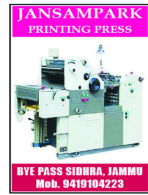




# JINDRAH IMAGES



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## Mughal Road opens for one way traffic

J1NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, MAY 12

The historic Mughal Road was on Friday thrown open for one way traffic from Buf-laz to Peer Ki Gali.

As per an order, a copy of which lies with the news agency, District Magistrate ordered one way traffic on Mughal Road from May 12.

"In view of clearance of Snow accumulation and landslides from 19 KM (Dogriar) to KM 43 Peer Ki Gali as intimated by Chief Engineer Mughal Road Wing and Executive Engineer Mechanical Engineering Division, Rajouri-Poonch, CONTINUED ON » PAGE 4

## LG Manoj Sinha inaugurates three projects of Srinagar Smart City

J1NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, MAY 12

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha inaugurated three Srinagar Smart City Projects and 25 Urban Local bodies (ULB) projects, today.

Of the three Smart City Projects, Polo View has been transformed into Pedestrian-Oriented Shopping Street, Abi Guzar Shiv temple has been renovated and dedicated to the people and Smart Advanced Traffic Management vehicles have been included in the fleet for Srinagar Smart City.

Of the Urban Local bodies (ULB) projects dedicated to the public today, 16 are devel-



opment projects in 11 ULBs and 9 Solid Waste Management facilities in 10 ULBs.

On the occasion, the LG Governor said, these projects will

significantly boost urban infrastructure and give an impetus to ease of living. "Polo View is the heart of Srinagar has CONTINUED ON » PAGE 4

## Pak Army maintaining high number of Terrorists in launchpads along LoC, security forces up vigil

J1NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, MAY 12

Amid an ongoing internal strike, the Pakistan army is maintaining a high number of terrorists in multiple launchpads along the Line of Control (LoC) with India. "It seems that even the ongoing internal strike has not affected its sponsoring of terrorism as it is maintaining a high number of terrorists in the multiple launchpads along the Line of Control (LoC) with India. The agencies are receiving inputs that terrorists have come to launchpads from their camps and are waiting to be pushed towards the Indian side," sources in the security establishment said.

According to the sources, as per the agency inputs, different groups of terrorists numbering between 10-20 are waiting at the launchpads in Neelam Valley, Leepa



Valley and the Jhelum Valley.

"The Indian security forces are keeping a close watch on the activities of the Pakistan Army and terrorist grouping sponsored by it in the Indian territory. The Pakistani terror groups have been activated by the Pakistan Army and their government to disrupt the forthcoming G-20 meeting in Kashmir valley on May 23-24," the sources said.

Asked about the activities of the Pakistan Army on the LoC and if they have reduced numbers in areas close to India to quell protests in cities, sources said, "There has been no reduction in troop numbers by the Pakistan Army as they maintain a sizeable number in Cantonment land to deal with such issues."

The activities of the Pakistan Army on the LoC have slowed down but there CONTINUED ON » PAGE 4

## LG inaugurates nine solid waste management facilities in Kashmir

J1NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, MAY 12

Jammu and Kashmir Lt Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday inaugurated nine solid waste management facilities and other development projects of Urban Local Bodies in the Kashmir Valley.

Quoting a statement, that these projects were executed on modern scientific lines under Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban), the Flagship scheme



of Government of India.

"Acting upon the clarion call of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi to make the Urban areas Garbage Free, the Urban Local Bodies, Kashmir geared up for establishment of facilities for Scientific disposal of waste. Besides, financial support & regular reviews by the J&K Government has enabled the Urban Local Bodies to proceed ahead in this direction," read CONTINUED ON » PAGE 4

## SIU Ramban raids multiple locations at Banihal

J1NEWS SERVICE  
RAMBAN, MAY 12

The Special Investigation Unit (SIU) along with Ramban Police carried out raids at multiple locations in the areas of Banihal and Ramsoo falling under the jurisdiction of subdivision Banihal on Friday.

These raids were conducted to tighten the noose around those inimical elements who always try to vitiate the peaceful atmosphere in the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir, a police spokesman said in a statement issued to the

news agency.

In run up to upcoming G20 meeting at Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir Police is leaving no stone unturned to defeat all the nefarious designs of ANEs and make this event a grand success, the statement said, adding that it is in this connection that Ramban police has raised its ante against these militant sympathisers and the enemies of peace.

