



# JINDRAH IMAGES



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## 2 terrorists killed as security forces foil infiltration bid in Kupwara

**JNEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, MAY 3

Two terrorists were killed in an encounter as security forces foiled an infiltration bid along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Kupwara district on Wednesday, officials said.

Srinagar-based defence spokesperson Col Enron Musavi said that based on a specific intelligence input provided by Senior Superintendent of Police, Kupwara about likely infiltration from one of the terrorist launch pads across the LoC towards Machil sector, troops were put on high alert on Monday. "A well-coordinated counter-infiltration grid was put in place in this rugged and extremely



difficult area. A number of additional ambushes, including those of the Indian Army and SOG (Special Operations Group), Kupwara, were placed along the likely routes of infiltration," he said. "The troops in ambushes braved incessant rainfall,

the elimination of the two terrorists, he said.

Col Musavi said the bodies of the two terrorists have been recovered along with two AK series rifles, six AK-47 magazines, 159 AK-47 rounds, two hand grenades, eatables and cigarettes with Pakistani marking, and Pakistani currency amounting to Rs 660.

Their identities and group affiliation are being ascertained, he said, adding that an extensive search in the area is underway.

"This successful intelligence-based operation is yet another example of close synergy between Indian Army, Jammu and Kashmir Police and all agencies.

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## MeT predicts more rains in J&K; below normal temperatures at some places

**JNEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, MAY 3

As fresh rains started in Kashmir on Wednesday morning, the weather department has forecast intermittent light to moderate rain while as several places recorded below normal temperatures.

Quoting a meteorological department official, that a brief spell of rain and thunderstorm was expected at scattered places towards late afternoon or evening today.

From May 4-6, he said, "weather was likely to be fair to partly cloudy. A brief spell of rain/thunderstorm may occur towards late afternoon/evening."



From May 7-8, he said, rain was likely at "many places".

He asked tourists to keep warmer cloths, saying that the weather was likely to be colder till May 8. Regarding temperature, he said, Srinagar

for the gateway town of Kashmir.

Pahalgam, he said, recorded a low of 5.2°C against 6.5°C on previous night and it was 0.3°C above normal for the famous tourist resort in south Kashmir's Anantnag district. Kokernag recorded a low of 7.4°C against 8.3°C on the previous night and it was 1.0°C below normal for the place, the officials said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of 3.5°C against 8.3°C on previous night and it was 0.8°C below normal for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, he said. In Kupwara town, **CONT. ON PAGE 4**

## Chairman APSCC, former Legislator call on LG



**JNEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, MAY 3

Jagmohan Singh Raina, Chairman, All Parties Sikh Coordination Committee called on Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today at Raj Bhawan.

Raina discussed with the Lt Governor various important matters pertaining to the Gurdwara Board elections, promotion of handicrafts and

youth-related issues. Ishfaq Jabbar, former Legislator apprised the Lt Governor about various development & public issues of Ganderbal District.

Later, Sh. Sheikh Muzaffar, President, Jammu & Kashmir Nationalist People's Front (JKNPF), also called on the Lt Governor and put forth the concerning issues of Faisal area **CONT. ON PAGE 4**

## Govt has brought greater transparency and accountability to financial system since 2019: CS

**JNEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, MAY 3

Finance Department today organised a day-long workshop on "Transformation and Reforms in Financial Management" at SKICC here.

The workshop was attended by Director General(s) of Finance and Planning Departments, Director(s) Finance in Administrative Departments, FA&CAOs in Administrative Departments, FA&CAOs/accounts officers posted with HODs/DDCs, Treasury officers and other senior officers



of the Department.

The focus of the workshop was to apprise the participants about the priorities of the government and implementation of its schemes through digital

platforms for better outcomes at the field level.

Chief Secretary Dr Arun Kumar Mehta who was Chief Guest on the occasion highlighted **CONT. ON PAGE 4**

## 1 dead, 4 injured in road accident

**JNEWS SERVICE**  
POONCH, MAY 3

One person was killed and four were injured when their cab skidded off the road and turned turtle in Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday, police said.

The cab was on its way to Mandi from Balmoi when the driver lost control of the vehicle, they said.

After receiving information about the incident, a rescue operation was launched immediately. The occupants of the cab were rushed to a nearby hospital, where Mohd Basim from Balmoi, was declared brought dead, the police said.

The four injured,



including an eight-year-old boy and two women, are undergoing treatment, they said.

## Chugh slams Abdullah, Mufti, says they dance to tunes of Pakistan, ISI

**JNEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, APR 3

BJP national general secretary Tarun Chugh today blasted the PDP president Mehbooba Mufti for misleading the people of J&K by undermining the development works undertaken by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and giving a new vision to the youth of the Union territory.

In a statement Chugh, who is also party incharge for J&K, said that the PDP has been always dancing to the tunes of Pakistan ISI and is now feeling uncomfortable since people of



the Union Territory have turned their back of Muftis and Abdullahs and have taken to the path of progress and development.

Chugh said it is time Muftis and Abdullahs stopped forthwith their nefarious game plan of

playing in the hands for Pakistan and China and let the people go on the path of progress and development.

The plundering of the J&K resources and the central aid that has been happening for the comfort and pleasure of Muftis and Abdullahs would always remain a black chapter in the recent history of J&K.

He said now the youth of J&K want computers not stones in their hands. The entire culture of J&K has transformed from terrorist to tourism and trade. **CONT. ON PAGE 4**

## Amarnath Yatra Shrine board releases list of permitted, banned food items for pilgrims at 'Langars'

**AGENCIES**  
JAMMU, MAY 3

As the 62-day long Shri Amarnath Yatra this year is scheduled to begin from July 1, the Shri Amarnath Shrine Board has released a list of permitted and banned meal, food items at 'langars' (community kitchens) for the pilgrims en route twin tracks to the holy cave shrine located in Anantnag district of Jammu and Kashmir.

Officials said that



focus is the health of the pilgrims and in view of that, Langar organisations have been asked

"No junk and fried food will be allowed but only nutritious meals will be served at around 120 langars to be established this year for the pilgrims at twin routes leading to the cave shrine," they added.

The Shri Amarnath Shrine Board (SASB) has also circulated a menu (permitted, banned), applicable to all langar organizations, food stalls, shops and other establishments to remain operational during the yatra

period, said an official.

He further stated that the District Magistrates of Ganderbal and Anantnag will ensure action against those who violate the guidelines.

The meals in the Permitted Menu included Cereals, Pulses, Green Vegetables, Potato, Saag, Nutrela Soya Chunks), Besan Curry, Plain Dal, Green Salad, Fruits and Sprouts, Plain Rice, Zeera Rice, Khichdi and Nutrela Rice, Roti / Phulka **CONT. ON PAGE 4**

## People fume over delay in construction of bridge in Udhampur

**AGENCIES**  
JAMMU, MAY 3

Patience is running thin for the residents of over 50 villages in Jammu and Kashmir's Udhampur district who have been waiting for the last two years for a new bridge over a rivulet and say the administration needs to be "shaken out of its slumber".

The 70-year-old Birwan bridge in the Army cantonment, one kilometre ahead of the Northern Army Command headquarters, was declared unsafe two years ago after

it developed cracks, hitting Army movement and forcing over one-and-a-half lakh population to take an 18-km detour to reach the Jammu-Srinagar national highway.

Chairman of Udhampur District Development Council Lal Chand, however, appealed to the people to have patience, assuring them that the Border Roads Organisation (BRO), the executing agency, was waiting for the soil testing report to start the construction of the double-lane bridge. He also said that Locl

MP and Union minister Jitendra Singh was monitoring the project.

The Army has immediately built a temporary steel bridge in place of the Birwan bridge, but the new construction could not be used for more than two months. Later, a Bailey bridge was built by the Army with restrictions on the movement of goods and commercial vehicles.

"We have staged protests demanding a new bridge. But nobody paid any heed. We are suffering economic losses because we have to pay additional



transportation charges," the president of Beopar Mandal N C Bhatti said. He demanded a bridge which could be used by general vehicles.

General Secretary of Senior Citizens Forum

Garhi Amreek Singh said the administration had plans to build a bridge for over 30 years.

"The delay in starting the work is because the administration is fast asleep... they need to be

shaken out of their slumber. The people are suffering as they have to spend an extra two hours to reach their destinations," Singh said.

Sumit Mangotra, a local Congress leader, said the administration started dismantling the old bridge six months ago and that rekindled hope among the locals that a new bridge

would be built within a year. The work, however, stopped within two weeks and there was no headway since then, he said, adding the local shopkeepers were the worst hit by the collapse of the original bridge.

DDC chairman Lal Chand said, "The debris of the old bridge already stands cleared. The design of the double-lane bridge with footpaths on both sides is ready and we are expecting the work to start immediately after the soil testing report is received." "Soil testing was impera-

tive as the original bridge and the steel bridge collapsed due to the sinking of the earth. It is like a swamp which needs to be tackled before the construction work starts," he said.

Chand, who is a BJP leader, said the main problem was the water supply pipes passing through the area to the army cantonment. The issue has been resolved, he said.

"We have also been in touch with the authorities concerned. The bridge will be a reality soon," Chand asserted.

# BJP has clear policies to benefit common person: Ashok Koul

Former J&K Bank manager Rakesh Raina, Shweta Chadda join BJP with hundreds of supporters



JJ NEWS SERVICE

**NOWSHERA, MAY 03:** Social leader and former J&K Bank manager Rakesh Raina and Shweta Chadda joined BJP with hundreds of supporters in a party meeting held at Lambari in Nowshera.

BJP J&K BJP general secretary (Org.) Ashok Koul accompanied by BJP senior leader & Prabhari Nowshera Sanjay Kumar Baru and District Nowshera President

Neena Sharma welcomed the new entrants.

Ashok Koul was chairing party meetings of Nowshera Assembly Constituency.

He addressed the 1st meeting of Core Group Nowshera Constituency and 2nd meeting of senior leaders, office bearers and Mandal President of Nowshera Constituency.

While addressing the meeting, Ashok Koul reviewed the programmes under Booth Sashaktikaran

Abhiyaan and PM's Mann Ki Baat and appreciated the party workers from Nowshera Constituency for their dedicated efforts in ensuring successful culmination of those programmes.

He asked the party workers to gear up for the forthcoming Panchayat and ULBs elections.

He prompted them to maintain active contact with the prominent persons of the Civil society.

"BJP has crystal clear

policies to benefit the common person. Hence, it has attracted every person from the social and political arena, who yearns to serve the society and the Nation with zeal," said Ashok Koul, while welcoming the new entrants.

Sanjay Baru expressed pleasure that prominent members of civil society have joined BJP to serve the people.

He said that the party believes that their resourceful services will not only benefit the people and the organization in Rajouri, but they will be equally beneficial for J&K as a whole.

New entrants shared their pleasure on the occasion and said that today, Modi ji has become the voice of the underprivileged and those who were neglected for decades.

They said that they would feel proud while serving the society under the banner of BJP who is an army of dedicated patriots led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

SHRADHANJALI SAMMAROH

# Purnima pays glorious tributes to five Amry Personnel martyred in Poonch terror attack



JJ NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU, MAY 03:** Advocate Purnima Sharma, Spokesperson BJP and former Deputy Mayor Jammu, paid tributes to the Army soldiers who were martyred in the Poonch terror attack. In this context, a

Shradhanjali Sammaroh was organized at Purani Mandi Chowk Jammu in which Purnima Sharma along with others paid glorious tributes to the bravehearts.

Speaking on the occasion, the senior BJP leader strongly condemned

Pakistan for carrying on the policy of enmity against India and harboring terrorists on its soil and using them to threaten life of the people & security forces in Jammu and Kashmir. Pakistan, who has failed to provide democracy and development to its people,

has no right to disturb our peace in J&K, she added. Purnima said that such incident being barbaric reflects the mindless violence resorted to by certain frustrated elements in connivance with their lords sitting in safe havens across the border. She lamented that this only causes bloodshed and mayhem leaving innocent victimized.

She also appealed to the people of Jammu and Kashmir to remain vigilant for such unforeseen attacks by anti-national elements and come forward with courage to inform the Administration regarding presence of such mischievous elements if found in their area, to ensure safety of masses to meet such unforeseen eventualities.

# If AP forms next Govt, will restore Old Pension Scheme in favour of Govt employees: Manjit



JJ NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU, MAY 03:** Apni Party Provincial President, Jammu, and Former Minister S. Manjit Singh has assured that if they form the next Govt in Jammu and Kashmir, the Apni Party will restore the Old Pension Scheme for all the Govt employees.

"It's a long pending demand of the employees and officers in J&K Govt. Over 4.5 lakhs Govt employees and gazetted officers have been working in different sectors of J&K Govt and we support their genuine demand as they are the backbone of the society," said the former minister addressing a trade union of Apni Party.

This meeting was organized by J&K President, Apni Trade Union, Ajaz Kazmi on the eve of Labour Day.

In his address the trade union of Apni Party, S. Manjit Singh said that "The Govt has not responded about the repeated

demands and submission of memorandum to the Govt with regard to the Old Pension Scheme. If this Govt does nothing to address the issues of the employees, we are committed under the leadership of Syed Mohammed Altaf Bukhari sahib."

"We are committed to restore the Old Pension Scheme in favour of all the permanent Govt employees and officers. Besides, we will also regularize all the daily wagers within 60 days of forming the next Govt in J&K," he stated further. He said that the daily wagers were engaged by the previous Govts, and they were not regularized even as most of them have completed 20 to 25 years of services, and many have retired without getting any kind of benefit for their service from the Govt.

"Those lost their lives or body parts in PDD were also neglected and their next of kins were not considered in the Govt sector

even as daily wagers to earn their livelihood," he said.

He said that Apni Part will address unemployment by providing ample job opportunities in Govt as well as in private sectors.

"We will not allow the industrial sectors to avoid engagement of local youths in skilled or unskilled jobs and go ahead with the non-local people. If they are using our land and resources, these industries shall be bound to provide jobs to the local youth," he said while assuring that the enthusiasm and zeal they witnessed during three to four days of tour to Pirpanjal demands a change in the Govt.

"This change is possible with the holding assembly election that is being delayed without justification. However, if an assembly election is held, the Apni Party will form the next Govt and will implement the public welfare scheme and fulfill all the

promises made with the people," he added.

Prominent among those who were present in the meeting include Provincial Vice President, Ex-MLA Faqir Nath, Additional General Secretary, Arun Chibber, Provincial Secretary, District President, Jammu urban, Dr Rohit Gupta, State Coordinator SC Wing, Both Raj Bhagat, State Vice President, OBC, Chakram, State General Secretary Youth Wing, Abhay Bakaya, Provincial President Youth Wing, Vipul Bali, Provincial Women Wing President Jammu, Pavneet Kour, Provincial President Legal Cell, Vikram Rathore, District General Secretary, Sardesh Rana, District President Women Wing, Ritu Pandita, District President Apni Trade Union, Puran Chand Rahi, President Trade Union, Udhampur, Vijay Sharma, President Trade Union District General Secretary, Pardeep Bhatia, District President Youth Wing, Shivam Choudhary, District Secretary Trade Wing, Shabir Malik, District Secretary Trade Union, Mudasar Hussain, Senior District Vice President Youth Wing, Sandeep Vaid, District Vice President Youth, Abhinav Gupta, District Secretary Youth Wing, Ankush Dogra, Shivani Koul and others.

# Men in uniform join political function of bjp in SM pora Ram garh BSF also provided logistics



JJ NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU, MAY 03:** A relief camp was organised by president BJP Kissan morcha Jkut and DDC member in Kamgarh sector village SM pura in which 300 kitchens kit distributed among needy families sh Sunil sharma ex minister and general secretary BJP

jkut Asp sh surinder choudhary ji sh Varinder sharma ji Bdc chairman Darshan choudhary ji Madam Dimple Suri ji Ajay sharma and Shiv choudhary ji sh chaman lal ji Sarpanch Rup choudhary ji S. Tejinder Singh ji Parveen sharma and Smart singh ji also present at this

occasions. This post has been posted by 'Sarjit Singh DDC member in whatts group .What the men in uniform like BSF officer of 148 BN and Addl SP samba doing in that BJP political function. That is a million dollar question to be answered by IGP BSF Opr and Addl DGP Jammu Range.

As per service conduct rules. Men in uniform are not supposed to participate in political functions. That reflects their weakness for the party.

BJP can misuse them in near future especially during Coming parliamentary and Assembly elections as per reported statements of residents and political parties leaders. It is further reported by the locals that BJP DDC members has earlier many times held such functions where in he distributed ration quilts, lady suits among jilt women workers not at GARIBHAATO Program but to influence and allure the voters to vote for BJP in coming elections that need to be stopped. Peoples have reportedly sent this post along with pics to Lt Governor for taking cognizance especially against men in uniform.

# GDC Kilhotran Observes World Asthma Day



JJ NEWS SERVICE

**BHADARWAH, MAY 3:** Amid persistent high inflation and food security issues, farmers in J&K particularly border areas including Bishnah, Arnia and BS Para are worried about their wheat crops due to untimely rain, hailstorm and strong winds. This was stated by Shiv Sena Hindustan J&K President Pt Rajesh Kesri while addressing a press conference in Jammu today.

Addressing media persons, Kesri said J&K is major producers of wheat, a key staple for a significant population, and the crop damage scenario also comes against the backdrop of persisting high



inflation and food security woes globally amid geopolitical uncertainties. Rains have come at a time when

the crop was almost ready for harvesting. The extent of damage can only be ascertained when farmers

get their produce to mandis as standing and even harvested crop have been damaged." In some places, unseasonal rains have caused lodging in wheat crops due to which standing crop falls. However it is difficult to quantify the extent of damage, it can reduce the quality of the grain and may lead to harvesting losses, Kesri said.

Kesri further said that farmer depends on this crop for the whole year, therefore Govt should give compensation to these farmers as soon as possible so that some ointment can be applied on the wounds of these farmers. Balbir Kumar, Raj Kumar, Darshana Devi were also present during the press conference.

# Sanskrit language to be made compulsory from class first in schools



JJ NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU, MAY 03:** Today the members of Shri Kailash jyotish avim Vedic Sanathan trust members met the Director of School Education Jammu Ashok Kumar Sharma and submitted a memorandum to him and

urged that Sanskrit language should be made compulsory in the first class in the schools of Jammu and Kashmir. Trust's trustee Ajay Sharma presented him a book written by the head of the trust, Mahant Rohit Shastri and informed about the Devvani

Sanskrit and social works being done by the trust.

