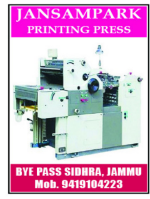




JINDRAH IMAGES



DAILY | JAMMU | VOL NO:10 | ISSUE NO:145 | PAGES: 12 | PRICE: Rs 2/- | RNI NO:JKENG/2013/49471 | POSTAL REGD. NO. JK-497/22-24 | dailyjindrahimages.com/Epaper.php | jindrahimages213@gmail.com

In Jammu, Amit Shah fires salvos: 'Gandhi's, Abdullah's, Mufti's responsible for 42000 killings in J&K'

J1NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUN 23

Lashing out at the Gandhi's, Abdullahs and Mufti's, Union Home Minister Amit Shah Friday accused the three families of being responsible for the killing of 42000 people in J&K from 1947 to 2014. He said successful G-20 in Srinagar was a grand success and all the participants have gone back to their respective countries with the message of message.

Addressing a massive gathering at Bagwati Nagar Rally Ground in Jammu amid scorching heat, the Home Minister, as per news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO), said that gone are the days, when three families would rule and ruin J&K. "From 1947 to 2014, 42000 people were killed in J&K, who was ruling during

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4



In Kashmir, Amit Shah reaches out to Youth: 'Your future doesn't lie in Guns, Stones, be part of change; India, world awaits your talent'

J1NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUN 23

Union Home Minister Amit Shah while reaching out to Kashmiri youth Friday said that the future of Valley's young generation doesn't lie in guns and stones but in the huge Indian and global market that awaits their talent. Addressing the gathering after inaugurating several projects at

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

Amit Shah pays obeisance at New Tirupati Balaji Temple in Jammu



J1NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUN 23

Union Home Minister Amit Shah Friday paid obeisance at the newly constructed Tirupati Balaji temple in the Majera area here, officials said. Shah arrived here in the morning on a two-day trip to Jammu and Kashmir.

The minister first went to the BJP office at Trikutanagar and paid his respects to Jan Sangh founder Shyam Prasad Mukherjee on his

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

Major infiltration bid stopped; 4 militants crossing LoC killed in Machil: Police

J1NEWS SERVICE
KUPWARA, JUN 23

Four militants were killed after police and army foiled a major infiltration bid along the Line of Control (LoC) in Machil village in Kupwara on Friday. Addressing a news conference Vinod Negi Brigadier Machil Brigade as per news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO) confirmed killing four infiltrators.



He said that a huge amount of ammunition and the war-like store were recovered from the militants.

"The recovery indicated that there are regular attempts to disrupt the peace and prosperity

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J&K is witnessing a new era of peace and development in Amrit Kaal: LG Sinha

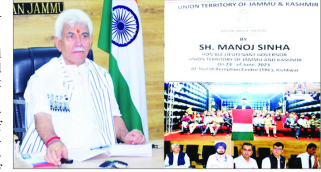
J1NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, KISHTWAR, JUN 23

Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha inaugurated Digital Movie Theatre at Kishtwar, today.

The Lt Governor congratulated the people of Kishtwar, District Administration and all stakeholders on the return of the movie culture to the district.

"J&K is witnessing a new era of peace and development in Amrit Kaal and the launch of a movie theatre after almost three decades in picturesque Kishtwar is a symbol of aspirational society," the Lt Governor said.

Art and Creativity transcend all boundaries and bring people closer. Cinema is not just a medium of entertainment, but it is also an integral part of the culture, society



and a reflection of change happening around us, he observed.

Kishtwar has immense potential for film tourism. This movie-theater and infotainment center for children will be an important step to harness the potential of local talent, the Lt Governor added.

The Lt Governor shared the efforts to revive the J&K's bond with the film industry. Significant steps like Film policy, opening of cinema halls in the

districts have created a vibrant film ecosystem in the UT. Today, Jammu Kashmir has become the most preferred destination for the filmmakers and more than 300 movies and web series were filmed last year. This is also providing huge opportunities to the local youth, he said.

The Lt Governor said, in the month of July, three more cinema halls will be opened.

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There can be 'no ifs or buts' in dealing with terrorism: PM Modi in US congress address

AGENCIES
WASHINGTON, JUN 23

Terrorism is an enemy of humanity and there can be "no ifs or buts" in dealing with the scourge, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said as he sought action against its state sponsors, in an oblique attack on Pakistan.

In his address to the joint meeting of the US Congress on Thursday, Prime Minister Modi said that more than two decades after 9/11 and over a decade after the 26/11 attacks in Mumbai, radicalism and terrorism still remain a pressing danger for the whole world.

"These ideologies keep taking new identities and forms, but their intentions are the same. Terrorism is an enemy of humanity and



there can be no ifs or buts in dealing with it. We must overcome all such forces sponsoring and exporting terror," Modi said in his 60-minute address in English.

In the India-US joint statement released after the talks between Prime Minister Modi and US President Joe Biden, the two countries expressed their

resolve to fight terrorism and extremism.

"The United States and India stand together to counter global terrorism and unequivocally condemn terrorism and violent extremism in all its forms and manifestations," it said.

Prime Minister Modi and President Biden reiterated the call for concerted

action against all UN-listed terrorist groups including al-Qaeda, ISIS/Daesh, Lashkar-e-Tayyiba (LeT), Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) and Hizb-ul-Mujahideen, the statement said.

"They strongly condemned cross-border terrorism, the use of terrorist proxies and called on Pakistan to take immediate action to ensure that no territory under its control is used for launching terrorist attacks. They called for the perpetrators of the 26/11 Mumbai and Pathankot attacks to be brought to justice," it said.

They noted with concern the increasing global use of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), drones and information and communication technologies for terrorist purposes

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

Govt issues instructions for obtaining individual arms licenses

J1NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUN 23

The Jammu and Kashmir Home department has issued necessary instructions for obtaining or renewing arms license.

The NDAL-ALS Portal developed by MHA, Gol guides an applicant to submit the

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

MeT issues yellow warning for 'isolated heat wave' in Kashmir

J1NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUNE 23

The Weather Department issued a yellow warning ('be aware') for isolated 'heatwave' in Kashmir Valley today.

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India, USA break new ground in 'Space': Dr Jitendra

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, JUNE 23

"In a nutshell, it should suffice to say that India and the USA are to break new ground in the "Space". And, the credit goes to Prime Minister Narendra Modi who, during the last 9 years, took a series of unorthodox and path-breaking decisions, which enabled India to achieve a quantum jump in our Space sector capabilities, as a result of which the USA which had begun its space journey several years before us is today seeking collaboration with us as an equal partner.

This was stated here today by Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology, MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh, while briefing the media about several significant decisions and agreements accomplished during Prime Minister Nar-



endra Modi's ongoing USA visit, especially with relation to signing of "Artemis Accord" and joint Indo-US mission to the International Space Station in 2024. Dr Jitendra Singh said, could anything give us greater pride than to realise that the country like USA which landed the first human benign on the surface of Moon when we were singing nursery rhymes about Moon is today seeking our inputs and our expertise on Moon mission.

Explaining to the media, the Minister said,

the purpose of the Artemis Accord is a common vision with USA and other countries via principles, guidelines and best practices so that we could supplement each other's activities for peaceful purposes with transparency and also work together for avoiding harmful activities.

On the other hand, the joint mission to the International Space Station, said Dr Jitendra Singh, which is separate of signing of Artemis Accord will develop a framework for joint mission to the International Space Station

in 2024, which the USA envisages as the possibilities of closer cooperation between the space agencies of the two countries to get closer to the realities of Moon and subsequent to Mars and other planets.

As for Science & Technology, Dr Jitendra Singh informed that on Semiconductors, Micron will invest 800 Million Dollars with additional financial support from the Indian government. Similarly, the US Quantum Consortium has welcomed and invited the Indian Quantum industry as its members.

The agreement signed during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's historic US visit between India and the US on cooperation in Space Research will take our bilateral relations to a new high, Dr Jitendra Singh said today.

"As PM Modi said, "Even sky is not the limit for cooperation with the US", the Minister said. Dr Jitendra Singh said, India

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

"There were discussions about democracy in US...why this democracy doesn't reach J&K": Omar after opposition meet

AGENCIES
PATNA, JUN 23

National Conference leader Omar Abdullah, who was among more than 30 leaders attending the Opposition meeting in Patna convened on Friday, hit out at the Central government and Prime Minister Narendra Modi asking why the democracy which the PM mentioned in the White House, does not "reach" Jammu and Kashmir.

"We have met to save the country from devastation and to bring democracy back. Mehbooba Mufti and I belong to that part of the country where democracy is murdered...Yesterday in America there were discussions about democracy in the White House...why this democracy doesn't reach Jammu and Kashmir?" Abdullah said at joint press confer-



ence of the opposition parties after their meeting in Patna.

Omar Abdullah further said that "17 parties from Kashmir to Kanyakumari have come together not for power, but for principles".

Notably, in response to a question on reports of attacks on religious minorities and free speech in India, at a joint press appearance with US President Joe Biden in the East Room in the White House, Prime Minister Naren-

dra Modi, "The Indian and American DNA has democracy. Democracy is our spirit. Democracy is in our blood. We love democracy. Our ancestors translated it into words in the Constitution. And the government works on the basis of a democratic constitution."

Bihar Chief Minister and Janata Dal-United leader Nitish Kumar who had convened the mega meeting of opposition parties said that it was a

Govt designates 4 more courts for trial of UAPA offences

J1NEWS SERVICE
SRINAGAR, JUN 23

In a significant move, the Jammu & Kashmir Government has designated four more courts for trial of offences under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act-1967.

J&K's Department of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs has designated four more courts-two each in Kashmir and Jammu-for trial of offences under the UAPA.

With this development, the number of courts designated under the NIA Act for trial of offences under UAPA has gone upto 11.

According to a notification issued by the Department of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, a copy of which is in possession of news agency the court of additional

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 4

Regional Welfare Association President (CRPF) inaugurates new library



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 23: On the foundation day of the Family Welfare Center, Group Center CRPF Jammu, A New Library inaugurated by the Regional Welfare Association President Smt. Santosh Yadav W/O Sh. Naresh Kumar Yadav DIGP Group Center CRPF Jammu, Smt. Lokamudra Khuntia, Smt. Bhavna Gupta, Smt. Sandhya Singh, Smt. Shilpi Kumari were also present on this occasion. On this occasion, a grand cultural program was organized by the

women members of the Regional Welfare Association.

On this occasion, the chief guest said in her address that the women and children of the families living in government accommodation in Group Center CRPF and jawans will get the benefit of campus Library. Library is an important necessity of human life. This library consider as center of dissemination of knowledge, art and culture. The library is very useful for the society and it is the library which helps in the character-building of the qualified citizens and the uplift-

ment of the society. Therefore, continuous efforts should be made for the development of libraries, because the library is a public institution, whose work is to take care and maintain the collection of books so that they are made available to the readers according to their needs and to convert irregular readers into regular readers.

A summer camp was also organized by the Family Welfare Center Group Center CRPF Jammu. In which different types of activities were included like tree plantation, yoga practice, dance class, jumba class for women, essay writing, painting, fancy dress competition were also include and from which were get the 1st, 2nd, 3rd position were rewarded by the Regional Welfare Association President Smt. Santos Yadav to boosted their morale.

The above programme successfully organized under the able leadership of Sh. Naresh Kumar Yadav, DIGP Group Center CRPF Jammu, & Sh. Prem Chandra Gupta Comdt., Sh. Rajesh Kumar Dy. Comdt., Sh. Arun Kumar Uniyal Asst. Comdt and officers, subordinate officers and jawans were participated enthusiastically.

Johal distributes relief material among 200 families at village Rardi

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SAMBA, JUN 23: Sarbjit Singh Johal, President BJP Kissan Morcha J&K and DDC Ramgarh today organized a relief camp at Village Rardi of Tehsil Ramgarh, district Samba. The relief material was provided by the Shaheed Parivar Fund C/o Hind Samachar and Punjab Kesari Group which was disbursed by Sarbjit Singh Johal among 200 needy families in the area. The relief comprised Atta, Rice and complete kitchen kits so as to ensure the basic food requirements of the indigent people.

Speaking on the occasion, Johal said that in the present situation, where the people has become the need of the hour and noble and blessed people have always come forward to extend support to the needy people.

Recalling the philanthropic and charitable legacy to serve the needy people in the society.



Lala Jagat Narayan during his lifetime, Johal paid glowing tributes to him and said that his immense contribution in the field of journalism would be remembered for ages to come. He also complimented Padma Shri Vijay Chopra for upholding the philan-

thropic and charitable legacy to serve the needy people in the society.

The DDC member informed about the aim behind holding the distribution camp.

He said that the main patron behind providing relief material for the needy people is Padma Shri Vijay Chopra. He said that the Shaheed Parivar Fund management has been sending relief material for the past about 25 years. He said that today 737th truck of relief material was received by him for distributing the relief material among the needy border people in the region.

Shiv Sena urges devotees of Bhole Baba to visit Amarnath Yatra in record numbers, fearlessly



JJ NEWS SERVICE

PAHALGAM, JUN 23: Shiv Sena (Uddhav Balasahab Thackeray) Jammu and Kashmir unit has urged the devotees of Bhole Baba to visit the holy shrine of Amarnath in record numbers and without any fear, as a symbol of Hindu-Muslim unity and brotherhood. The party also demanded that the local people of the region should be given priority in pilgrim services by the Shrine Board and J&K administration.

A delegation of Shiv Sena leaders led by Manish Sahni, Party President J&K, visited the Amarnath Yatra

Base Camp of Pahalgam, which is situated amidst the beautiful valley of Kashmir, to interact with service providers like mule owners, Palki Wallahs, tent owners and Langar providers, who serve to facilitate the pilgrimage of devotees.

Sahni said that the local Muslim community has always extended their whole-hearted support to make the Amarnath yatra a success and easy for the pilgrims. However, the locals providing all sorts of services for the last few years to pilgrims, like mule owners, Palki Wallahs, tent owners and Langar providers, have been ignored.

Shiv Sena demanded that

the devotees who come to perform the Amarnath Yatra be given freedom to visit other tourist places in Jammu and Kashmir, and no restrictions be imposed on tourists during the journey. The party also expressed its anger at registration fees, and high tolls being imposed on vehicles carrying pilgrims and service providers across the country.

Sahni demanded a complete ban on the sale of liquor in the vicinity of the Amarnath base camp, highlighting the pitiable condition of roads that lead to the pilgrimage site. He urged the government to take immediate measures and

steps to improve the conditions, as this journey holds great significance for the people of India and their faith.

During his visit, many locals also joined the party fold. Mohammed Shafi was given command of Pahalgam base camp. Other local residents, such as Abdul Rashid, Sayed Ahmed, Shadad Ahmed, Shoukat Ahmed, Manjur Ahmed and Tanveer Ahmed were also present.

Shiv Sena leaders promised the people of Jammu and Kashmir that they would stand by them and work to ensure that their voices are heard. The party urged devotees to visit the Amarnath Yatra in record numbers and also to respect the sentiments of the local population by giving them the priority they deserve.

On this occasion dozens of local residents joined the party, State chief Manish Sahni appointed Mohammad Shafi as an incharge Pahalgam. On this occasion Abdul Rasheed, Saeed Ahmed, Shadad Ahmed, Shoket Ahmed, Manjoor Ahmed, Tanveer Ahmed were present.

Tony seeks HM Shah's intervention in solving power crisis of farming belts

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 23: Aam Aadmi Party, J&K, on Friday staged a strong protest outside SDM Office against traumatic power cuts of over 12 hours in the farming belts of Jammu region especially along the border with Pakistan.

Dozens of Panchs, Sarpanchs, farmers and general public of border town RS Pura headed by Taranjit Singh Tony, Chairman of AAP J&K for a Administrative Engagement and Minority Affairs and DDC Suchetgarh took out a protest rally in RS Pura town. The procession culminated at the office of SDM RS Pura.

Addressing a mammoth gathering of protesting farmers, Tony said that the entire border belt in R S Pura Sector is reeling under dry spell as there is a draught like situation but the local administration is carefree with bureaucrats least bothered to provide uninterrupted power supply to help farmers to cope up with situation and fulfill their irrigation needs.

He urged Home Minister Anit Shah to intervene and resolve the severe power crisis being confronted by the farmers of the region as LG's administration has failed drastically in dealing



with power outage. He also highlighted the issue of defunct irrigation canal, tubewells and lift irrigation systems as those responsible for the same are unconcerned and drawing their salaries with any break with concern shown towards the farmer community which is facing the heat during the sweltering summer season as sowing season of paddy is on cards but water dearth is playing the spoilsport.

The DDC Member said that 12 hours long unscheduled power cuts are acting as death traps for farmers. He said that LG's administration should take a cue from AAP governments in Delhi and Punjab, which are providing free electricity

and water to people especially the farmers, which should be the case in J&K also. "Instead of providing relief to already suffering farmers, the BJP

Government at Centre is hell bent to ruin the lives of farmers as already the prices of seeds and fertilizers have increased manifold times since 2014 and inflation has also taken toll of poor farmers, and if the government will not intervene the people in the UT will remain with no option but to lead life with empty stomach as starvation is foreseen by those facing the bad times," he said.

Tony said that people have high hopes from HM Shah and therefore he should take initiative in the matter and alleviate hardships of the people especially farmers.

After interaction with local Tehsildar RS Pura Subuh Ahmad Shad, SHO RS Pura Pawan Dogra, AEE PDD Manjit Singh assured the senior AAP leader that there will be no unscheduled power cuts in future in

the border town and all the damaged transformers will either be repaired or replaced as soon as possible.

Tony also appealed to the farmers to regularize their power connections sooner than later to overcome the crisis.

District President Sham Lal Bhagat, Sarpanch Rashpal Singh Gill, Rajesh Khanna, Sarpanch Akshay Choudhary, Sarpanch Sarabi Singh, Sarpanch Shashi Bhagat, Sarpanch Tilak Raj Bhagat, Sarpanch Pappu Choudhary, Sarpanch Roshan Lal Bhagat and Mandep Singh were also present.

Meanwhile, Tony has warned the administration of intensifying the agitation from Kathua to Jammu by blocking the NH44 in case the government fails to address the grievances of farmers.

25 teachers get hands-on training at SERB-sponsored Proteomics Workshop in KU



JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JUN 23: Eminent national-level experts provided hands-on training to at least 25 select faculty members from colleges in Kashmir and Ladakh during a Proteomics Workshop which concluded at the University of Kashmir on Friday. The two-day workshop was sponsored by the Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) of the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, under its Core Grant and Power Fellowship awarded to Dr Riffat John, faculty,

Department of Botany, KU, Vice-Chancellor, Prof Nilofer Khan, chaired the valedictory session of the workshop and underscored the need for faculty members in the University and colleges to remain updated with new technological advancements in different fields like Proteomics, which is generally defined as the large-scale study of Proteins. She said such capacity-building programmes will go a long way in fostering a culture for interdisciplinary research in higher education institutions (HEIs) as mandated under the National Education Policy-2020. She

congratulated Dr Riffat and her team for holding the important programme.

Eminent speakers who shared their expertise with the participants included Dr Monika Agarwal from SERB, Prof Mahesh J Kulkarni from National Chemical Laboratory (NCL), Pune and Prof Sreenivas Chavali from IISER, Tirupati. The technical sessions included theoretical and practical training in protein isolation and quantification. Gel electrophoresis (one dimensional and two dimensional) including image acquisition and analysis.

In her remarks, Dr Riffat John said the field of proteomics is mainly significant as response of plants and animals is exhibited at the level of proteins. She said proteomics focuses on the identification, localisation and functional analysis of the protein make-up of the cell activity which makes the present workshop very significant.

Dean Research, KU, Prof Irshad A Nawchoo and HoD Botany, Prof Zahoor A Kaloo, also shared the dais and views at the valedictory session, where the Vice-Chancellor later gave away certificates to the participating faculty members.

Earlier on Thursday, the inaugural session was attended by Prof Manoj Prasad from NIPGR, New Delhi and Prof Irshad A Nawchoo, besides faculty members from the Department of Botany.

Dr Anzar Ahmad Khuroo delivered the formal vote of thanks at the valedictory session.