Seven different houses belonging to OGWs, relatives of Pak settled militants and militant sympathisers CONTINUED ON » PAGE 4

## DM Poonch, Rajouri impose ban on sale, use of fire crackers

J1NEWS SERVICE  
RAJOURI/POONCH, MAY 12

The administration in Poonch and Rajouri districts have ordered a complete ban on storage, sale and use of fire crackers for security concerns.

In separate orders issued by Poonch, Rajouri, copies of which lie with the news agency, all the field officers have been directed to ensure strict implementation of order.

The District Magistrate Rajouri in his order has mentioned about a communication made by Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Rajouri, who has informed that the use of fire crackers, especially during marriage events is creating a definite confusion among the security forces, Army and police, which may lead to inaction many times to respond a militant attack, particularly during the present security scenario.

SSP in his communication has also recommended imposing ban on sale, storage and use of crackers. CONTINUED ON » PAGE 4

## 4 minors injured in pressure cooker blast in Udhampur

J1NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 12

Two siblings were among four minors injured in a pressure cooker blast in Latti area of Udhampur district of Jammu and Kashmir on Friday.

News agency GNS reported that the blast took place this afternoon, resulting in injuries to Bushan Kumar (10) son of Baldev Kumar, his brother Yog Raj (7), sons of Baldev Kumar, Pawan Kumar (14) son of Sohan Lal, Gulshan (11) son of Hari Chand.

All injured persons were shifted to district hospital Udhampur for treatment. Later the brothers, Bushan Kumar and Yog Raj alias Raju, were shifted to Government Medical College Jammu. A local police officer CONTINUED ON » PAGE 4

## Dr Jitendra Singh holds interaction with young startups, calls for wider awareness

J1NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, MAY 12

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology, Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences, MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr. Jitendra Singh today held a two hour long interaction with young StartUps from different backgrounds, during which he called for a wider awareness, particularly among parents and elders.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi has accorded high priority to StartUps, taking personal interest in the matter," he said, during a visit to the National Technology Week exhibition at Pragati Maidan, here today. Dr Jitendra Singh spent more than two hours visiting



the stalls put up by the CSIR, Department of Biotechnology, ISRO, Department of Atomic Energy, DRDO and a host of other Departments/PSUs and private industry. The Minister showed keen interest in the exhibits put up on display by a large number of Startups.

"Before 2014 there were just 350-400 Startups, in 2016 PM Modi started the Startup India movement from the Red Fort. And today their number

exceeds one lakh," said Dr Jitendra Singh.

The Minister interacted with a large number of school children visiting the exhibition and inspired them to take cue from the various Startup entrepreneurs making headway in niche sectors. Dr Jitendra Singh also spoke with the school teachers accompanying the students and the startup promoters. CONTINUED ON » PAGE 4

## 2,500 mobile toilets to be set up for Amarnath Yatra

J1NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, MAY 12

Over 2,500 mobile toilets will be set up for the Amarnath Yatra in Jammu and Kashmir, with most on the two routes to reach the cave shrine located at a height of 3,880 metres in the Himalayas, officials said. Scheduled to begin on July 1, the 62-day-long yatra this year could see more pilgrims, they

said and added that in total, 1,500 personnel will be manning the toilets from Lakhampur in Kathua district to the shrine.

"Over 940 toilets will be set up at the Baltal axis and 1,345 toilets at the Pahalgam axis," an official said and added that 1,370 personnel, including sanitation workers and supervisors, will CONTINUED ON » PAGE 4

## CBSE class 10 Results declared, pass percentage recorded at 93.12 pc

J1NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, MAY 12

The Central Board of Secondary Education has declared the results for the CBSE Class 10 students.

Of the total students who appeared for CBSE Class 10 board exam this year, 93.12 per cent have qualified. CONTINUED ON » PAGE 4

## MHA prepares new 'model prisons act' to replace pre-independence era law

J1NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, MAY 12

A new 'Model Prisons Act 2023' that will replace the 130-year-old pre-independence era law has been prepared by the Centre to address lacunae in the existing law and focus more on reformation and rehabilitation of inmates, the Union home ministry said on Friday.

Among the salient features of the model Act are provisions of punishment for pris-

oners and jail staff for use of prohibited items like mobile phones etc. in jails and providing for legal aid to prisoners, provision of parole, furlough and premature release etc. to incentivise good conduct, the ministry of home affairs (MHA) said in a statement.