On occasion trust General secretary Parbodh Sharma said that the land of Jammu and Kashmir has been the eternal center of Shaivism, on this holy land the founder of Pratyabhijnadarshan, Acharya Abhinavagupta,

great poet Kalhan, great poet Vilhan, and many ancient Sanskrit sages have originated. The Acharyas who paved the way to unite not only India but also the whole world with their penance, the same Paryyasaila Jammu n d a k a s h m i r V asudhara is becoming extinct from Sanskrit today. If the government fulfills our demands, then the morale of Sanskrit workers will increase and with such efforts it is possible to restore the lost Sanskrit philosophy in the state. On occasion trust members Uttam Chand Sharma, Kuldeep kharjuria, Bablu Sharma, Kuldeep Sharma were present.

# DC Kupwara inaugurates J&K bank's first of its kind Cash Recycler Machine

CRM will be having cash deposit, drawal and fake currency detection facility

**JJ NEWS SERVICE**  
**KUPWARA, MAY 03:** In a bid to provide the latest technological banking facilities to its customers, J&K Bank today operationalized a Cash Recycler Machine (CRM) at Sub District Hospital Kupwara. Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Dr. Doifode Sagar Dattatray inaugurated the first of its kind CRM at Sub District Hospital Kupwara. He congratulated J&K Bank for its contribution in rendering world-class banking facilities to the people. He informed that the bank will open more such CRMs at Handwara and Kralpora. The DC asked the people to take advantage of this facility at their convenience. The first of its kind CRM at Sub

District Hospital Kupwara is laced with latest technological banking facilities. It will help people of the area in depositing cash beyond banking hours and even on holidays as CRM will remain open 24x7. CRM will be having fake currency detection, instant messaging and note denomination wise receipt facility.

On the occasion, the Zonal Head reaffirmed the bank's commitment to providing world-class banking facilities and services to the people of Kupwara district, regardless of their location or status.

The installation of CRM will address issues related to cash withdrawals and deposits by the people while also reducing footfall at Business Units.

The people who attended the inauguration ceremony expressed their gratitude for J&K Bank's provision of a CRM at SDH Kupwara and efforts of Deputy Commissioner Kupwara.

## Business tycoon Jain meets Kavinder, expresses desire to invest in pharma sector

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 03: Business tycoon C.I Jain today called on senior BJP leader and former deputy chief minister Kavinder Gupta and expressed desire to invest in the pharma sector in J&K.

It is pertinent to mention that Jain is a leading manufacturer of products including mouth fresher, tea, and sweet candies. All these products are available in the markets under the leading brand name Shehna. Jain visited Jammu in connection with the launch of his products in Jammu and Kashmir.

While interacting with BJP stalwart leader, Jain expressed his desire to invest in Jammu and Kashmir in the pharma sector. He said that he was impressed with the policies envisaged by the J&K government in the direction of doing ease in business.

He said that he is exploring the scope in the pharma industry and if things will go up as per planning he would soon come with a big pharma manufacturing unit in Jammu. He said that being a leading entrepreneur he wanted to generate employment in J&K through his new venture in the pharma sector as he is quite satisfied with the conducive atmosphere



created by the government with regard to starting new businesses in the UT. He said that he is working on Prime Minister's scheme, which ensures several dividends to farmers as the case in other places where we procure roses from farmers at high rates giving opportunities to tillers to have a good fortune. The business tycoon also said that he is also working on climate change and medical waste management, which is a prerequisite for any industry these days. After giving a patient hearing

Kavinder assured the visiting industrialist that his investment proposal in J&K will not only thrive in the coming time but would also establish him as a philanthropist in the region because his upcoming unit is likely to generate employment and help raise the socio-economic condition of the people in the area. He said that J&K Government will provide all facilities and bounties to him to establish his unit in the UT as it is presently facilitating the businessmen who intend to invest in the region.

## Jammu to witness integration of urban planning, energy conservation, mobility, human management: Sat

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 03: In a mission to improve and make the lives of Jammu people easy, Smart City Jammu to witness integration of concepts like urban planning, energy conservation, mobility and human management, stated Sat Sharma, former Housing & Urban Development Minister, J&K.

Sat Sharma, former BJP president and former Minister along with former MLA Ashwani Sharma, JMC Councillor & BJP SC Morcha Seh-Prabhari Jeet Angral, and BJP SEM Shaileja Gupta listened to the public grievances at BJP Headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

While listening to the grievances, Sat Sharma (CA), added that BJP has a mission to improve the life of Jammu people. By developing as a Smart City, Jammu will witness integration of concepts like urban planning, energy conservation, mobility and human management. It



will generate employment options for people to pursue their livelihood and interests meaningfully, while addressing their concerns and making their lives easier. Ashwani Sharma said that the senior BJP leaders sincerely listen and try to sort out their issues on a daily basis at party headquarters to give the visiting deputations and individuals relief in their longstanding issues. Jeet Angral and Shaileja Gupta diarized the issues and coordinated the camp proceedings.

During the camp, people from different parts of Jammu & Kashmir visited the party office in the form of deputations to represent the issues of their respective areas as well as their individual concerns before the senior party leadership. The main issues presented were related to the Ration card, verification of land titles, transformer issues, electric poles, streetlights, repair of lanes/roads, job issues, etc. A deputation of Trikuta Nagar Welfare Society presented their issues like conversion of lease hold rights

to free ownerships, regularization of additional land with the allottees, availability of Parking lots, construction of additional road, flyover to decongest roads. A deputation of Advocates also presented their issues. Listening to the various issues represented by the deputations, BJP leaders telephonically talked to the concerned departmental officials and issued letters for the others after which he assured them that their issues would be addressed soon.

## Parivar Milan of Bharat Vikas Parishad held in Marble Market Jammu



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 03: Parivar Milan cum election of office bearers of Bharat Vikas Parishad Bahu Branch was held at Mint Leaf Restaurant Marble Market. Which commences with enlightening the traditional lamp in the esteem presence of senior dignitaries. President Vijay Arora read the annual report that includes activities done under different projects of Seva and Sanskar by visiting different schools. Guru Vandhan Chatter Abhinandan was to make them aware of the

place of Guru in shaping their personality to achieve their goals in life. Wherein Group Song Competitions to imbibe in them the spirit of patriotism and dedication towards their Nation and Bharat ko jano to bring awareness about the history, geography, religion, and culture of their nation under sewa projects. Donations of woolen clothes stationary educational tools and books on moral values etc were distributed among the students. The team of Bharat Vikas Parishad thanked Rekha Mahajan BJP President of

District Jammu South and Sunil Mahajan for their donation of Rs 5000 for the sewa project for which they were awarded Mementos on Republic Day Celebration. Rekha Mahajan and Sunil Mahajan also share their views amongst them. Furthermore, Lectures on awareness about their health and hygiene were given to girls by visiting different schools and also on their self-defence adoption of two girls by Dr. Rachna Gupta for spending on every need of their apart from studies for which she was awarded

Memento on Republic Day Celebration. The Branch celebrated National functions like Independence Day and Republic Day and Religious functions with great zeal and enthusiasm. DP Arora the Coordinator of the Branch read the financial report on this occasion and the election was held in the presence of observer Arun Gupta Regional Secretary's North and Patron Dr Santosh Gupta President, Vijay Arora was unanimously elected to continue as a President for another one year, Secretary Monika Khosla, Treasurer Mohini Manhas

the newly elected PST team assured for their dedication towards their assignments. The function ended with a vote of thanks followed by the National Anthem. Prominent among others were Pursham Gupta, Ajay Gupta, Rajesh Bhatia, Sunil Mahajan, Dr. Rachna, Pawan Kohli, G B Kohli, Harshwardhan, Ashok Sood and SC Sharma.

## "NC PLAYING DIVISIVE POLITICS" Farooq is blind to success of Y20 Jammu meet: Raman Suri

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 03: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) J&K Executive Member Raman Suri today took the former Chief Minister of J&K and National Conference President Feroq Abdullah head-on, asking him to stop playing divisive politics by shouting how Jammu did not get any G20 meet.

For the information of Feroq Abdullah, the Youth-20 (Y20) meeting which is part of over-2000 G20 events being held in the country was a major diplomatic achievement for India and Y20 Jammu meet was also part of this event, Raman Suri added. He regretted that such a grand success at international level wherein Ladakh and Jammu listened to the opinion of young foreign delegations is not being digested by the National Conference and its leaders, who are still stuck in 2019 when Article 370 was abrogated and a way for such events was paved.

Irked over India's grand success, Feroq Abdullah stands blinded towards such developments wherein youngsters from around the globe are descending in Jammu and Ladakh to have a fair judgement of the situation and are going back home with sweet memories.

Raman Suri said, for the knowl-



edge of former Chief Minister who is finding flaws even in the best of events, Y20 meet held at Jammu University was also a part of the G20 meet and instead of cribbing he should have appreciated Kashmiri hosting G20 delegates and welcomed young delegates from other countries to Jammu as well as Ladakh. Instead, he chose to crib, spread hatred, and divide people on the conventional lines of regional and religious divide.

Raman Suri said that this is strange that even though delegates from various countries and universities of Indiabesides youth representatives descending in Jammu and Ladakh to have a fair judgement of the situation and are going back home with sweet memories. Raman Suri said, for the knowl-

This is absurd, dirty politics and a move to spread hatred against each other. "We the people of Jammu are very happy to see G20 delegates from countries around the world descending in Kashmir and wonder why Feroq Abdullah had a problem with Y20 delegates arriving in Jammu", said Raman Suri. I.G Manoj Sinha spoke at length on the theme "Peace building and reconciliation: Ushering in an era of no war" at the University of Jammu where this Y20 Summit, which is a youth-led event, brought together young leaders from across G20 countries to discuss and debate the G20 leaders' agenda. Why is this irking Feroq and what position he wants to make.

Kashmir is very much integral part of India and any such international event being held in Kashmir or elsewhere in India is a matter of pride for every Indian, then why this frustrated NC leader is speaking on divisive lines must be probed, he asserted.

He advised Feroq Abdullah to stop banking upon old, tested, tried, and failed ways of dividing people and asked him to enhance his knowledge and know about successful conduct of Y20 meet in the Jammu University, which was also part of the G20 schedule for Jammu and Kashmir.

## University of Jammu Signs MOU with High Altitude Warfare School at Sonmarg



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 03: University of Jammu and High Altitude Warfare School (HAWAS) Gulmarg entered into a Memorandum of Understanding MoU to collaborate in various skill-based academic programs. The MOU was exchanged by Prof. Umesh Rai, Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu and Sh. R. K. Singh VSM, Commandant High Altitude Warfare School at Sonmarg today on 3rd May

2023 at Sonmarg. Prof Umesh Rai, Vice-Chancellor, of Jammu University while addressing the gathering including Indian and foreign officers and soldiers from eight countries informed that the MOU records mutual intent for academic and research collaborations between the UOJ and HAWAS. He further said that these programs conducted jointly with HAWAS will impart special skills to the students which will help them in developing adventure sports in the Union Territory of J&K. Prof Rai informed about the introduction of two certificate and two diploma courses in Snow craft and disaster management and Mountain craft and disaster management for the army personnel. Recognizing the rigorous training of the army personnel and their contribution to the country, the University is also formulating undergraduate degree and post-graduate degree programs, especially for the Army personnel in Disaster

Management giving due weightage to their experiential learning. While addressing the gathering Commandant HAWAS Major General R K Singh said that the MOU is a landmark decision for the technical advancement and progression of Army personnel and UOJ personnel (students and faculty members) specifically in the discipline of high altitude studies and disaster management in mountainous regions.

He further said that this will also help to enhance the capability of students of the UT of J&K in Disaster management studies, particularly in mountainous, high altitude and glaciated regions with the expertise available with HAWAS. The programme was attended by Prof. Pankaj Srivastava, Prof. Sandeep Pandita from the University of Jammu and Brigadier Bhupesh Singh, Colonel Anil Mor, officers of the HAWAS and the participants of the Basic Training Course of Mountain Craft.

## Idols of Shri Ram Darbar installed at Ram Mandir Akhnoor

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 03: With the continuous efforts of Members of Rajput Sabha Akhnoor including Chagar Singh, Raghuraj Singh, Rajinder Singh Pawar, Manmohan Singh, Omkar Singh, Ajay Singh, Rajinder Singh Jamwal, Kuljit Singh, Rajesh Singh, Bhatu, Mohinder Singh, Kuttwant Singh, Vijay Singh, Kuljit Singh, Surjit Singh etc the idols of Shri Ram Darbar were established in the newly constructed Ram temple at Bruta Mandi in Akhnoor.

The idols of Lord Rama, Lord Lakshmana, Mata Sita, Lord Hanuman were established following all rituals. Early morning the hawan yagya was performed by all the members which was later followed up by Bhandara.

Pandit Subhash Shastri, Mahamanandeshwar Rameshwar Das and Sahil Maharaj chanted vedic mantras and anointed the Lord with Pancharmit, in



which the idols of Lord Rama, Lakshmana and Sita were worshipped after anointing them with milk, curd, honey, tils, sugar. After this, the idols of Lord are attractively decorated and were also dressed in a special dress.

Puran Ahuti was performed in the presence of SSP Mohanlal Bhagat, DDC Suresh Sharma, Rajan Singh Happy President Yuva Rajput Sabha,

Former President YRS Surinder Singh (Gilli), Narrinder Singh Bhatu National President Bhatu Rajput Sabha, Raghuvver Singh, Jagdish Bhagat etc. Saints present on the occasion in their discourses said that everyone should organise religious programs from time to time to connect their younger generations with the hindu religion. Everyone should have faith in God accord-

ing to his faith. They said that nowadays it is seen that the young generation is moving towards western civilization. In such a situation, we should keep on introducing our young generation to our religion Sanatan Dharma. So our young generation will be connected to our Sanatan Dharma. They said that establishments of temples are very important for the establishment of religion.

### Block Diwas held at Kulgam; DC gives patient hearing to public



J1 NEWS SERVICE KULGAM, MAY 3

Providing an effective and accessible grievances redressal platform, the District Administration Kulgam today organized Block Diwas in three blocks of the district at Devasr, Kulgam and D.H Pora to take appraisal of the public issues, grievances and demands.

All the three places officers remained available for people and listened to their issues and grievances for early redressal.

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat presided over the outreach camp at Kulgam where he listened to the issues and grievances of the people.

PRIs, delegations, individuals from Redwani, Sangas, Tangmarg, Gundpora, Turigam, Khee Jogipora, Gopalpora, Zangalpora and other areas participated in this griev-

ances redressal camp and apprised the DC about issues of public importance besides projected various developmental requirements in their areas.

All the issues of people were listened to by the DC patiently and some of the grievances of immediate nature were redressed on spot and directions were provided for taking appropriate action on the rest of the issues.

Officers and heads of departments also responded to the public demands pertaining to their departments.

Addressing the occasion, the DC instructed RDD to incorporate most important works and priorities he listened to in Gram Panchayat Plans.

He added that gram sabha with proactive participation is the best platform to prioritize the developmental requirements and ensure proper planning for overall development of villages.

### Bar Association B'la bids adieu to outgoing PD&SJ, Mobile Magistrate

J1 NEWS SERVICE BARAMULLA, MAY 3

Bar Association Baramulla today organized a grand and impressive farewell function here to bid adieu to the outgoing Principal District & Sessions Judge Baramulla, Mohammad Yousuf Wani and Mobile Magistrate Baramulla Sajad-ur Rehman.

Ist Additional District and Sessions Judge Baramulla Shabir Ahmad Malik, NIA Judge, Pawan Kumar, Munst Judge Baramulla, Zahoor Ahmad Ganie, President Bar Association Baramulla, Farooq-U-Din besides Bar Members, Advocates and other concerned participated in the farewell function.

All the Bar Members, Advocates present in the function lauded the working style and leadership qualities of both the judges and extended their best wishes for their new assignment.

The Principal District and Sessions Judge and Mobile Magistrate also spoke on the occasion and extended their gratitude to the whole team and thanked the Bar Association Baramulla for organizing such an impressive farewell.



### VC KVIB presides over daylong Awareness camp at Watergam B'la

J1 NEWS SERVICE BARAMULLA, MAY 3

In a bid to ensure that the benefits of Employment Generation schemes are provided to the youth at a grassroots level, a daylong awareness camp was today organised by Jammu and Kashmir Khadi and Village Industries Board (KVIB) at Watergam Baramulla wherein a series of events were carried out to aware the people about the government sponsored self oriented schemes.

The programme was attended by Vice Chairperson KVIB, Dr Hina Shafi Bhat as a chief guest while the programme was also attended by officers from district administration/banks, senior officers from Board and large number of aspirant entrepreneurs and educated unemployed youth of the area.

During the awareness camp, the officers gave detailed presentations about the modalities involved in implementation of employment generation programmes viz. SMEEG, JKREGP and other schemes.

A detailed deliberation took place wherein the stakeholders were informed that these schemes are online and aspirant entrepreneurs can apply online for availing financial assistance under these schemes.

Addressing the participants, Dr. Hina stated that J&K KVIB is working in a focused manner and the endeavor is to ensure that the benefits of all Employment Generation Schemes are percolated among the target population.

She enjoined upon the prospective entrepreneurs especially women to come forward and channelise their energy for Nation building by establishment of micro enterprises.

On the occasion, the Vice Chairperson also informed that during the financial year 2022-23, Margin Money of Rs.14.86 crores has been released by J&K KVIB Baramulla for establishment of 751 units

thereby creating employment opportunities for 5824 persons.

She added that during the last three years, margin money of Rs. 57.48 crores involving bank loan of Rs. 155.98 crores have been released in district Baramulla for establishment of 2638 units thereby envisaging employment opportunities for 20688 persons.

Extending appreciation to the team, the Vice Chairperson lauded the role and efforts of the Board as well as bankers in successful implementation of the scheme at grass-roots level in the district.

Meanwhile, the Vice Chairperson assured that every kind of hand-holding support shall be extended to aspirant/prospective entrepreneurs to ensure hassle free processing of their proposals both at Implementing Agency as well as bank level.



### DYSSO Srinagar organises Inter School Zonal level Tournaments

J1 NEWS SERVICE SRINAGAR, MAY 3

In accordance with the calendar of activities issued by Directorate of Youth Services and Sports, Inter School Zonal level competitions are being organised by the different Zones of Srinagar.

