwar districts of Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday, police said.

Two women, Shah Jahan (40) and Shahnaz Akhtar (35), were killed and three including a 10-month-old girl were injured when the car they were travelling in skidded off the road and plunged into a gorge at Targain in Budhal area of Rajouri district around

7.30 am, a police official said.

He said the injured were taken to hospital by the rescuers and their condition was stated to be serious.

In another incident, the official said a private car rolled down from Sianthan top in Kishtwar district after its driver lost control while negotiating a blind curve on the hilly road around 7.45 am.

Latif Ahmad Malik, a resident of Anantnag district, was killed and his co-passenger Ilyas Ahmad Wani was critically injured in the accident, he said, adding the vehicle was on its way to Kishtwar from Anantnag district.

## Infiltration bid foiled in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch; arms seized



JNEWSSERVICE  
JAMMU, JUN 15

An infiltration bid by terrorists was foiled along the Line of Control (LoC) in Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir leading to the seizure of a large consignment of arms and ammunition, the army said on Thursday.

Officials said the seizure, including steel core bullets and Pakistan-made

medicines, was made during a search operation in Krishnaghathi sector early Thursday.

"In a joint operation, alert troops of the Indian Army and Jammu and Kashmir Police foiled an infiltration bid along the LoC in Krishnaghathi sector on the intervening night of June 14 and 15," Jammu-based Army PRO Lt Col Devender Anand said.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

## J&K High Court to observe Summer Vacation from June 19 to July 8

JNEWSSERVICE  
JAMMU, JUN 15

High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh will observe summer vacations from June 19, 2023 upto July 8, 2023.

"It is hereby notified that the Hon'ble High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh will observe Summer Vacations with effect from 19TH of June, 2023 to 8TH of July, 2023 (both days inclusive). The period commencing from 19th day of June to 24th of June, 2023 shall be 'No Work Period' for the Hon'ble High Court", reads an order.

The High Court has nominated judges to hear matters during the vacation period. While Justice Rajesh Sekhri and Justice Rahul Bharti will hear matters

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

## LG Sinha makes surprise check of shelter home for urban homeless at Jammu



JNEWSSERVICE  
JAMMU, JUN 15

Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha paid a surprise inspection at Shelter Home for Urban Homeless at Boria Basti, Bahu Fort Jammu, today.

The Lt Governor during the visit reviewed facilities being provided to the dwellers. He also heard their grievances, during the interaction.

The Lt Governor directed the officials to ensure round the clock

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

## Landslides hits Jammu-Srinagar national highway; clearance work on

JNEWSSERVICE  
JAMMU, JUN 15

Traffic was disrupted on the Jammu-Srinagar national highway Thursday follow-

ing a landslide near Ramban town, traffic department officials said.

The landslide struck the 270-km highway near Cafeteria Morh around 1 am, blocking the only all-weather road linking Kashmir with the rest of the country, the officials said.

They said the mouth of an under-construction tunnel was also blocked by the debris. The tunnel is being constructed

to bypass the problematic stretch and is expected to be completed by next year.

After the landslide, the concerned agency working on the four-lane highway project immediately pressed men and machines and managed to clear the road of the major debris.

However, intermittent shooting of stones from the hillock hampered the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

## BOTTOMLINE

### Tourist villages in J&K receiving huge tourist influx, sees push in rural economy, employment generation

JNEWSSERVICE  
SRINAGAR, JUNE 15

Located 88 kilometers from Jammu in district Udhampur, 'Panchari' a snow capped mountain surrounded by dense cedar forests, is all set to receive and captivate tourists this year with its natural magnificence and grandeur. Many admirers of Panchari compare its scenic beauty and winter snowfall with globally acclaimed as best destination 'Gulmarg'.

"Panchari, a fascinating tourist destination abundantly blessed with natural scenic splendour and grandeur, started receiving heavy tourist rush after being declared as the first Tourist Village with Homestay facilities by the J&K government under 'Tourist Village Development Programme (TVDP)."

The construction of vintage huts and creation of other requisite utilities in this picturesque spot has further added to its infrastructural edifice to accommodate the steeply rising tourist influx.

Notably, the government initiated promotion of homestay tourism in the UT by launching Panchari as the first tourist village with



homestay facilities under TVDP. The ambitious programme has the potential to mobilize the diverse geographical and socio-economic landscape of entire Jammu and Kashmir region.

In January of this year, the Anderwali hamlet of Sangerwani village in South Kashmir's Pulwama district was festively adorned. A group of tourists from Pune city in Maharashtra chose this place for a pre-wedding shoot. A professional event photographer from Pune, who was part of the group, said that he was astonished with the fascinating natural beauty of the place, stating that he had been there before with his family. He informed his friends, Rohit and Shilpa, about this beautiful place in Pulwama, and they decided to have their pre-wedding shoot there. Anderwali Sangerwani has recently been designated as

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

## India's population dividend could be instrument of nation building: Dr Jitendra



JNEWSSERVICE  
NEW DELHI, JUNE 15

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology, Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences, MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh today said that India's population dividend could be an instrument of nation building. Apart from youth, the elder citizens including the pensioners could also be channelised for building a strong and prosperous India.

Addressing a programme commemorating "9 Years of Department of Pension & Pensioners Welfare" at Vigyan Bhawan here, Dr Jitendra Singh said, if the 70 percent of the population of India is below 40 years of age, this is also a new reality that the actual number of 60 plus is increasing fast in India and that is not only for India but also

a vast experience of administrative and sectoral sectors to contribute to India's "Vision of 2047". He said, the number of pensioners in India has outnumbered the serving employees and after retirement their valuable services can prove to be a game changer.

Dr Jitendra Singh pointed out that radical pension reforms and change in rules and regulations were carried out at the behest of Prime Minister Narendra Modi since 2014 in response to emerging societal needs. He said, DoPPW took measures not only for serving/retiring employees but also worked for the Ease of Living of pensioners and Digital Life Certificate was another step towards this direction. He pointed out that in November 2014, an Aadhar based scheme for online submission of digital life certificates, "Jeevan Pramaan" was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to ensure transparency and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

## PM Modi created world-class infrastructure in 9 years: Amit Shah



JNEWSSERVICE  
NEW DELHI, JUN 15

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday said Prime Minister Narendra Modi has laid the foundation of a developed world-class infrastructure in nine years of his government.

Shah also said that from completing languishing projects to implementing new ones with unprecedented speed, India emerged as the global supply chain leader in nine years of "Gati and Pragati".

"With giant strides in ensuring seamless connectivity PM @narendramodi Ji laid the foundation of a developed India," he tweeted. In nine years, Prime Minister Modi

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

## Pakistan occupied Jammu Kashmir integral part of India: Kavinder

### Asks NLC participants to pass resolution, appeal for its retrieval

JJ NEWS SERVICE

MUMBAI, JUN 15: Senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister, Kavinder Gupta asked the participants of National Legislators' Conference (NLC) to pass a resolution claiming Pakistan occupied Jammu Kashmir is integral part of India on the lines of Parliament of India, which had already passed similar resolution on February 22, 1994 to reclaim the remaining parts of Kashmir such as Gilgit and Baltistan in Pakistan-occupied Jammu Kashmir.

The former Deputy Chief Minister from J&K was speaking at the Executive Council meeting of NLC at Mumbai on Thursday.

Kavinder appealed to all participants to pass a resolution and recommend PoJK to be part of India, on which Parliament has already passed a resolution and



one third seats have been reserved, with members to be nominated unanimously. The three days National Legislators' Conference (NLC) is presently taking place at the Jio World Convention Centre, Bandra Kurla Complex, Mumbai, Maharashtra, from June 15 to June 17. He also strongly urged participants to pass a resolution and recommend PoJK to be part of India, on which Parliament has already passed a resolution and

The event aims at providing a common platform to legislators, assembly speakers, and former Lok Sabha speakers to engage in meaningful debates and deliberations that will enhance the functioning of legislative bodies. With a notable participation of over 2,000 MLAs and MLCs from almost all state assemblies and councils, this gathering has been exchanging views on legislation and good governance. The major issues

being discussed include technology-driven economic growth, international legislative practices, collaborative efforts between bureaucrats and legislators for social progress, welfare politics and the nurturing of constituencies. Recognizing the importance of holistic well-being, special sessions will also focus on stress management and maintaining a healthy work-life balance for lawmakers.

## 9 years of BJP rule led by PM Modi the best model of Good-Governance: Bali Bhagat

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU JUNE 15: Bali Bhagat, former minister and senior Bharatiya Janata Party leader said that the nine years of BJP Govt at the Centre led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi have proved to be the best model of Good-Governance that was never before witnessed and felt by the people of this nation. Enumerating the achievements of Modi Govt, he said that this Govt not only transform the status and scenario of India nationally and internationally but the greatest achievements include the successful steering Jammu and Kashmir out of morass and turmoil due to terrorism. He expressed this today while addressing a gathering of beneficiaries (Labbharthis) at Khour in Chhamb Assembly constituency organized to celebrate BJP government's successful journey of achievements under the banner 'Nau Saal Bemisaal'. Prominent among others who were present on the occasion were Sat Sharma former party president & ex minister, Rajeev Sharma for-

mer MLA, Brijesh Rana district Prabhari, Suresh Sharma and Suraj Singh both DIC members, Dr Krishan Lal Ex MLA, Manmohan Singh, Narinder Singh Bhau and others.

Bali Bhagat said that the list of achievements is too long and it would be unjust to make mention of some significant ones. These include Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana under which 11 crore LPG connections have been provided as on 30.01.2023, Ayushman Bharat Yojana providing Rs. 5 lakh cover to approximately 10 crore families i.e. 50 crore people; Atal Pension Yojana for people after completing 60 years of age (Pension range from Rs. 1000-5000 depending upon the contribution) with 12.5 crore people enrolled in till 2022 and last but not the least the opening of bank accounts under Jan Dhan Yojana ensuring that every rupee sent by the Central Govt goes directly to the bank accounts of the beneficiaries. He said that even Rajiv Gandhi had once said that out of one rupee which central government gives to beneficiary, only 15 paisa reach the beneficiary.

Bali Bhagat also enumerated the achievements during his tenure as Health Minister in J&K. He said he got restored "Govt Ayurvedic Medical College" at Jammu after 42 yrs which was shut down by Sheikh Abdullah in seventies; with Rs. 41 cr, 400 bedded Bone & Joint Hospital building was made ready for inauguration; Rs. 11.50 cr "100 bedded new emergency block" was made fully functional at GMCJL Jammu, with an estimated cost of Rs. 31 cr the 275 bedded new maternity block ready for inauguration at SMGS Hospital at Jammu; Rs. 100 cr "Cancer Hospital" is functional at SSI Jammu; Rs. 22 cr SDH Hospital at Bhalwal made functional, etc. He asserted that his 2 yrs tenure achieved more than 40 yrs tenure of successive governments. He added that he also take initiative to started the kidney and cornea transplantation programmes in GMC Jammu; 2 AIIMS, 5 Medical Colleges including Rs. 100 cr Cancer Institute is functional at SKIMS Srinagar.

Bali Bhagat said that Laadli Beti and SAMS schemes were launched

during his tenure as Social Welfare Minister besides Old age & Widow Pension raised from Rs. 200-300 to Rs.1000. He asserted that 26,000 kanal encroached forest land was retrieved in seven months in the state and even Jambu Zoo at Nagrota was also sanctioned during his tenure as Forest Minister.

Sat Sharma in his address stated that the nine years of Modi government remained momentous and fruitful for the country as many historical steps were taken in these years with the top notch move of abrogation of Article 370, which changed the course of life of people of J&K as normalcy and peace returned and days of turmoil ended successfully. He said, "It was only the BJP Government under which Kashmir has witnessed drastic change as days of turmoil are over and peace has started knocking doors." Rajeev Sharma, former MLA in his address said that during the nine years of Modi Govt the people have for the first time tasted good governance and witnessed unprecedented equitable development in urban, rural and the far flung areas across J&K.

## Talks and terror can't go together: Rajesh Kesri

### Extends support to Dangri terror attack victims family

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 15: Shiv Sena Hindustan J&K President Rajesh Kesri today extended support to families of the terror attack victims in Dangri village of Rajouri and demanded action against those who helped the terrorists in identifying the victims' houses.

Addressing media persons during a press conference in Jammu today, Kesri said that there was definitely some local help due to which the terrorists from Pakistan were able to easily target the houses of people from the Hindu community in the village," he said. Death cannot be compensated, it is an irreparable loss. But the administration should ensure justice with victims



families and should use all available means within the system to look after the affected families. Meanwhile Kesri taking jibe at the advocates of India-Pakistan dialogue for ending terrorism, said that talks and terror cannot go together. "Engagement between two sovereign nations is a central subject and still those trying to carve out an unsolicited role for themselves, by whatever reasons, by

jumping the line should understand that India cannot engage itself with a country that sprouts terrorism," Kesri said. A few people may try to condone or downplay the barbarism unleashed by terrorists in terms of death and devastation caused, and continuously being perpetrated, by the Pakistani lackeys but that doesn't change the ugly face of terrorism Kashmir is witnessing. Kesri said the Pakistan

sponsored, trained and supported terrorists cannot hold peace to ransom, as they are destined to doom and meet their fate. In the guns they keep brandishing lies their end, he said adding that the average life of a terrorist is just seven days. He also cautioned those providing cover and moral support to terrorists and peace breakers in pursuit of furthering the political agenda, saying the people are matured and sagacious enough to read between the lines. Kesri exuded confidence that the peace loving people of Jammu and Kashmir will continue to support the peace initiatives and isolate the inimical elements. This is imperative for a progressive and prosperous J&K.

## Rajnath Singh to address 'security conclave' at Jammu on June 26: Raina

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 15: Defence Minister of India, Rajnath Singh, will address a 'security conclave' at Jammu on June 26, which will be of non-political nature. This was shared by Jammu and Kashmir BJP President Ravinder Raina, while chairing a meeting convened in this regard at party headquarters.

Ravinder Raina, in the meeting, discussed the preparations for the "Security Conclave" with the party leaders associated with the print, electronic and social media departments and those retired from Army at senior positions. This 'Security Conclave', totally a non-political event, will have a large gathering of defence experts, retired senior army officers, intellectuals, writers, media persons and think tanks from different parts of the Union Territory, said Ravinder Raina, adding that activists of the party will be involved in making arrangements



for the smooth conduct of the conclave.

Raina said that, in this event, the Union Minister will discuss the security and other important issues with the participants and also share the strong positioning of India in Defence and other matters concerning nation's security and safety of the citizens residing along the borders. Raina also stressed upon the

party to highlight the visit of the Defence Minister so that more and more people are aware of it and come to attend the event.

J&K BJP Vice-President Sham Lal Sharma, Ex-Servicemen Cell Convener Col. (Retd.) Gurbaksh Singh, spokesperson Abhijeet Jasrotia, BJYM President Arun Dev and Media Incharge Dr. Pardeep Mahotra attended this meeting.

## Prominent Sikh figure S. T.S Sawhney joins BJP Minority Morcha

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JUN 15: In a significant development, Sardaar Tejwant Singh Sawhney, a prominent Sikh figure and Editor-in-Chief of the esteemed publication Daily Kashmir Guardian, officially joined the BJP Minority Morcha today. The momentous event took place at the party's headquarters located in 153 Jawahar Nagar, Srinagar, under the esteemed leadership of Sardaar Amarjeet Singh, Vice President of the Minority Morcha in Jammu & Kashmir, along

with esteemed attendees such as Mohd. Yousaf Dar, State Secretary of the Minority Morcha in Jammu & Kashmir, Sardaar Binder Singh, and Atta Mohd, both leaders of the BJP Minority Morcha. Sardaar Tejwant Singh Sawhney, known for his significant contributions to journalism and his dedication to community welfare, has made the decision to join the BJP Minority Morcha with a shared vision of inclusivity, progress, and prosper-



ity for all. His decision comes after careful consideration and extensive dialogue with the leaders of the BJP Minority Morcha, who have impressed him with their commitment to serving the interests of minorities in Jammu & Kashmir and upholding the principles of justice and equality. The BJP Minority Morcha warmly welcomed Sardaar Tejwant Singh Sawhney into their fold, recognizing his immense influence and invaluable experience in

the field of journalism. This association will undoubtedly strengthen the BJP Minority Morcha's resolve to champion the rights and aspirations of minorities, including the Sikh community, and work towards their holistic development.

Expressing his gratitude, Sardaar Tejwant Singh Sawhney stated, "I am honored to join the BJP Minority Morcha and contribute to the progress of my community and Jammu & Kashmir at

large. I believe in the party's vision of inclusive development and its commitment to upholding the rights of all minorities. I look forward to working with the esteemed leaders of the BJP Minority Morcha and making a positive impact together."

Sardaar Amarjeet Singh, Vice President of the BJP Minority Morcha, commended Sardaar Tejwant Singh Sawhney for his decision, saying, "We are delighted to have Sardaar Tejwant Singh Sawhney as a member of our esteemed organization. His vast experience, leadership, and dedication to the Sikh community will be invaluable in our pursuit of empowering minorities and fostering unity among all sections of society." The BJP Minority Morcha expressed its commitment to providing a platform for Sardaar Tejwant Singh Sawhney and other like-minded individuals to contribute to the betterment of society, ensuring that the voices of minorities are heard, and their concerns are addressed.

## BJYM president Tejasvi Surya to address mega rally in Jammu on June 27

### RAINLA LAUDS ROLE OF BJYM, CALLS IT BACKBONE OF BJP; PRABHAT REVIEWS PREPARATIONS FOR SURYA'S 2-DAY VISIT

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 15: Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM) national president and Member of Parliament Tejasvi Surya will reach Jammu on June 27 on his two-day-long visit to the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir as a part of the "Maha Jan Sampark Abhiyaan" launched by the BJP at the national level.

In this context, the BJP state president, Sh. Ravinder Raina chaired the meeting of state office bearers and district presidents in the presence of BJYM state president Arun Prabhat to review the preparations being made to make the upcoming visits of senior party leaders to Jammu and Kashmir.

During his address, Sh. Ravinder Raina called the BJYM workers as the backbone of the party and lauded them for their constant work for the welfare of society. He emphasized the role of the party's Yuva Morcha in strengthening the party structure at different levels.

He stressed upon the BJYM office bearers and district presidents to take the Modi government's public welfare schemes to the targeted population to ensure further strengthening of the party among all the communities.



grand success.

During the meeting, it was divulged that Sh. Tejasvi Surya will arrive in Jammu on June 27 and address a mega rally in the city on the same day wherein he will put forward a list of the major developmental projects that have been achieved during the past years in the Union Territory. Thereafter, he will interact with the heads of various organisations and prominent personalities of Jammu. He will also engage in dialogue with the beneficiaries of Central government schemes, businessmen, and intellectuals.

The BJYM activists also deliberated upon the unprecedented development carried out in Jammu and Kashmir by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi-led BJP government at the Centre during the last nine years. "Since abrogation of Article 370 and Article 35-A, there

has been unprecedented developmental activities taken out by the BJP government at the Centre. Jammu region, which was discriminated by the successive Kashmir-centric governments, has witnessed unparalleled infrastructural development besides it got its due share," Prabhat said.

The BJYM leader said, "Sh. Tejasvi Surya ji, during his two-day itinerary, will apprise the people about various developmental works undertaken or completed in the respective Lok Sabha constituency. This Maha Jan Sampark Abhiyan campaign is aimed at reaching out to villages in the Union Territory, promoting service, good governance, and the welfare of the poor."

Prabhat said the campaign has been launched in celebration of the completion of nine years of the Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi government at the Centre.

## Ashok Koul, Ashish Sood reviews preparations of 9 Saal Bemisal programmes at Leh



J I NEWS SERVICE

**LEH, JUN 15:** Ashok Koul, General Secretary (Org.), Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu & Kashmir and Ashish Sood, Secy-Prabharthi Jammu & Kashmir and Leh Ladakh reviewed the ongoing party programmes under "9 Saal Bemisal" on the occasion of completion of successful 9 years of Prime Minister Narendra Modi led Union Government.