PM took yoga to new heights by creating world record at UN: Raman Suri

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 23: Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP) J&K Executive Member Raman Suri, while hailing Prime Minister Narendra Modi for creating a world record by leading people from across 135 nations in performing yoga on International Yoga Day 2023 at the United Nations (UN) Headquarters in New York, said that this is a remarkable achievement wherein Yoga has been taken to a new height. He said, by making the world leaders, artists, politicians, bureaucrats, and entrepreneurs perform yoga at the UN, Modi has shown the world the way of life.

Raman Suri lauded the words of Prime Minister who said that Yoga is free from copyright and patents. He also congratulated PM Modi and India's perma-

nent representative to the UN, Ruchira Kamboj, for creating the Guinness record for 'most nationalities in one yoga session' and said that it is a matter of pride for India to lead such a great yoga session wherein a world record has been created.

The BJP leader said that PM's efforts have generated desired results in making Yoga truly universal. His meeting with children after the yoga session is going to leave an everlasting impression on their hearts and minds.

Yoga, he said, is already an accepted practice at the west but this latest development has taken it to new heights. From this day onwards, more and more people are likely to adopt yoga as a way of life and stay fit both physically and mentally.

Quoting Prime Minister's words, Yoga indeed belongs to all, said Raman Suri, adding that PM Narendra Modi made it known to everyone that Yoga does not belong to any one country, religion, or ethnicity as such, so everyone must adopt it and practice it daily to stay healthy.

It has been nine years since international yoga day has been declared and the people across the world are practicing it regularly without fail.

This is indeed an achievement wherein the world can say that yoga belongs to none but has been given to it by India.

Raman Suri said, it was the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi that yoga must be adopted by everyone to stay healthy and now that this dream is coming true, it is a remarkable

achievement. In 2015, International Yoga Day was announced from the United Nations General Assembly podium as proposed by Narendra Modi and has now become the UN-mandated occasion. This is a matter of pride for every Indian.

Ever since International Yoga Day has been announced, people can be seen celebrating the occasion on mountains, planes, beaches, important institutions, offices, and even historic and religious places. Raman Suri urged the people, especially youth to adopt yoga as a way of life which calms the mind and acts as prevention of many diseases.

Yoga, he added, helps in calming the mind and body, reduces anxiety, promotes mental well-being, and fosters discipline and patience.

Govt. should Completely Waived off Amarnath pilgrims fees and toll plaza : SS(H)



J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 23: Welcoming the visit of Union Home Minister Amit Shah to Jammu, State President of Hindustan Shiv Sena Amit Kapoor has expressed hope that concrete steps will be taken to solve the problems faced by the people of Jammu. He demanded that the fees of the pilgrims for Shri Amarnath Yatra starting from July 1 should be completely waived off and toll tax should also be waived off for these yatis. Along with this, he also strongly criticized the failure of the government to provide round-the-clock electricity to the people in this summer season despite the installation of smart meters in Jammu.

Addressing a press conference in Jammu, State President of Hindustan Shiv Sena Vikrant Kapoor raised these demands. He strongly raised the demand of waiving off the fees of Amarnath Yatis and exempting them from toll tax. Along with this, he said that at present 20,000 MW of electricity is being produced in Jammu and

Kashmir whereas the consumption of electricity in the state is only 3000 MW. Of this, 1700 MW is in Kashmir and 1300 MW is in Jammu. Vikrant Kapoor said that despite the generation of so much electricity in Jammu and Kashmir, the people of Jammu are being forced to suffer in scorching heat due to heavy power cuts in this summer season.

At the same time, he also raised the issue of economic package for the refugees of PoJK. He said that the JPC had recommended Rs 30 lakh per family to these refugee families, but later the state government had said Rs 25 lakh per family. But the government has sat silently by giving only five lakh rupees each to these families. He said that the people of Jammu and especially these refugee families were expecting relief from the BJP led government at the Center but all their hopes have been dashed to the ground. This has disappointed these families to a great extent. Vikrant Kapoor requested the Union Home Minister Amit Shah to make an announcement regarding providing relief to these refugees dur-

ing his visit to Jammu and the recommendations of the JPC should be fully implemented.

Apart from this, he also raised the demand to fill the assembly seats reserved for PoJK refugees. Kapoor also raised the demand for increasing the relief for Kashmir displaced people as it has not been increased for a long time. He said that in this era of inflation, it has become very necessary to increase their relief so that they can maintain their families well. He also questioned the functioning of the bureaucracy of Jammu and Kashmir and said that they have no knowledge of the problems being faced by the people at the ground level, due to which there is no solution to the problems of the people. Apart from this, the gap between the bureaucracy and the common people has become so big that there is a need to take concrete steps to bridge it. Only by this the problems of the people would be solved and their faith in the administration would be restored.

Vikrant Kapoor has requested Union Home Minister Amit Shah to take a sympathetic view of these issues and provide relief to the people of Jammu by taking concrete steps during his visit to resolve them. Senior Hindustan Shiv Sena leaders Sunil Dabgotra, Anup Trikha, Baba Ram Kaith, Abhishek, Himanshu, Amit, women's wing leaders Sapna Kohli, Jyoti Devi and others were also present during the press conference.

Vivek Bali visits ST Gujjar Bakarwal Community area at Uttersoo Bariagan

J I NEWS SERVICE

ANANTNAG, JUN 23: JDU State General Secretary Vivek Bali on Thursday carried out an extensive outreach tour to ST Gujjar Bakarwal in Uttersoo Bariagan wherein he listened to the grievances of the ST community members.

In a statement issued here, Vivek Bali said the members belonging to the ST community living in the area have been grossly neglected by the administration with regards to zero access to the imperative public infrastructural facilities. "In a welfare government, it is essential that people have access to basic infrastructure through which their lives can become a little more comfortable. However, the people of the Gujjar Bakarwal area have been facing immense problems due to sheer administrative neglect," he remarked.



Vivek Bali said that deplorable condition of the roads in Gujjar area has been extremely agonizing that has bolstered huge difficulties for the people in all weathers and seasons. "At this time of ultra-modernised era, not only roads but the people here have no access to electricity or pure drinking water supplies," he added.

Furthermore, Bali urged the LG administration to

resolve the grievances of the inhabitants of Gujjar Bakarwal area on a prompt basis especially in view of the approaching winters.

He also demanded for establishing a ration outlet in the area as the carriage charges for the ration exceed its original price. 'Administration must resonate with their genuine demands without any further laxity so that their grievances are alleviated at

an earliest.

They must also be treated on the same standards as rest of the people who have an uninterrupted access to hassle-free requisite facility provided by the government," he added.

Besides, District president Anantnag Foyaz Ahmed Mir, Iqbal Choudhary, Nazir Block President along with other Party leaders and workers also accompanied in this outreach program.

Harsh Dev welcomes Amit Shah with black flags

J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 23: Seeking restoration of statehood and conduct of assembly elections in J&K, Mr Harsh Dev Singh former minister and NPP president today held a dhama at Jammu and welcomed the union home minister, Amit Shah with black flags. Carrying placards which read "Riyasat ka darja wapis do", "Jamhuri nizam bahal karo", "Bijli paani de na sake jo woh sarkar nikamni hai", "Berozgar yuvaon ke saath dhokha karne wali sarkar hai hai" the NPP leader staged a solo dhama under the open sky for several hours unmindful of the soaring temperatures and scorching summer heat.

Giving reasons for today's protest, Mr Harsh Dev said that while the govt had spent crores on the visit of Amit Shah for holding his political rally and even for his welcome campaigns, the general masses were being made to suffer for even the basic amenities including adequate water and power supply. He said that the govt which did not have money to pay wages to daily wagers, which failed to clear liabilities of workmen under MGNREGA, had frozen the vacan-



'J&K devastated in BJP rule'

cies and failed to provide jobs to unemployed youth due to scarcity of resources, could not afford adequate power supply to public due to rising overdrifts, was unable to meet the developmental needs of people due to resource crunch was using the public exchequer to promote and fund political campaigns of the ruling party.

Mr. Harsh Dev Singh regretted that the acute power crisis had made the life of common man miserable all across the Jammu region including Samba, Kathua, Udhampur, Reasi, Poonch, Rajouri, Doda, Kishtwar, Ramban during the ongoing summer season.

He said that scheduled and unscheduled power cuts during scorching summer with soaring humidity had thrown life out of gear in both urban and rural areas and clamoring and grievances of people going un-heard and unaddressed. He regretted that despite the pathetic plight of the people, the mandated leaders of the Saffron Party had failed to pay any heed to their concerns and were holding celebrations of 9 year rule. Ridiculing the tall claims made by the State and Central Govt on good governance, he said that the people of Jammu especially the aged, ailing, traders and the children were having

the horrific and gruesome experiences of the much proclaimed 'Ache Din' of the BJP Govt.

Mr. Harsh Dev Singh further sought the accountability of the govt. and questioned it regarding the fate of 150 MMT dedicated coal mine which was promised to be allotted to J&K in the "Agenda of Alliance" for establishing a thermal plant. He further sought a response from the Central Govt. in respect of the assurance given by Union Power Minister for provision of an additional 440 KV Transmission Line from Jalandhar to Jammu as an alternate Northern Grid connectivity.

Mr Harsh Dev said that resentment against the BJP was all time high in view of total disconnect of the administration with the common masses and denial of popular govt in the erstwhile state. He said that pathetic plight of educational and health institutions facing chronic deficiency of staff, pathetic condition of rural roads, denial of civic amenities, rising prices and rampant corruption had sparked massive outrage with an apathetic regime showing complete disregard for the woes and sufferings of the general public.

Ravindra Raina will become Chief Minister, will Alibaba gang survive: Chandel

J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 23: Hindustan Shiv Sena leader Shri Raju Chandel today addressed Amit Shah's successful rally on BJP's successful 9 years in office.

Describing Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah's public rally in Jammu as an achievement, he said that the way huge crowd turned up and the development that has taken place in Jammu and Kashmir during the 9 years tenure of Modi ji, it is his contribution Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah from the land of Jammu have loosened the backs of all the opposition parties in Jammu and Kashmir.

The dust will clear and the way development



J&K Of.

The opposition is completely stunned by his increasing step, the opposition has no issue today, the achievements of the Modi government in Jammu and Kashmir in the last 9 years are all around.

Chandel said that the slogan of Modi ji's policies, Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas is being seen on the ground in Jammu and Kashmir today and the opposition is getting cleared.

Chandel said that such a big rally of Bharatiya Janata Party has never happened before in the history of Jammu and Kashmir, which was seen today in the rally of Union Home Minister Amit Shah, who is called Chanayika of the glorious country.

works have been done all around in Jammu and the farmers, the women of the house, the poor, who have taken money from Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Pension Yojana, Ujjwala Yojana etc.

Benefit, because of which the people of J&K have

shown their full love and affection. BJP seems to be supporting the government, it seems that this time in J&K assembly the opposition will be cleared and our J&K State President Babbar Sher and true son of Bharat Mata Ravindra Raina will become Chief Minister of

UIET, Kathua Campus (JU) organizes Felicitation Programme for 12th standard students

J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 23: UIET, Kathua Campus, (JU) organized a felicitation programme to honour and celebrate the exceptional achievements of 12th standard students of Kathua District. The aim of organizing the programme was to recognize the outstanding academic performance and commendable efforts of the students and inspiring them to continue their educational journey with determination and enthusiasm. The programme was a testament to UIET's commitment for recognizing academic excellence and promoting education in the region. Students from different schools of district Kathua were felicitated for their academic excellence by Dr. Meenakshi Kilam, Rector, Kathua Campus, University of Jammu. Dr. Kilam congratulated the students for their remarkable achievements and encouraged them to pursue higher studies with dedication and passion. She also expressed her gratitude towards the teachers and parents for their unwavering support in shaping the academic journey of students. Further, she inspired



the students to strive for excellence in their future endeavours and added that the students should remember this accomplishment as the beginning and embark the next phase of educational journey with self-discipline and responsibility. She said that the skills and knowledge acquired by the students during their school time will serve as a strong foundation for future accomplishments. In addition, she stressed that UIET, Kathua Campus (JU) continues to inspire and empower the next generation of leaders and innovators.

Dr. Sourabh Shastri, I/c Coordinator, UIET, Kathua Campus (JU) congratulated the students for their academic achievement and said that this felicitation programme for the 12th standard students shall serve as an encouragement in shaping the future of students in the district.

During the programme, various cultural activities were also performed by the UIET students and few outside performers. Er. Amarjeet Chopra presented the vote of thanks and Ms. Ritu Sharma coordinated the whole programme.

Dr. Seema Jamwal, Er. Sandeep Raj, Er. Rakshit Khajuria, Er. Komal Khadlotra, Er. Sarvadamam Sharma, Er. Sushant Gagal, Dr. Shivani Sharma, Dr. Ruby Mahajan, Er. Palvi Verma, Er. Archana Salavia, Er. Himani Khajuria, Er. Nisha Choudhary, Er. Vishawjeet Singh, Er. Sourav Gupta, Er. Shivani Sharma, Dr. Sunny Sharma, Dr. Zahir Ansari, Ms. Ritika Goyal, Mr. Pranav Ratta, Mr. Gourav Sharma and other teaching and non-teaching staff members of the campus participated in the programme.

NIT Srinagar's faculty member bags prestigious SIRE fellowship

J I NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JUN 23: Dr. Leela Manohar Aeshala, Assistant Professor, Department of Chemical Engineering from National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar has bagged a prestigious SIRE (SERB International Research Experience) fellowship for the year 2023-2024.

The fellowship is sponsored by the Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB), a statutory body of the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India.

It has been granted for the duration of 6 months with Prof. Arunachala Mada Kannan at The Polytechnic School, Arizona State University, (USA). Dr. Leela will work on the CO2 to Methanol by Electrochemical Reduction: Design and Development of Efficient Process.

In his message Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. (Dr.) Sudhakar Yedla congratulated Dr. Leela Manohar for being selected for the prestigious SIRE fellowship. These fellowships provide a much-needed platform for the young faculty to explore the frontier research that happens in the universities and institutions abroad, he said.



Prof. Yedla said NIT Srinagar has embarked onto a global journey of high-impact research and it is important for the faculty members of NIT Srinagar to get involved more in the research abroad.

"I am sure that we will see more and more faculty getting such invitations in the days to come," Director said. Institute's Registrar, Prof. Syed Kaiser Bukhari congratulated Dr. Leela for bringing immense recognition to the institute. It is good to see that our faculty members are making inroads to national and international platforms, he said.

"I look forward to witnessing the significant contributions of Dr. Leela during this fellowship and beyond. His dedication and commitment to research and understanding will undoubtedly leave a lasting impact on your field," Prof. Bukhari said. Head Chemical Engineering Department: Prof. Mohammad Nour Salam Khan also congratulated Dr. Leela on the SERB fellowship. It is an inspiration to all of us, and your achievement brings great pride to our team and department, he said.

The scientific visit from Dr. Leela Manohar Aeshala to Arizona State University, USA will open new avenues of bilateral cooperation between ASU and NIT Srinagar and also between USA and India.

In his message, Dr. Leela Manohar Aeshala expressed his gratitude to the NIT Srinagar administration for their consistent support and guidance in fostering a culture of research excellence on the campus.

This SERB International Research Experience (SIRE) by DST is awarded to young researchers (below 40 years) for getting international exposure and Dr. Leela Manohar has bagged via All India Level competition.

FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

In Jammu, Amit Shah...

this period. Three families—Gandhi's, Abdullah's and Modi's," he said. Paying tributes to the BJP ideologue, Dr Shyama Prasad Mukherji on his death anniversary, Shah said that Dr Mukherji was illegally arrested in 1953 for entering into J&K without a permit. "Why need a permit for entering one's own country? He was jailed and later assassinated," Shah said, adding that today the "soul of Dr Mukherji will be resting in peace as his mission and vision of Ek Vidhan, Ek Nishan and Ek Pradhan stands fulfilled."

The Home Minister said that Dr Mukherji was the first to oppose the inclusion of Article 370 into the Indian constitution on the pretext that "one nation can't have two flags, two constitutions and two heads." On August 5, 2019, Prime Minister Narendra Modi took a big step and removed the Article 370 forever and fulfilled the vision of Dr Mukherji," Shah said, adding that if West Bengal is with India today, it was due to the vision of Dr Mukherji.

He said India is celebrating nine years of PM Modi's rule. "Modiji's rule is an open book. It is not like UPA that did Rs 12 lakh Crore scam. There is not even a single corruption allegation against Modiji during his nine year rule," Shah said as per KNO.

He said Jammu is touching new heights of development and today multi-core projects were inaugurated in the city. Shah said that BJP tightened noose on terrorism and today "terrorism is on the death bed." "In UPA's ten year rule, there were, 60,32/terrorism incidents. In Modiji's nine year rule, terrorism touched its lowest ebb. In 47 months after abrogation of Article 370, there were only 32 calls of strikes while stone pelting declined by 90 percent," he said, as per KNO, adding "Youth of J&K have replaced stones with laptops and books."

Shah said that in 2022, for the first time, 1.88 Crore tourists visited J&K. Seeking support for Modi from the people of Jammu for 2024 parliamentary polls, he said there is no comparison between "Rahul Baba and Modiji." "We will win over 300 seats in the 2024 polls," he said. The Home Minister said that the successful G-20 summit in Srinagar on May 22 to May 25 this year, was a "grand success."

"Every foreign dignitary has gone back to their respective countries with the message of peace and changing Kashmir post Article 370 abrogation," he said and credited LG Manoj Sinha for the smooth conduct of the G-20 summit in Srinagar. KNO

In Kashmir, Amit Shah...

Rajbawhan Srinagar, Shah said that those who handed over guns and stones to Kashmiri youth were never well wishers of the young lot of Valley. "Future of Kashmiri youth doesn't lie in guns and stones. Pick up laptops and march ahead as there are huge opportunities waiting for you in big Indian and global markets. We are waiting for your talent. I urge the Kashmiri youth to be part of the change," Shah said as per news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO).

He said Kashmir has changed a lot over the past few years. "School closures, strike calls and explosions have been controlled and there is an atmosphere of peace. Last year 1.88 Crore tourists visited Kashmir," Shah said, adding that last time when he visited Kashmir, many people complained to him that they couldn't get taxis. "I ensure that every person is entitled to get a taxi after proper security verification. There was a rule that only those whose fathers or grandfathers were owing taxes are entitled for new taxis but that is not the case now."

Taking a dig at Gandhi's, Abdullah's and Mufit's, Shah said these three families were never allowed to flourish democracy at the grassroots level. "For 70 years, Panchayat elections were never held here. To ensure change needs a will and that will was shown by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who took a step to set up Panchayat polls are held in J&K and democracy reaches to every village in J&K," he said as per KNO.

Asking people when they have seen a new hotel coming up in Kashmir, the Home Minister said to accommodate the huge rush of tourists, hotel room capacity across the Valley will go up three times in next five years. "We will not face any issue while accommodating tourists," he said.

He said for the first time, J&K people are benefiting from a lot of small schemes. "Prime Minister never got any money in their accounts in the last 70 years, but 12.43 lakh farmers of J&K are getting Rs 6000 in their accounts yearly."

He said money was never an issue for J&K but that it would never reach the right person and due to unprecedented corruption crores of rupees would go waste. "J&K politicians bought palatial houses in foreign and they would spend winters in foreign every year," he said. "Does anybody know where these people got the money?"

Shah said that today there are top institutions in Kashmir including AIIMS, IIM and IIT people are reaping the benefits. The Home Minister announced that Dal lake and Tatoon ground will be major attractions of Kashmir where every Indian would love to visit Srinagar.

Taking a jibe at National Conference vice president Omar Abdullah and PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti welcomed the G-20 summit in their own way but due to the personal efforts of J&K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, the event became a grand success. "The change that took place in Kashmir over the past few years had to be showcased at global level and G-20 became the best platform," he said. KNO

Amit Shah pays...

death anniversary. After addressing a public rally in the Bhagwati Nagar area of the city, Shah headed for the Tirupati Balaji temple, built in the lower Shivdalk range on the outskirts of the city.

Accompanied by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, the home minister offered prayers to Lord Venkateshwara, while the priests chanted shlokas, Thalarvi Ravi, the PRO of Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD), said. Shah and Sinha also partook in the prasadam offered at the temple, Ravi said.

The home minister expressed his happiness about visiting the Balaji temple during his stay, he added.

The temple of Lord Sri Venkateswara Swamy was inaugurated by Sinha, Union ministers Dr Jitendra Singh

and G Kishen Reddy on June 8.