Accordingly Zonal Physical Education Officers have conducted various sports activities to involve more and more students towards sports activities and keep them away from drugs.

The activities are conducted under the theme of "Unity" Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav in Chess, Carom, Rope Skipping, Tennikoit, Badminton and Road Race for Boys and Girls students only under the age group of 14 years.



### DC B'pora appeals parents to keep vigil on behavior & activities of their wards

J1 NEWS SERVICE BANDIPORA, MAY 3

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Dr. Owais Ahmed on Tuesday addressed a meeting of District Level Committee under Narco-Coordination Center (NCORD) Mechanism and Cigarette and Other Tobacco Products Prohibition Act (COTPA) at Conference Hall of Mini Secretariat, here.

Vice Chairperson District Development Council Kowsar Shafeeq was present on the occasion.

The meeting discussed in detail ways and means to curb the drug menace and the role of various stakeholders. It also discussed the alarming issue of drug addiction and abuse and strategies to tackle this issue.

On the occasion, the DC discussed various issues related to menace of drug addiction, areas of concern, age group of addicts, hot spots of drug peddling, abuse, besides, cultivation of the poppy and cannabis in the district. He highlighted the need for coordinated efforts between government agencies, healthcare providers, civil society

organizations, and community leaders to effectively address the drug problem.

Dr. Owais stressed on more intensive awareness campaigns to educate the public on the dangers of drug abuse, improved access to addiction treatment and support services, and stronger regulation of the pharmaceutical shops to prevent the illegal distribution of banned drugs.

The DC also highlighted the role of various stakeholders in addressing the drug crisis, including law enforcement agencies, healthcare professionals, educators, parents, and religious heads.

He emphasized the importance of collaboration and a unified approach in order to combat the drug menace effectively.



### District Admin Ganderbal holds mega grievance redressal camp at Gund

J1 NEWS SERVICE GANDERBAL, MAY 3

Continuing with its endeavor to reach out to the people at their doorsteps to redress their grievances, the District Administration Ganderbal today chaired a public grievance redressal camp at far flung area of block Gund as part of weekly Block Diwas programme.

The camp was held at Govt. Higher Secondary School Hariganwan and was presided over by the Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Ganderbal, Mush-taq Ahmad Simmani.

The programme was highly appreciated and witnessed overwhelming participation of PRIs, prominent citizens and local youth delegations from adjacent villages of block Gund who apprised the ADDC of various issues pertaining to their area.

On the occasion, the delegations raised several demands of public importance especially augmentation of basic facilities including, upgradation of PHC Gund, Play Ground, dearth of staff in schools, upgradation of middle school, upgradation of

old water supply Schemes, upgradation of roads, lack of transport facilities from Kangan to various areas of Gund block and others.

The ADDC gave them patient hearing and assured that all their genuine demands shall be addressed on priority.

The ADDC fixed the deadlines for redressal of genuine demands raised by the locals and instructed officers to ensure execution of essential works on priority.

While replying to the issues and demands, the ADDC said that District Administration is making all efforts to provide all basic amenities at the doorstep of the people especially living in far flung areas of the district so that they may not suffer due to paucity of such facilities.

He also urged the locals, especially unemployed youth to take benefit of various employment schemes that have been launched for the social and economic upliftment of the women, youth and weaker sections of the society.

The programme was attended by SDM Kangan, Javid Ahmad Rather; ACD, Dr. Bashir Ahmad; ACD, CMO, Executive Engineers of various Engineering Wings and other district and sectoral officers.



### FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

#### 2 terrorists killed...

The security forces stand steadfast to defeat the nefarious designs of inimical elements supported by our adversary to disrupt peace and harmony of the area," the defence spokesperson said. (Agencies)

#### MeT predicts more...

he said, the mercury settled at 8.7°C against 8.1°C on the previous night and it was 0.8°C below normal for the north Kashmir area.

Jammu recorded a low of 18.8°C and it was 4.0°C below normal for J&K's winter capital, he said.

Banihal recorded a low of 10.8°C (above normal by 0.7°C), Batote 10.2°C (2.3°C below normal) and Katra 5.4°C (3.8°C below normal).

#### Chairman APSSC...

of Kulgam. The Lt Governor assured the visiting individuals of appropriate redressal of the issues and demands projected by them.

#### Govt has brought...

major reforms taken up by J&K government to bring greater transparency and accountability in the financial system making it more robust and outcome oriented.

Chief Secretary said that the key reforms introduced by the government in its financial structure envisaging added transparency and accountability and has brought UT's fiscal system at par with any other system in the country. He maintained that implementation of transformative reforms such as Budget Estimation and Allocation Monitoring System (BEAMS), online submission of bills through J&K PaySys, mandatory administrative

approvals, technical sanctions and e-tendering, digital payments, GFR, GeM and related measures have greatly helped the financial systems in J&K to be efficient, transparent and result oriented.

Dr Mehta complimented the finance department for bringing in necessary changes for the overhaul of the system and said that the department has been at the forefront in eradication of corruption at all levels.

"Today we could safely conclude that the financial system in J&K is one of the most transparent systems anywhere and is among the key changes that have taken roots in the UT after 2019" he added.

Chief Secretary said that the government has completed 92000 works during 2022-23 which was unthinkable in the recent past as the number of completed works would be around 9000 before 2019.

He also said that the feedback taken from the panchayats is highly encouraging as no complaint is being received from them regarding the works. He said that works are taking place 3-4 times more on the same amount of money and without facing any obstacles as this year 43000 works have been completed in panchayats which was just about 3000 before this system was put in place. He said that the officers involved in this transformation should feel proud to be part of this journey.

Regarding the number of beneficiaries receiving old age pension, with no pension, the CS said that number of beneficiaries has increased from 4.5 lakh to 10 lakh without putting any further burden on the state exchequer. He also said that 11.5 lakh beneficiaries have been weeded out from the CAPD department without anyone complaining about the same. He said that the money is reaching where it is intended to reach and there is no siphoning of public money now due to DBT and digitalisation of services.

He recalled that the officers of the finance department are the protectors of the public exchequer and they should make this department most happening

discipline in the country and achieve the financial discipline for achieving saturation of all the beneficiary led schemes.

Dr Mehta said that promoting good governance in the financial management has been one of the core objectives of the government and people are able to oversee works being executed in their areas on a real time basis on EMPOWERMENT portal.

CS also reiterated that the government has zero tolerance against any kind of irregularity in any recruitment process undertaken by any recruiting agency of the J&K Government. He assured that the confidence of our youth in these institutions is paramount for the administration and it would be safeguarded at any cost to ensure that the government jobs are acquired by deserving candidates on merit only.

Some of the main topics which came under discussion during this day-long workshop includes Role of GST as a fulcrum of J&K's Own Tax Revenues, People's participation through EMPOWERMENT/ JANBAGHIDARI, E-Audit and performance auditing, PFMS and CNA/SNA Module, Introduction of IT in GP Fund, Correlation between Finance and Investigations, and Digital Payments & DBT.

#### Chugh slams Abdullah...

Chugh also took strong exception to Feroze Abdullah's statement where he questioned the Modi government for organizing G20 meeting in Srinagar.

Srinagar is as much a part of the nation as Shimla is. It is time Abdullahs stopped parroting what ISI tells them to do, Chugh added.

It would be a glorious moment for Srinagar when representatives of 20 nations assemble there and take a comprehensive view of India's progress and development, he added.

Chugh said it is a matter of shame that instead of assisting the Modi government in making the G20 event

and big success Abdullah was speaking what Pakistan and China would like him to do.

#### Amarnath Yatra Shrine...

Dal Roti, Missi Roti, Makki ki Roti (unfried, without oil / butter), Tandoori Roti, Bread / Kulcha / Double Roti, Rusk, Chocolate, Biscuits, Roasted Ghana and Jaggery, Sambar, Idli, Uttapam, Poha, Vegetable sandwich (with-out cream / butter / cheese), Bread Jam, Kashmiri Naan (girda) and steamed Dumplings (vegetable Mimos), Herbal Tea, Coffee, Low Fat Curd, Sharbat, Lemon Squash / Water, Low Fat Milk, Fruit Juice, Vegetable Soup, Mineral Water, Glucose (in standard packet form), Kheer (Rice / Sabudana), White Oats (Dalia), Figs, Raisins, Apricots, Other Dry fruits (only roasted / raw), Low Fat Milk Sawaan, Honey, Boiled sweets (candy), Roasted papad, Khakara, Til Ka Ladoo, Dhokla, Chikki (Guchak), Reweri, Phulan Makhane, Murmura, Dry Petha, Amla Muraba, Fruit Muraba and Green Coconut.

Meanwhile the items completely banned are all Non Veg foods, Alcohol, Tobacco, Gutka, Pan Masala, Smoking, other intoxicants, Heavy Pullav / Fried Rice, Poori, Bathura, Piza, Burgar, Stuffed Parantha, Dosa and Fried Roti, Bread with Butter, Cream Based Foods, Pickle, Chutney, Fried Papad, Chowmein and all other Fried / Fast Food, Cold Drinks and Karrah, Halwa, Jalebi, Gulab Jaman, Laddu Khoya Buri, Rasgulla and all other Halwai items, Crunchy Snacks (high in fat and salts) chips / Kurkure, matthi, Namkeen Mixture, Pakora, Samosa, Fried Dry Fruits and all other Deep Fried Items.

In 2022, the 43-day yatra started on June 30 and concluded on August 11 on the occasion of Raksha Bandhan.

In total, 3.65 pilgrims performed darshan at the cave shrine of Amarnath in 2022. The figure was the highest in the past five years.

However, 16 pilgrims died and several went missing due to the cloudburst in July during the yatra that remained suspended for three days.

## National Seminar on "Essentials of Product Development" held at SMVDU

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 03: A one-day national seminar on "Essentials of Product Development" was held at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), Katra. The School of Mechanical Engineering (SME) under the Faculty of Engineering at SMVDU organized the program. Dr. Ankush Anand, Associate Professor, School of Mechanical Engineering, acted as the coordinator of the seminar and briefed all participants about its objectives. The program aimed to provide exposure to emerging trends and technologies used by product designers worldwide. Over 100 participants from various engineering institutes within and outside J&K registered



for the seminar. Prof. Eswaramurthy, Head of SME, was the chief guest during the inaugural session of the seminar.

He motivated the students to learn new techniques of product development. The seminar featured a series of expert talks by faculty members from institutes of national importance

who discussed various aspects of product development in the current scenario.

The seminar gave participants the opportunity to present and discuss the most recent innovations, trends, concerns, practical challenges encountered, and the solutions adopted in the field of engineering

design. Dr. Ankush Raina, Assistant Professor, School of Mechanical Engineering, served as the co-coordinator of the program and presented the vote of thanks. The coordinators expressed their gratitude to Vice-Chancellor, SMVDU, Prof. Ravindra Kumar Sinha, and Sh. Nagendra Singh Jammwal, Registrar, SMVDU.

## Department of Pediatrics, SMGSH, Jammu Starts child guidance and well being clinic

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 03: Child Psychology and Counseling Services started in DEIC SMGS Hospital Jammu by the team (comprising of Faculty of Department of Psychiatric Diseases, Child Psychologist, Social Counselor, Special Educator) lead by Dr. Mannu Arora, Professor & Head, Department of Psychiatric Diseases, GMC, Jammu, with the aim to help children suffering from emotional social or psychological disorder.

Principal & Dean, Government Medical College, Jammu, Dr. Shashi Sudhan Sharma was the Chief Guest on this occasion. She inaugurated this special clinic in the Department of Pediatrics, SMGS Hospital, Jammu and appreciated the coordinated efforts of Department of Psychiatric and Department of Pediatrics for starting this kind of special clinic in SMGS Hospital for the children suffering from mental health issues, attention deficit, hyperactive disorder, obsessive compulsive disorder and learning disability. Speaking on this occasion, Professor & Head, Department of Psychiatric Diseases, Dr. Mannu Arora



mentioned that their team is running the Child Guidance and Well Being Clinic in Psychiatric Diseases Hospital Jammu under UNICEF program and under the guidance and support of Principal, Government Medical College, Jammu and in coordination with HoD Pediatrics, Coordinator DEIC and Medical Superintendent, SMGS Hospital, Jammu, they have started this clinic on OPD basis in SMGS Hospital, which will cover more children requiring attention and care regarding their mental health issues.

He conveyed that this clinic in SMGS Hospital Jammu shall function on every Wednesday on weekly basis from 12 to 2 pm and the team will work with the

parents in counseling sessions helping them understand their child's behavior and sorting out mental health issues.

Speaking on this occasion, Professor & Head, Department of Pediatrics, Dr. Ghanashyam Saini conveyed that with this joint effort of Department of Psychiatric and Department of Pediatrics, many children suffering with mental health issues, will be benefited as in this special clinic they will be treated and counseled by the certified experts and can lead a healthy productive life.

He further mentioned that a number of these children especially adolescents are not able to share a problem with family members due to fear, hesitation/guilt or

## World Press Freedom Day celebrated at Mount Litera Zee School Kathua

JI NEWS SERVICE

KATHUA, MAY 03: Mount Litera Zee School Kathua celebrated World Press Freedom with great enthusiasm on 3rd May 2023. The event aimed to educate the young literati to use media news with critical thinking and become responsible consumers. The function was presided over by the eminent and highly decorated journalist, Mr Pardeep Dutta, who was also the keynote speaker for the event. The event was graced by the presence of Mr Sanjay Pathak, President of Press Club Kathua, Chairman Manuj Kesar, and other noted journalists.



with the lighting of the auspicious diya and presenting of the bouquet to the guests.

The young literans, namely Ms. Ohaswi, Ms. Angel, Ms. Anuva, and Ms. Prajanya expressed their views and concerns over the role and freedom of the press. The keynote speaker held the young audience spellbound with his visionary and picturesque motivational factual storytelling. He urged the students to harbour a dream big with a bigger vision. He said that everyone can achieve what they want with consistency, perseverance, and vision.

He shared his experiences from childhood to his journalism career with the students.

In the open house session, the children eagerly sought answers to their queries. In the end, a token

of appreciation was given to the esteemed journalist, Mr Pardeep Dutta, and all the other journalists. Students eagerly took photographs with the speaker. The programme ended with the national anthem sung by our star singer, Kartik Bhagat. The event was a great success, and the students gained valuable insights into the importance of press freedom.

## Corporate guest lecture on sales tools and techniques organised by the business school, Bholderwah campus

JI NEWS SERVICE



JAMMU, MAY 03: The Business School, Bholderwah Campus, University of Jammu organised a Corporate Guest Lecture for the students of MBA, BBA and B. Com Hons. Mr. Ravi Kumar Sharma, Branch Head, J&K Bank, Prano was the invited speaker of the event. The event started with a formal welcome address by Dr. Rohit Bhagat, Head of the Department who welcomed the worthy guest

and introduced the key speaker by highlighting his significant accomplishments. Dr. Bhagat also welcomed other faculty members and the students of the Business School for the guest lecture. He briefed the audience about the theme of the lecture. Dr. Meenakshi Nargotra presented a bouquet as token of love to the invited guest.

The key note speaker is a manager/branch head, J&K Bank, Prano, district Doda. He possesses a vast experience in the field of banking services. Speaking on the occasion he talked about important financial aspects like CRR, SLR, repo rate, reverse repo rate, financial inclusion, inflation, monetary policy, fiscal policy. Apart from that he also highlighted various schemes offered by J&K bank for promoting and developing entrepreneurs. He further put light on the avenues and opportunities for women entrepreneurs. The guest lecture was followed by an interactive session with the students of The Business

School, wherein all the students participated actively. The students asked several questions to which the speaker has answered very courteously.

The motivation for organising the event came from the support and guidance of Professor Rahul Gupta, Hon'ble Rector of Bholderwah Campus. Prof. Rahul Gupta is the prominent spur behind this event and has kindled broader vision amongst the students of this campus. The invited talk was attended by all the faculty members of the department including Dr. Umesh Choudhary, Dr. Rohit Bhagat, Dr. Meenakshi Nargotra, Dr. Surekha, Mr. Amit, Ms. Sonia, Mr. Rajinder Kumar.

The formal proceedings of the event were carried out by Dr. Surekha. In the end, Dr. Umesh Choudhary, senior faculty of TBS presented a formal vote of thanks and assured the audiences that the tradition of organising such talks and corporate lectures in the Business School, Bholderwah Campus shall be the priority of the TBS, Bholderwah Campus for the holistic development of our budding managers.

## Gurmeet Singh Josh appointed as District President Minority Cell JKNC Udhampur

JI NEWS SERVICE



RATTAN LAL GUPTA, Provincial President, Jammu, J&K National Conference appointed S. Gurmeet Singh Josh as District President of Minority Cell Udhampur on the recommendations of the District Committee, Udhampur.

Speaking on the occasion, the Provincial President said the party is fighting for safeguarding the interests of the people of Jammu and Kashmir at various levels and the need of the hour is to strengthen the party ranks to meet the challenges during the ongoing struggle. He asserted that only NC can fulfil the aspirations of the people of Jammu and

District President Udhampur and his appointment as District President Minority Cell will strengthen the party in the district. He hoped that his appointment will reinforce the working of the Party at grass roots level in Udhampur district.

S. Gurmeet Singh, in his address, expressed gratitude to the Party for appointing him as the District President of Party's Minority Cell and assured that he will work for strengthening the base of the party.

Among others who were present include Capt Pavitar Singh, Ram Krishan, Pt Raju, Ashok Mehra, Annayattullah, Sumita Mehra, Pooja Devi, Abid Shah and Dr. Ramesh Verma.

## DLSA Samba organises legal awareness program on 'Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act 2005'

JI NEWS SERVICE

SAMBA, MAY 03: As per the Action Plan issued by J&K Legal Services Authority, (KLSA) for the month of May, 2023 and also under the directions and supervision of Worthy Chairman, District Legal Services Authority Samba, (also Pr. District and Sessions Judge Samba) a legal awareness program on "The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act 2005" was organized by District Legal Services Authority Samba today at Govt. Hr. Sec. School, Khara Madana Teh. Bari Brahmana.