BJP President Ladakh Phuntsog Stanzin, District President Leh Tashi Gyalson Khachu, CEC LAHDC Leh Adv. Tashi Gyalson, Dy Chairman LAHDC LEH Tsering

Angchuk, Prabharthi BJP Leh & Ex CEC Gyal P Wangyal, Executive Councilors, Councilors, BDCs, President BIMM and team, District executive team, Mandal Presidents and team also attended the meeting.

Ashok Koul, while addressing the meeting, reviewed various party programmes, while emphasizing that they should be organized meticulously with the involvement of all the ground level activists and the prominent civil society members. He thoroughly discussed the forthcoming party programmes under the whole Abhiyan like Intellectual

Phuntsog Stanzin addressed the party workers and appreciated the work being done by party workers and encouraged to do the same in coming time for the overall development of the general public.

Adv. Tashi Gyalson enumerated the various public beneficiary schemes of Modi government that have benefitted the local people, while adding that the local BJP leadership will ensure that the benefits of Modi government reach the common masses.

Tashi Gyalson Khachu, earlier, welcomed the party workers and gave a brief report on the party activities.

Latter the senior leaders also took details report from Councilors, BDCs, Mandal presidents on the developmental work, party structure and achievement in their respective constituencies related to extending of welfare schemes in particular in every nook and corner of the region.

## Re-registration is cruel joke with disabled, old age and Widows: AJKDWT



J I NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU, JUN 15:** Jammu Kashmir administration has drawn flak in the wake of hardships faced by old-age pensioners, disabled persons, widows, and the transgender community being asked to go for re-registration in the Social Welfare Department. To express resentment against the harassment faced during their re-registration dozens of Disabled persons, Widows, Old Age people today held a one-day protest at Akhnour under the banner of ALL J&K Disabled Welfare Trust. The protest was led by the Chairman of the Trust Sushil Sharma.

Many including social activists, political leadership and beneficiaries present during the protest have expressed their dismay over the decision of re-registration as this has increased hardships of an already suffering class.

Sham Lal President All J&K Disabled Welfare Trust, while expressing his resentment alleged that they were made to move from one office to another after the gov-

ernment asked to submit several of their documents again. He said "our age certificates require attestation by the medical officer and an affidavit attested from a 1st Class Magistrate, has created a huge inconvenience for us. Sushil Sharma who himself is a disabled said that what has compounded the problems for the beneficiaries is that disabled and old age people have to wait for hours in queue of different offices.

"The administration has created a problem for us and they are very crude while dealing with us. It makes us feel bad. We are old people and in need. Some of us have to travel from far-flung areas and there is a risk for disabled and old age persons in this process," Sham Lal said.

Vakil while speaking on the occasion raised questions to the JKUT administration that if these disabled and old age people were capable enough to get these documents again and again from different offices then what was the need of pension to them. He called this step a cruel joke of administration with disabled, old age and widows. He

said that this pension is sustenance to thousands of disabled, widows and old age people most of whom are not in a condition to fetch the required disability certificates, affidavits, Aadhar details, age and domicile certificates from the concerned officers. He also said that the monthly assistance of Rs 1000 is very less and needs to be enhanced.

Chairman Sushil Sharma while concluding the protest said that earlier government claimed that each and every document is linked with Aadhar card then what is the need of domicile, voter card or electricity bill, disability certificate, UIDID Card, Bank Account, Aadhar Seeding, Age Proof. He said we have submitted many of these documents to the earlier also and most of the data is already available with the department. He said around 70% of pensions have been stopped whose re-registration is not done since February. He said the department is making a number of unnecessary objections when we are making all our documents online for re-verification. He said this is mockery with them which they will not tolerate.

Trust members warned the government to recall their decision as most of the documents for re-registration are already available with the department and most of the required documents are directly linked with the Aadhaar card of beneficiaries. The trust members have given an ultimatum of one month to the government to start all pensions which are stopped and demanded to make this process simple. Others present during the protest are Tarseem Lal, Vakil Chand, Bansil Lal, Ashok Singh, Rita Devi, Toshi Devi etc.

## J&K marching toward prosperity, progress and peace: Ritika Trehan

J I NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU, JUN 15:** Chief Spokesperson BJP Mahila Morcha J&K UT Ritika Trehan today claimed that development of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, is one of top priorities of our government. Whether it is women empowerment, opportunities for youth, welfare of dalits, downtrodden, oppressed and deprived or about statutory and basic rights of the people, our government is taking decisions for the betterment of J&K people.

Addressing media persons in Jammu, Ritika said that historic decision of the government of India to reorganize the states has rejuvenated the region's unique elements of "insaniyat" (humanity), "jamhooriyat" (democracy) and "Kashmiriyat" (the identity of the people of Kashmir). One of the most important results of this historic decision is the wider percolation of democratic values in the region. This is evident from the fact that District Development Council elections in the Union Territory (UT) – in which more than 3 million people voted, including marginalized groups such as Valmikis, refugees and scheduled tribes – established a fully functional three-tier local self-government structure in the territory. This paved the way for "Gram Swaraj" (self-rule in villages) in the region, a vision of Mahatma Gandhi that gives more power to the people, from planning to implementing developmental initiatives.

Subsequent to the reorganization, 106 people-friendly central laws and nine constitutional amendments are now applicable in the region, including the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, the Forest Rights Act, and the National Commission for Minorities Act. The reorganization has also given women equal property rights and reservation to minorities in education and employment, which has enabled their socioeconomic uplift-



ment on a par with the other states/UTs of India, added Ritika.

Ritika further said that for the economic development of the region, the government has taken several steps to boost agriculture, infrastructure and the industrial sector. Innovative programs like e-markets for apple trade and a market intervention scheme to ensure direct payment to cultivators have increased incomes for the apple farmers of Jammu and Kashmir. Furthermore, there has been a paradigm shift in cultivation, harvesting and marketing to increase the production and sale of other popular farm products from the region, including saffron, tulips and mushrooms. On similar lines, the recent geographical indication tagging of the globally renowned Kashmiri saffron will boost its exports and secure its unique identity. The government has also given much-needed impetus to the agriculture, horticulture, sericulture and handicrafts industries, paving the way for development in rural Jammu and Kashmir, added Ritika.

Ritika said that On the infrastructure front, the arch of the world's tallest railway bridge – over the Chenab River as part of the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla rail link project – was completed in Jammu and Kashmir in April. The bridge, built at a height of 359

meters, is taller than the Eiffel Tower. It will connect the Kashmir Valley with the plains and hence ease the movement of people and freight, enabling economic development. Projects such as the Jammu-Srinagar-Ladakh highway will make all-weather travel possible in the region. The previously ignored sectors of health and education have also benefited from the policies of the Indian government, which have improved their quality and made them more accessible and affordable. For the comprehensive development of future generations in the region, 50 new educational institutions offering 25,000 seats have been established in the past two years, which is the largest such expansion in Jammu and Kashmir in the last seven decades. The fundamental right to education, which is now applicable to Jammu and Kashmir, has ensured access to education for all students in the region.

As a result of the fairness of Narendra Modi Government, the path of peace and development, on which Jammu & Kashmir is moving forward, has paved the way for new industries here.

Today, Jammu & Kashmir is contributing to the Atma Nirbhar Bharat campaign, Ritika said. During 2021-22, Rs. 34,704.46 crore allocated to Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir as Grants-in-aid and Rs. 5958 crore has been allocated to UT of Ladakh. Similarly, during 2022-23, Rs. 35,581.44 crore has been allocated to Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir as Grants-in-aid and Rs. 5958 crore has been allocated to UT of Ladakh. The Government has initiated largest ever recruitment drive in a transparent manner for which an Accelerated Recruitment Committee (ARC) was constituted for identifying Gazetted, Non-Gazetted & Class-IV posts in the UT of J&K. Since 2019, a total of 29,813 persons have been recruited. In addition, 5523 vacancies have been referred to Recruiting Agencies, added Ritika.

nizing of deep drains will be done to provide best infra to the public. Construction of deep drain and paver tiles at estimated cost of 17 lakhs will be completed within fifteen days, he said while giving information about this work. JMC JE Shabb Malik, Jatni Sethi, Rakesh Sharma, Bhubesh Sharma, Jatinder Khajuria, S. Jungjeet Singh, Jugal Sharma, D.K Luthra, Ram Kumar Koul, Bodh Raj and others were present on the occasion.

## 'Shabeel' organized by Sant Kabir Temple Trust



J I NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU, JUN 15:** A "Shabeel" was organised by the Sant Kabir Mandir

Trust in the temple of Shiromony Sant Kabir, R.S Pura.

On the occasion president of the trust Sh.

Chaman Lal Floria, Secy. Sh. Darshan Kumar, Sh. Jeet Raj, Balak Ram Master, Som Nath, Shashi, B.D. Chairman Sh. Dalip

Kumar local Sarpanch Sh. Suraj Parkash (Ghara) actively participated in the service of holy water distribution. Large number of people were distributed drinking water on the occasion.

On the occasion BDC Sh. Dalip Kumar donated one room for a multipurpose store. Local Sarpanch Trustee members and local population whole heartedly thankful to Sh. Dalip Kumar for his donation. Local Sh. Rakesh Kumar, Dr. Sunny, Rattan Lal, Kaka Ram, Harbans Lal expressed their gratitude over the open hearted donation of Block Dev. Chairman.

## Underdeveloped Transport Nagardenting Jammu's image: Manjit Singh

J I NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU, JUN 15:** Accusing Jammu Municipal Corporation for ignoring Jammu's economic hub i.e., Transport Nagar, Apni Party Provincial President, Jammu, and Former Minister, S. Manjit Singh today demanded development and sanitization in Transport Nagar at Narwal which is in adverse condition.

The area comes under the Jammu Smart City Project yet the JMC has not taken up any of the developmental work, said the Former Minister during his meeting with the transporters.

The demand was made during a meeting which was arranged by Provincial President Jammu, Women Wing Paveet Kour here at Yard Number 6 in Transport Nagar, Narwal with the members of J&K Truck Operators Welfare Union led by their General Secretary Tirath Singh.

Accordingly, the Apni Party leaders under the leadership of Provincial



President Jammu, S. Manjit Singh and other leaders met them in Transport Nagar, Narwal.

During the meeting, the transporters submitted a memorandum of demands highlighting their concerns and demands with regard to the development of Transport Nagar, and facilities for the truckers on Jammu-Srinagar highway during their lakh period for days together in Jammu, Samba, Kathua, Udhampur and other places up to Qazigund in Anantnag due to the closure of highway for various reasons.

Addressing the meeting, Manjit Singh expressed surprise as to why the Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) has

failed to provide even basic facilities in Transport Nagar where hundreds of people work on a daily basis and transporters from across the country remain stranded for repair work and other reasons.

"The bad condition of Transport Nagar in Narwal paints the wrong image of Jammu as JMC has completely ignored an important place where hygiene, cleanliness, proper road infrastructure, clean drinking water coolers, and health facilities should have been provided on priority basis.

However, all of them are missing and the roads have big holes and no pathway whereas facilities for the truck drivers, con-

ductors, customers, shopkeepers, and their workers are also missing," said Manjit Singh expressing surprise over why the JMC has ignored such an important place where hundreds of people work.

He demanded that the JMC should consider its development under the Smart City Project and initiate immediate steps for its development.

"The political system which claimed to be the champion of Jammu has become mute spectator of the worsening condition of Jammu's identity and economic hub. The agenda of development of all the areas of Jammu equitably should be done without involving any political interest.

## Baru starts construction of drain and paver files at Anand Nagar

J I NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU, JUN 15:** Bharatiya Janata Party senior Leader and JMC Councillor Ward 41 Sanjay Kumar Baru started construction of drain and paver tiles in the presence of BJP leaders Ashok Wazir, Chaman Lal Bhagat, and District vice-president Brijesh Gupta at Hazuri Bagh in Ward-41.

Speaking on the occasion, Sanjay Baru said that it was indeed a long pending demand of the inhabi-

tants of the area, which has been met today and he said that the mission behind this was to provide a conducive and clean atmosphere to the society. He said that the work of deep drain at Lane 4-B, Anand Nagar and adjoining by-lanes with the main deep drain started today and will be taken on a war footing so that this work will be complete before the rainy season so that people do not face problems like every year. Baru said that this work along with other

major works initiated locally will help a lot in ensuring the Ward-41 as Model Ward. He stated that efforts are still being made to provide every possible assistance to the masses at their doorsteps for which he appealed to the inhabitants to contribute in keeping their surroundings neat and clean. Baru also stated that providing a neat and clean environment is the motive of Narendra Modi led Central Government and wherever required chan-



# Different property, matrimonial laws affront to nation's unity: centre told SC last year on uniform civil code

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, JUNE 15

Citizens belonging to different religions and denominations follow different property and matrimonial laws which is "an affront to the nation's unity", the Centre had said in its affidavit in the Supreme Court on the Uniform Civil Code matter.

The Law Commission on Wednesday initiated a fresh consultation process on Uniform Civil Code (UCC) by seeking views from stakeholders, including public and recognised religious organisations, on the politically sensitive issue.

In an affidavit filed on October 13, 2022 on a petition filed by Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay seeking uniform guidelines for 'adoption and guardianship' for all citizens, the Union Ministry of Law and Justice has said that Article 44 (UCC) is to strengthen the object of "Secular Democratic Republic" as

enshrined in the preamble of the Constitution. Article 44 of the Constitution, part of the Directive Principle of State Policy, provides that the State shall endeavour to secure for the citizens a UCC throughout the territory of India.

The Centre has said in the affidavit that the expression "Uniform Civil Code" denotes the field of personal law relating to marriage, divorce, maintenance, custody and guardianship of children, inheritance and succession and adoption.

"This provision (Article 44) is provided to effect integration of India by bringing communities on the common platform on matters which are at present governed by diverse personal laws. This Article is based on the concept that in matters of inheritance, right to property, maintenance and succession, there will be a common law. Article 44 divests religion from social

relations and personal law. Citizens belonging to different religious and denominations follow different property and matrimonial laws which is an affront to the nation's unity", the affidavit has said. The ministry has told the apex court that in view of the importance of the subject matter and sensitivity involved which requires in-depth study of the provisions of various personal laws governing different communities, the Centre requested the Law Commission of India to undertake examination of various issues relating to UCC and to make recommendation thereof. It had said that Parliament exercises sovereign right to frame laws and no outside authority can issue it a direction to enact a law.

"It is a settled position of law and has been held in the catena of judgments that under our constitutional scheme, Parliament exercises sovereign power to enact laws and

no outside power or authority can issue a direction to enact a particular piece of legislation.

"It is respectfully submitted that a writ of Mandamus (a judicial remedy in the form of an order by a court to any government or subordinate courts) cannot be issued to the legislature to enact a particular legislation.

"This is a matter of policy for the elected representatives of the people to decide and no direction in this regard can be issued by the Court. It is for the legislature to enact or not to enact a piece of legislation. Further, in the catena of judgments it has been held that Public Interest Litigation should not be filed merely on the basis of newspaper reports," the Centre has said in its affidavit. The government, while stating that the petition of Upadhyay is not maintainable, had submitted that after receiving the request from the Central government, the 21st

Law Commission has undertaken examination of various aspects of the matter and received several representation from various stakeholders and after detail research on the matter had uploaded a consultation paper on August 31, 2018 titled "Reform of Family Law" in its website for wider deliberation/discussions. "The term 21st Law Commission, however, ended on August 31, 2018 and the 22nd Law Commission has been constituted", it had said, adding that as and when the report of the Law Commission in the matter is received, the government would examine the same in consultation with the various stakeholders involved in the matter. On Wednesday, the commission in public notice said, "Since more than three years have lapsed from the date of issuance of the said consultation paper, bearing in mind the relevance and importance of the subject and also the various

court orders on the subject, the 22nd Law Commission of India considered it expedient to deliberate afresh over the subject".

The 22nd Law Commission, which recently got a three-year extension, has accordingly begun examining issues related to UCC on a reference sent by the Ministry of Law and Justice in June 2016.

"Accordingly, the 22nd Law Commission of India decided again to solicit views and ideas of the public at large and recognised religious organisations about the Uniform Civil Code," the statement said.

Those who are interested and willing can present their views within a period of 30 days from the date of notice to the Law Commission.

If need be, the Commission may call upon any individual or organisation for a personal hearing or discussion, it said.

In its consultation paper issued on August 31, 2018, the

21st Law Commission headed by Justice B S Chauhan (ret'd) had said that while the diversity of Indian culture can and should be celebrated, specific groups or weaker sections of the society must not be "disprivileged" in the process.

It said the Commission dealt with laws that are discriminatory rather than providing a uniform civil code "which is neither necessary nor desirable at this stage".

The consultation paper said most countries are now moving towards recognition of difference, and the mere existence of difference does not imply discrimination but is indicative of a robust democracy. Implementation of UCC has been part of the BJP's election manifesto.

States such as Uttarakhand are in the process of framing their common code. The BJP had promised a UCC in Karnataka ahead of the assembly elections.

## Displaced people from PoJK get domicile certificates with 'original place of residence'

AGENCIES  
JAMMU, JUNE 15

"We have been reconnected to our roots", says Anil Mahajan, who is among the over 21,000 displaced people from Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK) given a new domicile certificate mentioning the place they originally belonged to.

The certificate carries the name of the "original place of residence" in PoJK from where their family members had migrated during the Partition in 1947, said officials in the Jammu and Kashmir administration that is issuing the document.

"We have been reconnected to our roots. It is very emotional," said Maha-

jan, whose domicile certificate mentions the Mirpur area in PoJK as his original place of residence. "Everybody in my family has got one. They took our details and provided us with the domicile certificates. It is really very encouraging", he said over phone from Chandigarh where he currently lives.

The certificate, the officials said, is exclusively for those who were displaced from areas of Jammu and Kashmir that are under the illegal occupation of Pakistan. In 1947, they migrated to different parts of India, including Jammu and Kashmir, Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

"It is an emotional moment for the people belonging to PoJK that they have got a domicile certificate issued by the Jammu and Kashmir administration with the place of origin in PoJK written as residential places," SoI International chairperson Rajiv Chhuni told PTI here.

Several displaced people belonging to PoJK have got these certificates with the place of domicile mentioned as their post-migration residential address, he said.

Mahajan, who owns an IT firm in Delhi and got the certificate recently, said it gives a "feeling of belongingness".

Joint resident Ashwani Kumar's certificate mentions his original place of residence as Siyak in PoJK

and all 12 members of his family have received the document.

"We are very happy to get this domicile certificate from the Jammu and Kashmir administration with our place of place of origin written as place of domicile in it. This is the first thing we have got in the past over 75 years from Jammu and Kashmir authorities," Kumar, who heads an organisation 'Kashmiri Welfare Society' for displaced people of PoJK in Rajasthan, said. Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha had said that over 21,000 domicile certificates have been issued through camps in Delhi, Chandigarh, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan and Uttarakhand. According to

officials in the Relief Commissioner's Office-Jammu, 1.5 lakh domicile certificates have been issued both to Kashmiri migrants and displaced people of PoJK. Over 5,000 families of displaced people of PoJK living in various parts of India have been registered as displaced persons with the relief commissioner's office in Jammu, they said.

Kashmiri migrants are those who left the Valley during the height of terrorism in the 1990s. Kumar said that "as many as 165 families here (Rajasthan) have got domicile certificates of Jammu and Kashmir. We urge the government to provide the rest of the part in terms of displaced Kashmiri migrants. We have been given nothing".

## Rains lash parts of Kashmir, Jammu region; MeT predicts more at scattered places

AGENCIES  
SRINAGAR, JUNE 15

Rain lashed parts of Jammu and Kashmir even as the weatherman on Thursday forecast more precipitation at scattered places till June 17.

A meteorological department official here said that in last 24 hours till 0830 hours today, Pahalgam received 0.4mm of rain, Kokernag 0.2mm, Jammu 13.7mm, Banihal traces, Batote 2.6mm, Katra 3.4mm, Bhaderwah 8.8mm and Kathua 7.2mm.