Initially, Shah was scheduled to virtually inaugurate the temple but could not take part in the event due to some indispensable work, Sinha had said during the inauguration event.

While he was at the party office in Trikutanagar on Friday, Shah held discussions with BJP leaders to gather feedback on the prevailing situation in Jammu and Kashmir.

Elaborate security measures have been put in place here in view of Shah's two-day visit to the union territory beginning Friday, officials said.

On Thursday, top police and civil administration officials, along with senior BJP leaders, reviewed the security measure at Bhagwati Nagar. (Agencies)

Major infiltration...

in the region," he said, adding narcotics were also recovered from the slain.

"The successful operation is an example of the professionalism of both the Army and Jammu and Kashmir police," the Brigadier said. "There are attempts regularly to push militants into this side."

He said that security forces will foil any attempt to disturb peace.

A Police spokesperson said that in a joint operation launched by Army (21 Mahar) and Kupwara Police, they successfully foiled the infiltration bid of militants.

It said that 11 militants were killed in joint operations by police and army in three separate encounters along LoC this month so far.

Police said that they employed meticulous tactics to intercept the terrorists who fired indiscriminately upon the joint teams.

"The fire was retaliated, leading to the elimination of four heavily armed unidentified terrorists. The joint party demonstrated exceptional professionalism, courage, and strategic planning during the operation," it said.

The identification and affiliation of the killed militants is being ascertained, it added.

"The neutralized terrorists were found to be heavily armed, equipped with sophisticated weaponry and narcotics which indicates their malicious intent to carry out disruptive activities aimed at causing harm to innocent civilians," it added.

The timely and effective response by Army and Police have foiled their plans and a significant threat to peace and stability in the area was neutralized.

Police said they have filed a case under relevant sections of law and further investigation is in progress. "Extensive search of the area is being carried out and further details if any will be shared accordingly," police added.

ADGP Kashmir Vijay Kumar hailed the exceptional bravery, professionalism, and strategic planning exhibited by the joint team of Army and Police during the operation.

"Their coordinated efforts, meticulous execution and swift response resulted in the neutralization of four unidentified terrorists, effectively averting a potential threat to the region's safety & security and saving the future of youth from the drug abuse," he said.

The ADGP Kashmir acknowledged the relentless dedication of the joint forces in safeguarding the nation against terrorism.

Kumar added that the successful operation is a big blow to the narco-funding and other terror plans of the terrorists.

Concerned Commanding Officer (CO) Puneet Chauhan who was part of the operation said that on the intervening night of June 22 and 23, movement was detected in the general area of dense Kala forests.

The army said that they recovered nine AK series rifles with 14 magazines and 228 rounds, four grenades, three pistols with five magazines.

Also, 55 packets of narcotics were recovered from them.

Army said that the recovery of large amounts of warlike stores including substantial narcotics material to be used for terror funding indicates the vicious plan of Pakistan by utilising the terrorists to derail the existing peace in Kashmir.

"This successful operation is a big blow to the Narco funding & terror plans of the terrorists," it said in a statement. KNO

J&K is witnessing...

This cinema halls will also become the center of information and exchange of ideas for the youth, he added.

The aspiration of youth is our biggest strength in developing progressive and inclusive Jammu Kashmir. We are fully committed to provide all the resources for their holistic growth and development, the Lt Governor further said.

There can be 'no ifs...

and reaffirmed the importance of working together to combat such misuse.

In his address to the US Congress on Thursday, Modi also made a veiled reference to China, saying the global order is based on respect for the principles of the UN Charter, peaceful resolution of disputes, and respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Noting that the Ukraine conflict is causing great pain in the region, Modi said he has said directly and publicly, "This is not an era of war. But, one of dialogue and diplomacy." Representing 1.4 billion Indians, Modi said it is always a great honour to address the US Congress and an exceptional privilege to do so twice.

Modi became the first Indian leader to address the joint session of the US Congress twice on Thursday. He first addressed a joint meeting of the US Congress in 2016.

"Now, when our era is at a crossroads, I am here to speak about our calling for this century," he said.

Modi said that there have been many advances in AI-Artificial Intelligence - in the past few years, at the same time, there have been even more momentous developments in other AI- America and India.

His words received a standing ovation from US lawmakers.

Modi said democracy is one of their sacred and shared values.

"It has evolved over a long time, and taken various forms and systems. Throughout history, however, one thing has been clear. Democracy is the spirit that supports equality and dignity. Democracy is the idea that welcomes debate and discourse," he said.

Democracy is the culture that gives wings to thought and expression, he said, adding that India is blessed to have had such values from times immemorial. (AGENCY)

Govt issues instructions...

application seamlessly through online mode. Applicants have been asked to carefully read the provisions of Arms Rules, 2016, before submitting an application for obtaining the individual Arms licence/ Renewal of Arms licence.

One needs to apply on the link https://ndal-als.gov.in/ and choose "INDIVIDUAL" category by selecting the State/Union Territory of the concerned District/ appropriate licensing authority.

Applicants can choose any service being offered on the portal like issuance/ renewal of Individual Arms licences, extension of area validity and registration of arms licence issued from other States/ UTs.

The application portal would guide the applicant to upload all the details including the requisite documents on the Portal.

The status of the application can be tracked on the portal by the applicants.

For any query, the FAQs can be accessed at https://ndalals.gov.in/armslicence/faq.do

"Don't furnish incorrect or false information. Don't apply in a district which is not the place of your residence. Don't keep the weapon with you in case you don't possess a valid arms licence and don't let any unauthorized person keep your license or your weapon," read the instructions.

Met issues yellow...

Quoting a meteorological department official, that while dry weather was expected, there is a possibility of isolated (1-25% chances) of rainfall during these days. "Scattered to fairly widespread light rain and thunderstorm" has been forecast in Jammu and Kashmir from June 25 to 29.

Regarding the minimum temperature on Friday, the official said that Srinagar recorded a low of 21.0°C against 20.5°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 5.2°C for the summer capital.

Kulgam recorded a low of 19.0°C against 17.2°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 4.7°C for the gateway town of Kashmir.

Pahalgam, he said, recorded a low of 10.6°C against 11.3°C on the previous night and it was 1.5°C above normal for the famous tourist resort in south Kashmir's Anantnag district.

In Kupwara town, he said, the mercury settled at 17.8°C against 17.4°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 3.7°C for the north Kashmir area.

Baramulla, he said, recorded a low of 19.3°C on the previous night and it was 5.2°C above normal for the place, the officials said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of 15.4°C against 13.5°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 5.2°C for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, he said.

Jammu recorded a low of 31.2°C against 27.8°C on the previous night and it was 5.1°C above normal for J&K's winter capital, he said.

Badrinagar recorded a low of 21.1°C (6.0°C above normal), Batoke 22.4°C (5.4°C above normal), Katra 27.0°C (5.0°C below normal) and Baderwah 20.8°C (above normal by 5.9°C). Ladakh's Leh and Kargil recorded a low of 8.8°C and 16.5°C respectively, he said. (Agencies)

India, USA break...

will contribute to the International Space Station next year as part of the India-US collaboration in the Space Science field. US President Joe Biden has already confirmed this in the White House after a meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday.

Dr Jitendra Singh said ISRO is likely to team up with NASA as it plans to return to the moon with a manned mission by 2025.

The joint statement by India and the United States during PM Modi's ongoing visit said NASA would provide "advanced training" to Indian astronauts at one of its facilities.

Dr Jitendra Singh said America today realizes the importance of partnering with us. "Though India and the US have been collaborating in the Space sector for long, but the journey in the last nine years of the Modi Government has really taken off on a growth trajectory. India is no longer lagging behind in Space exploration, and today, we are equal partners in Deep Space Missions," he said. Dr Jitendra Singh clarified there are virtually no restrictions and no technology denial by the US. "In fact, we are today technologically capable," he said.

Dr Jitendra Singh said the ISRO has earned considerable foreign exchange by launching satellites for global clients. ISRO, in association with its commercial arms, has successfully launched 385 foreign satellites from 34 countries on board PSLV. "Almost 90% of this revenue has been generated in the last nine years," he said.

The Artemis Accord was signed on October 13, 2020 by eight Founding Nations, - Australia, Canada, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, UAE, UK and the United States. Its members include the traditional US allies like Japan, France, New Zealand, UK, Canada, South Korea, Australia, Chile and African nations like Rwanda, Nigeria etc are the new partners. Out of 22 European nations only 08 (Luxembourg, Italy, UK, Romania, Poland, France, Czech Republic and Spain) have signed the accord.

The Artemis Accord is a non-binding agreement with no financial commitments. The purpose of these Accords is to establish a common vision via a practical set of principles, guidelines, and best practices to enhance the governance of the civil exploration and use of outer space with intention of advancing the Artemis

25 teachers get hands-on training at SERB-sponsored Proteomics Workshop in KU

JINJANSERVICE SRINAGAR, JUNE 23

Eminent national-level experts provided hands-on training to at least 25 select faculty members from colleges in Kashmir and Ladakh during a Proteomics Workshop which concluded at the University of Kashmir on Friday.

The two-day workshop was sponsored by the Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) of the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, under its Core Grant and Power Fellowship awarded to Dr Rifat John, faculty, Department of Botany, KU.

Vice-Chancellor, Prof Nilofar Khan, chaired the valedictory session of the workshop and underscored the need for faculty members in the University and colleges to remain updated with new technological advancements in different fields like Proteomics, which is generally defined as the large-scale study of Proteins.

She said such capacity-building programmes will go a long way in fostering a culture for interdisciplinary research in higher education institutions (HEIs) as mandated under the National Education Policy-2020. She congratulated Dr Rifat and her team for holding the important programme.

Eminent speakers who shared their expertise with the participants included Dr Monika Agarwal from SERB, Prof Mahesh J Kulkarni from National Chemical Laboratory (NCL), Pune and Prof Sreenivas Chavali from IISER, Tirupati. The technical sessions included theoretical and practical training in protein isolation and quantification, Gel electrophoresis (one dimensional and two dimensional) including image acquisition and analysis.

In her remarks, Dr Rifat John said the field of proteomics is mainly significant as response of plants and animals is exhibited at the level of proteins. She said proteomics focuses on the identification, localisation and functional analysis of the protein make-up of the cell activity which makes the present workshop very significant.

program. Adherence to a practical set of principles, guidelines, and best practices in carrying out activities in outer space is intended to increase the safety of operations, reduce uncertainty, and promote the sustainable and beneficial use of space for all humankind. The accords prescribed a political commitment to the principles described herein, many of which provide for operational implementation of important obligations contained in the Outer Space Treaty and other instruments.

The principles set out in these accords are intended to apply to civil space activities conducted by the civil space agencies of each signatory. These activities may take place on the moon, Mars, comets, asteroids, including their surfaces, as well as in orbit of the Moon or Mars, in the lagrangian points for the Earth-Moon system, and in transit between these celestial bodies and locations.

All activities under the Artemis Accord will be conducted for peaceful purposes. Partner states are to uphold the transparency principle by publicly describing policies and plans. Partner nations to utilize open international standards, develop new standards when necessary, and strive to support interoperability. Partner nations commit to taking all reasonable steps possible to render assistance to astronauts in distress and determine which of them should register relevant space objects in accordance with the Registration Convention. International cooperation has been part of the Indian space programme since inception. ISRO's maiden mission to Moon, the Chandrayaan-1, has been an exemplary example of international cooperation with its international payloads. It has also earned several national and international laurels and was instrumental in the ISRO-NASA joint discovery of water molecules on the moon surface, unattained by any of the previous missions of such nature.

ISRO and NASA are realizing a joint satellite mission called NISAR (NASA ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar) for earth science studies. As part of ISRO's prestigious Gaganyaan programme, the cooperation opportunities with countries and space agencies having expertise in human space flight are being explored.

"There were discussions...

"good meeting" in Patna and it has been decided to fight the elections together.

However, the next meeting of like-minded parties will be held in Himachal Pradesh's Shimla next month, Congress national president Mallikarjun Kharge said.

Kharge further said that the opposition parties will meet in Shimla to chalk out a roadmap for the formation of an anti-BJP front for the 2024 Lok Sabha polls.

"We will meet again in July in Shimla to prepare an agenda on how to move ahead together while working in our respective states to fight BJP in 2024," Kharge said. (Agencies)

Govt designates...

district and sessions judge (fast track Court) Budgam has been designated for trial of offences under UAPA in the jurisdiction of Budgam district.

Similarly, the court of additional district and sessions judge Ganderbal has been designated for trial of offences under UAPA in Ganderbal district.

The notification further states that the additional district and sessions judge (fast track court) Doda will hear UAPA cases of Doda and Kishtwar district while the additional district and sessions judge, Poonch will have jurisdiction over UAPA cases of Poonch and Rajouri districts.

It is worthwhile to mention that Supreme Court has observed that all offences under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 (UAPA), whether investigated by the National Investigation Agency or by the investigating agencies of the State Government, are to be tried exclusively by Special Courts set up under the NIA Act. KNO

BJP will form next Govt in Odisha: Kavinder

Contribution of Syama Prasad in India's development is immense



J I NEWS SERVICE

BALASORE, JUN 23: With the glorious nine years of BJP Government led by PM Narendra Modi in the Centre and change in mindset of people at the state and UT levels, it could be well anticipated that the Saffron Party will form the next government in Odisha.

This was stated by senior BJP leader and former Deputy CM J&K, Kavinder Gupta during an ostentatious event organized to observe Balidan Diwas of Dr. Syama Prasad Mukherjee here on Friday.

The senior BJP leader said

that the contribution of Syama Prasad in India's development is immense especially in the fields of commerce and industry.

The BJP stalwart from J&K said Mukherjee was a unique thinker who believed that the basic purpose of power was not to rule but to work with a dedicated spirit for nation-building. "Mukherjee was strongly opposed to Article 370, seeing it as a threat to national unity. He fought against it inside and outside the Parliament", he said, adding that in opposition to the things which were in vogue in erstwhile J&K

state, Mukherjee used to say that 'Ek Desh Mein Do Vidhan, Do Pradhan Aur Do Nishan Nahi Challenge.

Recalling the supreme sacrifice made by patriotic martyrs, who laid down their lives during the 1953-Praja Parishad agitation in J&K, Kavinder paid rich tribute to the martyrs. He said Praja Parishad agitation of 1953 was launched with the slogan - 'Ek Vidhan-Ek Nishan-Ek Pradhan' (one Constitution and one flag) to ensure full integration of J&K state with the rest of the country. "The real tributes have been paid to these martyrs with the abrogation

of Articles 370 & 35(A) by Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government. I believe that their souls are at peace today in the heavens," he added.

Kavinder said that people of the country especially Odisha have understood the nationalistic characteristics of the Saffron Party and have made up their mind to vote for BJP in both State and Lok Sabha polls thus bringing BJP to power with a thumping majority.

Later, Kavinder Gupta presented a book of 100 documents written on Praja Parishad Andolan to Bishnu Das Cluster Incharge.

It is pertinent to mention that Kavinder is in Odisha under the party's campaign to celebrate nine years of Modi Government and highlight its achievements in every nook and corner of the State.

Others who accompanied Kavinder include MP Paratap Sarangi, District President Umakant Mahapatra, former MLA Jeevandas, former MLA Gobind Das.

HM Shah exposed NC, PDP, Congress' negative role in disrupting peace: Dr Parneesh

J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 23: Dr Parneesh Mahajan, Convener Deptt of Training, BJP, J&K on Friday termed the two days visit of HM Amit Shah to J&K as necessary endeavour to assess the situation and set things right ahead of Shri Amarnathji Yatra and the local bodies polls, which are on cards.

In a statement issued to media persons, Parneesh said that no other Home Minister in the past took so much pain in dealing with the situation arising out of Pakistan's negative role in the region as time and again the HM has reviewed security scenario and other related issues to ensure peaceful Amarnathji Yatra and incident free local bodies polls, which the BJP Government has conducted earlier also without a loss of even a bird. Citing Amit Shah's speech, he said that HM has rightly exposed the political



parties NC, PDP and Congress, as their role was completely negative as far as Kashmir imbroglio is concerned.

The BJP leader said that HM Shah has squarely accused the aforesaid parties for 'homicide' of Kashmiris which is factually true as these parties used to rule the roost in the Valley and what-

ever the situation was in J&K was due to their mishandling of affairs turn by turn. Parneesh said that people in J&K especially Kashmir have pinned high hopes on BJP leadership including PM Modi and HM Shah and therefore such visits to UT by top leaders of the party will go a long way in establishing a strong base of party in the region.

Dr Parneesh praised Amit Shah for his peculiar approach in conducting things because earlier also it was seen that Article 370 was scrapped without any violence or even a protest.

He said that regular visits to J&K by the Home Minister are the testimony to the fact that the government is keen to install popular government and restore normalcy in the UT as soon as possible.

Parneesh gave full credit to Amit Shah for ensuring peace and development in J&K, without loss of life or inflicting damage to property.

Panthers condemn harassment of pensioners by Social Welfare Department

J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 23: Vilakshan Singh, President J&K National Panthers Party in a meeting held at the party office has strongly condemned the government's apathetic attitude towards the beneficiaries of various pension schemes being run by the Social Welfare Department. Singh said that in the name of re-verification of documents the government has stopped crediting the amount of pension which various beneficiaries were getting since long. Singh said that the beneficiaries' cases for grant of pension under various

schemes were approved only after verification of their documents. He said that subjecting old aged persons and specially abled persons to the rigour of re-verification of documents amounts to playing cruel joke with the deprived class of citizens. Singh said that it is the duty of the government to pay pension to the old aged persons, specially abled persons and other beneficiaries without subjecting them to harassment. Singh said that instead of enhancing the amount of pension payable to the beneficiaries of various pension schemes, the government has resorted to the most

inhuman act and has stopped the pension already paid to the beneficiaries. Singh demanded that if at re-verification of documents of the already registered pensioners is required, the government should appoint committees which would do the needful at the doorsteps of the beneficiaries and the old aged and specially abled persons should not be made to run from pillar to post to get meagre amount of pension which was being paid to them. Singh demanded that the amount of pension already payable to the pension holders must immediately be credited into their accounts.

Singh further demanded that the criteria fixed for getting pension under various schemes should also be relaxed so as to cover more persons under such schemes. Singh also demanded that the amount of pension payable to the various beneficiaries should be enhanced to at least Rs. 6000 per month so that such persons can maintain themselves. He said that it is barbaric even to imagine that a person can survive with a meagre amount of Rs.1000/- per month.

Others who attended the meeting included Naresh Chib, Sham Ghorka, Balwan Singh, Rajesh Gondhi etc.

KU VC inaugurates webinar on IPR, calls for hand-holding of aspiring innovators

J I NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JUN 23: Vice-Chancellor, University of Kashmir, Prof Nilofar Khan Friday inaugurated a national-level webinar on Intellectual Property Rights and reiterated her call for hand-holding of young and aspiring innovators "from the very early stage".

The webinar was organised by the University's New Generation Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Centre (NewGen-IEDC) in collaboration with the Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs, and TradeMarks, Department for Promotion of Industry

and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India, as part of the National Intellectual Property Awareness Mission (NIPAM 2.0) under the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav initiative.

In her presidential address, Prof Nilofar said such webinars give an impetus to the University's commitment to create a strong ecosystem for innovations and incubations, which, among other things, will foster a holistic understanding among students about the startup culture.

Saying that youth of J&K, especially the young students, are desirous of car-

ving a space for themselves in the new world of start-ups, the VC called for hand-holding and professional training of aspiring innovators from the very early stage to make them realise their goals.

"We need to catch them young and it's our responsibility to see how best we can contribute in this endeavor. Our mission must include awareness programmes so that aspiring innovators know different stages of patenting, IPR and other related things," she said.

Dr Shahida Umar, Examiner of Patents and Designs, India Patents Office, New Delhi, was the

chief resource person, who talked about the NIPAM 2.0, which aims to infuse spirit of creativity and innovation among students of higher education. She also discussed in detail the types of IPR and their importance.

Dr Sartaj Hussain, Coordinator New Gen IEDC said the webinar aims to educate upcoming entrepreneurs about the significance of intellectual property rights, which are important for them to protect their innovative assets legally.

The webinar was attended by students from colleges of Kashmir, scholars and students from KU and other universities in the Valley.