## SMVD College of Nursing holds 43rd Governing Body Meeting

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 03: The 43rd Meeting of Governing Body (GB) of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi College of Nursing was held today at Kalika Dham Jammu under the Chairmanship of Suresh Kumar Sharma, Judge (Retd.), Hon'ble Member SMVDSB. The Meeting was attended by Anshul Garg, Chief Executive Officer, SMVDSB; Dr. Shakti Gupta, Director, AIMS, Jammu; Dr. Sunil Sharma, Joint CEO; Dr. Gopal Sharma, Asst. CEO, SMVDSB; Sharda M. Potukuchi, Associate Prof. Dean, Faculty of Biotechnology, SMVDU; Dr. J.P. Singh, Neuro Surgeon & Clinical Director, SMVDNSH and Dr. Shailla Annie, Principal, SMVDCoN. Besides reviewing the progress of its earlier decisions, the GB had exhaustive deliberations on various forward looking proposals for excel-

lence of the Nursing College. The GB also finalized on the contours of admission to 1st Batch of "Post-graduate Program in Healthcare Quality and Patient Safety Management" being shortly rolled out by the College. Issues connected with admission of students to the Academic Session 2022-23 of B.Sc Nursing Course were discussed and decisions aimed at future corrections were taken.

The GB appreciated the steps taken by SMVDCoN towards acquiring NAAC Accreditation and emphasised expediting the process to achieve Autonomous Status at an early date. In the same context, the impediments towards early execution of infrastructure additions / upgradation were deliberated by the GB and appropriate decisions were taken. The GB also approved a futuristic budget of the College for FY

2023-24. In addition, several faculty/student-centric decisions were taken at the Meeting to ensure skill development & overall growth of faculty and students, besides amplification in the ambit of support structure for attending Conferences/Workshops/TNAI Activities etc. in furtherance of impeccable track record and enhancing exposure levels of faculty and students. The GB desired hosting a National Level Conference on "Recent Advances and Future Trends in Nursing and Healthcare Sciences", towards the end of the year.

The Governing Body also desired a broader association with reputed institutions such as SMVDU / AIMS, Jammu etc. for mutual benefit of institutions and offering viz-a-viz better learning platform to students of the College.

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

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

JINDRAH IMAGES

Canine on prowl!

It is good to see that the UT administration has committed to change the landscape of all major towns and cities of Jammu and Kashmir. But unfortunately little has been done so far to address the problem of stray dogs. The canine menace has become more grim in Jammu and Kashmir with an average nearly 50 cases of dog bite being reported every day in the Union Territory during the last four years. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare had recently claimed that there were 64,300 animal bite cases across Jammu and Kashmir from the year 2019 to till July 22 last year. "As many as 29,263 cases of attacks by stray dogs were reported in 2019 while this number was 18,764 in 2020 and 4947 during the year 2021. There has been a steep rise in the number of animal bite cases as 11326 such incidents have been reported across J&K till July 22 this year," the ministry had said in a document tabled in the Parliament. There had been a lack of district-level initiatives for sterilisation of the stray dogs that has led to multiple incidents of pedestrians and two-wheeler riders becoming victims of stray dog bites across Jammu and Kashmir. Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) officials believed, the approximate stray dog population within municipal limits is between 45,000 to 50,000.M The civic body had decided to work on a two-pronged strategy of Animal Birth Control (ABC) and Anti-Rabies Vaccination (ARV) to effectively control the stray dog population, reduce the incidence of dog bites, and also to curb the spread of rabies," sources said. The civic body has entered into an agreement with a Delhi-based veterinary agency M/s Friendicoes-SECA to carry out the ABC-ARV programme in all JMC's 75 wards. The agency has been given permission for Animal Birth Control by the Animal Welfare Board of India. The need of the hour is that the civic body should take all stakeholders especially local citizens on board while formulating a strategy to deal with the menace of stray dogs. It is the responsibility of the people of the people to shoulder their responsibility so that the population of stray dogs is brought down.

DESPITE DOWNSIDES, ECONOMY SET TO DELIVER

WITH THE GLOBAL ECONOMY OFFERING NO HELP AND AGRICULTURE THREATENING TO LET THE ECONOMY DOWN, THE FOCUS IS ON WHAT THE MANUFACTURING AND SERVICES SECTORS CAN DELIVER. TILL NOW, PUBLIC SECTOR INVESTMENT IN INFRASTRUCTURE HAS CARRIED THE CAN OF DELIVERING DEMAND, BUT IT CAN'T BE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE THE JOURNEY BY ITSELF.

SUBIR ROY



In the new financial year, India is contemplating growth prospects which are stable but do not give rise to a gung-ho mood. This is because there are several downside risks which have to be countered while relying on the inherent strengths which have enabled India to become the fastest-growing major economy in the world. In the government's own words, "downside risks... dominate upside risks."

The government has reiterated its expectation that the economy will grow by 6.5 per cent, even as the IMF's latest World Economic Outlook has lowered its forecast for the current year by 20 basis points to 5.9 per cent. The World Bank, on the other hand, has come up with a slightly better figure of 6.3 per cent.

The reasons behind the optimism being guarded are manifold. Foremost is that the downside facing the global economy remains powerful, with the World Economic Outlook foreseeing global growth to touch 3 per cent, which is a small improvement on the 2.8 per cent clocked in 2023.

A key reason for the global growth prospects being lacklustre is the way the oil prices are going. The OPEC has cut production, which has caused oil prices to rise in April from the lows that prevailed in the previous month. So long as the Ukraine war continues, global commodity prices will remain volatile, with oil prices not going down below a point because of OPEC's manipulation of output.

The second source of headwinds from the rest of the world is the financial crisis that has gripped major developed economies after the collapse of Silicon Valley Bank in the US and the resultant turmoil engulfing Credit Suisse, requiring it to be taken over. This turmoil will continue to impede the smooth flow of foreign investment into the country. Things will not be helped by US policy rates remaining high and offering an incentive to investors to earn good returns from government bonds instead of taking a risk and investing in emerging economies.

But despite these headwinds from across the seas, the biggest uncertainty and risk facing the economy lies within the country

itself - the uncertainty over the monsoon prospects. Severe heatwaves have already hit the country, ratcheting up vegetable prices. Food prices are also high and there is no knowing where they will go if the monsoon fails. Going by the record of the El Nino to strike, doing its bid to send the monsoon haywire.

With the global economy offering no help and agriculture threatening to let the economy down, all eyes are focused on what the manufacturing and services are able to deliver. Till now, public sector investment in infrastructure has carried the can of delivering demand, but it cannot be expected to continue the journey by itself.

The government is laying great store by private sector investment picking up and delivering the impetus needed to promote judicious economic growth. Private sector investment has become all the more crucial as private consumption expenditure has, till now, failed to deliver. Be it in housing, automobiles, two-wheelers or mobile phones, the top end of markets are seeing a robust demand, with the rest of the market remaining distinctly anemic. As a result, in the post-pandemic period, discretionary spends have emerged powerfully, but spending on the essential consumption basket has remained muted. This has been reflected in FMCG companies continuing to have to live with anemic rural demand and sales volumes stagnating. Consumers

are trading down to be able to buy what they cannot do without.

Other than anemic consumption expenditure by most residents, what has added to the woes of the private sector is the prevailing high interest rates offered by financial institutions. They have been prompted to do so by the RBI pushing up regulatory rates in order to rein in inflation, which remains significantly above the targeted 4 per cent. There can hardly be any incentive to borrow money at high interest rates in order to shore up capital expenditure, particularly when the demand for most items of mass consumption remains subdued.

In this situation, what are the options left in the hands of the country's policymakers so that there is minimal downside risk to achieving the projected growth rate of 6.5 per cent and, maybe, improve upon it a little? Foremost, the K-shaped recovery that has taken place after the pandemic has waned, causing a disproportionate amount of additional income to flow into the hands of the top few, has to be remedied. The bottom half of the population must have more to spend so that the rural demand for essentials perks up and the FMCG managers have a broad smile on their faces.

There is a need for income support to the poor to continue and, this is important, the rural employment guarantee scheme needs to be made to function better. Besides, small and medium enterprises need to be able to access more

working capital in order to expand operations. Schemes introduced by financial institutions at the behest of the government to aid post-pandemic recovery need to continue and become more accessible. A business which does not have an agency rating should, nevertheless, be able to get more working capital without excessive hassle.

As small and medium enterprises expand operations with more working capital, they will hire more temporary hands, which will allow their families to spend more on essentials. Over time, this will transmit demand upwards to the corporate sector, improve its capacity utilisation and signal it to ready its expansion plans. As these get off the ground, private capital expenditure will increase and give the economy the boost that public investment on the infrastructure has till now given. There is also an urgent need to improve the ease of doing business for large-scale high-tech manufacturers who are seeking to shift base from China to India.

The production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme is being approved for more and more sectors and a constant vigil needs to be maintained to address the specific issues being faced by its participants. The PLI has meant more rules and a range of higher import tariffs to enable its participants to deliver. There has to be a sunset for the scheme so that, at the end of the day, Indian manufacturing is able to face competition both at home and globally and thrive.

How best to set up integrated theatre commands

The best option could be to convert the existing five Army commands (Eastern, Central, Northern, Western and South Western) into ITCs. The South Western ITC could have a commander from the IAF, with some role (deploying IAF resources) in the Arabian Sea in support of the Navy. These ITCs would have integrated staff. As for the IOR, there should be three ITCs - first for the Arabian Sea, second for the Bay of Bengal and third for the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

LT GEN HARWANT SINGH (RETD)

RIGHT after Independence, the requirement of a Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) was felt. The proposal for adopting the CDS system was floated by the first Governor General of independent India, Lord Mountbatten, who had first-hand experience of a unified command. This proposal was cold-shouldered by Jawaharlal Nehru, the then Prime Minister. Thereafter, the proposal was simply put aside. Consequent to the Kargil War, the need to adopt this system came up again. While the Subrahmanyam Committee took up a number of issues, it left out the all-important requirement for some reason. It was thanks to the Arun Singh Committee, based on my presentation to it on the imperatives of adopting the system in its full play (with integrated theatre commands or ITCs), that this issue was taken up. To start with, I had recommended two ITCs (besides one mountain corps for the Tibet border) - one for the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the other being the northern ITC. To allay misapprehensions of the IAF, the first theatre commander of the northern ITC should be an Air Force officer with integrated staff from the IAF and the Army. The remaining ITCs were

to come up subsequently in a phased manner. However, only the Andaman and Nicobar ITC was formed.

Finally, in August 2019, the post of CDS was announced by the PM (not as an Act of Parliament) and a committee under the National Security Adviser met to formulate the role and powers of the CDS. In January 2020, Gen Bipin Rawat assumed office as CDS.

As far as constituting integrated theatre commands is concerned, no operational role has been assigned to the CDS. It is consequent to the formulation of overall strategic war plans related to a two- or even three-front war (China, Pakistan and Indian Ocean Region) that integrated theatre commands would be constituted. In determining their composition and areas of responsibility, a range of factors need to be considered. These include the terrain, enemy capabilities in each sector, where to be completely on the defensive, where to stage an offensive defence and, finally, where an all-out offensive is to be launched.

Possibly, General Rawat, in recommending only one ITC for the northern border with Tibet and a part of PoK, tried to copy the PLA (People's Liberation Army of China) on the one



hand and bring about a reduction in the number of commands (Army and IAF) on the other. It is both possible and convenient for the PLA to have a single command on the Tibet plateau due to the type of terrain and excellent road and rail system laterally and to various points on the LAC. On the Indian side, the terrain is of high mountains and deep valleys, with poor road connectivity, both to specific points on the LAC and laterally, making movement difficult and slow. The best

option would be to convert the existing five Army commands (Eastern, Central, Northern, Western and South Western) into ITCs. The South Western ITC could have a commander from the IAF, with some role (deploying IAF resources) in the Arabian Sea in support of the Navy. These ITCs would have integrated staff. As for the IOR, there should be three ITCs - first for the Arabian Sea, second for the Bay of Bengal and third for the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

While the CDS must be the overall operational commander, the existing Integrated Defence HQ should form a part of the CDS HQ and this setup must stand independent of the Ministry of Defence (MoD).

The IAF continues to have some misgivings and reservations on the adoption of the ITC concept. It is contended that air power is highly flexible and can be applied across a wide front on a range of targets, as a whole or in smaller components. Further, the present number of squadrons is inadequate and their distribution among the ITCs would mitigate against the fuller application of air power at critical enemy targets. General Rawat further muddied the waters by equating air power with artillery on the one hand and pitching for submarines instead of aircraft carriers on the other, to the consternation of the Navy's top brass.

These observations of the IAF do not hold good, when subjected to a detailed analysis. While currently, the squadron strength is down to 32, this will soon have to be raised to 45, perhaps more. Their distribution among the ITCs would be based on a detailed examination of tasks of each ITC. Secondly, under certain requirements, the CDS can temporarily switch IAF resources from one ITC to

another for specific missions, as is being currently done by the IAF. Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhuri appears to be reconciled to the idea of integrating the efforts of all three services. Till date, we import almost 70 per cent of defence weapons and equipment, even though we have had over four dozen DRDO establishments, an equal number of ordnance factories and over a dozen defence PSUs. These establishments need major changes in their working.

The Department of Military Affairs in the MoD, instead of being headed by the CDS, should have a three-star defence services officer with integrated staff to direct and control the working of the four establishments - the DRDO, ordnance factories, defence PSUs and DRG quality assurance.

It would, in practice, replace the Secretary, Defence Production. This one change will, for sure, bring about a sea change in the output of these establishments and be an appropriate step towards self-reliance in defence weaponry and equipment.

Equally, it would be premature to ban the import of such a large number of defence equipment in the hope that the same would be made in India. We have to first establish



## ANUSHKA SHARMA is inspired by Doja Cat as she answers all interview questions at Met Gala with just 'meows'

Actor Anushka Sharma is all praises for rapper Doja Cat, who responded to all questions at the Met Gala 2023 red carpet with 'meow'. Doja paid tribute to Karl Lagerfeld by wearing his favourite cat Choupette-themed look. At the event, she showed up in a white gown with a cat-ears hood. She also wore cat prosthetics on her face.

Taking to her Instagram Stories on Wednesday, Anushka re-shared a video by Vogue. In the clip, the interviewer asked the rapper a host of questions. However, Doja chose to respond with cat noises. Sharing the clip, Anushka wrote, "I propose for this to become an acceptable way of communication on the red carpets (victory hand emoji)."

Earlier, actor Priyanka Chopra lip-synched to Doja's voice for a video shared by her husband-singer Nick

Jonas on his TikTok account. As they headed to the Met Gala after-party, Nick recorded the clip inside their car. In the clip, Priyanka mimicked Doja.

On Tuesday, Doja took to her Instagram and shared several pictures of herself in the cat outfit. She gave different expressions and poses as she faced the camera. Doja didn't caption the post. Reacting to the pictures, a person wrote, "Purrfection." A comment read, "No one is doing it like Doja."

Apart from Doja, Jared Leto also paid tribute to Choupette, Karl's beloved fluffy cat. Lil Nas X went full cat, covered in crystals by Pat McGrath and Dior Men.

This year's theme was Karl Lagerfeld. A Line of Beauty, based on the new Costume Institute exhibition exploring the work of the iconic designer, Karl, who died in 2019 at the



## Haewon Class' Yoon Bak announces wedding with a handwritten letter; will marry on September 2

ACTOR Yoon Bak has announced that he is all set to tie the knot soon. Taking to Instagram on Wednesday, Yoon Bak shared a handwritten note. Though he didn't share the details, he said that he will marry 'this fall'. He wrote, "Hello. This is Yoon Bak. How have you all been? It has already become spring. It feels quite awkward and heart-fluttering to grab a pen to post [a letter] like this."

"The reason why I am cautiously writing this letter is that I promised to spend the rest of my life with my beloved this fall, and it is to convey this news to everyone. While together, she gave me lots of love and trust and the happiness and stability we feel for each other determined this moment," he added.

The actor concluded, "We would be grateful if you could bless our future with happy hearts so that we can start a happy family. I also promise to continue impressing you as an actor going forward. The temperature has been fluctuating a lot these days, so everyone, please take care of your health, and I sincerely hope that you are always happy and only experience good things. Thank you." As quoted by Soompi Yoon Bak's agency H&E Entertainment also confirmed the news in a statement. It read, "Hello. This is H&E Entertainment. We would like to share happy news regarding Yoon Bak. Yoon Bak will be tying the knot on September 2. Yoon Bak and the bride-to-be decided on marriage based on trust and respect. The two dated seriously while becoming each other's strength through their deep trust and love for each other."

It also added, "The ceremony will be held privately in a location in Seoul with both families and close acquaintances. Therefore, we ask for your deep understanding in advance that it will be difficult to cooperate with coverage and filming [of the ceremony] on the day of [the wedding]."

## Anand Mahindra praises 'fauji brat' Priyanka Chopra's Citadel: 'She puts most of our male action heroes in the shade'

Priyanka Chopra has earned a lot of praise from Anand Mahindra for her performance in Citadel. He said she is clearly living life on her own terms. Priyanka Chopra is receiving a lot of praise for her powerful performance in her debut web series, Citadel. Now Anand Mahindra has applauded the actor for her portrayal of Nadia Singh in the Russo Brothers production and called her a 'revelation'. He even added that she is now overshadowing even male action heroes in the industry.

Taking to Twitter Tuesday evening, Anand Mahindra reacted to a promotional video of Citadel which shows Priyanka performing some impressive hardcore action as Nadia Singh. Hailing her as an action star, he wrote, "Caught the first



episodes of Citadel over the weekend.

Was left unmoved by the typical Russo brothers OTT plot but seeing @priyankachopra as an action hero was a revelation. She puts most of our male action heroes in the shade."

He further added, "Fauji brats are famous for being ambitious & adaptive & she fits that bill. You have to hand it to her: she is clearly living life on her own terms & taking on the world, one step at a time. More power to her..."

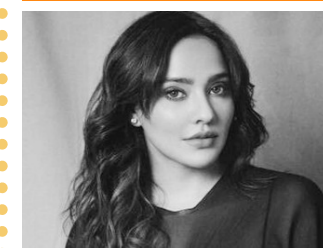
The Hindustan Times review of the show also appreciated Priyanka's performance. It read: "Dressed in stunning outfits or dusty rags, Priyanka Chopra owns every frame that she appears in in Citadel, Amazon Prime Video's enormous new investment. She is a delight to watch, hear and witness as she pulls off

crisp action sequences or speaks with the sultry voice of a siren."