Regarding the forecast, he said, light to moderate rain and thunderstorm was likely at scattered places of Jammu and Kashmir till June 17. "Scattered places in Jammu region like Poonch, Rajouri, Reasi, Samba etc. likely to receive moderate

to heavy thundershowers during 15-16th (60% chance)," he said.

Regarding the temperature, he said, Srinagar recorded a low of 17.3°C against 15.2°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 3.1°C for the summer capital.

Qazigund, he said, recorded a low of 16.0°C against 15.0°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 3.1°C for the gateway town of Kashmir.

Pahalgam, he said, recorded a low of 10.1°C against 9.8°C on the previous night and it was 1.9°C above normal for the famous tourist resort in south Kashmir's Anantnag district.

In Kupwara town, he said, the mercury settled at 14.7°C against 15.2°C on the previous night and it was 1.7°C.

2.1°C above normal for the north Kashmir area.

Kokernag recorded a low of 14.3°C against 13.8°C on the previous night and it was 2.2°C above normal for the place, the officials said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of 9.5°C against 7.5°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 0.7°C for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, he said.

Jammu recorded a low of 21.7°C against 25.9°C on the previous night and it was 4.1°C below normal for J&K's winter capital, he said.

Banihal recorded a low of 16.2°C (2.1°C above normal), Batote 16.8°C (0.9°C above normal), Katra 19.6°C (2.5°C below normal) and Bhaderwah 15.2°C (above normal by 1.7°C).

### FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

#### Make education a powerful...

transforming the entire education system through the National Education Policy is underway, he said.

"Our focus is to make education a powerful medium for independent research, growth of independent ideas and the classrooms to be a place where dreams and aspirations are born," observed the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor also highlighted the important role of teachers in empowering students through modern and traditional knowledge.

Artificial Intelligence has brought unprecedented change in every sphere of our lives. Soon, AI-powered schools will provide customized education, enhance capability of children but despite this advanced technology only teachers will be able to provide Education of Conscience, he said.

"Teachers' task is not to finish syllabus but to hone raw potential within the children and to transform learning journey into a creative, engaging and collaborative way. They should put every child through this process so that he or she can recognize the inner courage, inner voice and wisdom," the Lt Governor added.

Speaking on the successful conduct of G20 Summit in Srinagar, the Lt Governor said, the world has witnessed the rise of peaceful and emerging Jammu Kashmir.

"Jammu Kashmir has come out of the dark era, when schools used to remain shut for months together. Students must tell their parents and other members of the society that a great opportunity has finally arrived. Now, schools are functional round the year. Work culture in Businesses, offices has improved. Youths are able to realize their dreams and common man is enjoying quality life," said the Lt Governor.

First requirement for Development and Education is Peace. We all must put our efforts in ensuring peace through collective participation, he added.

Vijay Dhar, Chairman DPS Srinagar highlighted the achievements of the School including learning school and virtual interface developed for specially-abled children. He stressed on the need for public and private schools to come together to extend quality education to all.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor took round of the learning and recreational centre for specially-abled children in the school.

Mohammad Aijaz, Deputy Commissioner Srinagar; Sujit Kumar DIG; Smt Kiran Dhar, Pw Vice Chairperson, DPS Srinagar; Shafaq Afshan, Principal; teachers, and large number of students of DPS were present.

#### Infiltration bid...

In the operation, he said one weapon, two pouches and two rucksacks were seized. The recovered items

include one AK74 rifle with nine magazines and 438 rounds, two pistols with four magazines and 60 rounds, six hand grenades, clothing and medicines.

"By this swift action another infiltration bid has been foiled, which had the potential to disturb peace in Poonch district," Lt Col Anand said.

The officials said army troops opened fire after picking up the movement of suspected terrorists attempting to sneak into this side from across the border late Wednesday night.

However, the terrorists managed to escape taking advantage of thick foliage and darkness, leaving behind the consignment of arms and ammunition.

The operation in the area was still continuing when the last reports were received, the officials said.

Separately, police assisted by the army also launched a cordon and search operation in Makhyala and Bainch villages following reports of suspicious movement.

However, no one was arrested during the operation, officials said.

#### LG Sinha makes...

availability of all basic amenities, sufficient water supply, proper sanitation and cleanliness in the premises.

The Shelter Home is being run by Jammu Municipal Corporation, through NGO Jagriti Mahila Udyog Kendra.

The Lt Governor was accompanied by the senior civil and police officials.

#### Landslides hits Jammu...

restoration of stranded traffic till 11 am, the officials said.

No fresh traffic was allowed either from Jammu or Srinagar this morning, the officials said, adding the traffic will be restored once the stranded vehicles are cleared.

#### Tourist villages in...

a tourist village in the government under the Tourist Village Development Programme to include picturesque places on the tourist map.

The ambitious programme, under the Mission Youth initiative, aims to develop 181 villages that possess distinct features such as scenic beauty, adventurous terrain, art and cultural significance, history and archaeol-

ogy. It is gaining tremendous momentum with a significant influx of tourists visiting these new destinations. The main objectives of the programme are to develop new tourism destinations that integrate social, cultural, and spiritual characteristics with economic aspects, providing necessary infrastructure for tourists within these selected villages.

The villages included in the programme were selected based on their potential for rural tourism in consultation with the Tourism Department and an expert committee of Mission Youth.

The Tourist Tribal Village Programme (TTVP), initiated by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir, is aimed to be a game changer for rural and tribal areas, offering economic and social benefits. The scheme promotes rural tourism and generates employment for local youth. For young individuals interested in establishing ventures in the tourism and hospitality service sector, financial assistance of up to Rs 10 lakh is available including Rs 8.50 lakh from a banking partner.

Mission Youth J&K provides a special upfront incentive (subsidy) of Rs 1.5 lakh or 15% of the project cost (whichever is minimum), along with a special subsidy of Rs 3.5 lakh towards loan repayment.

Similarly, for development of homestays under the programme, financial assistance of up to Rs 1 lakh is provided including 0.85 lakh from a banking partner. Mission Youth also offers a special upfront incentive of 0.15 lakh or 15% of the project cost (whichever is minimum), 25% of the project cost as an upfront subsidy for women applicants, and a special subsidy of 0.35 lakh towards loan repayment.

Furthermore, the beneficiary must be unemployed and registered with the concerned District Employment and Counselling Centre. This initiative aims to promote home-stays across the UT, strengthen the rural economy, encourage youth entrepreneurship, and provide employment opportunities for women in tourism sector.

The initiative also recognizes the potential of J&K for film shootings and aims to promote filming in the region by offering financial aid to villages for their sustainable development. Despite having significant tourism potential, we are still unable to garner requisite attention due to infrastructural bottlenecks. Destinations which lag behind in sphere of tourism infrastructure, can overcome the downsides by introducing homestays as a means of accommodation facilities for the tourists who do not require heavy investment.

#### India's population...

"Ease of Living" for pensioners while submitting their life certificate.

The Minister informed that the Pension Department has undertaken a nation-wide Digital Life Certificate Government Face Authentication campaign in the November, 22 which has resulted in 30 lakhs pensioners submitting their life certificate digitally. He also congratulated DoPPW for being the first Department in the Government of India to use Face Recognition Technology.

Dr Jitendra Singh also pointed out several humanitarian pension related policy changes like the dependent divorced daughter of a deceased govt. servant/spouse made eligible for family pension, enhanced Family Pension @50% of last pay drawn allowed in case an employee dies before completing 7 years of service, order making eligible child of deceased govt. servant/pensioner, suffering from a mental or physical disability, to received family pension for life/his/her overall income from sources other than family pension is less than the entitled family pension at ordinary rate and DR admissible, apart from relaxation in the provision of Family Pension for divorced daughters and Divyangs.

Dr Jitendra Singh also informed that at the behest of the Prime Minister, the Department also started a portal entitled "Anubhav" to show-case the experiences in Government of retiring officials which has now become a huge resource base for us. The Department not only introduced the concept of Pension Adalats but has leveraged technology to hold digital Adalats through video-conferencing.

Secretary, Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare, V.Srinivas said in his address that DoPPW has commenced a series of awareness programs for Bankers with a view to provide information about the latest pension rules/procedures reforms and welfare initiatives to Bank's field functionaries, handling pensions. He said, in line with the Government's objective of transparency, digitization and service delivery, the Bhavishya platform has ensured End-to-End digitization of the Pension processing and payment. From the retiree filing his/her papers online till issue of the PPO in electronic format going into the Digilocker, this platform has showcased the intention of complete transparency and efficiency of the Government, the 'Bhavishya' platform, an integrated online pension processing system was made mandatory for all central government departments w.e.f. 01.01.2017.

#### PM Modi created...

filled India's sails with the power of an infrastructure boom to pace up growth.

"Whether it is creating I-Ways, highways, airports, or taking railways to remote corners, world-class infrastructure is the core of the Indian story," he said. (Agencies)

# Jan urges LG Admin to fill vacant posts expeditiously

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 15: Ajaz Jan, the Provincial President of the Youth National Conference (YNC) in Jammu, has made a fervent appeal to the LG administration of Jammu and Kashmir to expedite the process of filling vacant positions across all government departments.

Jan highlighted the urgent need to address the issue during a meeting held at Sher I Kashmir Bhavan in Jammu, which focused on various concerns and opportunities related to the youth.

During the meeting, Ajaz Jan expressed deep concern over the escalating drug activities in the state. He stressed the importance of proactive engagement from the younger generation in launching effective drug de-addiction programs to combat this menace. He encouraged the young brigade to actively partici-



pate and take the lead in initiatives aimed at eradicating drug abuse from society.

In addition to discussing these pressing issues, the meeting also served as an opportunity to congratulate Umesh Talashi, the newly appointed Additional Spokesperson of Kashmir, on his recent assignment. Ajaz Jan and his team wished and support to Talashi in his new role.

Prominent members present at the meeting included Gorav Kapoor, Senior Vice President of Jammu Province, Zamir Quershi, Provincial Secretary of Jammu YNC, Tejinder Singh, District President of Jammu Urban, as well as Nitish Goswami, Jatin Bhat, Sumita Bhan, and others.

The meeting witnessed active participation from these dedicated individuals, who collectively discussed strategies and initiatives for the betterment of the youth and the overall development of the state.

Ajaz Jan emphasized the urgency of addressing the issue of vacant government positions, which is crucial for the effective functioning of various departments. He called upon the LG administration to prioritize the fast-track recruitment process, ensuring the timely appointment of qualified candidates.

# More development in Border areas under Modi regime: Sat

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 15: Infrastructure development in the country's border areas in the last nine years of PM Narendra Modi led Central Government has been much more than in the previous 50 years, said Former Minister Sat Sharma (CA) while addressing a mammoth gathering of beneficiaries of various Central Government sponsored schemes at Khour area of Jammu District. Sharma was also accompanied by District President and Former MLA Rajeev Sharma, Former Minister Bali Bhagat, Former MLA Krishan Bhagat, DDC Chairman Suraj Singh Bhat, DDC member Suresh Sharma and several others.

Speaking on the occasion, Sat Sharma said that Congress never thought about stopping migration from border villages and never bothered to provide them water, electricity and other benefits but now PM Modi has taken this task and today we witness an overall development of border areas across the country. Sharma said thousands of crores have been allocated by PM Modi led Central Government for development of border areas under various programs. He said the country cannot march ahead on the path of development without strengthening its internal security and for that PM took necessary steps to stop the migration from border villages and developed it at par with cities, he said.

Rajeev Sharma and Bali Bhagat said that people thank PM Modi for providing them benefits of various schemes which have changed their lifestyles. They said developmental projects are on a war footing and the security grid has also been strengthened in the last nine years.



Krishan Bhagat, Suraj Bhat and Suresh Sharma highlighted the welfare schemes launched by the Government for the welfare of the people and also appealed to the masses to take the developmental agenda of BJP at the grass root level.

Others who spoke on the occasion were Kuldeep Sharma, Brijesh Rana, Manmohan Singh, Narinder Bhat, GS Chib and Mandal Presidents of Khour area.

# Councillor Sahil Gupta felicitates Monisha Thapa for securing 96.2 % marks in class 12th exam

JI NEWS SERVICE



JAMMU, JUN 15: Bhartiya Janata Party Leader and Councillor from Municipal Committee Bishnah, Mr Sahil Gupta today hon-

oured Monisha Thapa for Securing 96.2% in 12th Class Jk Bose living in Bishnah.

Councillor Sahil Gupta honored her by giving Memento and Mata ki chunri and wished the family Members. Councillor Sahil Gupta told that Monisha Thapa has raised Name of Father, Mother Sanjeev Thapa and Grandfather Kartar Chand.

She has brought laurels to Bishnah Town, for which he is very happy, Monisha Thapa has Completed her 12th from Siras School Bishnah. Gupta was accompanied by Vijay Kumar, Rakesh Kumar, Tushar Digra, Rohit Kumar and others.

# Omar is midget in front of Modi's image: Gupta

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 15: National Democratic Party Indian (NDPI) J&K UT Chief Rajesh Gupta took a dig at Omar Abdullah who said, "that BJP will be wiped out in J&K". Gupta while replying to a question asked by media, "every time you put a finger in scorn there are three remaining fingers pointing right back at you". Gupta warned NC

leader and said Omar Abdullah is midget in front of modi's image. Gupta said, "Omar should not forget his failure regime as CM of J&K. In less than two years, the state has been plunged back into turmoil. Omar Abdullah had to call the army, signaling that he no longer had a grip on the situation. Gupta was addressing to media here on Thursday. NDPI leader said that the Prime

Minister Narendra Modi is leaving no stone unturned to fulfill the aspirations of the people of J&K by ensuring holistic development and prosperity. He said that peace and progress is the mission of Modi Government at the Centre and the way the development is being carried out sooner than later all the dreams of the people of J&K will be realized without discrimination, prejudice or inequality.

# BJP Govt trampling upon the democratic rights of J&K People: Harsh Dev

JI NEWS SERVICE

CHENANI, JUN 15: Calling for early restoration of statehood to J&K and installation of an elected govt, Mr. Harsh Dev Singh, Former Minister and State President NPP said that prolonged central rule in the erstwhile state was a negation of the constitutional guarantees enshrined in the Constitution of India. He said that several assurances by the central govt of restoring statehood to J&K at the appropriate time had failed to inspire the people of J&K who had lost faith in all such 'melodramatic rants' of the BJP leadership.

He said that BJP govt was ruthlessly trampling upon the rights of J&K people resulting in alienation amongst the general masses. He was addressing public meetings in Kossar and Banek villages of Chenani constituency today.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Harsh Dev Singh said that while the euphoria created by the abrupt abrogation of Article 370 had since petered out, the people were feeling cheated due to the dismantling of 200 year old historical State of J&K and downgrading it to the level of UT. He said that such a move of BJP government had not only lowered the morale of the people of erstwhile State but caused huge disen-



chantment in the hearts and minds of generat masses. "It was not a demotion of the State only. Infact every sensible citizen felt downgraded and humiliated. It had deeply hurt the sentiments of the people of J&K who felt belittled and dwarfed", said Mr. Singh.

"History bears testimony that J&K acceded to the Union of India in 1947 only due to the historic decision taken by Maharaja Hari Singh despite numerous stumbling blocks, pulls and pressures.

The demotion of State to UT level was not only unprecedented in the history but amounted to huge disparagement of the patriotic people of Jammu and Kashmir", observed Mr. Singh. Demanding early restoration of statehood and installation of an elected govt, Mr. Harsh Dev urged for personal intervention of the President of India to save the

people of J&K from dictatorial and autocratic regime.

Pointing towards the growing tensions in various parts of the UT, Mr. Singh said it revealed the failure of administration to come up to the peoples' expectations. He said that bureaucratic rule was no answer to the prevalent crisis. The LG administration had lost connect with the masses. The unemployed, semi-employed and contractuals were on the roads with none to even take note of their sufferings and grievances. The people inhabiting the rural areas were suffering badly for basic amenities with no access whatsoever to the corridors of power. With hardly any forum to ventilate their grievances, the people were a neglected lot in the absence of a popular govt thereby resulting in growing alienation amongst the masses, said the NPP leader.

# "Thana Diwas" organised at Police Station Khour

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 15: As part of public outreach programme, THANA DIWAS was organised at Police Station khour.

The Programme was chaired by SP Rural Sh. Rahul Charak, JKP's along with SDO Akhnoor Sh. Mohan Lal Sharma and SHO PS khour Insp. Rahul Mahajan.

Sarpanches, Panches, Numbardars, Chowkidars, Civil Society members and other prominent citizens of Khour town and block were present on the occasion.

During the Programme, participants highlighted



various issues of public importance, and they were assured that their genuine grievances pertaining to Police will be resolved on priority and that of Civil Administration will be taken up with the concerned departments for their early redressal.

While speaking on the occasion, SP Rural Sh. Rahul Charak also requested the participants to cooperate with Police and Administration in maintaining law and order in their area and in identifying anti-national & antisocial elements. Issue related to drug addiction among youths and its preventions were discussed. Programme ended peacefully gathering about 70-80 people. People thanked the police administration for this initiative.

# J&K witnessed unprecedented development during 9 years of Modi Rule: Raj Rattan Raina

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 15: BJP Leader Raj Rattan Raina today asserted that Jammu and Kashmir has had unprecedented development over the past nine years of Modi rule in the country.

In a statement issued here today, the BJP leader highlighted that Article 370 had halted development in the region for the last 70 years and the people were deprived of their rights by the Kashmiri centric leaders who always neglected the people of Jammu region to fulfill their personal motives.

In the last nine years, the Modi government has

provided employment opportunities to the youth in various sectors, including IT and tourism, etc. Overall, the Central Government is committed to the development of Jammu and Kashmir and is taking steps to ensure the region's growth and prosperity, he added.

Raina expressed his confidence that the ongoing tourism-oriented projects such as the retreat ceremony at Suchetgarh border, musical fountain at Bahu Fort, Bahu-Fort Mahamaya ropeway project, Yoga Centre at Mantalai, Vertical Garden in Jammu, and development of Jammu under the Smart City, among others,

would undoubtedly contribute to the region's economic growth.

The BJP leader emphasized that the people of Jammu remain indebted to the Modi Government for providing equal rights at par with the people of the country. He believed that the BJP-led government at the Centre has brought a new era of development in J&K, and the people will continue to benefit from the various development programs initiated by the government. Raina urged the people of Jammu to stand united and support PM Modi to continue the spree of development in Jammu and Kashmir.

# PNB MetLife Launches Insurance Awareness Drive in J&K and HP

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 15: PNB MetLife, one of India's leading life insurers, has launched an initiative to grow insurance awareness in Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh. In line with IRDAI's State Insurance Plan to improve awareness and understanding of insurance among rural and semi-rural areas, PNB MetLife's awareness drive has so far reached 180 areas in Srinagar, Jammu, Budgam, Shimla, Mandi, and Dharmsasha.

Leveraging tools such as road shows, bina rath camps and nukkad natak, the insurer has been educating communities about the importance of financial protection and the benefits insurance can offer in helping people to live life confidently



and achieve their long-term financial goals.

Commenting on the initiative, Ashish Kumar Srivastava, MD and CEO, PNB MetLife, said, "I strongly believe that the IRDAI-initiated awareness drive is a crucial step towards improving financial literacy and promoting financial inclusion, contributing to the nation's financial

growth and development. We, at PNB MetLife, are committed to working as an industry to bridge the financial protection gap in India and empowering the people of Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh to build a more confident future."

As part of these efforts, PNB MetLife has launched Bima Shivir (insurance camp) to educate communities, including existing policyholders about the features of protection coverage, policy benefits, and the need for life insurance. To date, PNB MetLife has run 109 camps across these two states with more than 1,100 participants.

The insurance awareness drive is an important step towards promoting financial inclusion and ensuring that more people have access to insurance services.