Hat Trick Foods Launches Online Delivery Service

J I NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JUN 23: Hat Trick foods has launched a home delivery service across the valley. Customers can order bakery, wazwan, mughlai, Chinese foods and more.

Managing Director Hat Trick foods, Babar Chowdhary said that they are providing free services to our customers within

3kms on their own delivery service so that it becomes easy for customers to book the orders online, also they have been Available on food-based apps like Swiggy and Zomato.

Providing online service of our food items to the doorsteps of people is a good initiative, as people right now prefer to buy it online, but the only thing that matters is the quality of

food, which we have not compromised as we deliver the fresh stock to our customers", Babar added.

Meanwhile, Production Manager Hat Trick foods, shreya shah added that earlier they used to provide online services of few items via swiggy and zomato to the customer, but on Eid as most of the people prefer eating wazwan which was not possible this time, we at

Hatrick thought of providing convenience to the people by starting its online service.

"We are offering huge discounts on our food items in view of Eid-ul-Azha. The products have been reasonably priced and are expected to be delivered within less possible time for the convenience of our Esteemed customers", Shah added.

DPAP holds protest in Samba over Ration curtailment, electricity, property tax

J I NEWS SERVICE

SAMBA, JUN 23: Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) on Friday held protest demonstrations at Samba to press for restoration of the original quota of ration and kerosene oil to consumers. Protestors led by DPAP State General Secretary Vinod Mishra, District president Raghuraj Singh,

raised the pro-justice slogans. Raising party flags, the protesters said that the poor is becoming poorer day by day while price rise and unemployment are breaking records. "The authorities have cut down the monthly ration quota to consumers in J&K, supply of kerosene oil to consumers has disappeared, price hike and unemployment is breaking all records," they

said. Protestors demanded month-long restoration of ration quota to consumers and roll back of imposition of property tax and other "anti-people" decisions. They also demanded for the assessment of the damage in earthquake hit areas and adequate compensation to the victims of Chenab valley. On the instructions of its Chairman Ghulam Nabi Azad, DPAP has held several

all rallies, protests and public restoration programmes in the past weeks. Public outreach programmes, as per DPAP, are aimed at having first-hand accounts of public issues. During public interactions, DPAP leaders are giving patient hearing to public delegations and assuring them that they would use their good offices to get their grievances redressed.

Deputy Commissioner Anantnag reviews arrangements for Eid ul Adha

J I NEWS SERVICE

ANANTNAG, JUNE 23: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Anantnag, SF Hamid today chaired a meeting to review the arrangements for the upcoming celebration of Eid ul Adha. On the occasion, DC passed a slew of directions to officers for ensuring all necessary facilities to the public including availability of sacrificial animals at designated locations and availability of essentials in the market,

besides identification of sites for sacrificial animals.

He further directed to constitute market checking teams to keep prices under control and prevent overcharging by traders to be headed by TehsilDars.

He also directed for smooth supply of electricity, water, traffic, sanitation on the eve of Eid-ul-Adha across the district especially at all Shrines including Ziyarat Sharief Kabamarg, Aishmuqam, Bumzoo, Khiram, etc.

Besides, he instructed for the availability of an adequate number of buses during Eid-ul-Adha and identification of specified parking areas.

The DC impressed on placement of Sanitary Workers for cleanliness and sanitation in and around the periphery of Shrines and Eid-Gah's and other major locations in the district.

He instructed for deployment of teams of doctors and paramedics along with ambulances across all prominent locations.

BADC Expresses Concern over Poor Performance of Poonch in District Good Governance Index

J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 23: Jammu and Kashmir Border Area Development Conference (JK-BADC), a registered organization working for the welfare of residents of border areas of J & K has expressed serious concern over the poor performance of district Poonch in recently released edition of District Good Governance Index (DGGI), wherein out of 20 districts of J & K, district Poonch attained 2nd last position (19th) just above Reasi.

Ranking of a district under District Good Governance Index (DGGI) is

indicator and parameter to measure the performance of a district with regard to Agriculture & Allied sector, Commerce & Industry, Human Resource Development, Public Health Sectors, Public Infrastructure & Utilities, Social Welfare & Development, Financial Inclusion, Legal & Public Safety, Environment, Citizen-Centric Governance.

Dr Shazad Ahmed Malik, Chairman of JK BADC and former Vice Chancellor while giving his reaction over the poor performance of district Poonch in District Good Governance Index of J & K has requested the

Deputy Commissioner Poonch to fix responsibility of all the department and officers so that next year border district Poonch brings out some better results and provide better services to its people. The BADC Chairman also asked the DC to hold sensitization and capacity building programs for district officers so that they also help out in achieving the target of making Poonch a role model for Citizen centric Governance. The former VC also offered all the help of his organization to district administration Poonch to hold any training and capacity building program for officers.

JKAACL to spread messages against Drug addiction and through "Nukkad Natak"

J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUN 23: As international Anti Drug day falls on 26 June 2023 every year across the globe, the first ever initiative taken by Bhat Singh (JKAS) Secretary JKAACL to organise the Nukkad Shows across Jammu Division.

Being a social concern individuals, organisations,

Educational institutions celebrate this day in their own way in order to remove this stigma from society.

Secretary JKAACL, Bharat Singh (JKAS) while wishing the theatre groups and the artists fraternity, Singh said, the primary aim of the Academy is not to be confined with literary culture, and indoor activi-

ties only but has it's concern with society too, especially when our youth is indulging and badly affecting in drug addiction of various kinds of substances.

He further emphasised, "Nukkad natak shows will be performed in various public spaces of the Jammu Division as a platform to make people aware

of burning social issues and this will help to create a sense of awareness in the society in which we live".

Various prominent theatre groups from Poonch, Rajori, Doda, Reasi, Udhampur Samba, Jammu will be participating in this mission against anti drug and illicit trafficking on 26th June 2023.

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

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

JINDRAH IMAGES

Need to control soaring airfare

In Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, the perennial problem of skyrocketing airfare continues to make a big hole in the pockets of air travellers. It gives an impression to an ordinary citizen that no significant change has been witnessed on ground during the last three years since two UTs come the direct control of the Centre, with students, patients and ordinary citizens shelling out a hefty amount to travel to their native from outside world. The airfare for a single journey between Leh-Delhi and Leh-Jammu continues to remain out of reach for passengers in Ladakh as the travelers are forced to shell out anything between Rs 20,000 to Rs 40,000 for one-way journey of less than one and a half hours. For a single journey from Jammu to Leh, the passengers either will have to wait for a few weeks to book an air ticket at a cheaper rate or they will have to shell out anything between Rs 16,000 and Rs 36,000. The rates of tickets of connecting flights from Srinagar via Delhi are virtually out of bound for an ordinary passenger and it has been ranging anything between Rs 18,000 to over Rs 41,000 for a single journey. The situation, which is not new for Ladakhi people, has emerged against the backdrop of closure of two vital national highways, 434-km-long Srinagar-Kargil-Leh and 474-km-long Manali-Leh due to heavy snowfall with the onset of harsh winter. The irony is that there has been no check of the government over the open loot of airline operators. The closure of Srinagar-Leh highway coupled with a huge rush of passengers on Delhi-Leh sector has led to sky rocketing of airfares. It has created a lot of resentment among Ladakhi people who give vent to their anger on social media platforms questioning the government for having no check on exorbitant rates of air tickets. Since Ladakh is not connected via land in the winters, private airlines are taking unfair advantage to fill their pockets. Ladakhis are suffering due to continuous cancellations of flights. They are mocking the civil aviation ministry for its claims that even a person who wears 'hawai chappal' can travel by 'hawai jahaz' as spelt out under PM's vision. It's better to travel a foreign country on a round trip than a single trip to Ladakh. The reality check is that major airline companies including Go First, Spice Jet, Vistara, IndiGo and Air India operate frequent flights on a daily basis considering good commercial viability during peak summer season but in winter months, these airlines curtail their air services with exorbitant airfare making local people to suffer. Only five flights operate from Leh on a daily basis in winters while this number remains six on every Wednesday and Sunday. In summers, at least 12-13 flights operate from Leh daily. Although the Ladakh Lok Sabha member has raised the issue in the Parliament, the government is duty bound to take corrective measures and keep a check on the malpractices of airline operators so that innocent people are not duped.

KUKI-MEITEI CONFLICT IS MORE THAN JUST AN ETHNIC CLASH

KHAM KHAN SUAN HAUSING

ONE hundred and forty years ago and six years after the British Raj fixed a 509 sq km Inner Line Reserve Forest in 1877, which sought to enclose a large part of what now constitutes Mizoram, the then Deputy Commissioner of Cachar reported in 1883 that four Lushai (Mizo) who ventured to tap rubber in this reserve were 'shot down like birds' on the pretext that they were 'encroachers'.

The gay abandon with which this killing happened and was reported resonates powerfully in the wave of violence that Manipur has witnessed since May 3, when the state's high-handed attempt to transform the Kuki-Zomi into 'encroachers' without following established procedures constitutes one of the major sources of structural violence against this community.

The deafening silence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi for over 50 days and the refusal to impose the President's rule to establish a semblance of law and order underscores the Centre's abdication of constitutional responsibility. Not surprisingly, this continues to perpetuate structural violence against the Kuki-Zomi and allows Manipur to remain an island of lawlessness. Over 120 (including 94 Kuki-Zomi) lives have been lost, 355 churches and over 200 (including 160 Kuki-Zomi) villages burnt, and more than 50,000 (including over 41,000 Kuki-Zomi) have been displaced as a result.

What is common in the 1883 killings and the current situation are the unilateral targeting of the Kuki-Zomi as 'encroachers' - and by implication, 'troublemakers' - and the high-handedness with which they were sought to be resolved by the colonial and post-colonial states. What is often ignored is a contextual understanding, where hitherto owners and protectors of forest commons are sought to be transformed overtime into 'encroachers' by the state. The 1883 shooting emanated from the sidelines of modern state-making and state expansion that got fixated in a 'territorial trap' of fixing its border and in the enclosure of forest commons in an otherwise fluid and fuzzy land frontier; the current Manipur violence also stems largely from this, plus the high-handed manner in which the 'protected forest' (PF) concept has been sought to be implemented since October 2022.

On close scrutiny, you find that the Churachandpur-Khoupum PE, declared in 1966 under the Indian Forest Act, 1927, to cover some 38 villages spread across 500 sq km,



was contested from the very outset. Not surprisingly, assistant settlement officers (ASOs) mandated by this Act reviewed the contestation and demand for the exclusion of these villages from 1971 to 1988. As many as 24 villages, spanning over 470 sq km, were excluded from the PF as a result.

However, Biren Singh's BJP government, which began reviewing this matter in June 2022, nullified these exclusions in October 2022 on the pretext that the relevant ASOs did not conduct a proper inquiry before exclusions were made. At the heart of this is the contestation over disputed territories, an internationally accepted legal principle which recognises the historical rights of actual owners of land and property.

Given that the state government does not have khas land (wasteland) in the tribal hill areas as the land belong to the tribal communities or village chiefs, and given that the hill areas are excluded from cadastral survey, the state is required to vet matters such as the declaration of certain areas under the PF to the village authorities, district councils and Hill Areas Committee (HAC), as mandated by law under Article 371C.

This point was underscored by the HAC in March 2021, when it resolved that the arbitrary extension of provisions of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, after 1972 without routing the matter to it, as mandated by law, would be null and void.

Instead of following the established procedure, Singh's government came up with a set of satellite images covering a limited time space to bypass this and demonstrate that various new Kuki village settlements 'encroached' upon this

PF. The eviction drive that it started on February 20 at Songjiang village antagonised the Kuki-Zomi group. The effort to regularise the tribal churches which possess dag chitha (paper document) - as against the 188 Meitei Hindu temples it has regularised since 2010 - and the eviction and demolition of three tribal churches in Imphal at night on April 11 in violation of the law - which mandated that no demolition be made before sunrise and after sunset - reinforced the high-handedness of the state.

Meanwhile, various Meitei Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) were mobilised to support the eviction drive and a larger narrative was built to target Kuki-Zomi groups as 'encroachers', 'illegal immigrants', 'poppy cultivators' and 'narco-terrorists'. This happened notwithstanding the fact that all communities are involved in poppy cultivation and drugs trade. Interestingly, out of the 2,438 drug traders caught during 2017-22, the Kuki-Chin, Meiteis and Pangals (Muslims) account for 33 per cent, 15 per cent and 43.5 per cent, respectively. Former police officer Thounaojam Brinda's major drug expose in 2018, and Uripok MLA Raghunani Singh's recent letter to Amit Shah demonstrate the direct involvement of high-ranking political leaders, who, in collusion with proscribed Meitei armed groups, control and pay conduits to a larger international drugs-and-guns-trade network.

The centrality of land and the Meiteis' grievances surrounding their lack of access to control tribal land and resources as the major source of Manipur's violence must not be lost in the midst of the ran-

corous contestation. In the past, the discovery of tea, oil, rubber and coal since the 1840s in the North-East drove the state's desire for territorial expansion and framing of a new land use policy in ways that augmented the state's revenue; in much the same way, the discovery in 2010 of a massive deposit of natural gas in the erstwhile Lamka (Churachandpur) district, which sits on the fertile Assam-Arakan basin, drives the state and majoritarian-minded Meitei CSOs to have direct control and access to resources in the tribal hill areas. The identification of 17 out of the 32 natural gas fields in Lamka and Pherwal districts by the Netherlands-based Jubliant Energy, which signed Petroleum Exploratory Licence with the Government of India in 2010, whipped up the desire of the integrationist state and majoritarian-minded Meitei CSOs.

The Meiteis' demand for Scheduled Tribe status, which gained momentum around this time, is seen by the tribals as a larger ploy to manipulate and bypass established procedures which protect tribal rights on land and resources.

The choice for New Delhi is, therefore, stark: perpetuate structural violence against the Kuki-Zomi in gay abandon by projecting them as 'troublemakers', or invoke the political will to commit itself to upholding constitutional provisions to secure distinctive tribal rights and demand for a separate administration against the absolute autocracy of the majority.

Kham Khan Suan Hausing Prof & head, Political Science Dept, University of Hyderabad

India must recalibrate its chips strategy

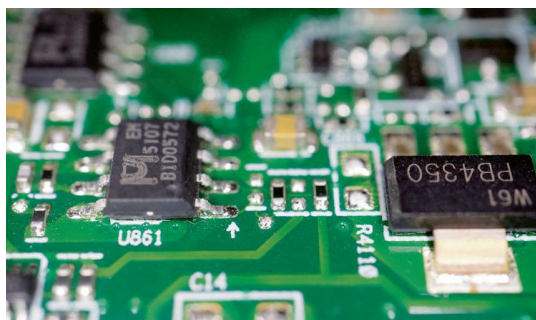
VTK ARUN

NTEL has scaled up its 2022 plan to invest \$17 billion in advanced chipmaking in Germany to a whopping \$30 billion. It is also investing billions in Poland, Ireland and France. Presumably, it will benefit from the €3-billion euros subsidy the EU has allocated, to sustain microprocessor investment in Europe, in the face of the US government's move to offer subsidy worth \$52 billion and more for advanced chip-making facilities in the US. Semiconductor Manufacturing Company (TSMC), Samsung and Intel are all racing to scoop up as much as they can of this moaloh. Israel has announced fresh investment by Intel in that country as well. Where does all that leave India's plans to kickstart a semiconductor manufacturing revolution in this country? Pretty much at the starting block.

India has nurtured its ability to take its own decisions on relations with other countries, without being beholden to any foreign power. Not that India has been standing still. The Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC) has developed the design for a processing unit that would fit into a super-computer that ranks among the

FOR STRATEGIC AUTONOMY, THE COUNTRY MUST ACQUIRE INDIGENOUS CAPACITY IN CHIP MANUFACTURING

fastest in the world. The CDAC had, of course, been set up in 1988, in the dark ages before the dawn of the Indian civilisation in 2014, but seems to be unaware that it was part of an alleged conspiracy of stasis, and is doing brisk business, living up to the goal for which it had been set up. India has announced a subsidy of \$10 billion - that was what the amount of Rs 76,000 crore worked out to, before the rupee took a dive to its current level of approximately Rs 82 to a dollar - for those setting up advanced semiconductor manufacturing plants - or fabs, short for fabrication units - in India. A proposal for a joint venture between Vedanta and the Taiwanese contract manufacturing giant Foxconn failed to win support from the government, as it did not have a technology partner which could help it manufacture at least a 20-nanometre chip. A nanometre is a billionth of a metre, and, in the context of semiconductors, refers to the thickness of the copper circuitry on the chip. A strand of human hair would typically be 70 microns thick, and things smaller than 40 microns across are not visible to the



naked eye. One micron is 1,000 nanometres. The most advanced microprocessors seek to achieve circuits that are less than five nanometres. India's Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology has been encouraging young engineers to develop chip designs. This is all to the good, but is not enough. Given the reluctance of the big players in the fab's business to set up shop in India, India must rethink its strategy.

Mohammed must go to the mountain. Why does India need domestic manufacturing capacity in computer chips, in the first place? There are broadly speaking, two reasons. One is the balance of payments argument. India will have to import such huge volumes of chips of all kinds that these will account for a larger import bill than oil. So, prudence would suggest manufacturing the processors right

here in India itself, to avoid this huge claim on our foreign exchange reserves. The second, more critical reason why India needs indigenous capacity in chip manufacturing is strategic autonomy. India has nurtured its ability to take its own decisions on relations with other countries, without being beholden to any foreign power, right since Independence. This policy is another survivor from modern India's pre-history. This

quest for strategic autonomy underpinned the policy of non-alignment. India would not like technology to be used against it as a coercive lever, as it had been since India's nuclear tests. India had been kept outside the technology control regimes of the world till the Manmohan Singh government signed the Indo-US nuclear deal. That deal gained India quasi-membership of the Nuclear Suppliers' Group, even without signing up to the unequal Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, and full membership of the Missile Technology Control Regime, the Wassenaar Arrangement on dual use technologies and the Australia Group on chemical weapons and precursor chemicals. Prime Minister Modi and his party were vehement critics of the nuclear deal. What this means is that technology that is available off the shelf will not be denied to India. But chip manufacturing, tech is not available off the shelf. While there is no bar on Intel or TSMC setting up a plant in India, they are not obliged to. Nor is India immune from a decision - improbable, but not impossible - to deny it certain advanced technology, in some special cir-

cumstances. Currently, China has been placed under a regime that bars access to advanced chips used in the development of artificial intelligence and quantum computing. It has been denied access to chipmaking machinery and technology. China is racing to develop its own capability in chip design and manufacturing. A Chinese startup recently pulled off the manufacture of 20-nanometre chips. A Dutch company, ASML, has a virtual monopoly on the machines that make the most advanced chips, complete with focused lasers that cut nanometre-thin grooves on silicon wafers and kit to flow vapourised copper into those grooves, which, once cooled, forms the circuits. Rather than spending money on subsidising established chip makers, India should invest money in startups that design and manufacture different machines that produce those chips. A startup might come up with a process that is better than ASML's, who knows? The world's multinationals set up global capacity centres in India, hiring Indian engineering talent to find solutions to their problems and challenges.

Vijay's first look from Lokesh Kanagaraj's 'Leo' is here

Director Lokesh Kanagaraj on Thursday unveiled the much-awaited first look poster of Vijay-starrer Leo on the occasion of the actor's 49th birthday. Leo marks the second collaboration between Lokesh and Vijay after their successful outing, Master. The first look poster showcases Vijay holding a bloodied sledgehammer, with a wolf lurking behind him. The caption on the poster says, "In the realm of wild rivers, tranquil waters either transform into divine deities or feared demons." Leo boasts of a star-studded cast, including Trisha, Sanjay Dutt, Arjun, Priya Anand, Gautham Vasudev Menon, Mansoor Ali Khan, Sandilya, and Miskin. The movie features cinematography by Manoj Paramahansa, editing by Philomin Raj, and dance choreography by Dinesh. After blockbuster hits Kaithi and Vikram, fans expect Leo to be the third instalment in the LCU (Lokesh Cinematic Universe). Anirudh Ravichander is composing the music for

Leo, making it his third collaboration with both Lokesh and Vijay. While the first single "Naa Ready" will be released today, a small portion of it was released on Tuesday, and has crossed over 700,000 likes on YouTube. The song is a typical Tamil 'kuthu' track, perfect for dance floors and celebrations. Reports suggest that Leo blends gangster action elements with a father-son relationship. Trisha, who has frequently starred opposite Vijay, plays the female lead in the film, marking their fifth collaboration, notably, after a gap of 15 years. Bollywood actor Sanjay Dutt essays Vijay's father, adding further excitement to the project.