Citadel premiered on Amazon Prime on April 28 and more episodes will follow in coming weeks. In a recent interview with Variety, Priyanka opened up about doing action in films since a long time. She said, "I'm someone who has tremendous experience with action movies and action parts. Not just with my TV show, but my Bollywood action movies."

I was working 15, 20 years ago when I didn't even have stunt doubles. I had a little man wearing a wig with shaved arms that used to do stunts for me that were too dangerous, because we didn't even have women at that time. So I learned how to do my stuff."

## Neha Sharma says influencers get preference over actors for roles: 'People will eventually'



ACTOR Neha Sharma laments how casting in the industry is now dictated by one's social media following. If someone is popular on Instagram with following ranging between 30-40 million, Neha says they are likely to be given preference over actors, who may have earned fans through their work, but don't possess the mythical number.

Neha, who herself is quite active on Instagram where she has over 15 million followers, landed her upcoming romantic comedy Jigra Sara Ra Ra co-starring Nawazuddin Siddiqui after its director, Kushan Nandy, liked one of her reels she had posted. It was an exception—she has also been at the receiving end where an "influencer" with a massive following on social media was once picked over her for a project she had done multiple readings for. "I got a call from casting director Jogi and said there is a film and it is a legit enquiry. He connected me with Kushan, who said he saw the Dheme Dheme reel I had posted on my Instagram. He loved it and I thought great, there isn't that much in it but if you loved it... Unbelievable how work can come your way today thanks to the internet. But, it has become a thing now. "Because I feel like these influencers, with 30-40 million followers, I don't even know how that exists but it does, they are getting lead roles in films, landing big parts. You would be amazed, there was a reading that I did for a huge channel. I did four readings with them and then I was called and informed that so and so person has been cast. I asked if that person had done any work, if there was any credibility to that but then I was like, "Oh 50 or 40 million followers." That tells me a lot," she says.

## Salman Khan channels inner Groot in Guardians of the Galaxy Vol 3 video, evades marriage question

Just the name is enough. Superstar Salman Khan has come on board to promote Guardians of the Galaxy Volume 3 by turning into the film franchise's much loved character Groot. In a funny promotional video posted by Marvel India on Tuesday, the actor was seen answering a few media questions-Groot style.

The clip begins by showing Salman watching and enjoying a video of Groot, where he is heard saying his trademark line "I am Groot".

The scene then shifts to a press conference, where Salman, inspired by the tree of few words, answers every question, from the title of his next film, to doing action in movies, with just one line—"I am Salman." In the end, when he is asked why he hasn't still gotten married, despite all other Khans being married, Salman shakes his head, puts on the headphones and starts grooving to songs on Star-Lord's Walkman as he walks away, revealing the back of his shirt that has a print of Groot.

Guardians of the Galaxy Vol 3 will conclude director James Gunn's trilogy, which began nearly a decade ago in 2014, and has resulted in two critically acclaimed blockbusters.

The film features an ensemble cast of actors Chris Pratt, Zoe Saldana, Dave Bautista, Karen Gillan, Pom Klementieff, Vin Diesel, Bradley Cooper, Sean Gunn, Chukwudi Iwuji and Will Poulter among others.

Marvel Studios' Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 is scheduled to release in cinemas on May 5 in English, Hindi, Tamil and Telugu.

## Sonam Bajwa says Sara Ali Khan, Ananya Panday 'can go to Karan Johar's house and get auditions', unlike her

In a new interview, Sonam Bajwa opened up about one thing she wants to steal from Sara Ali Khan and Ananya Panday. The actor, who is gearing up for the release of her Punjabi film Godday Godday Chaa, is busy with the movie's promotions. During a recent interview, Sonam spoke about how Bollywood actors have direct access to filmmakers, unlike her.

Sonam, who has carved a niche for herself in Punjabi films and has also acted in Tamil and Telugu films, has stayed away from Hindi films. She recently opened up about star kids such as Sara and Ananya Panday having easy access to filmmaker Karan Johar.

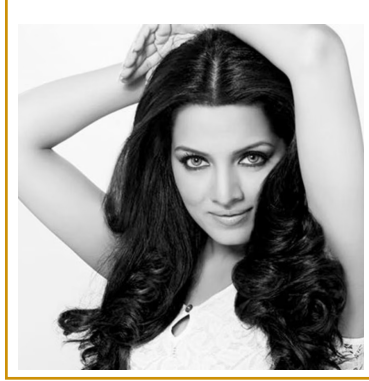
In an interview with Bollywood Bubble, Sonam was asked if there was 'one thing' she would want to steal from 'young-age actresses'. When Sara Ali Khan and Ananya Panday's names were taken, Sonam responded with "nothing." But then added, "They can go to Karan Johar's house and discuss and get to audition. If I get to do all of that, then yeah..."

During another recent interview, Sonam had opened up about Hindi films, and revealed how she was disheartened with the behaviour meted out to her by Bollywood. She was supposed to appear in the song Sip Sip 2.0 for Varun Dhawan's Street Dancer 3D (2020). However, her song was axed from the movie.

In an interview with Siddharth Kannan last month, Sonam had said, "I felt very bad. Firstly, I never wanted to do a song. But the team was so looked up to. Remo is such a senior artist, director, and choreographer. Varun Dhawan is loved by everyone. I was in two minds, should I do the song, should I not do the song. But they'd reached out to me, so I decided to go ahead. And when the song didn't make it to the final edit of the film, I was very disheartened." Sonam was



recently seen in the US Tour of The Entertainers along with actors Akshay Kumar, Disha Patani, Nora Fatehi, Mouni Roy, and others. This year, she will also be seen in Carry On Jatta 3.



## CELINA JAITLEY RESPONDS TO TROLL WHO TAUNTED HER FOR LIVING IN AUSTRIA: 'THIS IS GLOBALISATION'

Celina Jaitly recently shut down a troll who taunted her for enjoying life amid nature in Austria instead of India. The actor had written a long post summing up her experience of living in a historic village in Austria and driving occasionally to bigger cities for some 'me time'. She had also talked in depth about her lovely drive through scenic locations. However, one of her followers slammed her for living abroad and called it 'hypocrisy'.

Commenting on Celina's

post—a picture of her posing in front of an electric car—the Twitter user wrote: "Lol... That's what called half baked knowledge. You want to live with the nature you don't go Austria but you go to India. Living with fancy battery car, fancy shoes jackets etc... This is western hypocrisy."

Responding to him, Celina tweeted, "Chitaji my clothes & shoes are Made in India.... Husband and kids are made in Austria. This is not hypocrisy it's globalisation. PS: Di (heart) and passport dono

(both) Hindustani."

Celina lives in Austria with hotelier husband Peter Haug and their three sons: 11-year-old twins Winston and Viraaj and five-year-old Arthur. She regularly shares pictures of her life amid nature in Austria.

On Tuesday, Celina had shared a picture of herself from one of her drives to a city. She had written, "One of the best things that I have learnt living in Austria is living with the goal of a life in agreement with nature. While I live in a scenic historic village in the very high altitude alpine area of central Austria I do often take trips to the bigger cities like Graz, Vienna & Salzburg for some 'ME Time'."

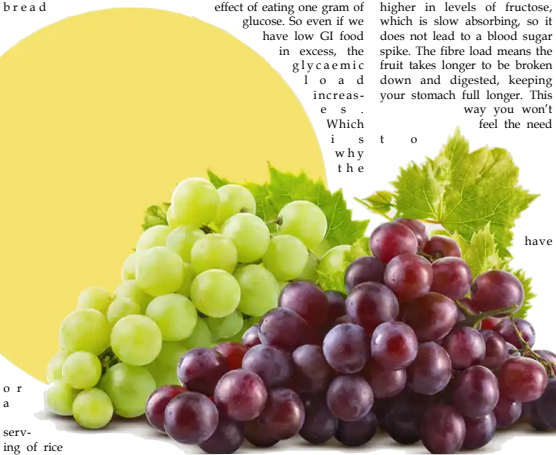
She continued, "These historic cities have tiny beautiful lanes that tell tales of centuries & going through them is like a journey snaking through time periods, from past into present the only drawback however is finding a place to park. While I only feel most comfortable driving all terrain SUVs, one of my favourite things to do is

rent this amazing two-seat electric microcar & enjoy a day of European city pleasures while feeling good about my carbon footprint (and finding the best parking spots). Austria is considered to be the environmental flagship of Europe and I have learnt so many wonderful things here. Not only have I grown so much in Austria, I regained my soul in its nature, Hence contributing to its fairytale nature and environment I feel like I am protecting my own soul. #celinajaitly

# Are grapes good for diabetes? Yes, if you do away with a slice of bread at breakfast

Luscious and juicy grapes may look healthy on a breakfast platter but that doesn't mean we keep on popping them into our mouths as we please along with toast and scrambled eggs. Grapes are healthy and good provided we make them a part of our total carbohydrate allowance for the day and not have them as an extra indulgence.

Particularly for diabetics, any fruit with its natural sugar should be part of their daily carbohydrate allowance, which means incorporating the fruit should be based on two factors, its calorie and glucose yield and what items of equivalent caloric value you can remove to make way for it. "So, if you are going to add fruits to your diet, you will have to cut back on other carbohydrates to make room for them. The amount of carbohydrate present in the fruit determines its impact on blood sugar level. Broadly speaking 100 gm of grapes, which should be about 15 to 20 pieces depending on the size, yield 70 calories. On an average, one medium-sized grape gives one gram of carbs. If we keep this value in our head, then we will know how to substitute grapes for any other carbohydrate-rich food you are having. Learn to replace, forgo a slice of



bread effect of eating one gram of glucose. So even if we have low GI food in excess, the glycaemic load increases. Which is why the effect of eating one gram of glucose, which is slow absorbing, so it does not lead to a blood sugar spike. The fibre load means the fruit takes longer to be broken down and digested, keeping your stomach full longer. This way you won't feel the need to eat more. The colours are different because of the differing components of antioxidants. Darker colours have more antioxidants. But the caloric value is the same. Grapes also contain a chemical compound called resveratrol, which has been proven to metabolise fatty acids, increase energy and improve overall metabolism, all of which can help in weight loss," says Dr Gulati.

servings of rice if you are having grapes for breakfast or lunch," says Dr Seema Gulati, Centre for Nutrition Research, National Diabetes, Obesity, and Cholesterol Foundation (NDOC) Centre for Nutrition Research. Grapes have a relatively low glycaemic index (GI) of about 53, less than 55. "But even when consuming low GI foods, we need to worry about the glycaemic load. One unit of the glycaemic load approximates the portion size becomes important. The culprit is always total calories. So, grapes cannot be had as an add-on load to existing carbohydrates but as a replacement for something you can subtract," she explains. How then should one have grapes? "Grapes, like any other food, should be consumed on an empty stomach. Grapes are a great source of insoluble fibre, which eases your bowel movements. They are calories as you will have some satiety. Any meal can be preceded by grapes. Then you can balance your total carbohydrate intake easily and keep your levels in check," suggests Dr Gulati. "For people with diabetes, one serving of fruit should contain 15 grams of carbohydrates and the total daily intake should not exceed 30 gm. So, one can have a 15 gm carb

## Everyday Foods You Likely Have at Home That Have Health Benefits

YOUR PANTRY AND FRIDGE MOST LIKELY ALREADY HAVE A FEW OF THESE STAPLES.



You've probably seen ads or social media posts claiming that to be healthy you must be taking a "superfood supplement" or eating expensive and organic foods. Nothing could be further from the truth. There are plenty of staples you probably already have at home that provide you numerous health benefits. Whether it's your favorite pasta or fruit, if you have a varied diet, chances are you're already getting all of the nutrients you need.

Bread: You probably didn't expect to see this one on the list. Bread is a staple in most households and can be packed with essential nutrients like folate, iron and fiber. While white bread can spike your blood sugar levels and doesn't offer much nutritional value aside from carbohydrates (unless it's enriched white bread, which is fortified with vitamins and minerals like thiamine (B1), riboflavin (B2) and niacin (B3) to replace the nutrients lost during its processing), its whole grain counterpart has additional fiber and nutrients and can help manage blood pressure while lowering your risk of diabetes and heart disease, according to Mayo Clinic. Consuming whole grains instead of refined grains is also linked to lower cholesterol and insulin levels.

Oats: Oats are one of my favorite foods on this list. They're versatile, relatively easy to use and inexpensive. When we look at their nutritional offering, oats pack a punch. According to the US Department of Agriculture, oats are loaded with complex carbohydrates, fiber and essential vitamins and minerals like B1, B3, B5, B6, folate and iron. Oats are also a whole grain, and a meta-analysis found that the highest whole-grain intakes were significantly associated with a 21% reduced risk of heart disease compared to those with the lowest intake. Another meta-analysis, including studies that followed people with type 2 diabetes, found that oat intake significantly reduced blood sugar spikes after eating a meal. Opt for steel-cut or rolled oats to reap the most benefits, as instant oatmeal is more processed and has a slightly higher glycemic index.

Sweet potatoes: This creamy, vibrant orange (although some may vary in color like beige or purple) root vegetable is also versatile – it can be fried, roasted, boiled, sauteed, mashed, baked or air fried. Sweet potatoes contain tons of fiber, vitamin C, potassium and beta-carotene (a natural orange pigment found in plants that the body converts into vitamin A). One large sweet potato contains 40% of the daily recommended intake for vitamin A. According to Mayo Clinic, vitamin A helps you maintain optimal vision and supports a healthy immune system.

Pasta: You're probably excited to see another fan favorite on this list. Pasta is made from wheat, which is a grain – one of the basic food groups in a balanced diet. Some types of pasta are stripped of their nutrients during the refining process. However, most are fortified with folate, iron and vitamin B. If you're looking for a refined-free option, try whole grain pasta – which has been proven to satiate you for longer – or pasta made of vegetables. Chickpea pasta has become popular recently and is rich in fiber and protein, making it an excellent choice for those following a vegan or vegetarian diet.

Eggs: Eggs are a great source of protein, iron, selenium, phosphorus and vitamins B2, B5 and B12. They also keep you full for longer, which can be good for maintaining a balanced eating schedule. Eggs have gained a bad reputation because of their high cholesterol content. A large egg contains about 186 mg of cholesterol.

# Why You Should Consume Bell Peppers

APART FROM THE SWEET FLAVOUR AND THE NICE CRUNCH, BELL PEPPERS ARE A LOVED INGREDIENT ALSO FOR THEIR HEALTH-BENEFITING PROPERTIES. HERE'S WHY YOU SHOULD ADD THEM TO YOUR DAILY DIET.

Are you among those who keep the bell peppers aside while relishing paneer tikka or noodles? Well, you are not alone. But are they really worth eating? Are we missing out on the nutritious value they add to our daily diet? Let's find out. Also known as sweet peppers, bell peppers are a part of the nightshade family, which includes tomatoes, potatoes and eggplant. These less pungent varieties of pepper come in vibrant colours such as yellow and red. The substance capsaicin, known to control spiciness in peppers, is found comparatively in small amounts in bell peppers, making them less hot. Hence, they have earned their name as the sweet pepper. While bell peppers usually act as sidekicks on our

plates, their appeal goes far beyond the stunning good looks and sweet-spicy taste. Rich in antioxidants and vitamins, did you know that bell peppers are packed with health-benefiting properties? In an Instagram post, nutritionist Lovneet Batra highlighted how apart from adding colour and flavour, these sweet peppers are great for overall health. Health Benefits of Bell Peppers: 1. Eye Health



Two carotenoids – lutein and zeaxanthin – are found in relatively high amounts in bell peppers, which lowers the risk of macular degeneration of the eyes. Also Read: All You Need To Know About Bell Peppers 2. Rich Source Of Antioxidant According to Lovneet, bell peppers are an "excellent source of antioxidants, including flavonoids," which gives protection against oxidative damage in the body. Capsanthin, responsible for the rich red colour in bell peppers, is a powerful antioxidant that shields the skin against UVA and UVB damage. 3. Powerhouse Of Vitamins Bell peppers have an impressive amount of essential vitamins that mainly include vitamins A, and C. Both vitamins play a crucial role in boosting the immune system of the body apart from lowering the risk of disease. Vitamins A and C along with the antioxidant lycopene promote heart health by preventing free radical damage. Bell

peppers are also rich in vitamin B6 and folate which help in lowering the levels of homocysteine, ensuring the health of the heart. Also Read: 11 Best Bell Pepper Recipes | Easy Bell Pepper Recipes 4. Cancer-Fighting Property Being rich in antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties, the bell pepper "are a real superfood with a myriad of cancer-fighting antioxidants including apigenin, luteol, luteolin, quercetin, and capsaite, carotenoids such as beta-carotene, beta-cryptoxanthin, and lycopene," the nutritionist added. Nutritionist Lovneet Batra also suggested ways to include bell peppers in the diet. She wrote, "Snack on bell peppers or make them dinner's star player for tons of healthy benefits.

# Mental Health: 5 Lifestyle Changes To Uplift Your Mood And Confidence Everyday

Home Lifestyle Mental health: 5 Lifestyle Changes To Uplift Your Mood And Confidence Everyday Mental Health: 5 Lifestyle Changes To Uplift Your Mood And Confidence Everyday As with physical health, tending to mental health is an ongoing process and can be improved with simple daily practices. Here are 5 suggestions to get started.



Mental health: 5 Lifestyle Changes To Enhance Your Mood And Confidence on Day-to-Day Basis Everyone agrees that Mental Health is as important as physical health, but do we really do enough to take care of our mental health on a day-to-day basis? Some basic ways of living that have been inherent to our culture have been proven scientifically effective for maintaining good mental health. As with physical health, tending to mental health is an ongoing process and can be improved with simple

daily practices. Here are 5 suggestions to get started. 1. Sleep hygiene: sleep is essential to maintaining good emotional and physical well-being. A minimum of 7-8 hours of uninterrupted sleep at

nights should be considered non negotiable to prevent sleep debt that we often try to cover up through mid day

AS WITH PHYSICAL HEALTH, TENDING TO MENTAL HEALTH IS AN ONGOING PROCESS AND CAN BE IMPROVED WITH SIMPLE DAILY PRACTICES. HERE ARE 5 SUGGESTIONS TO GET STARTED.