## THOUGHT OF THE DAY

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

## JINDRAH IMAGES

## Finally, some relief for students

Entrance Test (CUET) 2023 which has been conducted for students to get admission in undergraduate courses in different colleges of the country. The test has triggered a major has debate in Jammu and Kashmir with students from far-off and remote areas being forced to appear in the test conducted at centres set up in Punjab and Himachal Pradesh. The BJP leaders, who claimed to have settled the issue by approaching authorities at the helm of affairs and the Union Education Minister for change of venue of examination, became a laughing stock. The reason for it is that the students continued to face problems and got no reprieve from the National Testing Agency (NTA). The poor students shelled out hard earned money of their parents on travelling from Jammu to other parts of Punjab and HP for appearing in entrance test. Waking up from its slumber, unlike Ladakh UT administration, the government of Jammu and Kashmir has now announced that the students, who could not appear in the recently held CUET 2023 due to allotment of examination centres in distant towns and cities, would be given an opportunity to take admission in subjects and colleges of their choice. If the announcement has brought smiles on the faces of those who could not make it to examination centers, it has also led to a lot of heart-burning among the students who spent money on travelling from J&K to outside UT for examination. The UT government pleads that the CUET, as per the NEP 2020, is a standardized entrance test conducted by NTA that aims to streamline the admission process for undergraduate and postgraduate courses being offered by Universities across the country. This test will assess the knowledge, aptitude and skills of the applicants, providing a fair and equitable evaluation platform for all the candidates. Last year, more than 200 universities (including 47 Central Universities) participated in the CUET. The entrance test is believed to give an opportunity to the students from J&K to take admission in prestigious Universities and Colleges of the country. The idea of conducting entrance test sounds good but the implementation, however, was made in utter chaos and confusion with little effort on ground. A total of 87309 candidates were registered from the UT of Jammu and Kashmir for the CUET. The examination centres were randomly allocated based on availability of requisite infrastructure within the geographical boundaries of J&K but students allotted centres outside the UT of J&K faced hardships. Despite reallocation of centres, students were again allotted centres outside the UT of J&K and had discrepancies in the examination dates in certain subject combinations. It is good that the Government has come out with some relief for students but it should ensure that proper planning and effective implementation should be made before introducing any scheme having direct impact on the future of the students.

# Quantum warfare poses threat to national security

EMPLOYMENT OF QUANTUM TECHNOLOGY WILL POTENTIALLY CREATE NEW MILITARY CAPABILITIES THAT COULD DISRUPT CURRENT SYSTEMS.

MAJ GEN ASHOK K MEHTA (RETD)

As we find ourselves amid the fourth industrial revolution, with quantum technologies spearheading progress, nations worldwide acknowledge the critical necessity of quantum readiness. India has now joined these frontrunners, having launched the National Quantum Mission in April with a substantial budget allocation of Rs 6,000 crore. While the objectives of the mission are commendable, as we step into this new era, we must also consider the looming threat to our national security from quantum warfare.

The second quantum revolution, as it is known, could completely reshape technologies related to computing, communication, cryptography and sensing. Notably, many countries have recognised this shift, dedicating considerable resources to quantum research.

In 2018, the US passed the National Quantum Initiative Act 'to accelerate quantum research and development for the economic and national security of the country'. Russia, Germany, the UK, France and Canada have affirmed their commitment to quantum technologies, earmarking substantial funds for research projects.

China is emerging as a leader in quantum technology, launching the first-ever satellite dedicated to quantum communication, Micius, in 2016. The nation has reported breakthroughs such as the quantum teleportation of a two-particle system, creation of the world's inaugural quantum router and the establishment of the first-ever quantum-encrypted government network. China's ambitious plans include setting up a satellite-based quantum communication system and launching a solid-state quantum chip project.

While quantum technology holds immense promise for the advancement of humankind, it also has a dark side - its potential weaponisation for military use. Quantum warfare will become a reality within the next 10 years. Quantum sensors would detect objects that are invisible to traditional sensors, such as stealth aircraft and submarines. The employment of quantum technology will potentially create new military capabilities that could disrupt current military systems, necessitating significant investments in upgrading defence capabilities and developing new offensive technologies. This potential could trigger a global quantum arms race, escalating tensions between nations and raising the risk of conflicts over strategic resources.

Quantum technology is today in an early stage of development, but the preparation for quantum warfare must begin now. The speed at which new technologies have evolved and been adopted has surprised most experts. Within six months of the launch of ChatGPT, there are limitless ways in which users are utilising its potential. Similarly, a breakthrough in quantum technology could suddenly be upon us, and if we are not fully ready, it could have serious implications for our national security.

The most imminent threat posed by quantum technologies is in the field of encryption. Current encryption algorithms use a 128-bit or 256-bit



key to encrypt data, and the fastest supercomputer available today would take billions of years to test every possible key and crack the encryption. As quantum computers mature, their formidable processing capacity could render current cryptographic systems obsolete. South China Morning Post recently reported that a Chinese quantum computer, Jiuzhang, can process artificial intelligence-related tasks 180 million times faster than the fastest supercomputer available today.

Although there are claims and counterclaims on how vulnerable the current encryption algorithms are to quantum computers and how quickly this technology would become available, there is a clear danger. Data harvesting (storing encrypted data for later decryption with quantum computers) has already commenced in several countries. In a 2022 poll conducted by Deloitte, more than half the respondents believed that their organisations were at risk of 'harvest-now, decrypt-later' attacks.

Recognising this imminent threat, President Joe Biden signed the Quantum Computing Cybersecurity Preparedness Act into law in January. This act encourages all government agencies to prioritise transitioning to post-quantum encryption solutions in light of the potential dangers posed by quantum computers.

The technology for the implementation of quantum-resistant communication is already with us. Post-quantum encryption refers to cryptographic algorithms that are secure against attacks by future quantum computers. There is a pressing need to implement these new encryption and signature schemes on our critical infrastructure assets.

Currently, the US National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) is conducting an international competition to select the 'post-quantum cryptography' algorithms to be standardised and adopted across the globe.

The process started in 2016, and in 2022 the NIST identified four promising post-quantum algorithms. These could form industry and government-standard encryption and identity authentication schemes.

India has set ambitious targets in its National Quantum Mission to develop quantum computers, satellite-based secure quantum communications and multi-node quantum networks with quantum memories. Our national and academic institutions - Defence Research and Development Organisation, Centre for Development of Advanced Computing, Indian Institutes of Technology and International Institute of Information Technology, Hyderabad, to name a few - already have some of the groundwork in place.

The need now is to craft a cohesive post-quantum security strategy. India has formidable economic power and abundance of talent, but often falls short in the formulation of a strategy - the most notable absence being that of a national security strategy. The lack of a strategy generally leads to sub-optimal employment of resources. An essential element of India's strategy must be securing of our infrastructure in three most critical sectors - defence, energy and banking. Any breach in these systems, any weakness that exposes them to quantum-level threats, could have grave consequences.

Advertisement In setting up the National Quantum Mission, the government acknowledges the urgency to adopt next-generation transformative technologies on a war footing. Just as 'Digital India' has been a tremendous success, we must now confront the challenges of the quantum age with an equal measure of urgency and determination.

(Lt Gen DS Hooda (Retd) is the former Northern Army Commander while Jay Oberoi is the founder of Synergy Quantum)

# No let-up in Pakistan's fiscal woes

MAJ GEN ASHOK K MEHTA (RETD)

PAKISTAN has long remained an 'international economic basket case', heavily dependent on foreign aid and doles, more so after the Covid pandemic. The country's economy has been in constant crisis. During his tenure as PM, an egotistic and arrogant Imran Khan was unable to sustain or build a national political consensus on his foreign and domestic policies. He offended friends and foes alike, while Pakistan's economy inevitably headed for collapse. A Pakistani friend remarked recently that his country required a Dr Manmohan Singh to pull them out of 'trouble'. Internationally, Imran remains disliked by the West, given his Islamist propensities. He continues to be disliked by some of Pakistan's Arab friends, notably Saudi Arabia. His move to build bridges with Moscow came too late, just when his domestic political base was shrinking. Most importantly, his relations with the then army chief, Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa, who attacked the highest importance to ties with the US, remained strained and even unpleasant. Gen Bajwa, nevertheless, arranged for Pakistani arms supplies to Ukraine. He

MAJOR CHALLENGES INCLUDE REPAYMENT OF CHINESE LOANS, SECURING INTERNATIONAL AID



also spearheaded an effort to strictly control terrorism across Pakistan's border with India. Dealing with Pakistan cannot be decoupled from problems India has on its borders with China.

It is no secret that Gen Bajwa realistically believed that given the looming economic disaster, it made no sense to heat up Pakistan's eastern borders with India, even as the Afghan Taliban and their Pakistani brethren were behaving in a growingly difficult manner. The Taliban were becoming difficult to handle both within Pakistan and across the Pakistan-Afghanistan border. Moreover, the US establishment was incensed by the humiliating situation it faced when its forces, diplomats and citizens had to flee Afghanistan. It was in this situation that the then ISI chief, Lt Gen Faiz Hameed, triumphantly entered Kabul to have a look at what many in Pakistan believed was a humiliating American surrender. The US has since then acted tough on issues of international economic assistance. Pakistan desperately needs aid and facilitation from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to persuade the interna-

tional community and international finance institutions such as the World Bank and ADB to open their doors for enhanced economic assistance to Pakistan. Pakistan today has barely enough foreign exchange reserves to cover one month's imports. Even its 'all-weather friend' China has provided only token assistance in foreign exchange. The Chinese remain insistent on a direct presence and use of their equipment and personnel in all projects they undertake. Pakistan, moreover, has to repay Chinese loans in convert-

ible currencies. International aid would not be available to Pakistan unless stringent IMF conditions are accepted. Even friendly oil-rich countries such as Saudi Arabia and the UAE would provide only token assistance. They will, however, await clearance from the IMF before loosening their purse strings. Pakistan is fortunate that Shehbaz Sharif, whose family has long-time ties with the Saudi monarchy, is the incumbent PM. Saudi generosity may not have been forthcoming at all had Imran been at the helm now.

Pakistan's General Election is scheduled to be held around October. But, in the meantime, the army, led by Gen Syed Asim Munir, who loathes Imran, appears set to send the ex-PM and his remaining loyal followers to jail. The army has assumed powers to try errant civilians. Imran is himself out on bail in a corruption case. Pakistan's Chief Justice, who is believed to have presidential ambitions, is among the few who will make every effort to save Imran from imprisonment. The Chief Justice continues to approve release on bail

of Imran's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Party (PTI) members who have been charged with criminal offences. But the determination of Gen Munir to get Imran convicted and debarred from politics is forcing influential politicians to defect from the PTI.

The heat on Pakistan by the IMF has made potential donors hold back on disbursement of aid. A senior IMF official recently noted that it is essential for Pakistan to undertake some painful reforms to clear the way for IMF assistance. Pakistan's economy has grown at an estimated 0.3 per cent in 2022-23, with its per capita income falling last year. It is clear that in these circumstances, Pakistan will be compelled to be careful in sponsoring cross-border terrorism in India. Gen Bajwa had noted that such sponsorship of terrorism has resulted only in greater problems on Pakistan's borders and in Islamabad's ties with the international community. He was thereby acknowledging that Pakistan already had serious problems related to Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan and Baloch separatists. Not surprisingly, Pakistan alleges Indian involvement in these developments. Pakistan has taken note of the

appreciation that Afghans and even the Taliban leadership have voiced for the vital supplies of wheat that India has been providing through Iran's Chabahar port.

Dealing with Pakistan cannot be decoupled from problems India has on its borders with China. Beijing is evidently determined to build up Pakistan's maritime and air power. But the present situation across Beijing's western borders, where Pakistan is on the verge of bankruptcy, does give India more strategic space to deal with cross-LAC issues. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has asserted that the relationship with China cannot be normalised till the Chinese move back from territories they entered and occupied in Ladakh. It would be interesting to observe President Xi Jinping's approach during the G20 Summit in New Delhi later this year. His presidency has been marked by continuing border tensions with India. This has led to India and the US agreeing to increasingly cooperate in dealing with the growing Chinese military power across the Indo-Pacific. This is evident from US Secretary of Defence Lloyd Austin's visit to India and the forthcoming visit of PM Narendra Modi to Washington.

# In an unequal society like India, community-led interventions can make therapy more accessible

Most health systems consider mental health therapy as an individualised form of medicine, but community mental health approaches could make therapy more accessible to people and create communities of support, some experts suggest a new research shows.

A 2017 study published in The Lancet found that approximately one in seven Indians is affected by a mental health concern of varying degrees of severity. India has a suicide rate of 21.1 per 100,000 people, estimates the World Health Organization. In addition, post the Covid-19 pandemic, mental health concerns have risen across the globe.

Yet, mental health practitioners are in short supply. In India, there are two mental health workers and 0.3 psychiatrists per 100,000 population, below the global average of 13 mental health workers for 100,000 people.

Community-based mental health interventions could potentially help overcome this shortfall of mental health practitioners. In addition, research suggests that the source of mental health issues is often external, such as social pressures, or

domestic violence, and therefore, community-based interventions might help more

usually do not acknowledge the social, political, or cultural causes of distress, and are based on individualistic ideas supporting the



**WITH INDIA'S LACK OF MENTAL HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS, COMMUNITY PROGRAMMES MIGHT BE A BETTER WAY TO REACH MORE PEOPLE.**

than individual therapy. Programmes in India include those by non-governmental organisations such as Sangath and the Manas Foundations that train community health workers to identify and help with mental health issues.

Distress-causing environment Cognitive Behavior Therapy is one of the most common types of therapy practised across the globe. It is based on the premise that our thoughts about events in the external environment cause feelings about the event, which in turn affect behaviour. The therapy assumes that a change in perception of the external environment can change thoughts, thereby reducing feelings of perpetual sadness or anxiety. This form of therapy, and other forms of psychothera-

proposition that changing mindsets in therapy can reduce individual suffering. But, Sanah Ahsan, a psychologist based in the UK at the National Institute of Health, wrote in The Guardian, that encouraging individuals to change mindsets in therapy could be another way of adapting to systems that are inefficient, and protect the status quo which harms marginalised groups.

For instance, if a person is experiencing economic hardship due to systemic issues such as income inequality, encouraging them to change their mindset and work harder to achieve financial success could be seen as a way to adapt to a system that is inefficient and unjust, rather than addressing the structural issues that create economic inequality in the first place.

The other common practice is

medicalising mental health. For instance, serotonin imbalance is understood as one of the primary causes of depression and reduced dopamine has been long associated with reduced

and marginalised groups are more prone to poorer mental health outcomes. Lower levels of income, precarious nature of work and perceived lack of control in some social groups are

factors that increase the severity of stress. Similarly, poor mental health outcomes are also linked to employment conditions, such as the informal sector, where a significant proportion of Indian women work, and where stress due to poorly managed systems and violence is prevalent. Professionals should not resolve mental health concerns by counselling over the telephone or by using pills, when the concerns are due to discrimination, physical assault and lack of basic necessities, such as food and shelter, wrote Sudharshan R Kottai, a psychology professor at Jain University in Bangalore in an article in the Economic and Political Weekly. He argued that mental health professionals often understate socio-political factors that cause distress. "One of the first reminders I instill in my practice and therapeutic work is the reality that therapy can sometimes be a space to process systemic distress," said Sanjana Kishore, a counselling psychologist based in Bengaluru.

## Effective yoga stretches for healthy joints

"MOBILISING THE JOINTS IS REALLY IMPORTANT, AS IT HELPS TO MAKE THE MUSCLES MORE FLEXIBLE AND INCREASES THE RANGE OF THE MOTION OF THE MUSCLES AND TENDONS," SAID ANSHUKA PARWANI ON IMPORTANCE OF JOINT MOBILITY



People have adopted a sedentary lifestyle nowadays which brings a host of health issues affecting our overall health. The problem of joint pains is one of them. Experts believe that if not treated early, it can lead to severe arthritis.

As per the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases, keeping your joints healthy will allow you to run, walk, jump, play sports, and do all other things you like to do. Physical activity, a balanced diet, avoiding injuries, and getting plenty of sleep will help you stay healthy and keep your joints healthy too.

As such, celebrity yoga trainer Anshuka Parwani took to Instagram to assert the importance of healthy joints. "Mobilising the joints is really important as it helps to make the muscles more flexible and increases the range of the motion of the muscles and tendons," she captioned the post. She suggested some simple joint exercises and stretches that help in "strengthening the muscles and help to move them with more ease and lessen the risk of injuries," she said. She demonstrated some basic neck movements wherein she moved her head forward, backward, and sideways. She then did forward and backward shoulder rotations, followed by an elbow bending exercise.

She continued with elbow rotation as she moved her forearm clockwise while affixing her elbow in one position, and repeated the same anticlockwise. To move the hand joints, Parwani also did a hand clenching exercise as she made fists and then let loose of her palms.

# Mental health of Children: A battle in vogue

IT IS OUR COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT OUR CHILDREN FROM ANY ABUSE

Children are an asset to the entire nation. Assets must be nurtured and protected. So, it becomes our collective responsibility to protect our children from any abuse, harm or violence and treat them with love, respect and dignity. We often ignite the debates and discussions about the aspects of mental health in adults. In these discussions, we miss the root of the problem, importance of mental health in children. We often pay less attention on mental health of our children. It becomes important to lay equal emphasis on the mental ambience of the children.

Mental health of a child is defined as his emotional, psychological and social well being. The mental health plays a very important part in children's overall health and well being. If a child is mentally unstable that child will not be psychically well



also. The physical health of a child totally depends on his mental health.

Thus the mental health of a child must be noticed keenly because children cannot most of the times communicate about their inner feelings with even the closest of the people.

There are some basic signs by which we can detect the unstable

mental condition of a child. The child may go through sudden mood swings. He will start over reacting on things or will become over aggressive. He will prefer to stay isolated and will give less attention towards the studies. The child will feel irritated most of the times and his self esteem will go low thus resulting in his overall behav-

ioral changes. The life style of a child will abruptly change; either the child will sleep less or more, gain weight or lose weight, eat less or more. The child will start losing interest in the people around and will become less communicative. He will feel dejected and depressed and will get indulged in gratuitous things.

These are some basic symptoms of disturbed mental set up of child and needs immediate intervention especially by parents.

The parents play a very important role in the mental wellness of a child. It becomes their prime responsibility to take their children in confidence and make sure the communication gap is filled between the child and parent. Most importantly they need to pay attention towards their children at times when they are craving for it and

listen to them closely.

The child must feel safe and free in home environment. Their opinions and conversations must be respected. Their self esteem should be boosted by love and acceptance. A bridge of trust should be build at home to make child feel comfortable in sharing his problems. As flowers at home are treated carefully, the same treatment must be displayed towards children. They are like budding flowers that need to be looked after well by their caretakers.

The children are the future of nation. If our future is nurtured and groomed in a healthy and positive atmosphere only then can we dream of better future. We all need to work collectively for the best interests of our children so that our tomorrow is bright and beautiful. It is a battle that is in vogue and needs to be fought with full vigor.

## How to do a dumbbell shoulder and overhead press for upper body strength



When it comes to dumbbell or upper body exercises, we firstly need to get rid of the notion that women should not do it as it will end up giving them a Hulk-like bulky look. Well, that's not the case! Women need to indulge in muscle gain exercises as much as men to strengthen their upper body which will eventually give strength and posture to the whole body. One such exercise is shoulder and overhead press using dumbbells. Let's take a look at how to properly perform a shoulder and overhead press.

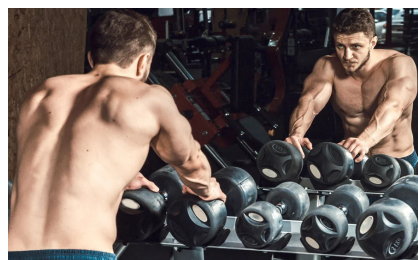
The shoulder and overhead press are great exercises that target the shoulders, upper back, and arms. These exercises are effective for building strength and muscles in the upper body, improving posture, and increasing shoulder stability.