Leo is set to have a multi-language release, not limited to major Indian languages, but also foreign languages during its OTT premiere. According to reports, the film is expected to be released in German and various other foreign languages through Netflix, which has secured the streaming rights.



PRİYANKA CHOPRA DRESSES DAUGHTER MALTI FOR HER FIRST ASCOT



Actor Priyanka Chopra on Friday treated fans to adorable pictures of her daughter Malti Marie. In one of the images, Priyanka and her husband Nick Jonas are seen making their daughter try her first fascinator for attending the Royal Ascot. "First fascinator. Ready for Ascot MM?" Priyanka captioned the post. Royal Ascot is one of Britain's most well-known races where Ascot holds a special week of races in June. The family twinned in all-white. Priyanka looked gorgeous in a white suit. Nick opted for a white shirt that he paired with white pants. "Will miss you so much. Summer fun was had. #tam2cul @sudeepdutt #hi-an," she captioned the post. In this picture, Priyanka opted for a printed pantsuit while Nick chose a casual shirt. Baby Malti looked adorable in a white outfit that she paired with a cool cap. Malti was born to Priyanka and Nick via surrogacy in January 2022. The duo, in a joint statement, had announced the birth of their first child on social media. "We are overjoyed to confirm that we have welcomed a baby via surrogacy. We respectfully ask for privacy during this special time as we focus on our family. Thank you so much," the statement read. Malti made her first public appearance in January this year.

'Tiku Weds Sheru' movie review: Nawazuddin Siddiqui is out of tricks in bittersweet romance

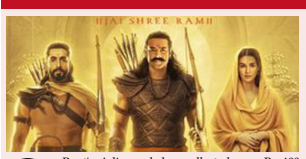
You may remember Nawazuddin Siddiqui as the luckless aspiring screenwriter from the 2020 online release Ghoomeketu. Three years on, Siddiqui has changed tracks. Perhaps realising the limited prospects of struggling film writers, he turns up, in Sai Kabir's romantic comedy Tiku Weds Sheru, as a struggling actor. It's hard not to spot a tinge of autobiography: Siddiqui, for many years, struggled silently and resolutely before breaking out as an actor. You'd expect his life experiences to rub off emotionally on his films. Yet, somehow, they feel more caricatures than heartfelt.



He is a 'junior artist', the kind of person who cradles babies and sips drinks in the backgrounds of Hindi films. On his brother's urging, Sheru travels from Mumbai to Bhopal to meet a prospective bride. The girl, Tasneem (Avinet Kaur), or Tiku,

turns out much younger than him, though no one seems to mind and Sheru is offered a dowry. Tiku initially spurns his hand in marriage, then accepts, using it as her ticket to reach Mumbai. Unbeknownst to Sheru for the moment, Tiku wants to be an actor as well. Sheru has secrets, too. He had drowned film project ("Going Single" was the uninspiring title) and is now unable to pay up. He gets by arranging prostitutes for sleazy patrons, a fact he withholds from his wife when they start their new life in his one-room apartment. Tiku, meanwhile, is left pregnant and tricked from a past affair. She tries to kill herself, twice, finally relenting when she finds in Sheru a kindred spirit of movie-crazed adaptability.

'Adipurush' downward slide continues, movie collects Rs 15 cr to cross Rs 400 crore mark



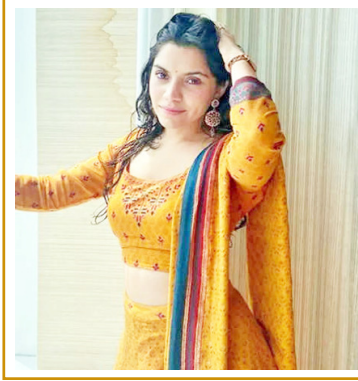
Om Raut's Adipurush has collected over Rs 400 crore globally but the film's box office numbers continued to fall amid controversy over the poor quality of its dialogues and visual effects. T-Series, the studio behind the movie, on Thursday tweeted that the Prabhas-starrer had earned Rs 410 crore gross in six days. Adipurush, which was released across the country in Hindi, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam and Tamil on June 16, stars Prabhas as Raghu (Ram), Kriti Sanon as Janaki (Sita) and Saif Ali Khan as Lankesh (Raavan). In the opening weekend, the film, reportedly made on a budget of Rs 500 crore, raced to Rs 340 crore in just three days—Rs 140 crore on day one, followed by Rs 100 crore each on day two and three. But the film's box office score witnessed a drastic slide as negative word of mouth spread on social media. The film earned Rs 15 crore as against Rs 35 crore on Monday and Rs 20 crore on Tuesday. The big-budget multilingual saga has been panned on social media over its poor VFX and colloquial dialogues, with dialogue writer Manoj Muntashir Shukla under fire for Lord Hanuman's dialogues in the 'Lanka Dahan' sequence, among others.

Who Is Honey Singh Scared Of? Goldie Brar allegedly sending threats

Honey Singh, the well-known stage name of Hirdesh Singh, has recently found himself making headlines for something quite unsettling. This time, it's not about a new music video release, but rather a matter that has left him deeply frightened. Threats, with the potential to alter his life forever, have been directed toward him. Let's delve into the details and discover who is responsible for putting him in this perilous situation. According to reports, Satinder Singh Brar, widely recognized as Goldy Brar, the main suspect in the murder of Punjabi singer Sidhu Moosewala, has been the source of these threats targeting not only Honey Singh but also his entire family.



Goldy Brar holds the notorious distinction of being one of the top 25 gangsters in Canada. In his complaint lodged at the Delhi Police headquarters, Honey Singh revealed that he has been on the receiving end of disturbing phone calls and voice notes carrying explicit threats that have greatly unsettled not only him but his entire family as well. "This is the first instance in his career where he has faced such alarming threats, and dealing with the situation has proven to be an immense challenge for him. In response to Honey Singh's complaint, the Delhi police have initiated an investigation into the matter. Considering the gravity of the events, the artist has requested additional security measures. When asked about the situation, Honey Singh shared, "Who isn't afraid of death? There's only one thing that truly scares me, and that is death itself. In the aftermath of Sidhu Moosewala's murder, Goldy Brar, known to be an associate of Lawrence Bishnoi, another notorious gangster, had previously taken to social media to claim responsibility for the crime. Honey Singh has garnered a substantial following among younger audiences with his Punjabi and Hindi songs, music albums, and contributions to film soundtracks. Despite facing criticism for his work, he remains one of the highest-selling artists in India and has performed his chart-topping hits worldwide.



SHARJAH JAIL HOLDS MUMBAI ACTRESS CHRISANN PEREIRA'S PASSPORT, FAMILY FUMES OVER DELAYS

A pall of gloom had descended on the family of actress Chrisann Pereira after the Sharjah Central Jail declined to release her passport and is not contemplating 'deporting' her to India, her mother said here on Friday. Nearly two weeks ago, the Sharjah Court had not only cleared Chrisann of all the charges in the fake drugs-framing case but also directed that her passport be handed over and she be permitted to return home. "Since then, we have been eagerly awaiting her return.

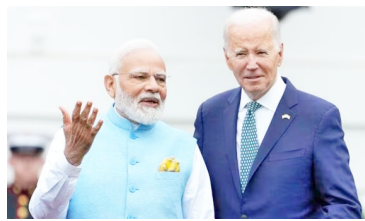
Yesterday, when she went to the Sharjah Central Jail, they said that it might take another one or two months to release her passport," a distraught Premila Pereira told agencies. She claimed that the jail officials have even indicated that Chrisann may be 'deported' to India - something that has shocked the family - especially since the trauma of the past few months is now taking a toll on her mental and physical health. "The Court orders were very clear. Then why are the jail authorities not honouring the Court verdict? Why should

they withhold her passport and now talk of 'deportation' when her record has been cleared both in Sharjah and even in Mumbai," Premila demanded. She is deeply worried that the scars of the past nearly three months in a foreign land without resources has started affecting Chrisann's health. "We have already sent her psychiatric medicines... She is alone and unable to bear all these 'tortures' any more. If anything happens to her, will the Sharjah government take responsibility for...?" Premila demanded.

The family also rued that neither the Indian Embassy nor the Ministry of External Affairs is ready to help out in the matter despite repeated pleas. Concerned about mounting expenses and bills, Premila is now preparing to go to UAE after the third time in three months to take care of her daughter's health issues and try to appeal to the Sharjah authorities for help. The Pereiras said it's "shocking" that the Sharjah jail is not honouring directives of the Sharjah Court and the police investigators who had probed

the sensitive matter very thoroughly and professionally. On April 1, Chrisann got unwittingly trapped in a fake drugs case and was arrested by the Sharjah (UAE) Police after which she spent around 25 days in the prison there. As her family moved heaven and earth with the Mumbai Police for assistance, she secured bail on April 26 and the investigations finally helped her emerge unscathed, said Premila. "Now, again Chrisann is stuck in a rut - the family terms it as 'travesty of justice' by the

Defence deals boost India-US ties new era in relations say experts



AGENCY

NEW DELHI, JUN 23: Defence deals signed between India and US during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's US visit not only enhance India's defence capabilities, but also show growing proximity between the two countries, experts said on Friday.

India and US inked a \$3 billion deal for 31 High Altitude Long Endurance (HALE) UAVs, of which the Navy will get 15 SeaGuardian drones, while the Army and the Indian Air Force (IAF) will get eight each of the land version - SkyGuardian.

Another major announcement that came was a MoU signed between GE and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) to jointly produce fighter jet engines for the Indian Air Force.

Former Deputy National Security Advisor Pankaj Saran called it a "new era" in India-US relationships. "This marks a new era in the relationships. The key takeaway is the focus on two sectors - defence and technology. The third element is the boldness of ambition shown by both sides," Saran told PTI.

"In the past also we have had summits, but in this particular summit there is a very conscious decision for both sides to significantly increase their ties in strategic areas," he said. Former Vice Chief of Indian Air

Force Air Marshal Ravi Kant Sharma (retired) said the MoU signed between GE and HAL is a great step forward for India and its jet engine programme. "It will provide a boost in making India move towards self reliance in jet engine technology, though there will be a long road ahead before we produce an engine. The F414 is a contemporary, state of the art engine... While we do not know the fine prints, this MoU will definitely help in moving towards indigenous jet engines," Sharma said.

Talking about the deal for the Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV), he said, "These UAVs can sustain for long duration, fly at high altitude, and have encrypted communication. In our warfare, you need intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance... It will provide good ISR capabilities." The Indian Navy has already been operating two Reaper drones which were hired on lease from an American firm.

Former Navy Spokesperson Captain DK Sharma (retired) said the MoU provides a huge advantage, especially as India has been watching its maritime boundaries with the ramping up of Chinese activities in the Indian Ocean area.

"These drones are an asset which has not been shared anywhere in the

world, India is probably the first country to get the MQ9B, they had earlier given us two MQ9 Reapers on 'Company Owned, Company Operated' model," the retired navy spokesperson told PTI.

"The two UAVs have already flown around 12,000 hours and they have changed the way surveillance is done, data is collected and a maritime domain awareness picture is created. It was very well appreciated," he said. "Our area of responsibility - from Africa in the west to Sunda Strait in the east, and in the south, is huge. Last few years we have also seen a lot of Chinese presence in the area on one pretext or the other. We wanted some advanced surveillance assets which are not very costly to operate. One hour of a sortie of a Reaper costs in thousands (of Rupees), when the same job is done by the P-8I, the cost comes to a few lakhs," he said.

"It has hard points, can be weaponized, can go on a pure ISR mission, or anti-submarine warfare mission, and can be armed with hellfire missiles or other weapons. It can do the job as the mission requires," he added.

The Predators, also called the MQ-9 Reaper, can fly up to 36 hours at a stretch and can be used for focused monitoring of any specific point or area of interest.

Other major outcomes of PM Modi's state visit to the US includes computer storage chip maker Micron's announcement to set up a semiconductor assembly and test plant in Gujarat, and the decision by the two countries to send an Indian astronaut to the International Space Station in 2024.

India has also decided to join the Artemis Accords, which brings like-minded countries together on civil space exploration, and NASA and ISRO have agreed to a joint mission to the International Space Station in 2024.

Aim is to make India a military logistics hub for US, Allies: Pentagon

WASHINGTON: With military industrial cooperation becoming a pivotal dimension in the warming India-US ties, the US Department of Defense or the Pentagon has said the objective is to make India a logistics hub for the US and its allies. Responding to a media question, Pentagon Press Secretary Air Force Brigadier General Pat Ryder said on Thursday: "The aim here is to make India a logistics hub for the United States and other partners in the Indo-Pacific region. And so we intend to support India in the creation of logistics, repair, and maintenance infrastructure for aircraft and ships."

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi is already on an official visit to the US where he attended a state banquet on Thursday hosted in the Indian PM's honour by US President Joe Biden.

On Wednesday, Modi also attended a private dinner with President Biden and First Lady Jill Biden.

The two leaders have already inked a raft of defining military pacts including joint development and production of aero-engines for fighter aircraft and MQ9B combat drones. Interestingly, Brig Gen Ryder also added that more



was to follow. "We'll have much more to follow in the near future... much more to follow in the days ahead but that is obviously something that will be important as we work together to preserve a free and open Indo-Pacific."

Significantly, the Pentagon skirted a query on whether there is US concern on a 'press crackdown in India' and 'lack of transparency on military issues'.

Explaining that while the White House emphasises on the importance of a free and open press, Brig Gen Ryder said he would not speak for India.

"So I'm not going to speak for India, in terms of its own policies." "In terms of our relationship with India, again, I think the world's two largest democracies, we have a lot to gain from working together, in terms of preserving peace and stability and security in the region. And so going forward, that will continue to be our focus."

On the administration of the India-US Defense Acceleration Ecosystem, or INDUS-X, the spokesperson explained: "There will be a senior advisor group that will assess progress of this collaboration and make recommendations to both the defense establishments in India and the United States and other INDUS-X stakeholders for future work." "Members of that group will include the U.S. Institute of Peace, Carnegie India, the US-India Strategic Partnership Forum, and the Society of Indian Defense Manufacturers."

INDUS-X focuses on the expanding strategic technology partnership and defence industrial cooperation between India and the US in terms of the two governments, business, and academic institutions.

PM's US visit 'unprecedented' decisions taken will help build 'new' India : BJP

AGENCY

4NEW DELHI, JUN 23: The BJP on Friday hailed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's US tour as "unprecedented" and said several diplomatic and strategic decisions taken during the visit will help build a "new India" with economic progress.

The prime minister's visit has resulted in "significant outcomes" in the areas of defence, cooperation with regards to strategic technology, a partnership in renewable energy and also critical minerals, cooperation, BJP leader and Union minister Smriti Irani told a press conference at the party's headquarters.

"Several diplomatic and strategic decisions were taken during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the US which will help build a new India with the resolve of Atmanirbhar Bharat, and provide opportunities of economic progress to Indians," she said.

"Fifteen standing ovations and over a hundred applause to the prime minister's speech at the US Congress, this was not only the hallmark of the prime minister's visit to the US but what is unprecedented is the Indo-US partnership in many critical areas which will help serve a better future the Indian populace," she added.

The minister said the MoU signed on semiconductor supply chain and innovation partnership will promote not only research but commercial opportunities as well.

"Micron Technology Inc will invest 825 million dollars to build a new semiconductor assembly and test facility in India with the support of the Indian government. The combined investment is valued at 2.7 billion dollars," she said.

It will create not only direct and indirect job opportunities but will also add 'a fillip' to the prime minister's vision of 'Make in India', she said.

Irani said NASA and ISRO will develop a "strategic framework" for human space flight cooperation by the end of 2023 and a joint Indo-US quantum coordination mechanism will help facilitate collaboration between the industry, academic and government. "A two million dollar grant programme for joint development and commercialisation of artificial intelligence and quantum technologies was launched," she said.

The MoU signed between American multinational General Electric and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited for the manufacture of GEF 414 jet engines in India is being hailed across the country, she added.

Irani said India-US State Defence Acceleration Ecosystem (INDUS-X) launched at an event in Washington during Modi's visit, is a network of universities, start-ups, industry and think tanks which will facilitate joint defence technology innovation and help co-produced advanced defence technology between the industries of India and the US. "A planet prime minister (Modi) has helped actualise India-US new and emerging renewable energy tech action platform. The launch of this platform will accelerate cooperation in green hydrogen, offshore and onshore wind and other emerging technologies," she said. This platform will complement the world's largest green hydrogen mission launched by India, she added. Irani said India has now become the "newest partner" in the mineral security partnership which will help accelerate development of diverse and sustainable critical energy and mineral supply chains.

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Suspected Russian diplomat squatting on Moscow's vetoed embassy site in Australia

AGENCY

MELBOURNE: A suspected lone Russian diplomat is apparently squatting on the site of Moscow's proposed embassy after the Australian government vetoed the plan on security grounds. Prime Minister Anthony Albanese dismissed the Russian act of defiance, saying a "bloke standing in the cold on a bit of grass in Canberra is not a threat to our national security."

Parliament passed emergency legislation last week blocking on the issue grounds Russia's lease on the largely empty block because the new embassy would have been too close to Parliament House. A man has been living on the site in a portable building since Sunday when passersby first saw Australian Federal Police outside the fenced block in Canberra's Yarralumla diplomatic precinct.

The Russian Embassy refused to comment on a report in The Australian newspaper that the man seen smoking cigarettes outside his accommodation



was a Russian diplomat. The embassy also declined to explain why the man was on the site, saying in an email: "The Embassy does not comment (on) this issue."

Albanese said the issue was "resolved," but did not detail how. "Australia will stand up for our values and we will stand up for our national security and a bloke standing in the cold on a bit of grass in Canberra is not a threat to our national security," Albanese told reporters in a courtyard outside his Parliament House office.

The outdoor temperature at the time was 8 degrees Celsius. Australian National University international law expert Don Rothwell said occupying the site gave immunity if detained by police, who would then have to set him free.

The government could declare him persona non grata, which would mean his diplomatic immunity was revoked. Such people are then usually given 48 hours to leave Australia or face arrest. Russia could then send another diplomat to take his place, said Rothwell, who lives in Yarralumla and had noticed police outside the site on Sunday.

"That's the sort of scenario that I think the government would be keen to avoid," Rothwell said.

Albanese did not directly answer when asked if the government were considering revoking the man's diplomatic status.

"I'm confident of our position that it will be resolved," Albanese said. Albanese said he was not concerned by the possibility of a Russian court challenge. "We actually support the law. Russia has not been real good at the law lately," Albanese said, referring to the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

Russia's only potential for legal challenge was over the amount of compensation that Australia offers for money already spent on construction and earthworks, Rothwell said.

Russia says it has spent \$5.5 million on the site since it was granted the lease in 2008. Completed works include fencing and a single perimeter building that was to be part of a planned complex of several buildings.

If the man is a diplomat, he could claim diplomatic

NDMC issues guidelines for installation of communication towers in Lutyens' Delhi

AGENCY

NEW DELHI, JUN 23: The New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) has issued a 37-point guideline giving detailed rules and regulations that need to be followed while installing communication towers in the Lutyens' Delhi, officials said on Friday.

In a document issued by the Council on Thursday, the civic body laid down the NDMC policy regarding the installation of communication towers to bring "uniformity" in the area.

The installation of towers or antennae should be in a manner that they do not disturb the heritage and aes-

thetic aspects of the New Delhi area, the document mentioned.

No unauthorised Cell On Wheel (COW) will be allowed in the NDMC area, it said.

"The NDMC issues the policy for installation of mobile communication towers and related infrastructure to bring uniformity, based on the advisory guidelines issued by the Department of Telecommunication and by considering all connected factors," an official said.

The antennae and towers, including appurtenances and equipment, should be located at the rear end of the plot and not be visible from the main entrance and road, the document said, adding no diesel generator sets are allowed at the tower site to cater to the power requirements of the antenna. NDMC will auction the sites for installation of COWs in the NDMC area on designated places on approved rates initially for three years, which may be extended further for two years, they added.