2. Healthy diet: this seems more common sense to physical well being, but unrelated to mental health. A good healthy diet with nutritious foods goes a long way in keeping our gut health, which is directly related to mental health. You would have noticed that when you're having a stressful day at work or feeling anxious before exams, the butterflies in the stomach are a real thing, and subsequent complaints of gastritis, acidity and constipation are not uncommon. 3. Leisure: All work and no play can make the human mind dull. Burn outs which are characteristic of the fast paced contemporary society are a result of lack of time for leisure and extra curricular activities that we stopped engaging in as we get busy with work/exams and our general living. When we don't get time to indulge in things we enjoy, our brain receptors responsible for pleasure are not being stimulated enough. Moreover, unwinding and resting are also good ways to slow down and enjoy me time. 4. Social interaction: There's some value in picking up the phone and calling that old friend you have not connected with in a while. Humans are social beings who have a strong

need for belongingness. When this basic need is ignored in a fast paced life, our mental health can suffer. Indian culture which is rich with festivals throughout the year provides us with opportunity to experience social interactions. So next time you avoid going to that Diwali or Christmas party, think twice. 5. Exercise: The Indian way of living has always incorporated some basic yoga asanas (postures) and pranayams (breathing exercises). Simple stretching and breathing that is ancient in our culture has now proven to be effective for good mental health by western science. So, next time you feel stressed out, you may find some ways of being healthy in our yoga culture.



# DDC Anantnag presides over the Block Diwas at Bijbehara

J I NEWS SERVICE

**SAYS BLOCK DIWAS IS THE PERFECT EXAMPLE OF 'JAN BAGHDARI'**

ANANTNAG, MAY 03: The District Development Commissioner, (DDC) Anantnag, S F Hamid today presided over the block Diwas held at Bijbehara block of the district. On the occasion, PRIs and the general public put forth their suggestions regarding the various development aspects of the area before the DDC. The DDC while addressing the gathering said that District Administration is taking every effort to address the issues of the general and genuine nature. He said that participation and positive response of people indi-

cates the importance of Block Diwas. He gave on spot direction to concerned departments for redressal of issues projected in Block Diwas. He thanked the people for their participation and turned the programme into an interacting com-participatory event. The DDC directed the concerned officer to conduct awareness camps regarding employment generation schemes so that maximum youth get benefited besides. He also directed for technical guidance to orchardists, agriculturists by the concerned officers. He further directed for



Departmental coordination and cooperation for early redressal of the genuine demands of the public and the line officers assured that District Administration is committed to provide the

better facilities and for any assistance the doors of DDC are always open for the general public. The programme was attended by ADDC Anantnag, SE R&B, JD Planning, SDM Bijbehara, CMO, CHO, CEO, DSHO, BDO, PRI members and other officers of line departments besides the large number of locals. Block Diwas was also held in block Vessu which was presided over by ADC (G) various demands and issues of community nature were raised by the PRIs and people at Bijbehara and Vessu block and the concerned officers were on spot directed for the redressal of the genuine demands of the public.

## District Admin Ganderbal holds mega grievance redressal camp at Gund

J I NEWS SERVICE

GANDERBAL, MAY 03: Continuing with its endeavor to reach out to the people at their doorsteps to redress their grievances, the District Administration Ganderbal today chaired a public grievances redressal camp at far flung area of block Gund as part of weekly Block Diwas programme. The camp was held at Govt. Higher Secondary School Hariganwan and was presided over by the Additional District Development Commissioner (ADD) Ganderbal, Mushtaq Ahmad Simani. The programme was highly appreciated and witnessed overwhelming participation of PRIs, prominent citizens and local youth delegations from adjacent villages of block Gund who apprised the ADDC of various issues pertaining to their area. On the occasion, the delegations raised several demands of public importance especially augmentation of basic facilities including, upgradation of PHC Gund, Play Ground, dearth of staff in schools, upgradation of middle school, upgradation of old water Supply Schemes, upgradation of roads, lack of transport facilities from Kangan to various areas of Gund block and others. The ADDC gave them patient hearing and assured that all their genuine demands shall be addressed on priority. The ADDC fixed the deadlines for redressal of genuine demands raised by the locals and instructed officers to ensure execution of essential works on priority. While replying to the issues and demands, the ADDC said that District Administration is making all efforts to provide all basic amenities at the doorsteps of the people especially living in far flung areas of the district so that they may not suffer due to paucity of such facilities. He also urged the locals, especially unemployed youth to take benefit of various employment schemes

## DC B'pora inaugurates Small Ruminant Examination Facility of SHD

**Sheep husbandry plays crucial role in supporting Rural Economy: Dr. Owais**

J I NEWS SERVICE

BANDIPORA, MAY 03: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Dr. Owais Ahmed on Wednesday inaugurated the Small Ruminant Examination Facility established under NFB (District Capex 2022-23) at District sheep Husbandry office complex, Bandipora. The inaugural function was attended by President Municipal council, Bandipora, Bisharat Hussain Najjar, Joint Director Planning, Imtiyaz Ahmad, Tehsildar Bandipora, DSHO Bandipora, LDM Bandipora and other concerned. DSHO apprised the DC that this newly built Operation Theatre, equipped with modern technology and facilities will help enhance the sheep husbandry services and provide better healthcare facilities for



the sheep population of the region. He informed that the newly established Small Animal Examination centre will have facilities for wellness check up, vaccination, surgical procedures, emergency care, nutrition advice, diagnostic ultrasonography and other procedures. Speaking on the occasion, the DC emphasized the importance of live-

stock in the economy and said that the Sheep Husbandry Department plays a crucial role in supporting the rural economy. He said the inauguration of this modern Operation Theatre is a significant step in providing high-quality healthcare services to the sheep population, which is essential for the development of this sector.

## DC B'g'am holds Block Diwas at village Charipora of Pakherpora Block

J I NEWS SERVICE

BUDGAM, MAY 03: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Akshay Labroo today conducted a public grievances redressal camp as part of weekly Block Diwas at Panchayat Halqa Charipora in Block Pakherpora of Budgam.

The programme was held at Panchayat Ghar Charipora wherein PRIs, elders and local youth delegations from villages Charipora, Mehndipora, Shankerpora and other adjacent villages participated. The DC assured people that all their genuine demands shall be taken up and discussed with all the concerned departments and speedy disposal will be ensured.

## Special awareness campaign held at DPL Doda under SVEEP

J I NEWS SERVICE

DODA, MAY 03: A special campaign was today organised at the District Police Line (DPL) Doda under the Systematic Voters' education and Electoral Participation programme (SVEEP) to raise awareness among police personnel and security personnel regarding the ongoing Special Summary Revision of Electoral Rolls. The objective was to encourage enrollment of left-out voters and increase their participation in the electoral process. During the campaign, the form 67 and 8 regarding election process was also distributed to the police personnel. The programme was attended by several officers, including Deputy District Election Officer Doda, Amresh Kotwal; Dy SP DAR, Sushel Kumar; Election Naib Tehsildar (ENT), Angeez Singh Jasrota and RI DPL Sanjay Manhas. They were all actively involved in the special campaign and helped in spreading awareness among the police and security personnel. The officers explained the importance of voter enrollment and participation in the electoral process. They also highlighted the significance of every vote in shaping the future of the country. The campaign aimed to create a sense of responsibility among police and security personnel towards their duty as citizens to participate in the electoral process.

## Director Agriculture inaugurates two Hi-tech Poly houses at Narkara Budgam

J I NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, MAY 03: The Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhury Mohammad today inaugurated two hi-tech polyhouses at Narkara Budgam. He also visited adjacent areas of Narkara and took stock of the Agriculture scenario in the area. Speaking on the occasion, Director Agriculture highlighted the importance of Hi-tech poly houses and said that to explore the potential in the vegetable sector hi-tech polyhouses can play a big role. He said that the department has established hi-tech polyhouses in all the districts of Kashmir division in order to ensure round the year availability of seedling of different vegetable crops to the farming community of the division. Director Agriculture also held interaction with the farmers of a crucial role in supporting the rural economy and took feedback from them regarding the implementation of different schemes and programmes in the district. Amid prevailing weather conditions Director Agriculture said that special advisories are being issued by the department so that the precautionary measures could be ensured by the concerned farmers. He directed the officers/field staff to work in close coordination with the farming community. Deputy Director Agriculture planning Mohammad Younis Chowdhury and some other officers were present on the occasion.

## Chairperson DDC inaugurates works of WSS scheme at Kaghote

J I NEWS SERVICE

UDHAMPUR, MAY 03: Chairman District Development Council Udhampur, Lal Chand today inaugurated work of WSS Scheme Kaghote in Block Ramnagar under Jal Jeevan Mission. BDC Chairman Ramnagar, Des Raj, Superintending Engineer (Hydraulic circle Reasi-Udhampur) R.K. Mahajan, Sarpanch Kaghote-B Sunil Kumar, PRI Members, AEE Jal Shakti Sub-Division Ramnagar, Junior Engineer Concerned, Contractor of the Project and a large number of local public of the area attended the inauguration of work. The WSS Kaghote project will be executed at a cost of Rs. 9.63 crore. The project is a Lift Water Supply Scheme and will cater three panchayats i.e. Bhatyari, Kaghote-A and Kaghote-B having 1100 uncovered households. The project, once completed, will benefit every household in the vicinity by providing clean tap water and the problems of dearth of potable water will be fully eliminated in these Panchayats" said the DDC Chairman. The Chairperson District Development Council Udhampur congratulated the PRI Members and public of the area. He appreciated the PRI Members for developmental activities being carried out in the Panchayats. Additionally, the Chairperson acknowledged the Jal Shakti Department officers' efforts and urged them to see to it that all approved projects were started and finished in scheduled time to provide tap water to every home and habitation. Speaking on the occasion, Chairperson BDC Ramnagar also congratulated the local populace and expressed hope that the pace of development in Block Ramnagar would remain the same.

## G-20 Summit: Walkathon organised at Pulwama

J I NEWS SERVICE

PULWAMA, MAY 03: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, Basharat Qayoom today flagged-off the 'Run for G-20 Walkathon' from DC Office Complex Pulwama, here. The walkathon was organized by District Youth Services and Sports Pulwama wherein hundreds of school children from various educational zones, faculty, and non-teaching staff participated in the event, which later culminated at Government Degree College Boys Pulwama. Speaking with regard to the event, DC said that the event is aimed at disseminating the message of India's G20 Presidency among the people in general and school children in particular. He complimented Youth Services and Sports Department for organising the rally of students and asserted that it will help to create awareness among the students regarding G-20 Summit besides exhorting upon the concerned departments to involve more students and civil society members in large numbers so that the general people will have the proper knowledge regarding the summit. He further directed the departments to organise seminars and debate competitions in all educational institutions over India attaining the presidency of G-20.

## SVEEP campaign: Enrolment of eligible electors on rise in District Kishtwar

**DEBATES, SYMPOSIUMS & NUKKAD NATAKS AMONG OTHER ACTIVITIES BEING HELD TO MOBILIZE MASSES**

J I NEWS SERVICE

KISHITWAR, MAY 03: District Administration Kishtwar, under the aegis of District Election Officer (Deputy Commissioner), Dr. Devansh Yadav, has conducted a series of awareness activities across the district under the Systematic Voters' Education and

Electoral Participation (SVEEP) Programme to spread awareness about ongoing Special Summary Revision of Electoral Rolls (SSR). During the mega awareness events being held in all the three assembly Constituencies of the district, hundreds of students, staff, PRIs, and the general public took part in the SVEEP activities.

The election department enrolled scores of eligible electors who have attained the age of 18 years as on April 1, 2023. The SVEEP activities including symposiums, debates, rangoli competitions, rallies in colleges and other educational institutions are in progress in the district to educate youth, women

and PwDs about the revision process. The Nukkad Nataks are attracting a huge number of youth wherein a professional team is sensitising the masses especially youth and women to get registered during this ongoing SSR. Besides encouraging registrations, the existing electors are

being encouraged by the Nukkad Natak team to verify their particulars with regard to their name, address and age. The public is being encouraged to get registered through online mode which is simple as electors need not to travel to ERO/AERO/BLO offices for the same.

# Religious leaders, PRIs need to play vital role in curbing substance abuse: Div Com Kashmir

**DIRECTS PREVENTIVE DETENTION OF DRUG TRAFFICKERS, COUNSELING FOR OTHERS**

J I NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, MAY 03: Let us collectively employ our efforts & resources to eradicate the substance abuse to secure the young generation from sliding into the menace of drugs, Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bhudrui remarked while chairing an NCORD meeting. The meeting was attended by Deputy Commissioners of Kashmir Division through virtual mode besides Director, Social Welfare Department, Kashmir; Director, School Education Department, Kashmir; ADC, Srinagar; Director Health Services, Kashmir; Joint Director, Rural Dev. Department; Excise Commissioner, Kashmir; Principal SP College, HOD, Department of Psychiatry IMHANS, GMC, Srinagar, Joint Controller, LMD, Nodal Officer DMHP/ATF DHSK, Kashmir, Dy. Drug Controller Kashmir,

Tehsildar, J&K Waqf Board and other officers. At the outset, Incharge Divisional Control Room, Tahir Magrey gave a detailed presentation on Burden of Mental Health disorders and Substance Abuse, status of substance users in Kashmir division, measures taken to destroy poppy crop and blug plants by enforcement agencies, counseling and rehabilitation process, functioning of drug de-addiction centers, surveillance on unorganised and organized drug trafficking activities etc. Speaking on the occasion, Div Com directed DCs to divert abandoned government buildings or unutilized buildings to the nearby departments so that these structures shall not become hubs of drug addicts. He also asked for regular surveillance of such places. He impressed upon the officers to spread awareness at grass roots level about the negative impact of drugs in the society.



He instructed them to classify villages according to the number of individuals involved in substance use, and label those hamlets as green, yellow and red depending upon severity. While acknowledging the pivotal role of religious leaders and PRIs, he asked DCs to sensitize religious leaders, Imams and public representatives to create awareness among people to curb substance abuse. Div Com exhorted officers to adopt a proactive approach to stop the spread of drugs among

## Functioning of schools reviewed at Karnah

J I NEWS SERVICE

KUPWARA, MAY 03: The Sub Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Karnah, Dr. Gulzar Ahmad Rather today took a review of the Education Sector including ongoing examinations, academics, rationalisation of Teaching Staff in a meeting of Education officers of Karnah sub division. Principals of Higher Secondary Schools, ZEO Tangdar, ZEO Chamkote and Headmasters of High Schools attended the meeting. The SDM also took review of Drinking water, electrification, infrastructure and cleaning of schools.



# Div Com e-launches mobile App "Azaala" developed by District Admin Rajouri to receive & redress public grievances

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 03: Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar, today e-launched an innovative mobile app 'Azaala' created by the district administration of Rajouri to receive and resolve public grievances. This app provides a one-stop solution to citizens to register their complaints and grievances with ease.

During the launch ceremony, the Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundra, briefed the Divisional Commissioner about the specifications and working of the App. Any person can submit his/her grievance(s) by entering their mobile number. The app can be installed from the Google Play Store and after installation, the complainant can lodge a complaint either through the WhatsApp number men-



tioned in the app or through email, Twitter, or Facebook. The app provides an option for OTP verification for secure and reliable complaint registration. Moreover, any complaint through WhatsApp, Twitter, or Facebook can directly be accessed by the Nodal Officer who will

immediately forward it to the concerned officer for redressal in the minimum possible time. The Divisional Commissioner Jammu conducted a demonstration during the launch to explore the overall grievance redressal mechanism and functioning of the App. He appreciated the ini-

tiative of the district administration of Rajouri and advised the Deputy Commissioner to regularly review grievances received, redressed, and feedback. The Azaala App is a significant step towards promoting transparency and accountability in the functioning of the government,

and it will go a long way in enhancing citizen satisfaction. The Deputy Commissioner Rajouri informed that a phone-in programme has also been started by the district administration to listen to the grievances of the public. He emphasized that technology is being used to provide a better grievance redressal mechanism in the district. The team of officers who worked under the guidance of DC Rajouri on the innovative App were ADC, Rajeev Khajuria; ACR, Imran Kataria; DIO NIC, Muzaffar Hussain Mir; ADIO, Ashwani Sharma; DIO, Narinder Kumar. Additional Commissioner, Pankaj Katoch; Assistant Commissioner Central, Prilam Lal Thappa; Deputy Director Planning, Munish Dutta were also present during the launch.

## DC reviews working of CEO office; inspects Traffic management in Doda Township

JJ NEWS SERVICE

DODA, MAY 03: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Doda, Vishesh Paul Mahajan today conducted an inspection of the Office of the Chief Education Officer and reviewed the working of the office. He checked the arrival/attendance register, functioning of the Biometric attendance system, movement register of the employees and service delivrance. He further directed the officer and staff to maintain work culture and punctuality and ensure prompt redressal of public grievances. He said that district administration won't tolerate irresponsible behavior of any employee towards their duties and the complaint regarding

the unauthorised absence of any employee shall be dealt with strictly. The DC Doda also inspected the traffic management and cleanliness in Doda town and issued strict directions regarding the traffic congestion/wrong parking etc. He directed the authorities to take strict action against the violators of traffic rules, wrong parking and roadside encroachment. He directed the Traffic Police and ARTO to work in close coordination and act tough against violators, who cause a lot of inconvenience to common people. ADC, Dr Ravi Kumar Bhatti; CEO, Parshotam Gorja; ARTO, Rajesh Gupta and Traffic Police officials were also present during the inspection.

## DC Kathua; Rakesh Minhas presides over LG's Special Governance Camps for West Pakistani Refugees

SEEKS FULL SATURATION OF WELFARE SCHEMES FOR WPRS

JJ NEWS SERVICE

KATHUA, MAY 03: Deputy Commissioner Kathua Rakesh Minhas today presided over the ongoing LG's Special Governance Camps for West Pakistani Refugees (WPRS) of 1947. The DC Kathua was accompanied by ACR, Vishay Pratap Singh, Tehsildar Kathua and other District & Sectoral Officers. The camp was set up at the Office Building of Patwar Halqa, near District Employment & Counselling Centre Kathua to provide essential services to the WPRS, including documentation, healthcare, education and livelihood support. On the occasion, the DC inspected the facilities

being provided in the camps and to obtain the feedback from the beneficiaries, besides ensuring that they receive all necessary services and support. The DC also met with the WPRS and listened to their grievances. He also reviewed the progress of the ongoing camps and directed the concerned officials to ensure that all necessary services are provided to the WPRS. Speaking on the occasion, Rakesh Minhas said, "The LG's Special Governance Camps are an important initiative aimed at providing essential services to the West Pakistani Refugees. These camps will go a long way in addressing the issues faced by the WPRS, including documentation, health-

care, education, and livelihood support. He said that these camps are meant to provide One Stop Platform for Providing all the services. We are committed to extending all necessary support to the community members, and we will ensure that all their grievances are addressed. The DC also appreciated the efforts of the officials and staff involved in the organization and management of the camps. He urged them to continue working with dedication and commitment to ensure that the WPRS receive all necessary services and support. He also laid emphasis on saturating all the welfare schemes vis a vis WPRS. The DC further called

upon the officers/officials to provide these services to the community members in their respective offices also apart from these scheduled camps. Pertinently, the LG's Special Governance Camps for West Pakistani Refugees of 1947 being organised by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir with the aim of providing essential services to the WPRS. In Kathua, a complete schedule was issued in advance and these camps have been set up in various locations across the district with maximum concentration of WPR community viz. Kathua, Nagri-Parole, Marbeen, and Hiranagar, and have been receiving a positive response from the community members.