# THE ULTIMATE GUIDE TO ADVANCED TRAINING TECHNIQUES (FOR ALL EXPERIENCE LEVELS)

Whether you are new to training or a seasoned weight-room veteran, advanced training techniques can be used to spice up your routine. There are many reasons why advanced techniques can make a great addition to anyone's routine. Maybe you don't have the time available to devote to a traditional workout, or maybe you find a change of scenery motivating, or are just curious to try something new.

Whatever your reasons, it can be difficult to understand what advanced training techniques are available and how to best incorporate them, so I've put together a one-stop shop for you on the most common advanced training practices that anyone can use. When programmed correctly, they offer many of the same muscle-building advantages as traditional straight-set training in a fraction of the time and can be used effectively to break those pesky plateaus you run into.

Advanced training techniques



come in many fitness flavors: supersets, dropsets, traditional rest-pause, and cluster sets being among the most popular. Let's look at each of these and find out how to program them properly into your routine!

Supersets are a great way to increase work volume when time is limited. They involve performing two exercises rapidly (forming a couplet)

with little to no rest in between. Supersets are composed of either couplets that work the same muscle group or opposing muscle groups (agonist/antagonist) with no rest between the couplet of exercises themselves. They are also easy to program as they feature similar set/rep ranges as straight-set training. I recommend choosing

agonist/antagonist supersets (such as pairing biceps/triceps or quads/hamstrings) since using two exercises of the same muscle group leads to greater soreness, decreased work volume, and may require more recovery for no extra benefit. Antagonistic, on the other hand, does not negatively impact training volume or muscle activity.

As an example, you may program a superset of four sets of 10 reps of biceps curls and triceps overhead extensions. In practice, you would perform 10 reps of the biceps curls then immediately jump to 10 reps of triceps overhead extensions with no rest between the two exercises. Once both exercises are completed in succession, that would be considered one set and then you rest as you would between conventional sets before moving on to your second round of the previously discussed four sets.

DROPSETS Dropsets are one of my favorite ways to make sure I fully work a muscle, and are particularly beneficial

when improving lagging musculature. They really force you to thoroughly exhaust the muscles worked in a time-efficient manner.

Performing dropsets involve completing an initial set in a conventional manner, then immediately lowering the weight lifted by anywhere from 25-50% and performing a second set until momentary muscular failure, then (optionally) dropping the load a third time by 25-50% of the second set's weight and performing a final set until momentary muscular failure.

Using this, you have one conventional set with one to two "drops" counting as a single overall dropset. After each dropset, rest as long as you would between conventional sets. I recommend incorporating one to three sets of these as the last exercise of the training day in a muscle group or movement you wish to advance.

Rest-pause is another great way to increase work volume. It has been shown to yield similar strength and size improvements compared to traditional sets while decreasing total

training time.

Rest-pause converts a single set into multiple mini sets with very little rest between each (usually 15-30 seconds). Technique varies from coach to coach, so I'll share my methods for how you set these up for either hypertrophy or strength.

For hypertrophy, I recommend shooting for a rep goal. The number of reps you achieve on your first mini set will determine how many reps you will do combined for the entire rest-pause set. Choose a weight that is 80-85% of your one rep max. Take that weight and lift until failure, then note how many reps you achieved. Double that to identify your total rep goal (ex: if you reached eight on your first mini set, then your total rep goal for all mini sets combined will be 16). Rest 15-20 seconds, then take your second mini set to failure. Add the number of reps achieved in that second mini set to those from the first. Repeat the lift/rest cycle until you have reached the rep goal for the entire rest-pause set.

# Over 1 000 Delhi govt school students qualify NEET-UG: Kejrival says feat previously unimaginable

NEW DELHI, JUNE 15: As more than 1,000 students from Delhi government schools qualified for medical entrance exam NEET-UG this year, Chief Minister Arvind Kejrival on Thursday congratulated students, their parents and teachers and said the feat could not have been imagined "a few years back".

Taking to Twitter, Kejrival shared a list of qualifying students from Delhi government schools in the past few years. The tally of students from Delhi government schools who cleared NEET-UG saw a jump of over 40 per cent this year, with 1,074 of them qualifying the test. In 2022, 648 students from Delhi government schools cleared NEET. In 2021 and 2020, 496 and 569 students cleared the exams respectively.

"Wow. More than 1000 students from Delhi govt schools qualify NEET. This could not even be imagined just a few years back. Congrats to all students, parents and teachers," Kejrival tweeted. A total of 11.45 lakh candidates out of 20.38 lakh have qualified



the examination, up by 48 per cent from last year. Tamil Nadu's Prabhakaran J and Andhra Pradesh's Bora Varun Chakravarthi topped the medical entrance exam NEET-UG this year with a perfect score of 720.

The NTA conducted the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (Undergraduate) at 4,097 centres in 499 cities in India and abroad on May 7. NEET-UG is the qualifying entrance exam for admission to Bachelor of

Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS), Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS), Bachelor of Ayurveda, Medicine and Surgery (BAMS), Bachelor of Siddha Medicine and Surgery (BSMS), Bachelor of Unani Medicine and Surgery (BUMS), and Bachelor of Homeopathic Medicine and Surgery (BHMS) and BSc (H) Nursing courses. There are more than 80,000 MBBS seats in over 540 medical colleges in the country.

# Pope sends Benedict XVI's former aide back to Germany in latest sign of falling out

ROME, JUN 15: Pope Francis has fired the longtime aide to the late Pope Benedict XVI from his Vatican job and ordered him to return to his native Germany, the final chapter in a very public falling out that culminated with the aide's tell-all memoir that was highly critical of Francis.

The Vatican confirmed that Archbishop Georg Gaenswein had officially ended his job as prefect of the papal household as of Feb. 28. A statement issued Thursday while Francis was in the hospital recovering from abdominal surgery said the pope had ordered Gaenswein to return to Freiburg, Germany, his diocese of origin, by July 1.

While all papal secretaries usually return to their dioceses of origin following the death of the pope they served, the Vatican's announcement betrayed some of the ill-will that had developed between Francis and Gaenswein. Francis gave Gaenswein no new assignment, and at 66, he is nearly a decade too young to retire. Speculation about Gaenswein's future had swirled following Benedict's Dec. 31 death and deepened a week later with the publication of the archbishop's memoir, "Nothing But the Truth: My Life Beside Pope Benedict XVI."

In the book, Gaenswein recounted his life serving Benedict but also acting as prefect of the papal household under Francis. He revealed palace intrigues, settled old scores and cast Francis in a deeply unfavourable light, puncturing the carefully curated notion that the cohabitation of two popes, one active and one retired, had been a happy one.

Published during a tense mourning period after Benedict's death, the book became one of several lines of attack against Francis by allies of the more



doctrinaire late German pope.

In reality, Gaenswein had stopped actively working as prefect of the papal household in 2020 following the publication of a previous book that got him in trouble with Francis.

In that case, Benedict was listed as the co-author of a book that argued for the necessity of maintaining priestly celibacy. Co-written with a noted Francis critic, Cardinal Robert Sarah, it caused a firestorm because it was released at the same time Francis was weighing whether to allow married priests in the Amazon to address a priest shortage there.

The book thus implied that the retired pope was trying to influence the reigning one. Gaenswein, on whom Benedict increasingly relied in his final years, was widely seen as having been responsible for the gaffe. Francis immediately sidelined Gaenswein, sending him away from the papal household with the excuse that he needed to care more full-time for Benedict, even while allowing him to keep the title as prefect.

The new order for Gaenswein to return to Freiburg said the transfer was just "for the moment," but there was no sign of what he might do there.

The Freiburg diocese confirmed in a brief emailed response to a query about Gaenswein's future that he would leave Rome in the first week of July and take up residence in the city. It said he was relieved of his duties as the prefect of the papal household "without another role having been given to him at present." The diocese added that "this remains subject to future considerations."

In one of his last acts at the Vatican, Gaenswein was called to testify this week before a Vatican tribunal in an alleged misappropriation of funds case involving the former heads of the Sistine Chapel Choir. Gaenswein had flagged some irregularities in the accounts of the choir, which technically is part of the papal household.

Judge Giuseppe Pignatone allowed Gaenswein to testify before the defendants, noting at the start of Monday's hearing that he was making the exception because Gaenswein was "soon going abroad."

Before recounting what had happened to the court, Gaenswein took the oath to tell the whole truth - coincidentally reciting the very title of the book that apparently sealed his fate with Francis: "Nothing but the truth."

# Cyclone Biparjoy : About 1 lakh evacuated from Gujarat working to ensure minimum loss says NDRF DG

NEW DELHI, JUN 15: Fishing boats have been anchored, large ships sent to high seas, more than 4,000 hoardings taken down and salt pan workers and pregnant women have been taken to safer places as authorities have evacuated about 1 lakh people in Gujarat in the wake of Cyclone 'Biparjoy', NDRF DG Atul Karwal said Thursday.

The head of the federal contingency force said the NDRF has also kept on alert 15 teams in the north, east and south of the country to airlift them and reinforce the strength of these 33 teams which have been earmarked for cyclone relief and rescue work in Gujarat and Maharashtra.

A total of 18 teams have been stationed in Gujarat which is predicted to take the maximum brunt of the cyclonic storm and resulting strong winds and heavy rains.

According to the India Meteorological Department (IMD), 'Biparjoy' is expected to make landfall Thursday evening, near Jakhau port as a very severe cyclonic storm with maximum wind speed reaching up to 150 kilometres per hour.

Based on the information shared by Gujarat government authorities, about 1 lakh people have been evacuated from the coastal and low-lying areas of Gujarat by 9 am Thursday, Karwal told reporters here.

We have 18 teams deployed and kept on stand-by to undertake quick rescue operations in Gujarat, he said.

The DG said the maximum of four teams of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) have been positioned in Kutch district and the Gujarat government has done an in-depth evacuation exercise as part of which fishing boats have been anchored, big ships have been sent to the high seas so that they are not affected by the tidal waves, more than 4,000 hoardings have been taken down so that they don't become deadly flying objects as strong winds blow.

Salt pan workers and pregnant women have also been taken to safer locations and hospital respectively, the DG said.

Our aim is to ensure that the loss of lives and property remains minimum and we have equipped our teams with tree and pole cutters to ensure communication links are kept open and restored quickly once the cyclonic



effect is over, he said. Some low-lying areas may face flooding instances due to heavy rains and hence our teams will have inflatable boats to rescue people from these areas, Karwal added.

He said five teams each in the north, east and south have been kept in readiness and they can be airlifted by Indian Air Force (IAF) aircraft as soon as required.

There teams are in Bathinda, Punjab (north), Mundali in Odisha (east) and Arakonam in Chennai (south). We have prepared for more than what was required and all the agencies are working to ensure minimum loss of life and property, the DG said.

While 18 NDRF teams have been placed in Gujarat, one has been stationed in neighbouring Diu in the newly formed Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu.

Diu is encircled by Gir Somnath and Amreli districts of Gujarat in the north and by the Arabian Sea from three sides. Giving a layout of the NDRF deployment in Gujarat, officials said four NDRF teams have been deployed in Kutch district, three each in Rajkot and Devbhumi Dwarka, two in Jamnagar, one each in Porbandar, Junagadh, Gir Somnath, Morbi, Valsad and Gandhinagar.

In the neighbouring state of Maharashtra, out of the total 14 NDRF teams, five have been deployed in Mumbai while the rest have been kept on standby, officials have said.

As powerful cyclone Biparjoy, packing wind speeds up to 140 kilometres per hour, threatens to cripple communication networks after landfall on the Gujarat coast on Thursday evening,

authorities have turned to HAM radio for smooth exchange of information.

Learning from past experiences, Gujarat State Disaster Management Authority (GSDMA) has deployed six HAM radio teams, two of them in Kutch, and mobile units for seamless communication after Biparjoy hits the shore near Jakhau port.

HAM radio is considered a reliable mode of messaging during emergencies when wirelines, mobile phones and other traditional terrestrial means of communication fail. Also known as amateur radio, HAM radio involves the use of radio frequency spectrum for non-commercial exchange of messages.

"GSDMA has deployed six teams with HAM radio units where the impact of the cyclone will likely be the most. Of them, two are in Kutch," Dr Kausal Jani, HAM radio operator of GSDMA, told PTI.

During a cyclone, when all communication networks fail and electricity is not available, HAM radio works, he said. "It does not require any mobile tower or internet to make calls," he explained. This mode of communication is quite useful in such disasters, he said. "We can communicate emergency requirements through HAM radio like the need for ambulances or call disaster response teams when people require to be rescued," he said.

When cyclone Taukta hit the coast in May 2021, communication and electrical networks were down for six days, said Gaurav Prajapati of GSDMA. "We had to communicate through (HAM) radio only," said the official. A mobile HAM radio unit has also been deployed in Jakhau, where the cyclone is likely to make landfall in the evening.

# HC warns Facebook its operations would be shut down if it does not cooperate with police investigation

BENGALURU, JUNE 15 : The High Court of Karnataka has orally warned Facebook (Meta) that it may order its operations in India to be shut down if it does not cooperate with police investigation over a fake profile.

An Indian national from Mangaluru, Shailesh Kumar, is in prison in Saudi Arabia allegedly over a derogatory Facebook post against the king of that nation and Islam. His wife Kavitha has complained to the local police that it was a fake profile of her husband on which the derogatory message was posted.

The police have failed to complete the investigation on the fake profile prompting Kavitha to approach the high court. Her petition, originally filed in 2021, was heard by Justice Krishna S Dixit on Wednesday.

Earlier on June 12, the HC had ordered, "The Commissioner of Police, Mangalore (Mangaluru), is directed to study the case papers and be present before the Court to answer as to why there has been arguably enormous delay in accomplishing the investigation of the matter when a citizen of this country is languishing in a jail of a foreign country after trial and conviction when his specific stand was that his Facebook profile was hacked". Mangaluru city police commissioner Kuldesh Kumar Jain and the investigating officer in the case were present in the HC on Wednesday. Kavitha's complaint to the police stated that



Shailesh has been working in Saudi Arabia for the past 25 years. He had put up a post in support of the Indian Government's Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) and the National Register of Citizenship (NRC) move. He allegedly received a threat call over this post following which he deleted his account. Subsequently, some miscreants created a fake account in his name and uploaded a derogatory post against the Saudi king and Islam, she said. Following this post, Shailesh was arrested in Saudi Arabia, tried and sentenced to 15 years in jail. Based on the information he provided, his wife filed the police complaint about the fake profile in her husband's name.

The police commissioner informed the HC on Wednesday that the investigation has been delayed as Facebook has not cooperated with the police. When the HC questioned the counsel for

Facebook, the counsel informed the court that he had no information about the exact location of the incident.

This prompted the HC to issue the warning that the operations of Facebook would have to be ordered to shut down if it did not cooperate with the investigation.

The counsel sought a week's time to submit the details required. The HC adjourned the hearing to June 22 directing Facebook to submit a detailed report on the incident and relevant information. Meta, Facebook's parent company, was arranged as a party to the petition on May 29, 2023.

The HC also directed the Union Government to detail the steps taken to secure the Indian national who has been jailed in a foreign prison in a fake case.

"Union Government should also make a statement based upon records to be given in a sealed cover as to what happened to the concerned citizen; whether he was given lawyer's assistance on a foreign soil; whether appropriate trial proceedings were held with fairness standards as obtaining in the international criminal law." the HC's June 12 order read.

The HC also asked the Union Government that "if the details as sought are not furnished, the concerned secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs may be summoned personally before the Court."

# Five Indian schools on shortlist for World's Best School Prizes 2023

LONDON, JUN 15: Five inspirational Indian schools in Delhi, Gujarat and Maharashtra were on Thursday named in the top 10 shortlists across different categories for the second annual USD 250,000 World's Best School Prizes, organised in the UK to celebrate schools worldwide for their enormous contribution to society's progress.

The five World's Best School Prizes - for Community Collaboration, Environmental Action, Innovation, Overcoming Adversity, and Supporting Healthy Lives - celebrate schools for the pivotal role they play in developing the next generation of learners and for their enormous contribution to society's progress, especially in the wake of COVID.

This year's Indian shortlist has schools from Delhi, Gujarat and Maharashtra in the running for its prize - founded last year by UK-headquartered T4 Education and organised in collaboration with Accenture, American Express, Yaysan Hasanah, and the Lemann Foundation. "Schools across the globe will learn from the story of these trailblazing Indian institutions and the culture they have cultivated," said Vikas Potluri, Founder of T4 Education and the World's Best School Prizes.

"The schools shortlisted for the World's Best School Prizes, no matter

where they can be found or what they teach, all have one thing in common - they all have a strong school culture; their leaders know how to attract and motivate exceptional educators; inspire change, and build excellent teaching and learning environments," he said.

Among the Indian schools to make the cut includes Nagar Nigam Pratibha Baalika Vidyalaya (NBPV) F-Block, Dilshad Colony-Ist, a government school in Delhi in the Community Collaboration category for breaking through the traditional mould to provide community-based interventions and support to bridge the gap between teachers, students, and parents. Shortlisted in the same category is Oberoi International School, an independent international school in Mumbai for bringing hope, empathy, and shared possibility to its students and surrounding communities. The Riverside School, an independent international school in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, which has gained worldwide recognition for its groundbreaking, student-centric approach to education, particularly through its "I CAN" pedagogical model, has been made the shortlist for the World's Best School Prize for Innovation. Snehalaya English Medium School, a charity school in Ahmednagar, Maharashtra, which has transformed the lives of children

living with HIV/AIDS and those from sex worker families and ended second-generation prostitution in its district, has been shortlisted for the World's Best School Prize for Overcoming Adversity.

Finally, Shindewadi Mumbai Public School (The Akanksha Foundation), a charter school in Mumbai, is in the running in the Supporting Healthy Lives category for attempting to reverse the impact of low immunity and poor nutrition among its student body and wider community after the lockdown. The Prizes were established in 2022 by the digital media platform T4 Education to share the best practices of schools that are transforming the lives of their students and making a real difference in their communities. The top three finalists for each of the five World's Best School Prizes will be announced in September, followed by the winners in October.

T4 Education said the winner of each prize will be chosen based on rigorous criteria by a "Judging Academy" comprising distinguished leaders across the globe, including academics, educators, NGOs, social entrepreneurs, government, civil society, and the private sector. The prize money of USD 250,000 will be equally shared among the winners of the five Prizes, with each receiving an award of USD 50,000.

# Entire country wishes to see Modi taking oath as PM for third time: KP Maurya

Pune, June 15 The Bharatiya Janata Party will win more than 350 seats in next year's Lok Sabha elections and it is people's wish that Narendra Modi take oath as the prime minister in this year, said Uttar Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister K.P. Maurya on Thursday. Speaking to PTI on the sidelines of a press conference on 'Nine Years of Modi', Maurya said the government is not silent on party MP and Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, who is facing

sexual harassment charges levelled by female wrestlers, and that a probe is on.

"It is my wish as a soldier of BJP as well as of all the citizens of India that with more than 350 MPs, Prime Minister Narendra Modi take oath for the third time," said Maurya. He expressed confidence that the BJP will win 75 of the 80 seats in UP in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls and claimed that in Maharashtra too, the saffron party will win 45 seats (of 48) in the coming general elections.

He said the 'ladap' (desperation) of opposition parties for power won't end anytime soon as till 2047, the centenary of India's independence, there will be "lotus blooming everywhere".

On Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's initiative to hold a meeting of opposition parties later this month forge unity among them, Maurya said there is a panic-like situation in Kumar's Janata Dal (United) and the ruling alliance. He said Kumar's party will not even open an account in Bihar in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls.



# DIPR, Art of Living organises "India Meditates" a mental wellness session

JI NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JUNE 15: Department of Information and Public Relations J&K in collaboration with 'The Art of Living' Thursday conducted a program "India meditates" a mental Wellness session at Pandit Bhajan Sopori Auditorium DIPR Srinagar.

Celebrating 75 years of independence (Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav), DIPR in collaboration with The Art of Living together conducted the session aimed to teach and train the employees, artists and students of J&K to tackle the stressful and challenging situations at different stages of life and to help to internalise meditation in their life styles for experiencing improved health, peace happiness and become aware of their inner latent potential. The event witnessed more than 100 participants including the officers and employees of the Information Department, theatre artists, musicians, and students of different schools.