The mobile towers installed without permission post the issuance of this policy will be regulated as per rules along with a penalty of Rs 10,000 per month from the date of existence of the tower, they said. One-time permission

charge of Rs 3 lakh for 5 years for installation or renewal of a new tower, officials said.

For cellular towers existing before the issue of this policy, the telecom company can service provider may apply for regularisation within 30 days of notification of this policy by paying arrears from the date of their existence failing which NDMC will take action against those towers as per policy. Installations of towers and antennae, either ground-based or on the rooftop, will not be permitted within Central Vista, however, if necessary, a committee will decide the issue on a case-to-case basis.

AGENCY

NEW DELHI, JUN 23: The BJP on Friday derided the Opposition parties' efforts to forge a front against it and said the Congress was seeking the support of others because it was "incapable of defeating Prime Minister Narendra Modi alone" in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls.

Top leaders of Opposition parties went into a huddle in Patna on Friday to chalk out a roadmap for the formation of an anti-BJP front for next year's general elections. The meeting was hosted by Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar of the JD(U) and his deputy Tejashwi Yadav of the RJD. BJP leader and Union Minister Smriti Irani took a dig at (JD)U and other opposition parties, saying it was "ironic" that some of the leaders who witnessed the "murder of democracy" during the Emergency have assembled under the Congress' parasol in Patna.

They have sent out a message that they are unable to take on Modi on their own, she claimed. "I want to especially express gratitude to the Congress for openly announcing that it is incapable of defeating Modi alone. It needs support."

"Power has moved from the palace to the people. That's why people who take pride in their political legacy now



have to go to those whom they had put behind bars during the Emergency," Irani said.

In a veiled attack on Bihar Chief Minister Kumar, she referred to the recent bridge collapse over the Ganga in the state's Bhagalpur district, and asked, "What kind of democratic bridge will they make who can not even build a bridge."

On Rahul Gandhi's allegations that the BJP was working to "divide India and spread hate and violence", the Union minister asked if the 1984 anti-Sikh riots, imposition of Emergency and putting innocent people behind the bars under Maintenance of Internal Security Act (MISA) during the period was the Gandhi family's expression of love. "Did the Gandhi family express love by getting women raped during the Emergency," she asked. "Was raising the slogan 'Bharat

tere tukde honge' in a university an expression of love? Irani also took a potshot at Congress and the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) over the latter putting a precondition of support against the Centre's Ordinance on control of administrative services in Delhi ahead of the Opposition's mega meeting. "People are becoming alert about those who could not come together on development issues but are now adopting the blackmail route," she said when asked about Delhi Chief Minister and AAP National Convener Arvind Kejriwal pressing for Congress support on the Ordinance issue.

The AAP sources had on Thursday said its leaders will walk out of Friday's meeting of opposition leaders in Patna if the Congress does not promise its support against the Centre's ordinance on the control of administrative services in Delhi.

Advisor Bhatnagar chairs 30th AGM of J&K Women Development Corporation

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUNE 23: Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Rajiv Rai Bhatnagar, chaired the 30th Annual General Meeting of J&K Women Development Corporation here today.

During the meeting, Advisor Bhatnagar was briefed about Corporation's efforts to address the balance of assets and liabilities.

It was pointed out in the event that provisions for interest on Budgetary Support should be transferred to the General Reserve, which has been duly addressed in the fiscal year. Besides, rectifications have been made to address the misclassification of certain assets, ensuring accurate representation and correcting previous observations, meeting was informed.



The meeting was informed that appropriate bookings have been made in terms of income and expenditure and corrective measures have been taken for expenses related to employee benefits, Income Tax and other similar expenditures.

During the meeting, observations were also made regarding current liabilities and provisions, emphasizing the need for distinct classification as per the directives of the Controller and Auditor General of India. Besides, preparation of annual report was highlighted as an area needing improvement. The Corporation was asked to focus on publishing newsletters and making the annual report available on the website for public access.

During the AGM, Advisor Bhatnagar addressed several important issues and emphasized the significance of accurate financial practices, particularly in treating interest payments and ensuring their proper accounting. Recognizing the importance of

field functionaries in assessing loan recipients and their ability to repay, the Advisor stressed the need to determine whether efforts could be made to recover funds from beneficiaries. He commended the existence of a recovery mechanism within the Corporation and suggested adopting a proactive approach to determine the appropriate time for writing off non-recoverable amounts and making additional efforts to recover outstanding funds.

The Annual General Meeting was attended by members including Commissioner Secretary, Social Welfare Department, Sheetal Nanda; Director General (Budget), MY Ittoo; Managing Director JKWDC, Ulfat Jabeen; Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditor of JKWDC, Geeta Sharma besides others.

DDC Reasi finalises Eid Ul Azha arrangements



JJ NEWS SERVICE

REASI, JUNE 23: District Development Commissioner Reasi, Babila Rakwal on Friday chaired a meeting to finalise arrangements for the upcoming festival of Eid Ul Azha. The DC inquired about the measures taken for providing uninterrupted power and water supply, medical facilities, parking, and transport, amongst other facilities during the Eid Days. He asked SSP and officers of stakeholder departments to make all necessary arrangements for the festival and emphasised the need to provide all necessary facilities to the public, including drinking water, transportation, and uninterrupted power and water supply and issued directions to the PDD and Jal Shakti Departments to make arrangements well in advance.

The EO Municipal Committee was directed to ensure cleanliness in and around the town, especially Eid-gah. Sheep / Animal Husbandry officers were directed to make available quality and healthy sacrificial animals for the festival.

Moreover, the Health Department was asked to keep all medical facilities readily available to cater to the public's emergency needs. The AD FCS&CA and AC, Legal Metrology were also directed to keep a check on the weight and rates in the market. The Food inspector was directed to keep a close check on adulterated food, sweets and other eatables sold during the festival.

SP, Amit Gupta, ADC Abdul Star, CMO, AD FCS&CA, DIO, AC legal Metrology, DSHO, DAHO, Tehsildar, EO Municipal Committee and prominent citizens attended the meeting.

Education department team inspects Government schools in Kulwanta area

JJ NEWS SERVICE

UDHAMPUR, JUNE 23: To assess the academic activities and review implementation of different schemes initiated by the government for the welfare of the students, a team of the education department on Friday conducted a surprise inspection of Government Schools here in Kulwanta area.

The Team comprising Chief Education Officer, Geetu Bangotra, Assistant Director Planning, Darshan Kumar and other officials visited different schools of Zone Kulwanta including GHSS Kevra and inspected the ongoing Civil works under SAMAGRA. The team also assessed the academic activities and general ambience in the school. The team found the school neat and clean and students were found quite satisfactory in their academic studies.

The teams also inspected the Middle School Katora and Government High School Kulwanta. The CEO interacted with the staff and students besides inspecting the civil construction works under progress.

Students of HSS Kevra also presented a cultural programme related to Nasha Mukta Abhiyan which greatly impressed the officers. Appreciation certificates were also distributed to the students for their impressive performance.

SANJY- 2023: DC Ramban inspects arrangements in Yatri Niwas Chanderkote, other sites

JJ NEWS SERVICE

RAMBAN, JUNE 23: Deputy Commissioner, Ramban Musarrat Islam today inspected Yatri Niwas and lodgment centres, holding areas and other facilities being made by the different departments for pilgrims ahead of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra-2023.

Additional Deputy Commissioner, Harbans Sharma accompanied the DC during the inspection tour.

The DC visited Yatri Niwas Chanderkote and Langer site and instructed the executing agency and other stakeholders to ensure completion of works by implementing all plans and directions issued from time to time for the smooth conduct of holy Yatra.

Later, the DC also inspected National Highway maintenance work at Dhalwas and directed officers of NHA1 to complete the maintenance work to provide safe passage to commuters.

He directed representatives of NHA1 and construction companies to maintain NH-44 and stationed adequate machinery at all vulnerable places to clear roads without any delay.

ADDK Kishitwar reviews integration of PM-KISAN data with land records

DIRECTS TO ADOPT TARGET DRIVEN APPROACH TO COMPLETE UPDATION

JJ NEWS SERVICE

KISHITWAR, JUNE 23: Additional District Development Commissioner Kishitwar, Sham Lal today chaired a meeting of officers of Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare here in Conference of DC Office Complex to review progress made in integration of Pradhan Mantri Kissan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) data with land records.

He also took stock of the updating work in the Chief Agriculture Officer's office. The meeting was informed about the latest status of the ongoing Bulk uploading of Revenue Record of PM-KISAN beneficiaries, completion of e-KYC, process, NPFI and correction of Aadhaar with bank accounts of PM-KISAN.

DC Rajouri chairs District Road Safety Committee meeting

Reviews implementation of Action Plan

JJ NEWS SERVICE

RAJOURI, JUNE 23: To review implementation of road safety plan aimed at to minimise road mishaps in the district, Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal, today chaired a crucial meeting of the District Road Safety committee.

The meeting was attended by a panel of esteemed officers, including ADC Rajouri, Rajeev Kumar Khajuria; CPO, Mohammad Khurshid; ASP, Vivek Shekhar; SE PWD(R&B), Vikram Singh; CMO, Dr Rajinder Sharma; ARTO, Pawan Sharma; EXEN PWD (R&B) Rajouri, Sardar Khan; EXEN PWD(R&B) Nowshera, VK Raina and other concerned officers.

At the outset, a detailed presentation on i-RAD/e Dar was given by District Roll out Manager, Fankaj Sabharwal highlighting different aspects of road safety and steps being taken to minimise the road accidents in the district. The Committee inquired about the awareness activities, establishment of a trauma centre, identification of black spots, erecting of crash barriers and other measures suggested for enhancing road safety in the district.

The DC emphasised the need to spread mass awareness on critical issues of public safety and prevention of road accidents, injuries, and fatalities. He urged the stakeholder departments to encourage the road users to respect each other's safety while driving and take necessary precautions to ensure the safety of themselves and others.

To enforce road safety norms, the DC directed the Traffic and Motor Vehicle Department Authorities to conduct special drives to keep check on traffic rule violations and take strict action against the offenders.

The meeting reiterated the commitment of promoting road safety and ensuring the well-being of the citizens. The measures discussed during the meeting are being implemented effectively to make travelling on the roads in the district more safe and secure.

DC Ganderbal reviews arrangements for Eid ul Adha, Muharram-ul-Haram in district



JJ NEWS SERVICE

GANDERBAL, JUNE 23: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shyambr today chaired a meeting of concerned officers to review the arrangements for the upcoming celebration of Eid ul Adha and Muharram-ul-Haram in the district.

The DC directed officers to ensure

all necessary facilities are put in place including availability of essentials and sacrificial animals on identified locations, better arrangements for water and electricity, sanitation measures and other required facilities on all festive days. He also directed for making elaborate arrangements of water and electricity, sanitation measures and availability of essential

commodities in shia dominated areas during Muharram-ul-Haram days. The Tehsildars were directed to carry intensive market checking in the areas under their jurisdiction to keep prices under control and prevent overcharging by traders.

He also directed for smooth management of traffic on the eve of Eid-ul-Adha across the district especially at all Shrines and mosques where congregational prayers are held.

Health department was instructed for deployment of teams of doctors and paramedics along with ambulances across all prominent locations.

The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Mehraj-ud-Din Shah; CMO and officers of Sheep Husbandry, FCS&CA, MC Ganderbal and other concerned.

2 excavators, 1 LNT machine seized in Bhalla area for illegal mining

JJ NEWS SERVICE

DODA, JUNE 23: Enforcement teams today seized two trolleys and two heavy excavators involved in illegal mining in the Bhalla area.

The operation was conducted jointly by the revenue department and team of the geology and mining

Department. District Mineral Officer, Sunil Kumar Manhas, Naib Tehsildar Bhalla and the local Choki Officer were part of the inspection team.

Similarly in the preceding days, the DMO Doda, along with the Naib Tehsildar Bhalla, seized one LNT machine and the dumps of crushed material at Dar Crusher in

Bhaderwah. The seizure operations were carried out in accordance with the laws outlined in the Mineral Act.

By taking decisive action against the illegal mining activities, the authorities have demonstrated their unwavering commitment to uphold the law and preserve the natural resources in the region.

CBC organises awareness on IDY -2023 at Kandi-Rajouri

JJ NEWS SERVICE

RAJOURI, JUNE 23: In connection with observance of 9th International Yoga Day, with the theme 'Yoga for Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam', the Field Office Rajouri of Central Bureau of Communication, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Government of India, today organised Mini-ICOP here in Government Higher Secondary School-Kandi.

The aim of organizing this awareness programme was to acquaint students and common masses about the benefits of Yoga. The People were made aware about benefits of practicing Yoga

asanas for making life stress free, disease free and productive.

Earlier on International Day of Yoga, CBC Field Office, Rajouri organised a series of events at GHSS Rajouri. These events were organised under the Chairmanship of Roop Lal, Principal of the host institute.

Surinder Mohan, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Kotranka was the Chief Guest and Sumit Kohli, Tehsildar Kotranka was the Guest of Honour. Dr Vinod Kumar Bhat, BMO and Sharda Kumari CDPO, ICDS Kotranka were also present at the programme. In his address, the ADC urged the participants to practice

Yogasnas regularly to feel the difference and make their lives healthy and fit. He also appreciated the efforts of CBC for making people of far flung and remote hilly areas aware about Yoga and AYUSH through its activities which included Mass Yoga Demonstration, Expert Lectures, Health camp and cultural programme. He was of the view that public participation and Jan Bagidhari will definitely play a crucial role in promoting the concept of Yoga.

Sumit Kohli, Tehsildar also addressed the gathering and said that Yogic practices are very beneficial for physical health, mental health and psychological health. Roop Lal, Principal GHSS

Kandi also addressed the gathering. He said Yoga is an invaluable gift of India's ancient tradition. It embodies unity of mind and body; thought and action; restraint and fulfillment; harmony between man and nature; a holistic approach to health and well-being. It is not about exercise but to discover the sense of oneness with self, the world and nature. The session began at 9:00 am and continued till 10:30 am. Yoga was practiced under the supervision of Krishan Lal, Zila Prabhari, Patanjali Yog Peeth, Rajouri the Yog Guru. He taught various asanas, mudras, pranayama and Kriyas. Various Asanas like Vrkkhasana, Vajrasana,

Trikonasana, Sarvangasana, Bhujangasana, Shirshasana, were practiced and their benefits were explained to the participants. The yoga session was attended by officials of Block Administration, common local masses of Kandi and students.

A free health camp was also organised in which Lady Doctors listened and advised girl students and distributed free medicines. Drawing competition was also organized by CBC Rajouri at GHSS Kandi in which 25 students participated. Cultural items by Sraswati Sangnet Vidyalyay, Empanelled troupes of CBC, Regional Office, Jammu was another attraction of these events.

Srinagar Admin intensifies Market checking across Srinagar City ahead of Eid-ul- Azha

Fine imposed on erring business units, huge quantity of substandard food items, vegetables destroyed

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR JUNE 23: In order to curb the practice of illegal profiteering and black marketing in Srinagar District ahead of the upcoming festival of Eid-ul-Azha, the Special Market Checking teams of District Administration Srinagar Friday conducted intensified market checking in various parts of the City.

The drive was conducted on the directions of the Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mohammad Ajaz Asad to ensure all essential commodities are sold at Government approved rates as per the quality standards with sufficient availability of consumables. The checking squads head-

ed by Tehsildar concerned and Officers from Police, Food Safety, SMC, FCS&CA and Legal Metrology Departments under the supervision of SDM West and SDM East conducted intensive market checking in various Tehsils of Srinagar City and inspected various markets within their jurisdiction.

During the drive a fine to the tune of over Rs 22000 was imposed on the erring shopkeepers for violating different provisions of Food Safety and Standards Act.

While several erring shopkeepers were also booked found failing to maintain the quality of food items, not displaying rate lists of essential commodities, selling



expiry products, besides indulging in practices of illegal profiteering and sale of underweight products. During the drive conducted today, the market

checking teams inspected business units including Bakery, confectionery, grocery, vegetable, fruits, milk, meat and chicken selling shops. They also check several

food Processing units to check hygienic conditions. While the Date of Manufacture, Use-by Date etc. was also checked. In addition, a huge quantity of wazwan was also destroyed in the Zainakote area. Meanwhile, the Deputy Commissioner stressed on owners of all Business establishments/shopkeepers to maintain quality and standard of essential commodities and ensure all essential commodities are sold at Government approved rates. He asked the Market checking teams to continue the drive.

The DC also directed the Tehsildars to inspect Mandies established for sale of sacrificial animals and keep proper check on rates.

Kathua: Income Tax Department organises Outreach Programme cum Interactive Session with DDOs

JI NEWS SERVICE

KATHUA, JUNE 23: Income Tax Department today organised an outreach programme/interactive session with Drawing and Disbursing Officers of Kathua district here in the Conference Hall of DC office complex.

The interactive session was held under the overall supervision of P. Commissioner of Income Tax, Srinagar M.P. Singh and under the guidance of joint commissioner of Income Tax, Range-1 Jammu Rajeev Gubgotra.

DC State Taxes, Ranjit Singh; ADC Kathua, Deepika Rana; Chief Planning Officer and other DDOs of district Kathua attended the session in person and through virtual mode.

The primary aim of this out-



reach programme was to address the various issues faced by the income tax department, specifically focusing on fraudulent/false deduction and claimed TDS refund made by income tax payers in their returns of income.

Income Tax Officer, Kathua M.B. Raizada briefed the officers about the fraudulent availing of deductions and refunds by numbers of Officers/ Officials while filing their returns which is not only a serious offence but also has result-

ed in huge loss of exchequer to the government.

During the interactive session, the Income Tax Officer Kathua emphasized the seriousness of the complications arising from false and fabricated claims made by large numbers of employees. Such actions qualify for severe action under Income Tax Act, 1961 & IPC in the form of heavy fines, it is therefore essential for all fraudulent claimants to file the ITR -U (updated return) to avoid

any legal actions from the income tax department", he added.

Furthermore, it is also advised by ITO Kathua in the interactive session that all taxpayers should submit their annual returns well in advance of the closing date, i.e., 31st July 2023. They were advised to file the return themselves through the income tax portal or to approach authorized income tax practitioners and not to fall prey to the fraudulent self-styled touts. They can also approach the Income Tax department Kathua for any type of guidance. This will help in ensuring compliance with the income tax regulations and avoid any unnecessary penalties or actions and urge all the DDOs, and staff members to adhere to the guidelines provided by the income tax department and fulfill

their income tax obligations honestly and accurately. Failure to comply with these regulations can have serious consequences. DDOs were also advised to issue advisories in their own department following the directions of Chief Secretary UT J&K.

A Question Answer session was also held to enable DDOs and their employees to raise queries which were addressed by ITO, M. B. Raizada. He apprised them of their duties and responsibilities towards nation building.

Additional Deputy Commissioner, Deepika Rana also urged the DDOs to follow the income tax rules and regulations and adopt due diligence while assessing income and deduction details of all the employees under their respective offices.

2 Day Photo Exhibition on 9 Years of Seva Sushan, EBSB, G20 & Mission LIFE concludes at Assar



JI NEWS SERVICE

DODA, JUNE 23: The 2-Day photo exhibition on the Theme 9 Years of Seva Sushan and Garib Kalyan, G20, EBSB and Mission LIFE concluded today here at Assar.

Block Development Council, Chairperson, Sulekhana Devi was the Chief Guest at the valedictory Function of the 2 Day Integrated Outreach & Communication programme organised by Field Office Doda of Central Bureau of Communication, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Government of India.

The Outreach Programme was organised with the aim to generate mass awareness regarding the achievements of the government during the 9 Years of Seva Sushan and Garib Kalyan and Centrally Sponsored Schemes by the Bureau.

In his address, the Chief Guest said that the Exhibition showcased the achievements and Milestones of various Welfare Schemes of Government of India and is more appealing in a unique way.

Khursheed Yousef, Field Publicity Officer, CBC, Field Office Udhampur gave an overview of various IEC activities being carried out by the department in J&K & Ladakh. He highlighted the importance of such programmes which play a pivotal role of spreading the awareness of various policies and programmes of the Government.

Speaking on Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat, Dr. Sunil Kumar, Lecturer GHS, Assar, said the programme aims to share the culture, Art, Languages, Cuisines etc with the paired states and it promotes National Integration.