## DC Kulgam reviews implementation of PM-KISAN scheme

JJ NEWS SERVICE

KULGAM, MAY 03: In order to review the online integration of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) data with Revenue Records of beneficiaries on the Portal, a joint meeting of Revenue and Agriculture Officers was today held under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat at mini-secretariat, here. At the outset, the DC took a detailed review with regard to bulk uploading of Revenue Record of PM-KISAN beneficiaries, mutation of eligible beneficiaries on account of pending inheritance mutations, completion of e-KYC process and saturation of bank accounts of PM-KISAN. The chair was apprised that revenue records of 30892 beneficiaries have been uploaded on the portal as on date. The categorization of pendencies on account of various reasons was also discussed in detail. The concerned Tehsildars were directed by the chair to hold mutation camps in the district in mission mode to cover the eligible beneficiaries having land holding in their name so that they can receive the benefits of the scheme. During the meeting, it was informed that a large number of farmers are in possession of cultivable land but mutation is pending and directions have been passed to the Agriculture Department to approach Revenue Authorities for Mutation with the result they will become eligible for receiving installments under the PM KISAN scheme. On the occasion, the DC asked officers to ensure all eligible beneficiaries are covered under the scheme and asked them to activate their field staff and integrate PM-KISAN data with Revenue record and e-KYC process of the scheme well in time. The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner Showkat Ahmad Rather, Additional Deputy Commissioner Vijar Ahmad Giri, ACR Mir Intiyaz-ul-Aziz, Chief Agriculture Officer Sartaj Ahmad Shah, Tehsildars and other concerned officers.

## ADDC B'pura reviews cases related to Natural Calamities; recommends 09 cases



JJ NEWS SERVICE

BANDIPORA, MAY 03: The Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Bandipora, Ali Asfar Khan today chaired a meeting here to discuss various cases of natural calamities. During the meeting, several cases related to natural calamities were discussed and the officials reviewed the status of relief measures provided to the affected people. After a detailed discussion, the officials recommended relief for nine cases of natural calamities. The officials emphasized the need to expedite the relief process and ensure that the affected people are provided with necessary assistance. The officials also discussed measures to mitigate the impact of natural calamities in the future. They stressed the importance of creating awareness among the people about the measures that can be taken to minimize the damage caused by natural calamities. Among others, the meeting was attended by ADC, ACR, CAO, DTO, DSHO, Ex. Engineer R&B Bandipora and Sumbal, Tehsildar Bandipora, Aloosa and Hajin. The officials expressed their commitment to providing relief to the affected people and ensuring that necessary steps are taken to prevent such calamities in the future.

## JJM stakeholder's Bandholding/ Awareness programme held at Anantnag

JJ NEWS SERVICE

ANANTNAG, MAY 03: The Project Management Consultancy, Mission Directorate, Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), JK, in collaboration with District Jal Jeevan Mission, Anantnag today conducted a mega bandholding cum awareness program at Dak Bunglow Khanabal, here. The sessions witnessed participation of various stakeholders including PRIs, Pani Samiti members, field staff of Jal Shakti Department, Poshan Abhiyan, Health viz. ASHAs, AWWs, District Project Management Unit JJM Staff, Implementation Support Agencies, water testing lab staff, and FTK Trained Women from various panchayats. The programme was attended by Executive Engineers PHE Division Qazigund and Bijbehara Er. Zulfiqar and Er. Sareer along with their Assistant Executive Engineers, Coordinator DPMU and other officers of various departments. Mansoor Nizami, Consultant PMC along with his team conducted a session wherein he highlighted various aspects of JJM, water management and overall conservation measures besides the importance of JJM for ensuring adequate and clean tap water to every household. The Consultant from PMC explained in detail the role and duties of various stakeholders including Pani Samitis and shared best practices of water management and rain water harvesting with the audience and motivated them to play their role with dedication in a missionary zeal towards fulfilling the vision of JJM. The PMC team also highlighted through Audio Visual aids the essence of JJM, water harvesting, water conservation issues and elaborated them very beautifully. In another session, a live demonstration of Water Testing on Field Testing Kits was presented by Water Testing Staff before the stakeholders in order to train them. Incharge DPMU, JJM Anantnag while speaking on the occasion dealt with the issue of pollution of water bodies and said that careless dumping of waste into water bodies/ sources has aggravated the water scarcity problem and the need is to arrest this trend by community mobilisation and action.

## DC Poonch reviews functioning of Revenue Department

ASKS FIELD OFFICERS TO USE DIGITAL PLATFORM FOR PROVISIONING OF REVENUE SERVICES TO PUBLIC AT THEIR DOORSTEPS

JJ NEWS SERVICE

POONCH, MAY 03: Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Yasin M. Choudhary today chaired an introductory meeting with the revenue officers/officials of the district here in the conference hall of the DC office. The meeting was first with any department after the incumbent joined office as Deputy Commissioner Poonch. The meeting held threadbare deliberations and DC was

apprised about various Revenue related matters including recording of Jamabandies, progress under SVAMITVA, digitization of revenue records, Aapki Zameen Aapki Nigarni, Evacuee properties, digitization of cadastral maps, DILRMP and various other revenue related issues. At the outset, the chair was given a detailed account of different Revenue related indicators of the district through a powerPoint presentation. The chair was told that the

department has achieved 100% saturation with respect to Scanning of Revenue records, generation of land passbooks and Jamabandis. The Deputy Commissioner expressed his satisfaction over the achievements. Furthermore, he instructed the department to achieve the remaining targets well within the stipulated time frame. The availability of buildings/infrastructure, field staff and the status of ongoing construction of revenue build-

ings in the district were also discussed. The DC directed revenue officials and field staff to ensure efficient, prompt and hassle free revenue services to the general public as LG government is committed towards creating a transparent, hassle free and efficient service delivery infrastructure in the UT of JK. Yasin M. Choudhary stressed upon officials to avoid providing designated e-services offline to reduce the hardships of the populace living in remote

areas. The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Tahir Mustafa Malik, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Zahir Ahmed Kaifi, SDM Mendhar, Jahangir Khan, Head qtr. Assistant, Jahangir Hussain, Tehsildar Havell, Anjum Bashir Khattak, Tehsildar, Mendhar, Tehsildar Mandi, Tehsildar Balakote, Tehsildar Mankote, besides Naib Tehsildars and other concerned officers.

## Div Com visits Samba, inspects progress of ongoing work on Delhi Katra Expressway project

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SAMBA, MAY 03: Divisional Commissioner, Ramesh Kumar on Wednesday chaired a meeting here to review the Special Summary Revision exercise of electoral rolls as 2023 in the District Samba. During the meeting, the Div Com reviewed the progress of the revision exercise and discussed strategies to ensure that the exercise is completed within the extended date of 06 May 2023. The ADCC, ADC, ACR, SDM, Ghagwal, Deputy DEO, Tehsildars, election staff and others attended the meeting held in the DC office. The Div Com reviewed the status of revision of electoral rolls in three assembly constituencies of Ramgarh, Samba, and Vijaypur of the district Samba. The Div Com reviewed the district EP ratio, district projected population, gender ratio, new epic card holders, and

ALSO REVIEWS SPECIAL SUMMARY REVISION PROCESS



PwDs marked as elector and other parameters. The date for filing claims and objections regarding the Special Summary Revision of Photo Electoral Rolls has been extended to May 6, 2023. The Div Com instructed all officers and officials associated with the Special Summary Revision (SSR) to work with dedication and zeal to complete the exercise in a time-bound manner with 100 percent enrolment of eligible voters. The Div Com also instructed to upload the list of Booth Level Officers (BLOs),

along with their contact numbers on the designated website and on the notice boards for public information. The Div Com stressed the importance of complete revision of the special summary, including the addition of new voters and deletion of duplicate voters, within the extended date. He expressed hope that the exercise would be completed successfully, and all eligible voters would be enrolled. Earlier, the Div Com visited the polling station Supwal and enquired about the facilities available. He also

interacted with locals present in the polling station. Abhishek Sharma, District Election Officer Samba, accompanied him. Later, the Div Com inspected the progress on Delhi Katra Expressway project packages 15 & 16 falling in District Samba. He also reviewed the status of Land acquisition, besides compensation disbursement among the winners. The DC Samba was asked to expedite compensation disbursement process of the land acquired for Delhi Katra Expressway & expeditiously remove balance hindrances being faced by project Executing Agencies. The Div Com also instructed the Mining Department for timely issuance of requisite permits required to fulfill huge minor mineral requirement of this mega project. He also inspected the completed Chichi Mata, Mansar Morh and Samba Flyover project sites & appreci-

ated the quality of work completed before time by NHAI which has come as great relief for the residents of Samba District & eliminated the accident prone black spot locations on the National Highway. The Div Com also inspected the ongoing work of Delhi Amritsar Katra Expressway along under construction Greenfield Samba Bypass & Brownfield stretch passing through Supwal, Vijaypur, Bagla & Barabarimana. On-spot instructions were given to the ADC Samba & concerned Tehsildars for providing support to NHAI in clearing of hindrances from the land acquired for the project. Executing Agencies were instructed to expedite the works by deploying additional resources to complete the prestigious project connecting the national capital to the revered shrine of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi, Katra before time.

# Block Diwas witnesses huge public participation at Pampore

**BLOCK DIWAS TRANSFORMING CONTOURS OF LOCAL GOVERNANCE & PRESENTING REFLECTION OF PEOPLES' CONFIDENCE ON PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS: DDC PULWAMA**

PULWAMA, MAY 03: The District Development Commissioner (DDC) Pulwama, Basharat Qayoom today presided over Weekly Block Diwas at Town Hall, MC, Pampore.

People from various areas of the tehsil flagged-off developmental issues, grievances pertaining to construction of Indoor Stadium at Pampore and Konibal, adequate drinking water availability, uninterrupted power supply, road connectivity and other rural development works and public welfare measures before the DDC.

The DDC listened to all public issues and demands and issued directions to the concerned officers for resolving and meeting the demands on priority basis. Certain issues of emergent nature were redressed on the spot.



Speaking on the occasion, DDC said that Block Diwas is transforming the contours of local governance and is an effective mechanism of people's participation besides a reflection of peoples' confidence in public institutions.

It leads to a better connection between the Administration and people and ensures effective planning and implementation of developmental goals through vibrant participation of stakeholders, added DDC.

The DDC inspected Sub District Hospital Pampore, interacted with the patients and attendants, enquired about their well-being and emphasized upon the health functionaries for providing all health care facilities to the patients admitted there. He also checked OPD, Operation Theatre and other wards of the hospital.

DDC visited Konibal Pampore where Agriculture Production Department had organised a programme under Kisan Sampark Abhiyan, aimed at providing farmers with necessary knowledge and skills to adopt sustainable friendly agricultural practices.

Speaking on the occasion, DDC said that the farmers shall be able to orient themselves about projects designated for their welfare and development under the programme and asked farmers to avail the opportunity and employ latest technological interventions in the sector for their economic benefits.

The DDC further exhorted upon the trainers/officers to educate the farmers about the programme in detail and ensure the increased participation of farmers.

On this occasion, people of Konibal put forth some demands of public importance which were heard patiently and assured for early redressal.

DDC also made a surprise inspection of Government Boys Secondary School Konibal, interacted with the teaching staff, students and checked the attendance. He took strong note of the poor performance of the teaching faculty.

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# Raj Bhawan bids farewell to Akshay Labroo

J1 NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, MAY 03: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha and the staff & officers of Raj Bhawan today accorded a warm farewell to Shri Akshay Labroo, who served as Additional Secretary at the Lt Governor's Secretariat. The Lt Governor expressed his appreciation to the officer for his professional conduct, sincerity & dedication and wished him good health, prosperity, and success in future. The function was attended by all the officers in the Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat.

# JKPCC acquaints students of colleges with Mission LIFE Objectives

J1 NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 03: J&K Pollution Control Committee today organised an interactive meet with the students of various Degree Colleges in the conference hall, JKPC to discuss implementation of various themes laid under Mission LIFE and spreading awareness among neighborhood and general public with the help of NSS volunteers and Eco-clubs.

Pledge on Mission LIFE was taken in the beginning by all participants followed by detailed discussion with Programme Officers and NSS volunteers to initiate various activities by all degree colleges.

The program culminated with a felicitation ceremony for volunteers of Jammu University (Department of Environmental Sciences), GGM Science College, MAM College, GCW Parade, Commerce College, GDC Gandhi Nagar and Government College of Education and volunteers of Disha organization, Live for others, Organization for Youth and Development and Devika Army for their active participation during 'Save Rivers Campaign', organized by JKPC during Holy Navratras.

### NOTICE

I KEWAL KUMAR R/o Khanpur, Kengdel, Jammu Kandoli, Nagrota, my name has wrongly been written in my PAN CARD bearing no BXPX50475L. Kewal Kumar Sharma instead of Kewal Kumar. Now I am applying for the correction of the same above said. objection if any may be conveyed to concerned authority within 15 days from the publication of this notice.

# Plan for ADF, AB&AP for year 2023-24 approved at Kulgam

J1 NEWS SERVICE

KULGAM, MAY 03: In order to discuss and finalize developmental plan under Area Development Fund (ADF), Aspirational Block and Aspirational Panchayats for year 2023-24, a meeting of District Development Council Kulgam was today held under the chairmanship of District Development Commissioner (DDC) Kulgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din-Bhat at Resthouse Chawalgam, here.

DDC Chairperson Mohammad Afzal Parrey was present in the meeting. At the outset, JD Planning Zahid Sajjad apprised the council about the achievements of last financial year 2022-23 besides listing the projects of vital importance completed within stipulated time.

He informed that during the financial year 2022-23, 2300 works under District Capex were completed with an expenditure of Rs. 61.07 crore.

It was also informed that 90 of funds stands also utilised under CSS



schemes and almost 16000 works were completed under MGNREGA at a cost of Rs 54 crore. During the meeting, the council was also informed that under the JJM programme out of 61267 FHTCs, 34000 connections have been provided and by the end of June the district shall achieve the target of 5100 connections through completion of various works under the programme which is in full swing right now. After a threadbare discussion, the council approved plans of Area Development Fund, Aspirational Block and Aspirational Panchayats for year 2023-24 of Rs. 57.32 crore which has been formulated by DDC, BDC and Panchayat Raj Institutions after holding Gram Sabhas and in compliance to Panchayat Raj Act.

DDC stressed upon the officers to prioritize the demands and address them within the stipulated timelines. The DDC exhorted upon the departments and PRIs to work in tandem in order to benefit the common masses of the area. Besides, stalls displaying the schemes of various departments were also set up on the occasion for the common awareness of masses.

# Tech. Team of Deptt of Drinking Water & Sanitation GoI (NJJM) visits WTL Srinagar

**SUGGESTS IMPROVING THE OVERALL SYSTEM & MAKE WATER TESTING MORE ACCURATE**

J1 NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, MAY 03: A technical team from Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, GOI, National Jal Jeevan Mission (NJJM) headed by Neeraj Sharma and accompanied by Mission Director Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) J&K Dr. G.N Itoo today visited the UT level Water Testing Laboratory (WTL) in Srinagar. The team that is on a three day visit to Kashmir for inspection of ongoing works under JJM and review the implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission in the UT of J&K on the occasion enquired about the various parameters being tested. Mission Director JJM apprised the team about various initiatives being taken at village level to improve water testing through Field Test Kits and their demonstration on Back to village and Block Diwas organised at district level.

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# Block Diwas program held in Rajouri Town amid massive Public Participation

**DC LISTENS TO PEOPLE'S ISSUES, RESOLVES MANY PROBLEMS ON SPOT**

J1 NEWS SERVICE

RAJOURI, MAY 03: Deputy Commissioner, Vikas Kundal on Wednesday conducted a public grievances redressal camp at Jawahar Nagar area of block Rajouri under Weekly Block Diwas program.

During the camp, the locals raised several concerns, including scarcity of water, inadequate parking space, dilapidated condition of road from CEO

Office to Bustand, and demanded completion of work on circular road and renovation of GMS Jawahar Nagar etc. Some other issues included installation of a fountain at Children Park at Jawahar Nagar, installation of Power transformers, sanctioning of a Women Degree College, sanctioning of additional Anganwadi Centres, community hall for Jawahar Nagar etc.

President MC Rajouri, Mohammad Arif Jatt

urged all stakeholders to work in close coordination to ensure that the district continues to progress.

He emphasized that development cannot be achieved in isolation and requires the collective efforts of all stakeholders, including the government, civil society and the general public. He encouraged everyone to come forward with their ideas and suggestions to further improve the district's progress.

The DC gave a patient

hearing to the grievances put forth by the public and their representatives.

He assured them that their issues would be taken up with the concerned departments on a priority basis. He also directed the officials present at the camp to take immediate action on the problems projected by the people. Responding to the issue of shortage of water supply in the Rajouri town, the DC directed the Jal Shakti Department to take effective measures in this regard. He also directed to maintain proper schedule while supplying water to the public so that they don't face any inconvenience. In response to the issue of insufficient parking space in the town, the DC assured that appropriate measures would be taken to address the problem. On the demand of the installation of a fountain in the Children Park at Jawahar Nagar, the DC asked the G.O. RDA to take necessary measures in this regard.

# District administration Kupwara intensifies war against drugs

**350 DRUG-ADDICTS RESCUED & REHABILITATED, 429 MORE IDENTIFIED**

J1 NEWS SERVICE

KUPWARA, MAY 03: The District Administration Kupwara has rescued and rehabilitated around 350 youth of different areas of the district from the drug menace.