In his welcome address Cultural Officer Kashmir Burhan Hussain said "we are all aware of the tremendous rise in Anxiety disorders, Depressions and other Health Ailments Globally, hence mental fitness and mental health awareness becomes the priority to be dealt with". Vandana

Officers of the Information Department appreciated the initiative taken by Art of Living and to host many such events across J&K for their employees & staff.

It is worth mentioning that "India Meditates" is a collaborative initiative of The Art of Living and Ministry of Culture, Government of India, under the aegis of "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav" (AKAM), as a special offering to benefit the citizens on the occasion of 75 years of independence for our Country. The aim is to reach out to the society and encourage people to experience Meditation.

Regional Director of Art of Living said that according to the World Health Organization (WHO), the issue of mental illness affects an estimated 350 million people around the world today and in this scenario investing in mental health is the paramount need. The economic and social costs of poor mental health are significant, underscoring the urgency to prioritize mental well-

being on a global scale.

Inner peace and individual well-being are fundamental to fostering outer peace and societal prosperity. Art of Living has dedicated over four decades to spreading awareness and providing practical techniques for stress relief that has impacted millions of people worldwide, promoting emotional and mental resilience as the foundation for a harmonious society. Mean-while, hosting the session AE&CO Syed Shakeel Shan emphasised that mental fitness is the most essential component to live a successful & peaceful life. He shared that such programs are the need of the hour and should be held across J&K. Among the officers of DIPR, Deputy Director Central Subhash Dogra, Deputy Director (PR) Bilal Mukhtar Dar, Deputy Director Audio Visual Deepak Dubey and Assistant Director M Aslam Khan also participated in the session.

Mementos and certificates of participation were presented to the participants after the session ended.

# Delegation of senior Political Leaders calls on Lt Governor

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUNE 15: A delegation of senior Political Leaders called on Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan, today.

The delegation comprised of former Ministers, Legislators and politicians including Sh Sham Lal Sharma, Sh Sat Sharma, Sh Surjeet Singh Slatia, Sh Balwant Singh Mankotia, Sh Vibodh Gupta, Sh Sunil Sethi, and Advocate Abhinav Sharma highlighted various issues of public importance.

The Lt Governor assured the delegation of appropriate redressal of the genuine issues projected during the interaction.

# DDC Chairperson Anantnag inaugurates Computer lab at High School Thamankoot

JI NEWS SERVICE

ANANTNAG, JUNE 15: The Chairperson, District Development Council (DDC) Anantnag, MY Gosri today inaugurated Computer lab, of High School Thamankoot, laid foundation stone of three roomed School building of HSS Qamar with an estimated cost of Rs. 31.26 Lakhs and Veterinary Hospital Kapran in Dooru Sub Division of Anantnag.

The DDC Chairperson also reviewed the developmental scenario of the area in three different meetings at Qamar, Thamankoot, Kapran and Chhogund village of the Sub Division. Besides, he also met the public and heard their demands with regard to drinking water, power, healthcare, education, ration and road connectivity, and assured all possible measures at the earliest.

During the visit, the DDC Chairperson took review of developmental scenarios of the concerned areas. He said that collaborative efforts to address the developmental needs of the region shall be made.

The DDC Chairperson was accompanied by DDC members Peer Shabbaz and Bilal Deva, and other officials including the ADC Anantnag, concerned SDM, JI Education South, CEO Anantnag, concerned Tehsilidar, and Engineers.

# Director Agriculture visits Naira Pulwama; advocates commercial cultivation of exotic vegetables

JI NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JUNE 15: The Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhury Mohammad Iqbal today visited various Farmer's fields under exotic vegetable cultivation program at Naira Pulwama.

Speaking on the occasion, Director Agriculture highlighted the commercial importance of exotic vegetables for the agri-economy of the region. He interacted with the farmers engaged with the cultivation of exotic vegetables in the district and farmers also shared their views and experiences with the Director.

He said to the farmers that special interventions have been proposed for the promotion of exotic vegetable cultivation on commercial lines in the region. He assured them of every possible support from the department for the development of the agriculture sector.

Director Agriculture directed the officials of the department to keep a close liaison with the farmers and ensure the awareness under Kisan Sampark Abhiyan so that farmers are able to submit the application under various projects of HADP on its dashboard so that maximum benefits are provided to them.

He further emphasized on the need of handholding of the farmers and redressal of their grievances regarding the handling of the dashboard designed under HADP.

He also directed the concerned chief agriculture officer Pulwama to constitute a HADP cell at district level so that grievances are redressed at an earliest and a hassle free system is put in place for successful implementation of the programme and targets fixed for the year 2023-24 are achieved in full. Later, the Director Agriculture Kashmir visited IKS-STC Dusso.

# Eldersline J&K - 14567 celebrates WEAD at Townhall, Pahalagam

JI NEWS SERVICE

ANANTNAG, JUNE 15: Eldersline J&K - 14567 today celebrated World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAD) at Townhall, Pahalagam.

The celebration was attended by DLSA Secretary Tabassum Qadir, SDM Pahalagam, Syed Naseer Ahmad and TSOW Ashnugam along with Field Response Officers of Eldersline Senior Citizens and youth.

At the outset of the program, DLSA Secretary, SDM and TSOW briefed the participants about the elderline and advised people to take benefits of the facilities provided by elderline.

In addition to this, the DLSA Secretary also provided detailed information about the MWSPSC Act (Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007).

HelpAge India, implementing agency of elderline Jammu & Kashmir field response officer Younis Ahmad, Mudassar Ah Dar and Mudassar Mohi Ud Din also briefed the participants about the elderline.

Eldersline J&K is part of the National Helpline for Senior Citizens. A toll-free number 14567 has been dedicated by the Government of India where the senior citizens can ask for information, guidance, emotional support and field intervention. So far elderline J&K had helped and rescued a large number of senior citizens across the UT of Jammu & Kashmir. At the conclusion of the event Carrom boards and badminton rackets were given to 80 old age clubs from different areas of Tehsil Pahalagam.

# Over 600 youth participate in daylong Job Fair at Budgam

Job fairs are a best medium to bring both Job seekers & Job providers on a single platform: Director Employment J&K

JI NEWS SERVICE

BUDGAM, JUNE 15: District Employment and Counseling Centre (DE&CC) Budgam/ MCC Budgam with the support of District Administration Budgam Thursday organized a one day Job Fair at Government Boys Higher Secondary School Budgam. The job fair was inaugurated by the Director, Employment J&K, Nisar Ahmad Wani in presence of Joint Director Employment Kashmir, Hakeem Tanveer, Principal BHSS Budgam and other dignitaries. This is for the first time that NCS centre for differently Abled persons Srinagar participated in the fair and registered 4 candidates

for rehabilitation. As many as 12 reputed private companies participated in the job fair to conduct on spot interviews and provide jobs to the unemployed youth of the district.

The companies that participated in the job fair include Future Solutions, Royal International, SBI Life, Win Placement Services, Wifid Education, Fairdeal motors, Natural Lifecare Tala Aia life Insurance, Wishfin Technologies and v5 global, Zoonak technologies etc.

Around 600 candidates attended the job fair out of which 200 candidates got registered themselves on spot on the Employment Department's J&K portal. As many as 48 candidates were shortlisted for various

jobs on the spot by job providing companies.

Wiz kid educorp registered 210 candidates for the skill training program. There was an overwhelming response from the candidates.

Speaking on the occasion, the Director Employment said such kind of job fairs will be conducted in other parts of the valley in future where National, multinational and reputed companies participate and provide job opportunities to the maximum number of unemployed youth.

He urged youth to register themselves on the concerned portal to get ample opportunities to participate in these fairs and avail job offers at their door steps.

# DLITFC approves 37 cases for financial help under JKREGP at Kulgam

JI NEWS SERVICE

KULGAM, JUNE 15: A District Level Task Force Committee (DLITFC) meeting under JKREGP of KVIB was held today at mini secretariat Kulgam under the chairmanship of

Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Kulgam, Showkat Ahmad Razer.

During the meeting, 42 cases were placed before the Committee out of which 37 cases were approved for Project cost

of Rs 2.84 crore involving margin money of Rs 99.66 lac.

The bank representatives were directed by the chair to take the credit decision within 28 days from the receipt of DLITFC recommended application

# ADDC Anantnag reviews functioning of Jal Shakti Dept in the district

JI NEWS SERVICE

ANANTNAG, JUNE 15: The Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Anantnag, Bashir Ahmad Wani today reviewed the functioning of Jal Shakti Department in the district.

ADDC said that the Jal Jeevan Mission is a flagship program of the Government to provide safe and adequate water supplies through Functional Tap Connections to every household of Rural India.

He said that the officials must ensure regular monitoring to ensure proper quality control in the constructions. He also said that the department must strictly adhere to timelines to ensure that all projects are completed without delay.

The ADC reviewed the projects being taken up by Jal Shakti, Irrigation as well as Flood Control under NABARD, District CAPEX, Area Development Fund and Landuishing.

He directed the concerned Executive Engineers to ensure that works related to irrigation are taken up in lean months to avoid inconvenience.

The officers were directed to ensure that any ROW issues should be taken up with the revenue department immediately so they can be resolved at the earliest.

SE Jal Shakti apprised the chair of status of works under execution at present. He said that while some works have already been completed, every effort is being made to complete the works within a stipulated time.

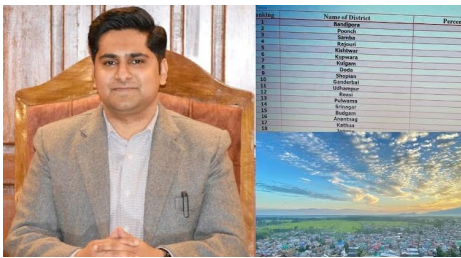
# Bandipora achieves remarkable milestone, tops in Deliverables ranking throughout J&K

JI NEWS SERVICE

BANDIPORA, JUNE 15: District Bandipora has achieved a significant accomplishment, emerging as the leading district in terms of deliverables in the UT Level Evaluation Report of the Government today. With its unwavering commitment to excellence and dedication to meeting targets, Bandipora has surpassed expectations, setting a commendable benchmark for efficiency and productivity. The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Dr. Owais Ahmed said that the district's exceptional performance in delivering on its commitments is a testament to the hard work and collaborative efforts of its diligent workforce and visionary officers.

By focusing on optimizing processes, streamlining operations, and fostering a culture of accountability, Bandipora has consistently performed well, elevating its position to the forefront of success.

Dr. Owais said that in a meeting con-



vened for a launch of panchayat ranking for UT under ABDP, Aspirational Block Ranking for FY 2022-23, Ranking of Districts on deliverables and District Good Governance Index 3.0, Bandipora was declared First in ranking of Deliverables throughout JK UT and 2nd in Good

Governance Index in Kashmir division. He urged the officers to maintain the top position and also improve the indicators in other areas.

It is worth mentioning that Bandipora is the first district to have its own Panchayat index and drug de-addiction centre,

besides having all mandated social welfare centers like senior citizen homes and one stop centre for women.

The District Bandipora also topped in the growth of mutton, poultry, horticulture, and milk production. Besides, it also witnessed increased tourist footfall and increase in credit provided for self-employment, thereby engaging more and more youth in employment generation programs. As District Bandipora continues its journey towards progress and development, it remains dedicated to upholding its high standards in increasing the number of beneficiaries covered under Atal Pension (PM-SBY-PM-JRY), increase in employment provided under MGNREGA besides increasing basic facilities to the general public. Emphasizing the significance of dedication, collaboration, and innovation in achieving remarkable outcomes, the DC appreciated the efforts of district officers for improvement in rank, besides for achieving the remarkable milestone by securing the rank first.

# Kishtwar: HelpAge India Observes World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

JI NEWS SERVICE

KISHTWAR, JUNE 15: HelpAge India, the implementing agency of the National Helpline for Senior Citizens, in Jammu & Kashmir, today organized an event to mark World Elder Abuse Awareness Day in the Conference Hall of DC Office Kishtwar.

The programme was attended by distinguished guests and prominent figures from various organizations and communities.

Among the attendees were BDC Chairman Suresh Sharma; SSP, Khalil Poswal, Tehsilidar Kishtwar, Muneeb Umar; DSWO, Zubair Ahmad; TSOW Kishtwar,

Rajesh Sharma; TSOW Padder Chetna Sharma; President Senior Citizens Council Roshan Lal; Chairman Senior Citizens Council Kishtwar Khurshid Ahmad; members of Senior Citizens Council Kishtwar, representatives from Various NGO's like Red Cross Kishtwar, Hilal Healthcare, Ababel and students of Softek institute of information Technology Kishtwar, Showkat Hussain and Shahid Hussain from HelpAge India along with other prominent senior citizens of Jammu.

The program commenced with welcome address of Showkat Hussain, Field Response Leader of HelpAge India.



Subsequently, Khalil Poswal, SSP Kishtwar shared his insightful views on World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, followed by a screening of a short video devel-

oped by HelpAge India with the theme Mein Bhi Hoon.

On this significant occasion, HelpAge India also released its National Report 2023 titled

"Women & Ageing: Invisible or Empowered?". The report sheds light on the challenges faced by elderly women and advocates for their empowerment in society.

In conclusion, BDC Chairman Kishtwar, Suresh Sharma, expressed his gratitude to the audience for their presence and support in making the event a success.

HelpAge India remains committed to its mission of supporting and safeguarding the welfare of senior citizens, and events like this serve as a powerful reminder of the significance of addressing elder abuse and promoting inclusivity and respect for the elderly.

# DLSA Srinagar, CHSS Nowgam organize cultural event at "Ahata-e-Waqar" Chanapora

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JUNE 15: The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Srinagar, in collaboration with the Candid Higher Secondary School Nowgam, Srinagar, today organized a mesmerizing cultural event in the honour and dignity of senior citizens at "Ahata-e-Waqar" (a day care and recreation centre for senior citizens), Chanpora Srinagar.

The event aimed to celebrate the rich cultural heritage of Kashmir while fostering a sense of belonging and spreading joy among the elderly residents.

The cultural event held at Ahata-e-Waqar was a vibrant and heart warming gathering that brought together the senior citizens of Ahata-e-Waqar. Staff of DLSA, talented students from Candid Higher Secondary School Srinagar, Para legal volunteers, department of social welfare, Govt. of J&K and members of the community. It was an occasion to recognize and honor the invaluable contributions of the elderly to society, while also showcasing the immense talent and creativity of the younger generation. The program featured a captivating array of performances, including Naat Sharif, traditional Kashmiri music, dance, poetry recitations, and theatrical presentations. The students from Candid Higher Secondary School Srinagar presented a variety of cultural performances, demonstrating their dedication and skill in preserving and promoting the region's rich cultural heritage.



"Ahata-e-Waqar" was transformed into a festive ambience, with colourful decorations, warm lighting, and an atmosphere filled with joy and laughter. The senior citizens were delighted by the lively performances, as the students showcased their talent with unwavering passion and respect for the elders. The senior citizens of "Ahata-e-Waqar" expressed their heartfelt appreciation and joy for the cultural event, remarking that it had brought back memories of their youth and renewed their spirits. This successful collaboration between the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Srinagar and Candid Higher Secondary School Srinagar serves as a shining example of the power of community engagement and the positive impact it can have on the lives of individuals, particularly the elderly. Jahangir Ahmad Bakshti, Secretary DLSA, expressed gratitude to all the participants, staff of DLSA Srinagar, para legal volunteers, and management of Candid Higher Secondary School who made this cultural event in the honour and dignity of senior citizens a resounding success at Ahata-e-Waqar. Such initiatives play a vital role in promoting cultural diversity, fostering social harmony, and nurturing a more inclusive society, he added.

## Div Com Kashmir reviews arrangements for the 3rd edition of 'Vitasta Kashmir Festival'

Festival to commence from 23rd & culminate on 25th; pre-events also to be held from 16th to 21st June

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JUNE 15: The Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri on Thursday chaired a meeting at SKICC to take stock of the arrangements for the 3rd edition of 'Vitasta Kashmir Festival' to be organised here from 23rd to 25th of June by the Ministry of Culture, GoI.

Secretary, Tourism; Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Commissioner SMC; Directors of Tourism, Hospitality and Protocol, Colleges, School Education, SKICC; VC, LCMA; Secretary, Academy of Art, Culture & Languages, SSPs, Director North Zone Council Centre (NZCC) Patiala, besides other Officers were present in the meeting.

At the outset, the Director NZCC briefed the chair regarding segment wise programmes to be organized during the three days of Vitasta festival which include opening ceremony, cultural programmes besides organizing of painting and calligraphy camps, Art Installations Camp, Opera by NSD, New Delhi, Seminar, Exhibition by ASI, Display and Sale of Craft and Cuisine of J&K and representation from Tamilnadu and Maharashtra.

The meeting was also informed that an Outreach/ Pre-planned programme shall be held in various Schools/Colleges/Villages of District Srinagar, Ganderbal, Budgam and Baramulla (UT Jammu & Kashmir) from 16th to 21st June, 2023. The Div Com maintained that the festival would be one of the events that is going to play a major role in promoting tourism and showcasing our rich cultural values. Taking holistic review for smooth conduct of the programme, the Div Com took detailed stock of necessary arrangements for the smooth conduct of inaugural ceremony and arrangement for visiting dignitaries.

He also reviewed Hanger and stage arrangements, seating arrangements, reception team, stage proceedings, cultural programmes, Artists and their boarding and lodging, refreshment, distribution of cards and other logistics.

## Srinagar emerges as Top Performing District in J&K under ABDP and APDP for year 2022-23

District also achieves First Rank under District Good Governance Index (DGGI)-3.0 in the Kashmir Province

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JUNE 15: Continuing its endeavour on the Developmental front, the Srinagar District has been Ranked as Top Performing District under Aspirational Panchayat Development Programme (APDP) and Aspirational Block Development Programme (ABDP) for the year 2022-23. The District has also scored First Rank under District Good Governance Index (DGGI)3.0 among all the 10 Districts of the Kashmir Division.

Under Aspirational Panchayat Development Programme (APDP), the (4)four Panchayats of Srinagar District including Fakir Gujre-B, Panzinaara-A, Khonmoh-C and Soiteng Panchayat were declared Top Most Performing Panchayats by achieving aggregate score of 84.04, 84.31, 82.52 and 83.90 points respectively along with the J&K.

The Panchayats were identified for focused development and improvement efforts under the APDP for the year 2022-23. The aim under APDP was to uplift the socio-economic development scenario in these panchayats by addressing the specific areas highlighted by the selected parameters/indicators.

Similarly, under Aspirational Block Development Programme (ABDP) ranking for the year 2022-23, the Harwan and Khonmoh Blocks in



Srinagar District were ranked Top Performing Blocks among all CD Blocks of Jammu and Kashmir. The Harwan Block of the District has achieved a score of 80.10, while Khonmoh Block has scored 79.20 points on the Ranking Dashboard. Under District Good Governance Index (DGGI)-3.0, a tool to assess and benchmark Governance at the District level, the Srinagar District scored First Rank among all the 10 Districts of Kashmir Division by scoring 6.0045 District wise Composite Score.

Speaking about the achievements, the Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad has said that this is a pride moment for Srinagar District which has been attained through a collective team effort. The DC has also congratulated the Officers and urged them to work with added zeal and dedication to retain the top ranks.

Pertinent to mention that, in order to achieve 100 percent saturation

under 61 Parameters/Indicators of ABDP covering 4 major aspects of Human Development viz poverty, Health & Nutrition, Education and Basic Infrastructure, Smart Kindergartens, Vocational Training Centre, Automatic Bio Chemistry Analyser, Delivery Table with Multi Para Monitor and Baby Warmer were established in Harwan Block.