Aijaz Ahmad, Agriculture Extension Officer, spoke on the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Agriculture Department and different achievements recorded in block Assar.

Education top priority for District Administration: DC Anantnag

FELICITATES CLASS 10TH, 12TH TOPPERS

JI NEWS SERVICE

ANANTNAG, JUNE 23: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Anantnag, SF Hamid today presided over the felicitation ceremony held for 10th and 12th class students who performed well in their examination and registered their names among the toppers of the district.

On the occasion, the DC said that the students have demonstrated brilliance in their academic examinations and have made the district proud. He also lauded the efforts of their teachers and parents.

He said that a good proportion of the students belong to District Anantnag and their academic performance implies the success of critical reforms made in the education sector.



SF Hamid said that they have demonstrated that with sheer will and dedication, one can overcome any barrier and no feat is unachievable. DC congratulated specially-abled students for their inspirational stories. He also said that the revolutionary transformation in the manner of teaching has been instrumental in massive improvement in the education sector.

He also stressed upon the students

to keep away from bad habits and focus on studies and sports only.

At the conclusion of the function, a prize distribution ceremony was also held, medals and certificates were distributed among the students by the DC Anantnag.

The function was attended by Chief Education officer Anantnag, students, parents and other district level functionaries from the education department.

ADDC Rajouri reviews Kisan Sampark Abhiyan activities for promotion of HADP

JI NEWS SERVICE

RAJOURI, JUNE 23: Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) of Rajouri, Pawan Parhar today chaired a meeting to review the activities and orientation of farmers under Kisan Sampark Abhiyan (Farmers' Contact Campaign) being held to promote Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP). Several officers and department heads

attended the meeting to discuss the ongoing farmers' orientation program.

The District Sheep Husbandry Officer, who acts as the District Nodal Officer for the program, provided an update on the activities carried out under the Kisan Sampark Abhiyan since its commencement on April 24.

The campaign, which is scheduled to conclude on August 31, 2023, aims to cover a total of 259 venues.

It was reported that 158 venues have already been covered, demonstrating significant progress.

The officer highlighted that a substantial number of farmers have participated in the program, with 17,493 individuals attending the orientation sessions thus far. The ADC emphasized the importance of facilitating the distribution of 'Kisan Smart Cards' and raising awareness about them among the farming community.

ADDC B'la chairs Disaster Management meet; reviews Disaster preparedness

SAYS, NEED IS TO ADOPT COORDINATED APPROACH FOR DISASTER MITIGATION, AWARENESS

JI NEWS SERVICE

BARAMULLA, JUNE 23: The Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Baramulla, Aijaz Abdullah Saraf today convened a review meeting on disaster preparedness, focusing on enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of response systems.

The meeting held threadbare discussion on the Response, Rescue and Rehabilitation preparation plan and strategy to mitigate the damage and loss of lives and property during high intensity earthquakes and other disasters.

Underlining the importance of coordinated and glitch-less communication between departments during a major disaster like earth-



quake or flood, the ADC said that communication is the first casualty of earthquake or flood and said that a robust communication plan involving men and material needs to be worked out

beforehand. The ADC stressed that concerned departments need to maintain satellite phones and wireless communication devices to be used for quick response, search and rescue. The officers

held a brainstorming discussion on how to carry out damage assessment at the time of disaster so that resources can be allocated for disaster response and relief operation. Plan to respond and evacuate people living in affected areas, communication tools to be used to inform common citizens, evacuation plan for stranded passengers, handling of distress calls, district disaster resources network, mitigation of threat of after-shocks, overwhelming capacity of health institutions were also discussed.

Besides, the ADC stressed on identification of existing Infra alongwith open spaces where people could be temporarily shifted at the times of disasters for safety. He also directed for preparing vulnerable maps for hazards and

compilation of details of buildings and structures regarding their strength.

Regarding the assessment of damage due to the earthquake, ADC stressed on the need to have a contingency plan including Communication and Transportation plans and ground teams for preparing the report of loss. Meanwhile, experts on the occasion highlighted the need for earthquake resistant buildings and other infrastructure, communication on wheel and communication channels, so the impact of hazard shall be mitigated.

The ADC further called for disseminating the information besides acquainting the locals upto the panchayat levels during monthly Gram Sabhas with regard to disaster preparedness.

Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities reviews implementation of RPWD Act

Asks officers to assist PwDs in availing assistance under social security, other schemes

JI NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JUNE 23: Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities, Iqbal Lone, on Friday chaired a meeting to review implementation of Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act (RPWD) 2016.

Lone asked all the District Social Welfare Officers to assist and facilitate persons with disabilities in availing assistance meant for them under different social security schemes in J&K. He stressed on officers to supplement the grievances redressal mechanism by strengthening District-Level Disability Committees recently notified by the Government of J&K. He also highlighted different initiatives unveiled by the J&K Government for empowerment of persons with disabilities.

Commissioner also discussed the action plan regarding the District Disability Rehabilitation Centers (DDRCs) with the district social welfare officers.

The issues of accessibility to persons with disabilities in all existing public buildings, awareness and capacity building programs with District Legal Service Authority and disabled friendly websites of concerned district/departments were also discussed in the meeting.

Among other issues, the meeting also discussed UDID status, prosthetic aid camps, scholarships for persons with disabilities, and linkage for children with special needs (CWSN) and distribution of motorised tricycles.

Iqbal Lone interacts with wheelchair basketball players

JI NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JUNE 23: Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities, J&K, Iqbal Lone, today interacted with wheelchair basketball players from North Zone at Bakshi Stadium, Srinagar.

Pertinently, the Wheelchair Basketball Federation of India is organising the wheelchair basketball championship in association with Voluntary Medicare Society J&K and the Department of Sports, Government of J&K. Players from J&K, Delhi and Rajasthan are participating in the championship. Addressing on the occasion, Lone said that sports foster inclusion and well-being of Persons with Disabilities.

He said that sports can help in removing social barriers and stereotyping of disabilities.

DC Ramban discusses arrangements for Eid-ul-Azha

JI NEWS SERVICE

RAMBAN, JUNE 23: Deputy Commissioner, Ramban, Musarrat Islam today chaired a meeting of concerned officers, religious leaders and Imams of various mosques to review the arrangements put in place for Eid-ul-Azha.

ADC, Harbans Lal Sharma, Addl. SP, Gourav Mahajan, senior officers and religious leaders attended the meeting.

During the meeting, a threadbare discussion was held on arrangements for Eid celebration being held by the different departments besides timing of Namaz-e-Eid in different Mosques.

The DC urged the religious leaders to inform the people about the timing of Eid congregations and the traffic movement plan finalized for different mosques.

The DC instructed the concerned officers to keep a strict vigil on the overcharging and black-marketing of essential commodities during the festive days besides ensuring quality of eatables.

The DC exhorted upon the officers of essential services departments to take measures for providing uninterrupted power and drinking water supply and availability of essential commodities in the market at reasonable prices.

He also directed the Food department to conduct frequent market checking besides making sure availability of essential commodities in all areas of the district.

The DC directed CEO Municipal Council Ramban to ensure cleanliness drives in and around religious places and mosques. He also passed similar directions to CEOs of MC Barahal & Batote. The DC also directed the SDMs and concerned Tehsildars to ensure all necessary arrangements in their respective jurisdictions for the Eid festival.

DC Bandipora inaugurates 9th edition of Syed Hashmeer Football Cup 2023

JI NEWS SERVICE

BANDIPORA, JUNE 23: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Dr Owais Ahmad on Friday inaugurated the 9th edition of Syed Hashmeer Football Cup-2023 at Sher-e-Kashmir Stadium Bandipora.

The tournament is being held in the memory of sportsperson Late Bilal Ahmad Tantray and is being organised and self-sponsored by Jashmeer Football Club Bandipora in collaboration with JK Sports Council and DFA Bandipora. The Inaugural Match was played between Ali Jan FC Srinagar and Elites Blues Baramulla. Officials said 16 local teams from District Bandipora and 8 teams from outside District's are participating in the tournament. On the occasion, Dr. Owais interacted with the players and appreciated them for taking part in sports activities. He also hailed the services of organisers in providing opportunity to the local youth to spend their energies in productive works. He said the best way to get fit and healthy besides staying away from contracting drug addiction is to take part in sports activities.

He said the government has taken keen interest to provide best sports facilities to the youth of Kashmir and several playgrounds have been developed in at least every village besides constructing an indoor stadium at Shadpora and renovating and improving infra at SK Stadium. Dr Owais said more measures will be taken to involve the youth in sports activities so that they not only play it for entertainment but are trained to play professionally to make sports as a career option.

Tourism Department, Poonch Administration Organise Jabbi Virsa Folk Festival

OVER 1000 TREKKERS EXPLORE NATURAL BEAUTY OF JABBI BASE CAMP TO JABBI TOTI

JI NEWS SERVICE

POONCH, JUNE 23: The Department of Tourism (J&K) and District Administration Poonch on Friday hosted Jabbi Virsa Folk Festival to promote tourism in the Peer Panjal region.

The festival was flagged off from Jabbi Base camp by DDC Chairperson,

Tazim Akhter, Deputy Commissioner, Yasin M. Choudhary, BDC Chairperson Mandi, Shamim Ganai; Senior Superintendent of Police Vinay Sharma in the presence of CEO Poonch Development Authority, Dr Mohd Tanveer; Cultural Officer, Dr Alamdar Adam and all district officers. At the base camp, the Social

Forestry Department under the supervision of DFO, Naveed Iqbal conducted a plantation drive. The drive was launched by the Chairperson District Development Council, Deputy Commissioner and Senior Superintendent of Police by planting a tree.

The festival featured musical folk songs, Geets Baits and other cultural

activities presented by the local artists. The event was a great success and highlighted the beauty and potential of the Peer Panjal region for tourism. The festival was a part of the one-day trekking expedition from Jabbi Base Camp to Jabbi Toti Top, which saw the participation of over 1000 local trekkers. During the expedition the trekkers

including DDC Chairman, DDC, SP and other government functionaries explored the natural beauty along the Jabbi Base Camp to Jabbi Toti track. The expedition was aimed at promoting tourism in the region and improving the infrastructure to attract more tourists.

The locals warmly welcomed the DDC

Chairperson, Deputy Commissioner, BDC chairperson, Senior Superintendent of police, district officers, tourists, and trekkers and expressed their happiness. During the trekking camp, the DC inspected the tourist park at the base camp of Jabbi and the spot identified by the Sports Council to develop a playground.



'Sweet 16': India captain Rohit Sharma completes 16 years in international cricket



AGENCY

NEW DELHI, JUN 23: There is something about 16 that has a lingering sweet aftertaste. Ask Indian skipper Rohit Sharma, who completed 16 summers as an international cricketer after starting as a highly-rated 20-year-old from Mumbai's famous stable of batsmen. On June 23, 2007, Rohit made his debut under current head coach Rahul Dravid's captaincy in an ODI game in Ireland, a match India won quite easily as one got a glimpse of the youngster clad in full-sleeved jumpers amidst biting cold in Belfast.

Following 441 international games, 17,115 runs and 43 international hundreds, the 36-year-old 'Hit-Man' now stands on the most important cup of his illustrious career. To end the 10-year jinx for an ICC trophy.

An antithesis to Mumbai's much talked about 'Khados' school of bats-

the moon, obviously, it felt like a dream to be part of the dressing room," he had recollected.

Dravid remembered it during that press meet as if it happened a day before.

"I guess time flies, doesn't it? I actually remember Rohit even before the Ireland series when we were playing a challenger in Madras (Chennai). We all knew that Rohit was going to be special," he said.

"We could just see that he was a very very special talent that I wouldn't, so many years later, be working with him that I never thought about or envisaged...."

"But honestly, the way he has grown as a leader and as a person over these last 14 years now. What he's achieved both as an Indian player and as a leader for the Mumbai Indians has been phenomenal."

"Having to carry the legacy of obviously Mumbai cricket and Indian cricket is not an easy one and he's done it with a lot of grace and class," said Dravid.

However, as he completes 16 years in international cricket, the best compliment from a distance would certainly be from Virat Kohli.

"When he burst onto the scene, everyone spoke about this young player Rohit Sharma and I used to be curious," Kohli had said during YouTube show 'Breakfast With Champions'. "We are also talented young player so why this fuss about this guy alone? Then we saw T20 World Cup and once I saw him bat, I quietly slumped into my couch because when you see, you know, what people were talking about. Perhaps, it was nice to take a trip down the memory lane and recollect a sweet compliment on Rohit's Sweet 16.

manship, Rohit's graceful strokeplay is what makes him stand-out among his peers.

But as he leads the team to West Indies, one can recollect how Rohit had described his feelings when Dravid, the then captain informed him about his debut. "It was in Bangalore in 2007 when I was selected, but the first time I had the opportunity to interact with him (Dravid) was in Bangalore at a camp," Rohit had told mediapersons during an interaction just after Dravid took over as coach.

"It was a very brief chat and I was actually kind of very nervous and I never used to talk so much even with my age group of people, so leave alone these guys at that point.

"So I was just quietly doing my things and getting a move on with my game. But yeah, in Ireland the first time when he came and told me that you will be playing this game I was on

Possible end of road for Pujara, India pick Jaiswal and Gaikwad for West Indies Tests

AGENCY

NEW DELHI, JUN 23: The national selection panel on Friday effectively brought curtains down on veteran Cheteshwar Pujara's international career by dropping him from Indian Test squad for the two-Test series against the West Indies, starting July 12.

Inclusion of powerhouse domestic performers Yashasvi Jaiswal and Ruturaj Gaikwad in the 16-member squad is a clear indication that the four-member panel, headed by Shiv Sunder Das, is now looking at the next two-year World Test Championship cycle (2023-2025).

That Pujara will be dropped and skipper Rohit Sharma is likely to lead the Test side in the Caribbean was reported by the PTI recently.

The other significant development was Ajinkya Rahane's re-appointment as the vice-captain of the Test side just after making an international comeback in the previous game.

While Mohammed Shami has been given complete rest from both Tests and ODIs after nearly three months of hectic competitive cricket, the selectors have indeed started the phasing out process by dropping the prodigal Umesh Yadav and bringing in the consistent Kolkata seamer Mukesh Kumar in the main squad. Navdeep Saini, whose career had been on a free-fall since the historic tour of Australia, also gets a chance for resurrection as his hit-the-deck (140 clicks) bowling might be effective on the slow Caribbean tracks.

All three new entrants – Jaiswal, Gaikwad and Mukesh – were the stand-by players for the WTC final. They have been very consistent in

domestic cricket over past few seasons. The ODI squad didn't have any major surprise with 17 members literally picking themselves.

The injured Jasprit Bumrah, Shreyas Iyer and KL Rahul, whenever fit, also select themselves and together these 20 players will most likely make the core group going into the big World Cup.

When Pujara was dropped for the home series against Sri Lanka along with Rahane, the former chairman of selectors Chetan Sharma had said that doors were not closed for the gritty No.3 and he could go get back to first-class cricket and earn his stripes.

Pujara went back to County Cricket and played for Sussex. He scored tons of runs and was recalled for the one-off Test against England in 2022 and also got a chance to complete 100 Tests milestone in the series against Australia this year. "Once he failed in Australia series at home, there was very little chance for him but selectors didn't want to change things ahead of WTC final," a BCCI source in know of things told PTI on conditions of anonymity.

"Twin failures at Oval sealed his fate. SS Das was in London for WTC final. He must have had a word with head coach Rahul Dravid and intimated his panel's thought-process post final," the source added. If Pujara's knocks of 90 and 102 against Bangladesh are taken away, he has scored at a poor average of 26 in the last three years and perhaps got a very long rope for non-performance.

"It is a two-year cycle and you can't just make wholesale changes. Pujara hasn't been scoring for three years. Difference between a Virat Kohli and a Pujara has been the rhythm. Yes, Kohli also has had a dry spell but he never looked out of form.

"Pujara never gave you confidence after the Australia tour that he is in rhythm. Intent was also an issue. The two knocks against Bangladesh were hardly of any consequence," the source said.

After he scored 213 and 144 in the Irani Cup for Rest of India against MP, the stylish Mumbai left-hander Jaiswal was expected to earn his maiden Test call up.

With a first-class average of 80.21, Jaiswal has shown that he is a special talent and needed to be fast-tracked.

In pre-IPL days, the selectors would always be wary about temperament of domestic performers at the highest level but one good thing about IPL is a chance to test one's skills against the best in the world. Both Jaiswal and Gaikwad, who plays Maharashtra, can open and bat at number three. If they forge a good combination at top in future, there is every chance that Shubman Gill can bat at the coveted No. 4 position as when Virat Kohli decides to move on.

"I am not saying Das' panel would think like this but a Ruturaj will highlight to play fast bowling, despite his 40 plus average in Ranji Trophy, stands a better chance to be successful.

A selector will not just look at runs. "Hence a Sarfaraz Khan getting completely exposed against quick bowlers in IPL or Abhinavnya Easwaran not scoring for Bengal in seven consecutive Ranji knock-out games (three quarter-finals, two semi-finals and two finals) also is taken into account. It is not just about how many runs you score but also how you score them that matters," a former selector said.

Need for Speed On Harbhajan's advice PCA conducts open trials to tap village talent

AGENCY

NEW DELHI, JUN 23: Most of them were raw, some hadn't even held a leather ball in their hands before, forget about knowing the variations of grip.

The Punjab Cricket Association (PCA), with an aim to create 'pace bowling bank', tried out more than 1000 bowlers in open trials between June 10-21 to tap into village talent.

PCA short-listed 93 bowlers -- most of them have not even ventured out of their respective villages.

It was an idea of former India spinner Harbhajan Singh that PCA should visit the remote hamlets in the state to unearth cricketing talent.

Harbhajan, who is a Rajya Sabha MP, has been advising PCA on regaining its state unit to make proper utilisation of the funds it receives from the BCCI.

"I don't think many states have done this before -- Conduct open trials instead of restricting it to age-group. I wanted PCA to find raw pace bowling tal-

ents," Harbhajan, who is currently on a break with his family told PTI. "In Punjab, we have some of the toughest lads and I refuse to believe that we won't have boys who can't be as quick as an Unman Malik or a Kuldeep Sen.

The idea is to find them and help them grow into good bowlers. We have already identified 90-odd boys between age-group of 16 to 24," he added. The Punjab state side, over the years, has had medium pacers like Sidarth Kaul, Sandeep Sharma, Baltej

Dhanda. Their bowling speed is in range of 125 kph to 135 kph.

Since VRV Singh's exit, Punjab has not seen a fast bowling talent who could consistently hit the 140 to 145 kph on speed gun.

The PCA, headed by secretary Disha Khanna, created a road-map and appointed former national selector Harvirinder Singh along with former India pacers Manpreet Singh Souny and Gagandeep Singh to scout talents for short and long-term plans.

Accordingly, PCA adver-

tised in local newspapers and announced on local cable channels with a rider that only those players, who have never played any competitive cricket will be allowed to take part in the trials.

"It has been an enriching experience to travel across length and breadth of Punjab, visiting places ranging from Amritsar, Jalandhar, Barnala, Muktsar Sahib in search of talent."

"During our Amritsar phase of trials, we had a boy who was 6 feet 8 inches. Hum dekh ke daang rah gaye.

Navdeep Saini set to miss July county stint with Worcestershire after getting India call-up

AGENCY

LONDON, JUN 23: Navdeep Saini, who made a comeback to the Indian Test squad, will miss three matches for his English county side Worcestershire in month of July as it is coinciding with the Test series in the West Indies.

India will play their opening Test in Dominica on July 12-16 while the second and final game will be held in Jamaica from July 20-24.

"There is always a clause for any international player that if he is called up for national duty, he would be released.

Hence, Worcestershire won't be able to avail Saini's services for the said tenure," a BCCI source told PTI on conditions of anonymity.

Worcestershire on Friday announced the signing of India pacer Navdeep Saini as their second overseas player for the upcoming four matches until the end of July.

The 30-year-old Saini, is set to make his Worcestershire debut in the Sunday's clash against Derbyshire at New Road.

"Worcestershire have secured the services of Indian fast bowler Navdeep Saini as their second overseas player in the LV=Insurance County Championship for the

upcoming four matches until the end of July," the club said in a statement. "The fixtures that Saini won't be available are against Yorkshire from July 10-13, versus Leicestershire from July 19-22 and Gloucestershire at Cheltenham College ground from July 26-29.