Also, more than 429 Drug-addict patients have been identified from different areas of Kupwara district with the help of local ASHAs, Lumberdars, Chowkidars and PRIs who will get proper treatment and rehabilitation at Drug De-addiction and Rehabilitation centre Kupwara.

In order to combat the menace of drug abuse, a multi-pronged strategy is being implemented in the district.

On one hand, Police has launched a massive crackdown on drug peddling and drug abuse by conducting raids across

the district to curb the menace of drug abuse and to break the supply chain of drugs, and similarly on the other hand Rehabilitation, Counselling, and Guidance policy is being implemented on ground. A comprehensive action plan is being implemented by health department.

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moral education sessions in school assemblies and painting competitions regarding ill effects of drug abuse are being organised.

Health and Wellness clubs in all the high schools and Higher secondary schools have been re-organized. Sale of Tobacco products has been banned in the peripheral areas of schools and other educational institutions.

Identification of drug addicts and suspects in schools and educational institutions has been launched. CCTV cameras have been installed in all hospitals, medical stores of towns. Periodic inspection of medical stores is being conducted and licence of medical stores are being checked and verified.

Drug addiction hot-spot areas of Kupwara district have been mapped to reach out directly to drug

victims. Property accumulated by Drug-Dealers and Peddlers is being verified and steps are being taken to confiscate this illegal property.

Better coordination among enforcing agencies have been ensured for greater deterrence to combat dangerous trade of drug-trafficking in Kupwara district.

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**

**TENDER NOTICE**

The Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer, Conductor, Jalandhar City for and on the behalf of the President of India invites a tender under Two Packet system for the under noted work:-

Name of work and location	Design, Supply, erection, testing & commissioning of 25 KV OHE for the work of 'Jammu - Second entry on c/w development of coaching terminal over Purohitar Dismant'.
Completion period of the work	15 (Fifteen) months
Approx. cost of the work	Rs. 12,98,91,013.88
Bid Security to be deposited Online	Rs. 7,39,500/-

**Date & time for submission of Tender and opening of tender:** Tender can be uploaded up to 11.30 hrs on date 24.05.2023 on IREPS web site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in and the technical cum commercial bids will be opened immediately after close of uploading of tender on 24.05.2023 at 11.30 hrs. Financial bids of the eligible tenders would be opened subsequently on the date given in the following intimation.

**Detailed tender notice & tender document:** The detailed tender notice is available on Northern Railway web site i.e. www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in and tender document is available on www.ireps.gov.in. Above tender document will be available for submission of offer on IREPS web site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in from 10.05.2023 to 24.05.2023. The bidders who are interested to participate in the tender are advised to electronically register themselves on the above website for which, they would require to obtain class III digital certificate (if already not obtained) issued by CA under IT Act-2008. All other terms and conditions in respect of above tenders are given in tender document. The detailed tender notice can also be seen on the Notice Board of the above office.

No. 17-Elect/OTR/JUC/133 Dated: 02.05.2023 133/22

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

**UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR**

**OFFICE THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD**

**(R&B) DIVISION UDHAMPUR**

**SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

e-NIT No. 09 of 2023-24 Dated 02.05.2023

(SINGLE COVER SYSTEM)

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir e-tenders invited on pro-rata basis from approved and eligible contractors registered with Union Territory of J&K, CPWD, Railways, MES and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works:-

S. No.	Name of Work	Advertised Cost (Rs. in last)	Cost of Bid (in Rs)	Earnest Money	Time Allowed for completion	Class of Contract	Head of Account
1.	Const. of lane from the H/o Ashok Kumar towards main road up to Kati Mata Mandir W. No 3 Udhampur.	4.50	60/-	02% of advertised cost	30 Days	7	Capex Budget-I

Position of AAs:- Accredited  
Position of T.S:- Accredited  
Position of Funds:- Available

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 the departmental website <http://e.tenders.gov.in> as per below schedule:-

S. No.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	02-05-2023
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 02-05-2023 to 15-05-2023, 1800 Hrs
3.	Date, Time and place of pre-bid meeting	-
4.	Bid submission Start Date	02-05-2023 from 900 Hrs
5.	Bid Submission End Date	15-05-2023 up to 1800 Hrs
6.	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	16-05-2023 on or after 1200 Hrs in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Udhampur.
7.	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed.

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of e-challan through Treasury indicating Treasury Voucher No. & date, name of work duly creating to 0659 (Revenue favoring Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Udhampur) and a copy of Treasury challan and EMD/Bid Security in the shape of CDR/DR. The date of Treasury Challan/Bid Security Affidavit between date of start of bid submission and bid submission end date) duly pledged to Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Udhampur as mentioned in the bid documents. The earnest money of the unsuccessful bidder shall be released only after submission of Treasury Challan.
- The electronic bidding system would not allow any late submission of bids after due date and time as per sever time. Bidders may modify their bids by uploading their request for modification before the deadline for submission of bids. For this, the bidder need not make any additional payment towards the cost of tender document. For bid modification and consequential re-submission, the bidder is not required to withdraw his bid submitted earlier. The last modified bid submitted by the bidder within the bid submission time shall be considered as the bid. For this purpose, modification/withdrawal by other means will not be accepted. In online system of bid submission, the modification and consequential submission of bids is allowed any number of times. The bidders may withdraw his bid by uploading their request before the deadline for submission of bids. However, if the bid is withdrawn, the re-submission of the bid is not allowed. No bid shall be modified or withdrawn after the deadline of submission of bids.
- The date and time of opening of Financial-Bids shall be notified on Web Site [www.e.tenders.gov.in](http://www.e.tenders.gov.in) and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The Financial-bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Udhampur. The date for same shall be intimated separately.
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids.
- The bidder shall be disqualified from bidding for any contract with this office for a period of 03 Years from the date of notification, if:-
  - Any bidder/tender withdraws his bid/tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.
  - Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within specified time period after issue of letter of acceptance.
- Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.**
- Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website [www.e.tenders.gov.in](http://www.e.tenders.gov.in) to acquire bid submission process.
- To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) as per Information Technology Act-2008. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved vendors.
- The bidders have to submit their bid online in electronic form with digital Signature. No financial bid will be accepted in physical form.
- Bids will be opened online at its time schedule mentioned above.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents mentioned in NIT and SBD with technical bid online.

No:- 2063-68  
Date:- 02.05.2023 DIP/J/7423

S.D/-  
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER  
PWD (R&B) DIVISION  
UDHAMPUR

SAPICON-2023

# Technology to be enabler in attaining sustainability in food production: CS

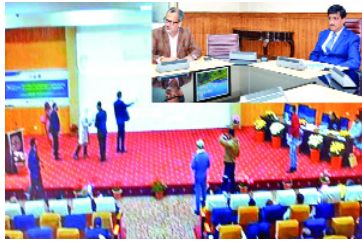
## Says J&K is going to be 2nd to none in adopting advanced technology and practices in Agriculture

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, MAY 3: Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta today remarked that our Research Institutions including that of Agricultural Universities should be ready to embrace future technological innovations and modern practices.

Dr Mehta was speaking in the inaugural session of the 3-Day SAPI Annual Conference & Symposium held on the theme "Technology driven physiological capacity building in livestock for food security and sustainability (SAPICON-2023)" at Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology (SKUAST) here.

On the occasion the Chief Secretary applauded the organizers of the conference for conducting it on such a significant theme. He said that such conferences are necessary for building capacities of students, faculty as well as scientists to ensure their readiness for future challenges. He sensitized the participants of the conference that if they are not ready to accept the challenge of investing in technology somebody else is going to do so



and leave them behind.

Dr Mehta advised the Agricultural University to draw an action plan based upon the suggestions of experts and scientists to tackle future problems. He impressed upon them that the future is going to be technology and knowledge driven and there is need to prepare for accepting the challenges.

Elucidating he maintained that the technologies like gene editing and gene splicing are becoming modern realities now. He said that the days are not far when the world would

see production of meat and other products in manners that may look like fiction today. He stated that many technological advances we witness currently were unthinkable of just few decades back. He urged that undue resistance to change is not the optimal way forward. Being careful but not being paralysed holds the key to prosperous future.

The Chief Secretary further recalled that from the last couple of years J&K has made big strides in adoption of modern technology even in governance and offering of different services

to public. He reiterated that J&K is going to be 2nd to none in swiftly adopting the modern technology, tools and methods to attain sustainability in food production and livestock development either.

He called the conference significant and timely when the population of the world has surpassed the mark of 7 billion and is ever increasing. He made out that technology is going to play a major role in ensuring food and nutritional security for world population in the years ahead. He maintained that none can afford to be technologically impaired.

As far as the progress of agriculture in the UT is concerned, the Chief Secretary remarked that we have earmarked a robust plan of Rs 5000 Cr for development of agriculture here. He observed that the important programmes like attaining sustainability in mutton, poultry, fish, wool, fodder production mentioned here should be our focus areas as around 40% of our agricultural income consists from that of livestock farming.

During the conference it was

given out that in view of ever increasing world population the food and nutritional security with zero hunger goals poses a challenge for us. It was revealed that livestock accounts for 40% of global agricultural GDP, provides over 33% of the world's protein intake and 7% of global kilocalorie consumption. The demand for meat and milk in 2050 is projected to grow by 73% and 58% respectively. It was therefore envisaged that the precision, smart livestock farming is inevitable that must integrate all the techniques, skills, knowledge and innovations to produce safe, sufficient, affordable, and sustainable animal food with minimum environmental impacts. So the future livestock farming must be technology driven farming, as was added during this conference.

Present theme of the conference is aimed to provide some leads using available advanced technologies like IoT, AI & ML, next-gen biotechnological tools in livestock farming to make it more smart, efficient, resilient, environment friendly and sustainable.

## DLISA Samba organises legal awareness program on 'Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act 2005'



JJ NEWS SERVICE

SAMBA, MAY 03: As per the Action Plan issued by J&K Legal Services Authority, (JKLSA) for the month of May, 2023 and also under the directions and supervision of Worthy Chairman, District Legal Services Authority Samba, (also Pr. District and Sessions Judge Samba) a legal awareness program on "The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act 2005" was organized by District Legal Services Authority Samba today at Govt. Hr. Sec. School, Khara Madana Teh. Bari Brahmana.

Versha Anthal, Assistant Legal Aid Defence Counsel, District Legal Services Authority Samba was the resource person who deliberated upon the different provisions of the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act 2005.

Rekha Kapoor Nischal, Secretary, District Legal Services Authority Samba discussed the role of legal services institutions working for the poor and downtrodden sections of the society and also interacted with students who participated in the program.

The objective of organising this legal awareness program was to raise awareness among the students so as to strengthen the concept of gender equality and ultimately

## KISSAN SAMPARK ABHIYAN

### District Admin Srinagar organizes Farmers Orientation programmes at Gandtal and Harwan Panchayats

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR MAY 03:- In connection with Kissan Sampark Abhiyan, the District Administration Srinagar has organized 3-day Farmers Orientation programmes in Gandtal and Harwan Panchayat Blocks of the Srinagar District with an objective of sensitizing farmers about new interventions approved under the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP). The programmes were conducted on the directions of Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mohammad Ajaz Asad which witnessed large participation of the farmers of the Gandtal and Harwan Panchayat Blocks. During the programmes, the participating farmers were made aware about the programmes under the Holistic Agriculture Development Plan (HADP) and they were sensitized about the schemes by the team of Resource Persons from Agriculture and allied departments.

The PRI members present at the occasion lauded the efforts of the District Administration Srinagar for educating the farmers regarding the Holistic Agriculture Development Plan of their respective Panchayats.

During the 3 days Kisan Sampark Abhiyan question and answer sessions were held for the farmers and will receive education about 19 centrally sponsored schemes that have been designed for their welfare and development in addition to the 29 projects. The programmes were conducted under the supervision of Chief Agriculture Officer, Srinagar, Mohammad Yonis Chowdhary. Pertinent to mention that during ongoing "Kissan Sampark Abhiyan", capacity building/orientation programmes are being held for 3 days in all 21 Panchayats of Srinagar District as per notified schedule to sensitize the farmers and PRI representatives about the recent Government plan to implement 29 projects costing more than Rs 5000 crore from this year to increase Agricultural production aimed at holistic development and promotion of Agriculture and allied sectors so that the farmers can get maximum profit and create employment opportunities from the Agriculture sector.

## DC Jammu conducts extensive tour of Marh, Kour areas

### Inaugurates dry waste management shed at Pallanwala, reviews development works



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 03: Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Avny Lavasa today conducted an extensive tour of Block Marh and Kour where she listened to people's grievances as part of the weekly block Diwas and also reviewed the progress of development works.

During the first leg of her tour, the Deputy Commissioner visited panchayat at Flora Nagbani in block Marh where she listened to the grievances of the locals and also inspected the development works.

The Deputy Commissioner

reviewed the door to door waste collection process, composite pit, pink bathroom and napkin vending machine in Flora Nagbani Panchayat. During the second leg of her tour, the Deputy Commissioner inaugurated a dry waste management shed constructed under SBM followed by attending a Mahila Sabha at Panchayat Pallanwala Lower. She also inspected the provision made for door to door garbage collection in both the Panchayats.

Emphasising upon the cleanliness, the Deputy Commissioner asked the concerned officials and

PRI members to focus on solid waste management as the waste material can be 90 percent recycled and reused.

Appreciating the PRI members, the Deputy Commissioner asked them to make people more aware regarding the advantages of clean and hygienic surroundings and also about the waste management.

She called for coordination and collaboration among the departments and PRIs to achieve desired development objectives besides timely intervention and action to mitigate the sufferings of the people. She directed the officers to leave no stone unturned in order to provide maximum benefits to the people of welfare schemes started by the government.

BDC Chairman Khour Balbir Singh Bhau, BDC Chairman Marh Surinder Kumar, ACD Preeti Sharma, SDM Khour Anil Kumar Thakur, SDM Marh Manu Hansa, DPO Daljit Singh, BDO Khour Sumit Suri, along with PRI members and other officials from concerned departments were present on the occasion.

## Secretary holds meeting regarding launch of PoS based penalty system in Mining sector



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 03: Secretary, Mining, Amit Sharma, today chaired a meeting regarding launch of Point of Sale (PoS) based online penalty imposition system in the Mining sector to curb the menace of illegal Mining activities in the Union territory.

The initiative is aimed at to bring transparency in the Mining sector besides ensuring every violator is brought into books.

Among others Director Geology and Mining, O P Bhagat, State Informatics Officer, Saleem Khan, both joint Directors of Geology and Mining Nisar Ahmed and Harbans Lal, DMO Jammu, Gulshan Kumar, IT experts of the department and concerned officers and officials of Mining Department.

Secretary listened to view points of all the participants especially Inspector Gowhar Ahmed representing Traffic Police headquarters who played vital role in implementing PoS based challaning system in Traffic Department. It was decided that timelines shall be drawn to implement this PoS based penalty system in Mining Department as soon as possible.

## DC Srinagar inspects major ongoing construction works at Women College, Lal-Ded Hospital, Amar Singh College, Beautification project along Jhelum River embankments

### Visits Central Veterinary Hospital Maisuma to oversee its functioning and infrastructure upgradation

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR MAY 03:- The Deputy Commissioner (DC), Srinagar, Mohammad Ajaz Asad Wednesday undertook an extensive tour of City areas to inspect progress of various ongoing major projects being carried out at Government Women's College M.A Road, Lal-Ded Maternity Hospital, Amar Singh College Gogri Bagh and beautification project along the Jhelum River embankments from Zero Bridge to LD Hospital under Srinagar Smart City initiative.

The DC also visited Central Veterinary Hospital Maisuma and took stock of its functioning.

At Government Women's College M.A Road, the Deputy



Commissioner inspected the under construction Administrative Block being constructed at an estimated cost of Rs 5.63 crore. On the occasion, the DC expressed his displeasure over the slow pace of the work. He directed the concerned executing agency to speed up the pace of work by employing additional men and machinery.

The DC sets July, 2023 deadline for the completion of the project.

The DC also visited the construction site of a new 200-bedded Extension Block/Gynaecology & Infertility Block of Lal Ded (LD) Maternity Hospital being constructed at a cost of Rs 132 crore.

While inspecting the

progress of works of the project, the DC was appraised about the physical status of the under construction project. He was informed that the five-floor building will have a complete Oncology Department, High End Labour Room, and 4 Operation Theatres and a big Diagnostic Laboratory and Neonatal Unit. In addition, there will be a ground plus 5-floors with parking space, patients waiting lounge, canteen, new-born section, and hospital equipment and also space for wards.

The DC was also informed that work on the project will pick up the pace as soon as base isolators are procured.

Similarly, at Amar Singh College, GuggiBagh, the DC inspected the progress of work

being executed on construction of new administrative Block being constructed at a cost of Rs 2.43 crore. He inspected the pace of work and directed the concerned executing agency to work in double shifts and complete the work on the Administrative Block by November 2023.

The DC also asked the concerned executing agency to expedite the handover/takeover process of the recently constructed Rs 9.37 crore Science Block of the College under World Bank funding.

The DC also asked them to take up necessary landscaping and development works in the compound of the Science Block for which additional funding will be provided.

## Kupwara gets J&K Bank CRM at Sub-district Hospital

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, MAY 03: Going forward on ease-of-banking through digital and alternate channels, J&K Bank today dedicated a Cash Recycler Machines (CRM) for public at Sub-district Hospital Kupwara in Kashmir.

Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Dr Doifode Sagar Dattatray inaugurated the CRM along with Zonal Head Baramulla, Imtiyaz Ahmad Bhat in presence of Cluster Head Kupwara, Shadab Mehbob, LDM Mehbob Ellahi Khan, CMO Kupwara, President Trade Federation Kupwara, President Bar Association amid gathering of valuable customers, local residents and officials of the Bank. Speaking on the occasion, DC Kupwara hailed the Bank for providing the hi-tech banking facility to the people especially for visitors to the hospital and its staff. He advised the public to avail the various schemes of the Bank for their financial upliftment. Urging the people to avail the benefits and ease of digital banking, Zonal head reiterated the Bank's growing focus on digital and alternate banking channels for the convenience of its customers and people at large. Locals appreciated the Bank's effort saying the terminal will address the issue of banking needs of people especially patients, attendants and staff beyond banking hours and on holidays.