Besides Composite Health Cum Nutrition Centre were also constructed apart from upgradation of public infrastructure. Similarly, in Khonmoh Block, Smart Classrooms, Smart Kindergartens and Vocational Training Centre were established. In addition, Digital X-ray with CR system 500MA and NIBP Monitors, Composite Health cum Nutrition centres have been set up in the Block. Besides, provision for a Micro Irrigation facility was also made.

While, Foot Bridges and link roads have also been constructed in the Block. Likewise, under Aspirational Panchayat Development Programme, 4 most backward Panchayats of District were given focused development and improvement efforts under the APDP for the year 2022-23 with the aim to uplift the socio-economic development scenario in these panchayats.

It is also worth to mention that Planning Development and Monitoring Department today released the District wise ranking of all the Districts of the Jammu and Kashmir based on key performance indicators.

## DC Jammu inspects arrangements for Amarnath ji yatra



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUNE 15: Deputy Commissioner, Avvy Lavasa, conducted an extensive tour today to review the preparations for the upcoming Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra, SANJY-2023, at Mahajan Sabha, Ram Mandir and Geeta Bhawan Jammu. Accompanied by ADC (Adm) Jammu, Sandeep Kapoor, SP Jammu Kuldeep Hondon, DIO (NIC) Sarjap Kapoor, Nodal Officers, security officers, and officials from Jal Shakti, Power and other relevant departments, the Deputy Commissioner assessed various aspects, including accommodation, security arrangements, public address systems, dustbin installations, uninterrupted power and water supply, cleanliness, sanitation, toilets and medical facilities at registration counters. During the visit, the Deputy Commissioner also reviewed the registration process for Amarnath pilgrims and the issuance of RFID cards.

Emphasising the need for timely completion, the Deputy Commissioner directed the concerned authorities to ensure all yatra arrangements are in place before the commencement of the Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra. She further urged them to mobilise their field functionaries to ensure the comfort and convenience of the pilgrims. Additionally, the Deputy Commissioner instructed the nodal officers and senior officials overseeing the smooth conduct of the yatra to ensure that the pilgrims face no inconvenience concerning basic amenities in their respective jurisdictions.

## Free Medical camp & Yoga session held at District Court Complex Pulwama

JJ NEWS SERVICE

PULWAMA, JUNE 15: The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Pulwama in collaboration with Ayush Pulwama today organized an iconic Yoga Session and Ayush Medical Camp in the District Court Premises Pulwama.

During the day-long camp, Ayush Physicians/doctors examined the patients and provided them free medicines. Speaking on the occasion, Chairman DLSA Pulwama/PD, Naseer Ahmad Dar said that Ayush Physician are playing important role in improving health condition of the patients and Ayush is providing medicines to the patients for treating their diseases, besides providing necessary therapies including counseling, meditation, Yoga and dietary modification.

"Today people are being made aware about the overall benefits of using Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani etc. for improvement in their health conditions," he added.

He said due to the efforts of Director Ayush (J&K), Dr. Mohan Singh and DNO Ayush Pulwama, Dr. Manzoor, an awareness programme was made successful where experts/Doctors of the Ayush Pulwama including Paramedical and Yoga assistants were available for check-up.

Meanwhile, the doctors that were available include Dr. Altaf Hussain (Nodal officer of the event), Dr. Zahoor Ahmad (Medical officer / Consultant AYUSH), Dr. Manzoor Ahmad (MO), Dr. Humaira Tabasum Medical officer /AYUSH Gynaecologist and Dr. Intiyaz (Medical officer/Consultant Ayush ). Paramedical and Yoga assistants Gh Nabi, Miss Beenish (Pharmacists) Bilquesa, Mumazil Shaban, Tasleema, Maltreen along with the establishment employees Farooq Ahmad, Shahid Nazir, Manzoor Ahmad etc. remained available for consultation and check-up of the people. On the occasion, DNO, Dr. Altaf Hussain Pulwama thanked Chairman, Naseer Ahmad Dar and Secretary, Sushel Singh of District Legal Services Authority Pulwama for their cooperation for the successful conduct of the Medical Aid camp. The camp also witnessed participation of Judicial Officers and officials, BAR members and large number of people.

## Poonch administration launches signature campaign under Nasha Mukti Bharat Abhiyaan

JJ NEWS SERVICE

POONCH, JUNE 15: In a bid to raise awareness about drug abuse and substance addiction, a unique signature campaign was recently launched in the district as part of the Nasha Mukti Bharat Abhiyaan. The campaign received active participation from government officials and local dignitaries.

Led by Deputy Commissioner, Yasin M Choudhary and Senior Superintendent of Police, Vinay Kumar, the campaign aimed to encourage people to take a stand against drugs. The signing event took place at the DC office complex and witnessed the presence of various officials and social activists.

Under the guidance of the Deputy Commissioner, a district-level committee has been formed to promote the campaign and collaborate with local organisations, educational institutions, and the community at large. The committee will work towards spreading awareness about the harmful effects of drug abuse and mobilise the community to take action against it.

Highlighting the urgency of tackling drug abuse, Deputy Commissioner, Yasin M Choudhary stressed the importance of coordinated endeavours in addressing this issue. He affirmed that the committee would forge close collaborations with local organizations, schools, and colleges, ensuring that the campaign's message resonates with a broader audience.

With a proactive approach, the committee aims to create widespread awareness and effectively combat drug abuse within the district.

Expressing his commitment to a drug-free Poonch, the Senior Superintendent of Police urged the youth to stay away from drugs and contribute to building a healthier society.

The District Social Welfare Officer emphasised the significance of creating awareness among young people and the community to address the issue effectively.

## Commissioner Secretary IT chairs meeting to review 4G saturation, RoW pendency

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUNE 15: Commissioner Secretary, Information Technology, Prerna Puri, today held a meeting with Deputy Commissioners to review status of 4G saturation, Right of Way pendency and Aadhaar saturation in districts of Jammu and Kashmir. The meeting focussed on expeditious roll out and implementation plan for 4G saturation, RoW pendencies on GatiShakti Portal and onboarding of districts on State Aadhaar Portal for the UT.

During the meeting, Commissioner Secretary emphasised the significance of these initiatives and their impact on improving overall connectivity in the region for the resultant uptake of digital services. She had detailed discussion on actionable points aimed at expediting the progress for 4G connectivity and RoW permissions.

Regarding 4G saturation project,



which aims to provide mobile services to previously uncovered villages, the executing agency, BSNL, presented the latest status. Directions were issued to BSNL for formulation of a monthly action plan so that the progress made can be monitored effectively.

Commissioner Secretary emphasised the need for concerted efforts on the part of district authorities and BSNL to ensure time bound completion of the 4G

saturation project. The meeting also addressed the RoW pendencies on the GatiShakti Portal. Furthermore, the meeting delved into the onboarding process on the State Aadhaar Portal besides activation of user IDs.

In addition to the overall progress, district-wise data for 4G Saturation, RoW pendencies and Aadhaar Portal onboarding was shared during the meeting. This comprehensive data provided a

clear picture of the status of these initiatives across different districts, allowing for targeted intervention and progress tracking.

Commissioner Secretary also issued specific directions to the concerned authorities regarding various crucial issues. For 4G Saturation initiative, Deputy Commissioners were directed to expedite the allotment and handing over of sites to BSNL within a week's time. BSNL, on the other hand,

received instructions to commence work on the allotted sites immediately and submit a monthly action plan for implementation to the Information Technology Department. Additionally, BSNL was asked to provide fortnightly updates on the district-wise progress.

Regarding RoW pendencies, Deputy Commissioners were asked to clear the pendencies on the GatiShakti Portal. They were also instructed to address pending RoW applications prior to activation of deemed approval on the portal, with a timeline of one week.

Regarding Aadhaar Portal onboarding and activation, Deputy Commissioners were directed to complete the process within two days and activate the pending IDs.

Moreover, they were asked to submit a progress report on Aadhaar verification in the border blocks of eight districts within one week.

## DHEW, Mission Shakti organises Awareness program at Girls High School Narbal

JJ NEWS SERVICE

BUDGAM, JUNE 15: In a remarkable effort to champion women's empowerment and foster societal transformation, the District Hub for Empowerment of Women (DHEW) and various stakeholders today jointly organized an awareness program at Girls High School Narbal.

The event held in commemoration of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations, aimed to enlighten students about the government's invaluable initiatives, namely Beti Bachao Beti Padhao

(BBBP) and Nasha Mukti Bharat, which advocates for gender equality and combat substance abuse.

Under the leadership of the District Social Welfare Officer (DSWO) Budgam, the DHEW team played a pivotal role in raising awareness among the attendees, igniting a spirit of action, and ensuring the resounding success of these programs.

Recognizing the transformative potential of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao and Nasha Mukti Bharat, the dedicated team of the DHEW tirelessly conveyed their

message, working towards positive social change and striving to build a fair and inclusive society that is free from the clutches of substance abuse. The awareness program served as a beacon of hope, enlightening young minds about the significance of gender equality and the detrimental effects of substance abuse.

Through engaging presentations and interactive sessions, students were encouraged to embrace the values of respect, empowerment, and inclusivity.

The team delivered a compelling speech, emphasizing the

importance of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao and Nasha Mukti Bharat in empowering women and safeguarding their rights. It also passionately advocated for a society where every girl is nurtured, educated, and given equal opportunities to excel in all spheres of life.

The DHEW team, comprising dedicated professionals and volunteers, left no stone unturned to create awareness and drive positive change. Through their tireless endeavors, they aimed to break down societal barriers that restrict the progress of women and combat the alarming rise of

substance abuse among the youth. The event also witnessed the participation of students, teachers, parents, and community leaders who collectively pledged their commitment to uphold the principles of gender equality and eradicate substance abuse.

A series of engaging activities, such as skits, panel discussions, and awareness campaigns, captivated the audience and instilled a sense of responsibility to actively contribute towards building a more inclusive and egalitarian society.

# Harwan, Palli panchayats dominates first ever Panchayat Rankings released by CS

**CALLS THE RANKINGS BEDROCK FOR EVIDENCE BASED PLANNING AND ACCELERATION OF DEVELOPMENT PROCESS**

**JJ NEWS SERVICE**

SRINAGAR, JUNE 15: In what could be termed as a historic milestone in planning process, Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta today released the rankings of Panchayats under the Aspirational Panchayat Development Programme (APDP). A J&K government initiative to assess the performance of these rural administrative units on key developmental parameters.

At the outset, the Chief Secretary complimented the whole team of Planning Development & Monitoring, Department headed by Administrative Secretary, Raghav Langar for carrying out this massive exercise of data collection, compilation and ranking of Panchayats using scientific criteria.

Dr Mehta called this exercise a foundation stone for adopting a more focused approach with several key datasets available with each District. He observed that these rankings have pinpointed the lacunae in each sector or area of the district thereby making targeted interventions possible.

He termed the rankings a significant achievement which has laid foundation for evidence based planning in future. He made out that these rankings tell us all about our endeavours made till now and the way forward. He urged all the Deputy Commissioners to thoroughly go through these rankings and formulate plans accordingly to fill the develop-



mental voids pointed out in this ranking system.

Dr Mehta observed that this data has an added advantage of providing us a baseline to measure our progress in future. He expressed hope that in the years ahead with such planning process at our back, most of our problems would find resolution expeditiously. He directed that all rankings may be made public in the shape of compendium so that people also have fair idea about the kind of interventions needed in their areas.

He called it a tool towards ensuring good governance in the UT. He also advised creating a permanent dashboard for monitoring and updating these rankings monthly. He also

directed the Housing & Urban Development Department for carrying out Town rankings in the days ahead on similar lines.

The first of its kind Panchayat rankings released today has put Syedpora, Harwan Panchayat of 91.69 out of 100. It is followed by Palli (Samba) with a score of 90.71, Ballama-A, Khomoh (Srinagar) at 89.04, Then comes Narwalbala (Jammu) at 4th spot with score of 88.93, Nowgan-A (Srinagar) ranking 5th, Khomoh-A (Srinagar) at 6th, Birpur Upper (Samba) at 7th, Theed-A, Dara-B of Srinagar at 8th and 9th rank with Gatha Panchayat of Baderwah (Doda) ranking 10th in the list of most devel-

oped Panchayats in the UT.

The lowest scoring Panchayats include Buglinder-B (49.78) of Tulai District Bandipora, Dhakikote (50.01) of District Reasi, Channa-A (51.58) of Reasi, Panchalthan (51.77) in Anantnag, Bandhar (51.96) in Reasi, Neeru (51.97) in Tulai, Bandipora, Badhal-A (52.58) in Rajouri, Zadigye- B (52.73) in Bandipora, Balihote-B (52.94) in Ramban and Zadigye-A (53.46).

Out of the total of 4291 Panchayats, 73 fall in the score range of 50-60, 1054 in 60-70, 2359 in 70-80 and 807 Panchayats in the range of 80-90 across all the districts of J&K.

Regarding the procedure for determining the rankings of Panchayats it was informed that the APDP has been conceived on the analogy of ADBP of UT of J&K. It was revealed that 100 Parameters/Indicators across 09 sectors have been identified for assessing 285 aspirational panchayats in consultation with the District Development Commissioners concerned. The process included rating all the 4291 Panchayats spread over 285 Blocks and 20 Districts of the UT on socio-economic indicators concerning the lives of the people residing in the rural areas. One most backward panchayat in each block have been selected from 4291 Panchayats of UT of J&K, on the basis of least aggregate score obtained on the selected 100 parameters/ indicators in the Panchayat Development Index (PDI) in the concerned Block. The relevant data was then collected

from the concerned districts.

These 100 measurable indicators identified across 9 Sectors namely Agriculture & allied Activities (6 indicators), Health & Nutrition (11), Education (13), Rural Development & Sanitation (7), Individual Beneficiary Oriented Schemes (4), Skill Development (4), Basic Infrastructure (17), Environment (5), & Good Governance (33) are providing insights into existing status and will also capture incremental progress over a period of time.

Additional financial assistance of Rs. 10 Lakh is being provided to the selected Panchayats for improving the key performance indicators mentioned in the Panchayat Development Index.

Among the Border area almost 77 Panchayats from 82 border Blocks fall in the aspirational panchayats programme. Out of these based on the set criterion the most backward Panchayat found through assessment is Buglinder-B from Block Tulai District Bandipore having score 49.78. While as, the last Aspirational Panchayat selected from Border Areas is Panchayat Nanga of Block Ramgarh, District Samba having a score of 79.59 making it the most developed Panchayat among the Border panchayats spread across 08 districts of the UT.

These rankings were today released by the Chief Secretary in presence of all the Administrative Secretaries, District Development Commissioners, HoDs of Planning, Finance and other concerned departments.

## Gorkha Cricket Club lifts Bahu Yuva Cricket Cup



Jammu, Jun 16  
Reiterating that sports activities need to be augmented for channelizing the energy of youth towards positive direction, Former minister Babu Rampaul urged the present UT Government to open more doors for imparting sports training to young generation for yielding positive results of their talent and desist them from following the path of drug addiction.

Former Minister, Zonal President JKNC and President Saryara Sadder Sabha JK&C, Babu Rampaul was the chief guest and Anshuk Abrol Provincial Joint Secretary JKNC and former member BCCJ, presided over the function, Whereas Dr Vikas

Sharma Coordinator Jammu District (Urban) and Zonal Secretary JKNC, Baldev Raj General Secretary Saryara Sadder Sabha JK&C and BD Dalotra Chairman Saryara Sadder Sabha Bahu Fort were the guests of honour.

Earlier Gorkha Cricket Club beat Kacha talb (Kt) Lions by 39 runs in the Final Match at Bahu Fort.

After batting first, Gorkha Cricket Club was 115/6 with opening wicket partnership of 50 runs between Captain and Manjeet Singh. While chasing target of 116 runs, After 12 overs, Kacha talb Lions were 76/10.

In defending the target of 116 runs, Ajay took 2 wickets and conceded only 24 runs. This was stated by Babu

Rampaul, while addressing the players of cricket match between Gorkha Cricket Club and Kacha talb (Kt) Lions at Bahu Fort Cricket ground. On this occasion Babu Rampaul felicitated the winning team and also presented trophy and emphasized the imperative need to hold such activities, which generate positive impact on youth and propel them to lead a life of peace and prosperity in the future, he added.

Speaking on the occasion, Anshuk Abrol appreciated the organizers of the tournament and showered praise on both the teams for displaying excellent sportsmanship during the match. Further he assured full support to more such initiatives.

Dr Vikas Sharma lauded the efforts and determination showed by both the teams during the contest and wished them best of luck for future games. He also congratulated the organising team for providing adequate arrangements during the matches. The tournament, in which eight teams were participated, organised under the overall supervision of Rupesh Raj and Sumet. Among those who speaks on the occasion include, Manohar Raj, Ramesh Kumar, Bhadar Lal, Surjit Kumar, Saghar Chand, Vijay Kumar, Ram Singh, and others.

## BJP worker reaching every corner of J&K: Vibodh

**JJ NEWS SERVICE**

JAMMU, JUN 15: Today, the Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) J&K General Secretary and former Member of the Legislative Council (MLC), Vibodh Gupta, convened a meeting with senior BJP leaders to discuss strategies aimed at ensuring the resounding success of the ongoing Maha Jan Sampark Abhiyaan. The meeting focused on brainstorming innovative ideas to make this endeavor historic while emphasizing the need for massive outreach programmes to maximize its impact.

"We are determined to make the Maha Jan Sampark Abhiyaan a monumental success by leaving no stone unturned. Our aim is to reach every corner of Jammu and Kashmir and listen to the hopes, dreams, and concerns of our fellow citizens. We want to strengthen our bond with the people and create a platform that encourages active participation in the decision-making process", stated Vibodh.

With a strong commitment to the welfare and development of Jammu and Kashmir, Vibodh, along with senior BJP

leaders, explored a range of visionary ideas during the meeting. He highlighted several key aspects, including empowering grassroots organizations, facilitating economic growth, promoting education and employment opportunities, enhancing healthcare services, and fostering social harmony. Recognizing the significance of inclusive development, Vibodh emphasized the need to involve all sections of society in the transformative process. In order to achieve maximum outreach under Maha Jan Sampark Abhiyaan, the

meeting outlined ambitious plans to conduct massive awareness and engagement programmes. These initiatives will be designed to inform and involve the people of Jammu and Kashmir, encouraging their active participation and soliciting their valuable feedback. The BJP Jammu and Kashmir is determined to create an inclusive platform for dialogue, where the aspirations and concerns of every citizen are heard and addressed, Vibodh added. Shyam Langar, Neeraj Anand, Anu Gupta, Ritika Trehan and others participated in the meeting.

## Juniors are burned out due to overtraining so not enough back-up for women's 4x400m relay : Nair

Bhubaneswar, Jun 15  
Winner of five successive gold from 2002 to 2018 in women's 4x400m relay, India is struggling to string together a six-member team for the upcoming Asian Games (September 23 to October 8) as some of the promising quarter-milers faded out after doing extremely well at the junior level.

"We are not getting the back-up from junior to senior. The best (among juniors) are burnt out. At a young age, they are overtrained very badly," Nair told PTI on the sidelines of the National Inter-State Athletics Championship here.

He gave the examples of Rupal Chaudhary of Haryana, who won an individual 400m bronze with an impressive 51.85sec time besides being part of the silver-winning 4x400m relay in the World U-20 Championships last year in Colombia, as well as of rising quarter-milers Priya Mohan and Rezoana Mallick Heena.

"You must have seen Rupal (Chaudhary), where is she? She ran five races last year in Cali, Colombia (World U-20 Championships). In the last race, she ran her best. But she has been overtrained from a young age. Priya Mohan also, I am afraid, her performance is deteriorating. Same thing is case of Rezoana. She's just 16 and can just burn up."

At 16-17 years of age, they should be trained properly. We are not supposed to specialise a child in 400m at the age of 14 or 15.

"This women's 400m event is very

popular, because of Asian Games gold medal (in 4x400m relay), lot of money coming in, lot of popularity, Arjuna Award etc, so most of the coaches know, Kacha words are good at 100m and 200m but will still put them in 400m."

He said it was not a question of all the promising junior athletes joining the national camp but it was about proper training.