Saini, who has represented India in all three formats of the game, had a brief stint with Kent last summer, where he claimed 11 wickets in two Championship matches.

"Saini's arrival will bolster the bowling unit, which has been affected by Charlie Morris' retirement due to a knee issue. Josh Tongue's call-ups to the England squad, and recent injury concerns surrounding Dillon Pennington and Adam Finch." "I am aware that Indian players such as Kapil Dev, Zaheer Khan, and Ravichandran Ashwin have previously played for Worcestershire and achieved success," Saini was quoted as saying on club's website. Saini has represented India in two Tests, eight ODIs, and 11 T20Is, and he has been a part of the Delhi Daredevils' Royal Challengers Bangalore, and Rajasthan Royals squads in the Indian Premier League. Having taken 174 wickets in 60 first-class matches.

NOTICE

I Khatijan Bibi D/o Mohd Din R/o Bachal P/o Sudhmahadev. Tehsil Chennani Distt. Dhalpur J&K. my name has wrongly been written in my insurance policy document bearing no 20737610. Mrs Khatija Banoo (incorrect name) instead of Khatijan Bibi (correct name written in my Pan Card). Now I am applying for the correction of the same above said. Objection if any may be conveyed to concerning authority with in 7 days from the publication of this notice.

NORTHERN RAILWAY 75th Anniversary Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

TENDER NOTICE

Senior Divisional Mechanical Engineer (C&W) Firozpur acting for and on behalf of the President of India invites E-Tenders for the works/services listed below. Bidders will be able to visit their original/overhead bid till closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against these tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make online payments against these tender. Document cost and earnest money only through online payment modes available on www.reps.gov.in portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand Draft, Banker's cheque, Deposit receipt, P.O. are not allowed.

Type	Bidding System	Dating of opening tenders	Bid closing time	Date and Time of opening E-Tender
Open	Single packet System	23.06.2023	15.07.2023 Time 15:00 hours	15.07.2023 Time 15:15 hours

SIN Tender No: Details of Tender

SIN	Tender No.	Description	Value	Document Cost	Earnest Money	Validity Period	Period of completion
1.	06-2023-LUB	Fabrication & Fitment of amenity items in coaches of train no 14620, 14626, 12414, 12427/24767/78, 12204, 12460, 12054 & 14674 of C&W (opps) of Firozpur division for two years.	1,94,17,789.81/-	NIL	247100.00	45 Days	24 Months

For more details, please log on to www.reps.gov.in

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 194223

NORTHERN RAILWAY 75th Anniversary Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

E-AUCTION

The Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Northern Railway, Firozpur for and on behalf of President of India invites E-Auction for various lots over Firozpur Division as per detail given below:

Auction Catalogue No.	EAFZR-OH23-11
Auction Start	05-07-23 11:00 hours
Name of Work	Advertisement rights through static media at Level crossing at Railway Station
Name of Location	Level crossing No. C-30, C-31, C-32, C-33 adjoining to CHHINA, C-27, C-28, B-5, C-25, S-22A in adjoining to Baitala Area, C-15, C-16, B-17, C-19, C-21 adjoining to JAUNTIPIRA, A-36, A-39, S-17 adjoining to Verka & B-6, C-7, C-13 & C-16 adjoin to Bhaganwalwa
Auction Catalogue No.	EAFZR-PRK623-17 & EAFZR-PRK623-18
Auction Start and Time	05-07-23 & 06-07-23 11:00 hours
Name of Work	Parking contract at Railway Station Gurdaspur, Comprehensive Parking contract at Railway Station Bahawal & commercial vehicle at Jammu Tawi
Auction Catalogue No.	EAFZR-PN23-8 & FZPARCEL-38
Auction Start and Time	07-07-23 11:00 hours
Name of Work	Allocation of contract for Operation & Maintenance (OM&M) of Normal Pay & Use Toilets at Dhandari Kallan Railway Station.
	Contract for Leasing of parcel space in Train No/ SLR compartment 12478-F1, 16318-F1, 18310-R1, 12474-F1, 15212-F1, 15212-R1, 22318-F1, 14620-F1

Only registered Venders can participate. For other details please visit Railway website www.reps.gov.in

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UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) CONST. DIVN. NO. II, JAMMU

SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Short e-NIT No. 72 of 2023-2024/Div-2 Dated 20-06-2023

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir e-tenders are invited on percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with Union Territory of J&K, CPWD, Railways, MES and other State/Central Government agencies with all the following works:-

S. No	Name of Work	Name of Division	Advertised Cost (Rs. in lacs)	Cost of document (in Rs)	Earnest Money (in Rs)	Time Allow for complete te-on	Time and date of opening of tender	Class of Contract or
1	Providing and Laying of T-Wire Crates at Link road from Railway under bridge to Nih44 at Upper Hargora Jammu. (Under Non-Plan).	PWD (R&B) Const. Div. No. II Jammu	5.00	600	2% of Advertised Cost	01 Month	27-06-2023 (1:00PM)	"A, B, C & D Class
2	Providing and Laying of RBM & WBM Gr-II at Lane No. 2, 3, 4 at Khanpur Nagrota Jammu. (Under Non-Plan).	PWD (R&B) Const. Div. No. II Jammu	3.50	600	2% of Advertised Cost	01 Month	27-06-2023 (1:00PM)	"A, B, C & D Class
3	Construction of Pucca Drain from Peer Baba Road Bagla to H/O Saini Ali Bin Bagla, Jammu. (Under Non-Plan).	PWD (R&B) Const. Div. No. II Jammu	5.00	600	2% of Advertised Cost	01 Month	27-06-2023 (1:00PM)	"A, B, C & D Class
4	Providing and Laying of RBM & Gr-II on Road from H/O Rajesh Kumar & H/O Ashok Kumar at Ward No. 09, Kattal Battal Nagrota, Jammu. (Under Non-Plan).	PWD (R&B) Const. Div. No. II Jammu	4.47	600	2% of Advertised Cost	01 Month	27-06-2023 (1:00PM)	"A, B, C & D Class
5	Providing and Laying of RBM & Construction of R/Wall Near H/O Ajit Singh to H/O Krishan Lal to Wards Shamsan Ghat at Chak Rakwala, Nagrota Jammu. (Under Non-Plan).	PWD (R&B) Const. Div. No. II Jammu	4.00	600	2% of Advertised Cost	01 Month	27-06-2023 (1:00PM)	"A, B, C & D Class
6	Providing and Laying of RBM & WBM Gr-II on link road from Upper kumar Road to Chaiden Mohalla Near H/O Abdul Latif, Al Pangrain Nagrota Jammu.(Under Non-Plan).	PWD (R&B) Const. Div. No. II Jammu	4.88	600	2% of Advertised Cost	01 Month	27-06-2023 (1:00PM)	"A, B, C & D Class

Position of AAA: Accredited.

The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	20-06-2023
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 21-06-2023 to 26-06-2023 upto 1800 Hrs
3	Date, Time and place of pre-bid meeting	XXXXXXXXX at XXXX Hrs. in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. II Jammu
4	Bid submission Start Date	21-06-2023
5	Bid Submission End Date	26-06-2023 upto 1800 Hrs
6	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	27-06-2023 on or after 1300 Hrs in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. II Jammu
7	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed

1. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of e-challan through Treasury indicating Treasury Voucher No. & date, e-NIT No. and name of work and uploading to MH 009 (Revenue) favouring Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. II Jammu and credit the same to treasury challan / receipt, Earnest money/ Bid security in shape of CDR/FDR/pledged to Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. II Jammu. The CDR/FDR/BC shall be valid for 45 Days beyond the bid validity period. The original instruments in respect of cost of documents, EMD and relevant documents of LI be submitted to the Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. II Jammu at the time of allotment.

No. - 16479-501
Dated - 20-06-2023

SD/-
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
PWD (R&B) CONST. DIV. NO. II
JAMMU

Sheetal Nanda tours Bandipora, inspects OSC, Child Care Home, CBRC

JI NEWS SERVICE

BANDIPORA, JUNE 23: Commissioner Secretary, Social Welfare Department, Sheetal Nanda, on Friday visited Bandipora district and inspected One Stop Center (OSC) at District Hospital Bandipora besides Child Care Institute and Cradle Baby Reception Centre, Sonerwani. She took stock of the facilities being made available at One Stop Centre and the shelter home and also reviewed its functioning. She was accompanied by Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Dr Owais Ahmad, District Programme Officer, Mohammad Ashraf Hakak, Joint Director Planning, Imtiyaz Ahmad and officers of social wel-



fare department. On the occasion, Commissioner Secretary was informed about the functioning of the centre and the assistance being provided there

to the women. Sheetal Nanda also reviewed the functioning of District Hub for Empowerment of Women in Bandipora (Erstwhile Mahila

Shakti Kendra). Commissioner Secretary was also informed about the infrastructure development going on in the district, including recent construction of Tribal hostel, etc. Sheetal Nanda instructed for creating mass awareness among the people regarding various welfare measures being implemented and provided through ICPS.

She directed for taking out Child Protection Services in the district to the next level, which will act as a boon for all the children of the district in particular and UT in general.

Commissioner Secretary also took stock of working of Observation homes and the staff position of these vital units of ICPS.

Gender Specialist, Aisha Shafi, informed the Commissioner Secretary about the performance of the hub.

She informed that they are regularly interacting with women and facilitate them in availing the benefit of various schemes. She informed that 13 cases of females have been sent to Sheep Husbandry Department for establishment income generation units. She said the Hub has also referred 40 girls for skill development at RSETI under Beti Bachao Beti Padoos scheme. Besides, the hub has also recommended 25 children from 0-10 age group for opening Sukanaya Samridhi Accounts in Post Office wherein they are being given 8 percent interest on savings.

2nd Inter-College Volleyball & Table Tennis Tournament (Men/Women) 2023 concluded GCOE IASE Srinagar



JI NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JUNE 23: The 2nd Inter-College Volleyball and Table Tennis Tournament (Men/Women) 2023 organized by Department of Physical Education, Govt. College of Education (IASE) M.A. Road Srinagar concluded today, here.

In Volleyball Men, 11 teams participated and the final was played between GCOE (IASE) M.A. Road Srinagar and AAA Memorial Degree College Bema in which AAA Memorial Degree College Bema emerged as winner.

In Volleyball Women, 8 teams participated and the final was played between SP College Srinagar and GCW M.A. Road Srinagar in which GCW M.A. Road Srinagar won the final.

In Table Tennis Men, 10 teams participated and the final was played between AAA Memorial Degree College Bema and Gandhi Memorial College, where AAA Memorial Degree College Bema emerged as the winner.

In Table Tennis Women, 10 teams participated and the final was played between GCOE (IASE) M.A. Road Srinagar and Islamia College of Science and Commerce Srinagar in which GCOE (IASE) M.A. Road Srinagar emerged as the winner.

The prize distribution ceremony was conducted in Multipurpose Hall where, Principal Prof. Dr. Seema Naz was the chief guest. Sports Committee of the institution and PTIs from participating institutions were also a part of the prize distribution ceremony.

The Principal distributed trophies and medals among the players of both runners-up and winners of Volleyball Men/ Women and Table Tennis Men/ Women tournaments.

DC felicitates 60 Board Exam merit holders, 2 NEET qualifiers at Poonch

JI NEWS SERVICE

POONCH, JUNE 23: To honor and celebrate the hard work of meritorious students of government schools who shined in class 12 and Class 10 Board Exams, the Department of School Education, in collaboration with the Department of Social Welfare, on Friday organised a grand function themed "kabliyat, Koshish, and Kaamyabi" here in the Government Degree College Auditorium.

Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Yasin Mohammad Choudhary was the chief guest on the occasion.

The felicitation ceremony began with the lighting of the traditional lamp by the chief guest followed by reciting of the National Anthem.

The first three toppers of classes 12th and 10th at district level (stream wise science, Arts and Commerce separately) were given Laptops by the Department of social welfare, whereas the 2nd and third toppers were given tabs by the department of School Education. The students who secured above 90% marks in class 12 and 10th were also felicitated. All the students were honored with mementoes and certificates of appreciation. Moreover, two students of government schools who recently qualified NEET were also felicitated on the occasion.

The parents and heads of schools also accompanied the meritorious students on the stage to receive the awards.

Earlier, Bishanwar Dass, Chief Education Officer Poonch read the welcome address and highlighted the achievements of the Education Department.

A cultural program was also presented on the occasion. The Deputy Commissioner, in his address congratulated the students for their excellent performance and urged them to continue working hard and strive for success in their future endeavors.

The Chief Guest also hailed the parents and teachers, appreciating their support and guidance to the students.

Vice Chairman NITI Aayog meets stakeholders; listens to their views, ideas for Viksit Bharat



JI NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JUNE 23: Vice Chairman NITI Aayog, Suman Bery, has conducted an exclusive interactive session with representatives from various sectors in Jammu and Kashmir, including Handicrafts and Handloom exporters and artisans, associations of Industries, Agriculture and allied sectors here at SKICCC.

The session aimed to address their concerns and discuss strategies for promoting growth and development in the region. During the session, representatives from the Handicrafts and Handloom exporters and artisans sector presented their views and highlighted their issues and concerns. They projected their issues related to Pashmina Industry, GST implementation and challenges in exportation.

Similarly, industrial representatives raised their concerns, focusing on the need for incentives for existing MSME

units under the new industrial policy. They also stressed the importance of supporting the manufacturing sector, improving connectivity to the outside world, and implementing measures to further ease the business environment. Various stakeholders, including the Houseboat Owners Association Land other tourism stakeholders, and the hospitality sector, highlighted the urgent need for infrastructure upgradation to cater to the growing demand of tourists visiting Jammu and Kashmir.

They highlighted the positive impact of recent G20 event, which created awareness and publicity about the region. The Vice Chairman acknowledged the significance of this event and assured the stakeholders that their concerns would be considered for resolution. Furthermore, representatives from the agriculture and allied sector provided valuable insights and raised several concerns during the session.

These concerns included processing of C-Grade apples, road connectivity, establishment of horticulture estates, and the need for incubation centers. Farmers engaged in dairy, poultry, and sheep farming also expressed their viewpoints, contributing to a comprehensive discussion on the challenges faced by the agricultural community.

Besides, an academic delegation also had the opportunity to present their issues before the Vice Chairman. They called for infrastructure development to enhance skilling programs, emphasized the importance of research, and sought liberal funding for educational institutions. Additionally, they urged for establishment of a Law University to support the legal education sector in the region.

Vice Chairman assured all stakeholders that their issues and demands would be thoroughly discussed and considered for appropriate action. The interactive session was moderated by Secretary Planning Development and Monitoring, Dr Raghar Langar.

Others who attended the event included Secretary Tourism, Dr. Syed Abid Rashid Shah, Director Tourism Kashmir, Planning Department officers, heads of various departments, representatives of associations, farmers and stakeholder groups.

Union Deputy Secretary visits Nagseri; Holds interactive session with students at Nagseri Zone Schools

JI NEWS SERVICE

KISHITWAR, JUNE 23: Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Armstrong Pame, today visited various schools in Nagseri Zone and had an exclusive interactive session with the students.

Deputy Secretary, Dr. Devansh Yadav accompanied the Union Deputy Secretary.

The purpose of this session was to motivate the students towards developing their self confidence and overall personality for a brighter future.



During the interactive session, Deputy Secretary emphasized the significance of confidence building measures and personality development in shaping suc-

cessful careers. He shared valuable insights on how to select ambitions in life and emphasized the importance of hard work and perseverance in achieving one's

goals. The session also aimed to boost morale of students, instilling in them a sense of self-belief and determination to overcome challenges of present world.

Deputy Secretary also answered various queries posed by the students, ensuring a comprehensive understanding of the discussed topics.

Furthermore, the officials highlighted the essential habits required for successful careers and overall life accomplishments. Emphasizing the significance of quality habits, they motivated the students to cultivate discipline, integrity, and

dedication, as these qualities are crucial for attaining excellence in any field.

CEO Kishitwar, Prehlad Bhagat, Tehsildar Kishitwar, Muneeb Umar, State Taxes Officer Kishitwar, Maneet Sharma, Zonal Education Officer (ZEO), Nagseri, Nizam-Ud-Din, and Principal of HSS Ohli, Dr. Riyaz ul Haq also accompanied the Deputy Secretary.

The interactive session served as an exceptional platform for students to gain valuable insights, guidance, and inspiration from accomplished professionals.

Union Secretary DAPRG chairs meeting regarding implementation of Mission Youth in J&K

JI NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, JUNE 23: Union Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DAPRG), V Srinivas, today chaired a meeting regarding implementation of Mission Youth in Jammu and Kashmir during his visit to the Union Territory.

V Srinivas had detailed discussion on impactful initiatives of Mission Youth and their contribution towards empowering and engaging youth of the region. He appreciated the efforts and resources being steered by Mission Youth for effective youth engagement and outreach in J&K. He expressed optimism that the youth of J&K would emerge as ambassadors of peace and prosperity for the entire country.

He deliberated on diverse range of initiatives being implemented by Mission Youth including livelihood generation schemes, education programs, skill development besides sports and recreation activities.

Various officers, officials and beneficiaries of Mission Youth along with representatives from different departments were present in the meeting including Secretary Tribal Affairs Department and CEO Mission Youth, Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, Secretary, Youth Services and Sports, Sarmad Hafeez, Secretary, Labour and Employment, Rehana Batul and Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Dr. Owais Ahmad.

Dr. Shahid Iqbal highlighted the positive outcomes of these initiatives emphasizing their sig-

nificance in empowering the youth of Jammu and Kashmir. He provided valuable insights into the structure, objectives and functionality of Mission Youth, offering a comprehensive understanding of the organization.

During the meeting, CEO Mission Youth elaborated on the strategic intervention areas where the program has made a substantial impact.

These areas encompass market-driven skilling, psycho-social rehabilitation, livelihood generation, education and career counselling, and social engagement through sports and recreation. He also emphasized the pivotal role of Mission Youth in the tourism sector, showcasing how the digitization of schemes has facilitated efficient implementation. He expressed gratitude

towards the nodal department for their consistent support, acknowledging their indispensable role as pillars of Mission Youth.

DC Bandipora, who serves as the chairperson of District Level Task Force (DLTF) for Mission Youth, shared his experiences highlighting the unwavering support provided by the CEO Mission Youth. He emphasized how Mission Youth has played an instrumental role in equipping youth from remote areas with the necessary skills to secure their livelihoods. The training programs conducted in hospitality and soft skills have been particularly impactful, empowering youth to maintain and manage homestays and collaborate with leading online hospitality portals, he added.

The youth volunteering program was highlighted as an effective means of instilling a sense of responsibility among the youth.

Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC), Kulgam, provided insights into development of playfields at the panchayat level, promoting youth engagement and encouraging healthy recreational activities. Additionally, drug de-addiction programs have been organized at the panchayat level to raise awareness about the hazards of substance abuse among the youth, he added. The meeting also shed light on the crucial role played by the Entrepreneurship Development Institute (EDI) in empowering and training youth under the Mission Youth program.

Govt SPRM College organises Intra-College Gatka (Men) competition



JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, JUNE 23: The Department of Physical Education & Sports of Government SPMR College of Commerce, Jammu today organised Intra-College Gatka (Men) competition/ Demonstration activity under the aegis of "International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking".

Gatka is a Martial Art Sports which is recognized as a National Sport. The event started with players displaying different skills of this Martial Art form which fall under the fold of Gatka.

Addressing the students, Malik Ajaz Iqbal emphasized the importance of such high endurance sports for youth as it would help them in staying away from the menace of Drugs Abuse and keep them fit for all challenges of life.

The College Principal, Dr. Surinder Kumar inaugurated the event and said that Physical Education keeps the students physically fit, mentally alert, socially sound, emotionally stable and spiritually enlightened.

The Principal of the College congratulated all the participants and boosted the morale of the participants.

Other dignitaries present on the occasion were Prof. Shaikat Jahangir, Convener Sports Committee, Dr. Sandhya Bharadwaj, Prof. Savita Jamwal, Dr. Monika Malhotra, Prof. Deepshikha Sharma, Prof. Ashu Manhas, Dr. Nazia Rasool, HoD EVS, Prof. Apfan Ali, HoD Urdu and Sardar Ravinder Singh (Gen. Secretary Gatka Association of J&K).