Priya Mohan entered her name for the ongoing National Inter-State but she did not turn up. The same is the case with Rupal Chaudhary who did not start in her heat race on Thursday.

It is learnt that Priya Mohan, who currently trains at the Inspire Institute of Sports (IIS) at Bellary, Karnataka, was hospitalised a few days ago due to some injury. She is now recovering. "Some health issue is there but it is not serious - it's all right, she is taking rest at the IIS. The AFI knows why she is not taking part in the National Inter-State. She is coming to Bangalore tomorrow and will take a rest. She will recover soon," Priya's father HA Mohan told PTI from Karnataka.

Rezoana Mallick Heena, who recently won 400m gold in the Asian U-20 Championships in Korea with a time of 53.32s, failed to reach the semi-finals after finishing fourth in heat 2 with a below par time of 55.20. The AFI has a policy of not including non-campers in the 4x400m relay team but some of the top quarter-milers are training outside camp.

"We have Anjali Devi and Aishwarya Mishra who can run sub-53sec and Dandi Jyothika Sri in the camp. Himanshi Malik (Haryana) was guided to come to the camp. R Vithya Ramraj (sub 53sec on Thursday) was at camp earlier but not now and we don't know where Prachi is," he said.

Nair is hoping that Himanshi, as well as Rezoana, would join the

national camp immediately after the National Inter-State so that the Indian 4x400m team can train together for the Asian Games.

Nair is happy that Anjali has come back after almost three years to clock a good time in the 400m heats.

"She was impressive in 2019, she ran 51-plus but in one of the training sessions, she suffered a muscle tear."

Nair said the men's 4x400m relay has a brighter chance than their women's counterpart to do better in the Asian Games.

"Muhammed Ajmal, Amoj Jacob, Muhammed Anas Yahyia, Rajesh Ramesh, these four are expected to run below 46 seconds. Muhammed Ajmal and Rajesh Ramesh ran sub-46 in Ranchi (Federation Cup last month). Then we have Mijo Chacko Kurian who can run sub-46," Nair said.

"Noah Tom also runs sub-46 but he is injured, ACL tear and he is not expected to run this season." Sprinters Archana Suseendran and A T Daneshwari got injured during warm-up on Wednesday.

"Archana Suseendran had a hamstring strain last week but yesterday morning when she was having start (practice) she had a tear," Nair said.

"A T Daneshwari, she was up her spikes for warming up yesterday (at the warm-up area at the side of the Kalinga Stadium) and she jumped up and down, and ankle got dislocated."

## World Cup Stage 3 Teen archer Bhajan grabs top-10 finish in qualifiers

MEDELLIN, JUN 15 : Teenage archer Bhajan Kaur grabbed a top-10 finish in the recurve women's qualification round to brighten an otherwise lacklustre show by the Indians in the World Cup Stage 3.

On a day when Koreans led the show on expected lines, the 17-year-old in her debut World Cup season put up a spirited show to score 668 points for a ninth-place finish in the qualifiers, here on Wednesday.

Sangeeta (651) and Tanisha Verma (648) were the next best Indians at

lowly 30th and 36th places as in the women's team rankings they slipped seventh place.

Shanghai gold medalist Lim Sihyeon (684) carried her form to lead the Korean

1-2-3 finish in the 72-arrow 70-metre round. Tushar Shelke was the best among the Indians with a lowly 16th place finish in the men's recurve qualification. Shelke shot 671 points in



a field dominated by Koreans who took the top-three places in the standings with Kim Woojin leading the way with a score of 696, just one off his own Asian record, set two years ago.

He finished ahead of Lee Woo Seok and Kim Je Deok, putting a disappointing showing in Shanghai last month behind him.

At 20th place, Mrinal Chauhan (670) was the next best Indian, one point clear off World Cup Stage 1 bronze medalist Hritraj Bommadaveera who slipped to 23rd spot.

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**

**TENDER NOTICE**

Tender Notice No.- 770-W1698WA-1/FZR/70,71,72 & 73-2023-24-ADEN-I-811-ASR Date: 14.06.2023  
Sr.DEN-1/FZFR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below filled tenders and available on [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) with closing date: 06/07/2023 up to 15:00 hrs Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through any payment modes available on [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft/Banker Cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed. For more information login to [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)

Tender Type	Tendering Section	Bidding System	
		Open	Single Bid System
Date of Uploading Tenders	Bid Starting Date	Bid Closing Date/Time	
14.06.2023	22.06.2023	06.07.2023 / 15:00 Hrs.	

Sl. No.	Tender Number	Details of Tender				
1	70-2023-24-ADEN-I-ASR	Annual zone work for ordinary repair & maintenance in the section of SSE/W/IASR under ADEN-I/ASR.	Advised Value (Rs.)	Earnest Money	Validity of Offer	Period of Completion
			1,74,99,709.03/-	2,37,500/-	60 Days	12 Months
		Similar Nature of work: "Any Civil work other than track work"				
2	71-2023-24-ADEN-I-ASR	Annual zone Work for ordinary repair & maintenance in the section of SSE/W/IASR under ADEN-I/ASR.	Advised Value (Rs.)	Earnest Money	Validity of Offer	Period of Completion
			1,74,99,709.03/-	2,37,500/-	60 Days	12 Months
		Similar Nature of work: "Any Civil work other than track work"				
3	72-2023-24-ADEN-II-ASR	Annual zone work for ordinary repair & maintenance in the section of SSE/W/BEAS under ADEN-II/ASR.	Advised Value (Rs.)	Earnest Money	Validity of Offer	Period of Completion
			99,99,975.75/-	2,00,000/-	60 Days	12 Months
		Similar Nature of work: "Any Civil work other than track work"				
4	73-2023-24-ADEN-II-ASR	Annual zone work for ordinary repair & maintenance in the section of SSE/W/IASR under ADEN-II/ASR.	Advised Value (Rs.)	Earnest Money	Validity of Offer	Period of Completion
			1,49,99,286.70/-	2,25,000/-	60 Days	12 Months
		Similar Nature of work: "Any Civil work other than track work"				

Note: 1. Before bidding, bidders to check for any compendium issued against tender.

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 1842/23

# Div Com inspects Shri Amarnathji Yatra arrangements at Kathua & Samba

JJ NEWS SERVICE

KATHUA, JUNE 15: Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar today conducted an extensive tour of District Kathua and Samba to oversee and assess the arrangements being put in place for the ensuing Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra 2023.

The Div Com was accompanied by Deputy Commissioner Kathua, Rakesh Minhas; DC State Taxes, Ranjit Singh; SSP Kathua, Shivdeep Singh Jmalwal; ADC Deepika Rana and other concerned officers.

At Kathua, the Divisional Commissioner visited Lakhampur and took went around the Lakhampur Corridor and inspected the existing infrastructure and the status of civic amenities viz drinking water, Sanitation, Reception centre, provision of Public Address System for facilities



of Yatrists, medical facilities, besides he also ensured about the arrangement of lodgement centres for pilgrims in case of Yatra halt.

Emphasizing on adequate provision of basic amenities, the Divisional Commissioner

stressed on the need for close coordination among all stakeholders involved in the preparations.

The Div Com directed the Executive Officer Lakhampur MC to take measures to maintain cleanliness and sanitation in the

area. The installation of signage for assistance of Yatrists coming for pilgrimage was also stressed upon.

He also inspected the area earmarked for Langar facility as identified by the district administration and directed for improving sanitation conditions, drinking water facilities and other logistics.

Ramesh Kumar also directed the concerned authorities to start the face-lifting and other necessary repair works well in time. He instructed the representative of NHAI to expedite the pace of work of Backlogging of Lakhampur corridor area and ensure completion of all works by June 20.

The Div Com also inquired about the putting up of hoardings at Lakhampur by the Tourism Department to showcase and promote the prominent tourist locations in Jammu region.

Reviewing the arrangement for the security of Pilgrims, the Div Com asked the police to devise a foolproof security plan. He passed directions to the SSP Kathua for deployment of a sufficient number of personnel and installation of additional CCTV cameras to ensure hassle free & secure experience for the pilgrims.

Meanwhile, the Divisional Commissioner accompanied by Deputy Commissioner Samba, Abhishek Sharma and other district officers took stock of preparations at lodgement centre in Chichi Mata Premises for pilgrims of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra.

He directed district administration Samba to ensure regular water, power supply besides regular cleanliness at all the identified lodgement centres in the district during Yatra days.

# Director Estates inspects works on residential complexes

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JUNE 15: Director Estates Kashmir, Tariq Ganie, today visited several residential areas in Srinagar to assess progress on various ongoing works there.

The visit was aimed to oversee development and maintenance activities being carried out at various locations within the city by the Estates Department.

Accompanied by senior officers and engineers besides officials from the department, Director Estates visited Sonwar, Gupkar, Jawahar Nagar, Tulsibagh, Natipora, Budshah and Bemina flats.

During the visit, Tariq Ganie reviewed the ongoing works at each location and interacted with the supervisory staff, contractors, and workers involved in the projects. He asked for ensuring speedy completion of all ongoing works.

# RDD Kishtwar finalizes MGNREGA-Tangible Works Plan for 2023-24

JJ NEWS SERVICE

KISHTWAR, JUNE 15: The Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, under the overall supervision of District Development Commissioner, Dr. Devansh Yadav, who is the District Programme Coordinator (DPC) for MGNREGA has finalised the tangible works under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) for the fiscal year 2023-24 after Gram Sabhas held across 136 Panchayats of the District Kishtwar. The significant initiative with combined and seamless efforts of Block offices & Panchays under close supervision of Assistant Commissioner Development, aims to generate visible impact and to enhance infrastructure development in rural areas.

A total of 208 tangible works have been approved under MGNREGA, amounting to Rs 924.20 lacs. These works include the construction of infrastructure in rural areas such as paver block works, school improvement, kitchen sheds, playfield development, Kuhl (canals), and irrigation enhancement.

Additionally, 43 works for source sustainability under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) have also been finalized under MGNREGA for the year 2023-24, amounting to Rs. 98.50 Lakh. These projects encompass activities such as boundary protection, bunding, trenching, and plantation, which contribute to the preservation and sustainability of water resources.

All approved works have received the necessary clearances, and directions have been issued to the respective Block Development Officers (BDOs) to promptly initiate the projects by inviting demands from job cardholders.

This proactive approach ensures the timely creation of assets throughout the district in accordance with the set timeframe for the fiscal year 2023-24.

# Power shutdown

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUNE 15: Chief Engineer (Distribution) JPDC, Jammu has informed that the power supply to Bhalla, Dandi, Bhaderwah, Dalian, Prabble, Humble, Mangota and adjoining areas shall remain affected on June 17 from 6 am to 12 noon.

Similarly, the power supply to Jaurian, Troati, Muthi, Maria, Bakore, Satwari, Nai Basti, Ashok Nagar, M.H. Mil. Cant., Sanjay Nagar, Shastri Nagar and its adjoining areas shall remain affected on June 17 from 6 am to 10 am.

Likewise, the power supply to Industry, DC Office, Bainglad, Raiyan, BSF, Mawa, PHE, Birpur Industry, Seora, Kanal, Vijapur Town, Kolpur, Bandral and its adjoining areas shall remain affected on June 18 from 6 am to 11 am.

Similarly, the power supply to Greater Kailash, Birpur Industry, Seora, Kanal, Dogra Hall, Rehari, Resham Char Colony, Bus stand, Jewel, Hari Market, Raghunath Bazar, Kaleeth Mohalla, Kanak Mandi, New Plot, Sarwal, Part of Karan Nagar and adjoining areas shall remain affected on June 18 from 6 am to 10 am.

Likewise, the power supply to High Court, Doordarshan, Dental College, Janipur, Lakar Mandi, Pamposh Colony, Patoli, New Plot and adjoining areas shall remain affected on June 18 from 6 am to 11 am.

Similarly, the power supply to Dogra Hall, Rehari, Resham Char Colony, Bus stand, Jewel, Hari Market, Raghunath Bazar, Kaleeth Mohalla, Kanak Mandi, Lower Roper Nagar, Muthi, Reasi Town, Armas, Dharmari, Bagga, Chasana & Gulabgarh shall remain affected on June 18 from 6 am to 10 am. Likewise, the power supply to Industries under Industry Letter BB-22 and Industries under BB-1 shall remain affected on June 18 from 5 am to 10 am.

Meanwhile, the Superintendent, Engineer (Distribution), JPDC, O&M Circle Kathua has informed that the power supply to Krishan Colony, Indra Colony, Karan Nagar and adjoining areas shall remain affected on June 16 from 6 am to 10 am.

# SWD conducts enrollment of left out beneficiaries of Panchayat Dadpeth on Jansungam Portal

JJ NEWS SERVICE

KISHTWAR, JUNE 15: Social Welfare Department today conducted enrollment of left out beneficiaries of block Muglamadian, Panchayat Dadpeth on Jansungam Portal.

Tehsil Social Welfare Officer Chattroo, Shahnawaz Ahmad visited Dadpeth Panchayat of Sub division Chattroo for on the spot enrollment.

He interacted with the left out Pensioners of the department who have yet not registered themselves on Jansungam Portal as per revised guidelines of the department where under it is mandatory for every existing pensioner to upload requisite documents and get registered.

The Officer explained in detail how to register on Jansungam portal and the requisite documents needed to be uploaded.

# Deputy Commissioner Rajouri reviews status of under construction GDC Buildings



JJ NEWS SERVICE

RAJOURI, JUNE 15: Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal today chaired a meeting of the concerned officers to review the status of under construction Government Degree College Buildings.

The meeting reviewed the progress of work on buildings for GDC Darhal; GDC Doongi and GDC Koteranka.

Detailed deliberations were held on the issues and the DC asked the concerned officers to work in close coordination to resolve the issues which are hampering the construction work at the earliest.

He underlined the need for early construction of GDC buildings for the development of the education sector in the region. "The timely completion of the construction work is necessary to provide the students with the requisite infrastructure and facilities for pursuing higher education," he added.

Officers who attended the meeting were ADC Koteranka, Surinder Mohan Sharma; CPO, Mohammad Khurshid; SDM Thanamandi; Shafeeq Mir; Principals of GDCs; EXEN PWD (R&B) Rajouri, Sardar Khan and other concerned officers.

# Photography workshop organized by Deptt of Journalism and Media Studies-JU

MEDIA STUDENTS HONE THEIR SKILLS IN DIGITAL STORYTELLING

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUNE 15: The much-needed and most effective storytelling skill for media students through digital photography marked its beginning at the Department of Journalism and Media Studies, University of Jammu, here today.

Two times National Award-Winning, Photography Officer of Public Relations Office, Ministry of Defence, Jammu Shub Narayan Acharya is conducting the two-day workshop on photography, photojournalism and visual storytelling with a special focus on digital photography.

In her welcome address, Dr. Garima Gupta, HoD, Department of Journalism and Media Studies, University of Jammu encouraged the budding journalists to make the best academic use of such workshops that enables



them with industry-specific skills. She also said that such initiatives help in establishing the quality of work being done by the media department at University of Jammu. She appreciated the faculty members for initiating ideas that help media students navigate their journalistic training with excellence.

Prof Sucheta Pathania, Dean, Faculty of Arts, congratulated the Head of Department, Journalism and Media Studies Dr Garima Gupta for always embarking upon ambi-

tious and exciting projects despite being the youngest department of the University of Jammu. In her presidential remark, Prof Pathania told the students the importance of photography and its essential relationship with the profession of Journalism. She emphasized on the use of photos to tell stories effectively.

SN Acharya started the workshop by sharing the history of photojournalism and explained the basic components of a professional camera and scientific principles of photogra-

phy. He also explained to the students some important 'formulas' of photography and videography that can help in capturing the subject with fine details. Students were given training to cover photo features on day-to-day situations, with an eye for details that tell a story through multiple dimensions.

He also shared his work with the students and discussed the story ideas that lie in the eyes behind the lens along with techniques that help in capturing the best shots.

In its commitment to provide hands-on training to the media students, the department of Journalism and Media Studies, JU, is actively inviting experts from the industry on a regular-basis. Such initiatives will create opportunities for media students and help in bringing quality to the field of journalism in J&K.

# DC, MD Jal Jeevan Mission reviews progress of JJM schemes in Kathua District

JJ NEWS SERVICE

KATHUA, JUNE 15: Deputy Commissioner Kathua, Rakesh Minhas and Mission Director, Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), Gulshan Nabi too today jointly chaired a meeting of coordinating departments of the JJM in the Conference Hall of DC Office and reviewed the status of Mission Schemes.

During the meeting, comprehensive deliberations were held about the physical and financial progress of works being executed in the district.

The meeting was informed that funds to the tune of Rs 9158.270 lakh are available out of which an expenditure of Rs 6403.15 lakh has been made



which comes out to be 69.91%.

It was also given out in the meeting that 60,371 out of 1,34,135 households in Kathua have water connections by the end of March 2023 and 73,674 households are yet to be provided with tap water connections.

While discussing the measures

for Water Quality Monitoring & Surveillance (WQMS), the meeting was informed that Kathua has one (01) Lab at the district level and two (02) at sub divisional level for conducting the test to check quality of drinking water. Reviewing other measures for the quality of water, the meet-

ing was informed that 2580 women have been trained for use of FTks for conducting tests of water samples to ensure the supply of quality potable water. Regarding the IEC activities, it was apprised that 453 Jan Sabhas, 455 Gram Sabhas, 318 baseline survey, 217 wall writings/slogan writing, 320 Prachar Raths, 342 school rallies, and 36 street plays/ Nukkad Natak have been conducted to create awareness among the common masses across the district. The directions were passed to the officers to work in coordination and ensure the smooth execution of JJM works in their respective areas. While addressing the meeting, Deputy Commissioner Kathua ensured early resolution of all the

issues under JJM schemes related to the revenue department. He also called for convening monthly meetings with contractors to resolve their genuine issues and added that any delay in execution of JJM schemes on the part of the contractor will not be tolerated. Mission Director JJM while taking serious note of slow pace in execution of allotted works directed Executive Engineer JJM to expedite the pace of execution of works allotted to the contractors and ensure completion within the stipulated time period. The Mission Director also passed instructions to the concerned officers for identifying the unregistered water connections besides motivating the people to get their connections registered.

# Commissioner Secretary I&C interacts with prominent Investors

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JUNE 15: Commissioner Secretary, Industries and Commerce, Vikramjit Singh, held an interactive meeting with prominent investors in J&K from different sectors at Srinagar today.

The purpose of the meeting was to strengthen ties between the government and the investor community, explore potential partnerships and discuss opportunities for mutual growth of J&K and Industrial sector as well as to discuss ways to alleviate challenges in grounding investment in the UT.

About 50 investors representing diverse sectors like

Pharmaceutical, Power, Hospitals, Packaging Industry, Food Processing, Manufacturing sector, Tourism Sector, Private Industrial Parks, IT and ITES, CA stores and Start Ups expressed their keen interest in J&K's investment prospects. They lauded government's efforts to facilitate a conducive business ecosystem.

Commissioner Secretary highlighted the importance of collaboration between public and private entities to drive innovation, foster entrepreneurship and unlock full potential of Industries in J&K

He assured the investors that their feedback and suggestions would be taken into considera-



tion, aiming to address any barriers and enhance the ease of doing business. The Government's ongoing efforts to streamline processes, provide service delivery through Single Window system and foster a skilled workforce were also highlighted dur-

ing the meeting.

Commissioner Secretary mentioned that such meetings will be held at least once in every quarter to further strengthen ties with the investors. He assured that there would be an open house on every Friday where any investor can meet him and discuss their issues.

This meeting signifies government's strong commitment towards forging meaningful partnerships with investors and fostering an environment conducive to sustained economic growth.

The meeting was also attended by Director General Industries and Commerce Jammu, Anoo Malhotra, Managing Director, J&K Trade Promotion Organisation, Khalid Jehangir, Director Industries and Commerce Kashmir, Mahmood Ahmad Shah, Additional Secretary I&C, Abdul Aziz and other senior officers of Industries and Commerce Department.