Prisons in the country and 'persons detained therein' are a State subject and the existing law in this context, the Prisons Act of 1894 is a pre-independence era Act and is almost 130 years old, it said. Two

other related laws are quite old - The Prisoners Act, 1900 and The Transfer of Prisoners Act, 1950.

The home ministry found there were "several lacunae" in the existing Prisons Act and there was "conspicuous omission" of the correctional focus in the existing Act. The ministry, hence, directed the Bureau of Police Research and Development, a Union government think tank on policing subjects, to review the CONTINUED ON » PAGE 4

## G20 will be held in peaceful manner, says Kashmir's top police official

J1NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, MAY 12

Amid terror threats emerging ahead of the crucial G20 meeting, the top cop of the Kashmir Valley took a surprise round

of the city during the night to check the preparedness of the police force and said night-and-day domination by security forces would be ensured to make the prestigious programme a grand success.

Passing through the lanes and bylanes of the interior city, Additional Director General of Police (Kashmir Range) Vijay Kumar reached a checkpoint at Panthachowk, an area always bustling with traffic as it forms part of the National CONTINUED ON » PAGE 4

# Kavinder asks youths to become job providers & not job seekers

INAUGURATES SUPER SMILES DENTAL CLINIC



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 12: Kavinder Gupta, senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader and former Deputy Chief Minister inaugurated a dental clinic under the name and style of Super Smiles Dental Clinic at Nanak Nagar near J&K Bank ATM here today.

In his address to the gathering on the occasion, Kavinder Gupta congratulated Dr Rupakshi Gupta for opening the clinic with state of art facilities that will provide the dental medical services to the people. He said that she has proved that the youth of Jammu and Kashmir are very industrious and pursue their studies with due diligence. He appreci-

ated Dr Rupakshi for completing her post graduate degree in dental surgery (MDS) and passing out with flying marks in the examinations. He wished her all the best in providing the best dental medical services to the people of the area and region.

The senior BJP leader emphasized that doctors including the dentists have a significant role to play so far as health of the people is concerned. He said that teeth are a significant part of a person's beauty and maintaining good dental health is inevitable for maintaining optimum overall health. He said that people have become beauty conscious and realize that maintaining an appropriate denture is necessary for sustaining a beautiful

face and need the service of dentists on a regular basis.

Kavinder Gupta said that instead of opting for government job Dr Rupakshi Gupta opted for self employment by opening her own dental clinic. By doing so she has become a job provider instead of being a job-seeker. He said that youth of Jammu must take inspiration from her and start their own ventures that will make them job providers. By doing so they will not only make good earnings but will also be proactive partners in the process of nation building, he added.

Dr Rupakshi Mahajan informed that the clinic has state of the art equipment and facilities related to all dental problems like Dental x-rays, root canal treatment, implants, crown bridges, dentures, teeth cleaning and complete child dental care. She announced free consultation for a period of one month to make people aware about their oral health. She also informed that she will conduct free dental camps and check-ups in the general interest of common masses. Prominent among those who were present include BJP Mahila Morcha General Secretary Smt Neha Mahajan, Trikuta Nagar Mandal General Secretary Navan Gupta and Nanak Nagar Market Association President Devendra Gupta, Ashok Singh Samyal Chairman of the Market Association, Sanjeev Talwar, Sanjay Jandial, Lekh Raj Mahajan and Rajesh Gupta.

# Today's under construction roads will be tomorrow's life line in remote rural areas: Col Mahan

JJ NEWS SERVICE

KATHUA, MAY 12: Col Mahan Singh (Retd), Chairman District Development Council (DDC) Kathua has asserted that today's upcoming road infrastructure projects in remote and far flung destinations of Kathua will be the life line of the people in rural areas. He lauded the Prime Minister Narendra Modi for ensuring huge funds for the said purpose that is aimed to ease and uplift the living standard in the remotest of areas that remained deprived of even the basic facilities for about seven decades. He stated this while addressing a gathering after kick-starting the macadamization work of 7 km long Tikri to Jamma road under the PMGSY Scheme here today.

It is pertinent to mention here that in order to meet the long standing aspirations of thousands of residents of under developed Bhoond region of District Kathua, the road project's allotted cost was around Rs. 10 crore. While Tikri-Jamma road was aimed at connecting Jamma, Saman,



Cheeni, Darkodi, Draman, Saroga, Patera villages of Draman and Hutt Panchayats providing relief to the people of these areas and vicinity, but the construction was delayed due to certain contractual hitches and issues. However, DDC Chairman Col Mahan Singh who is also local DDC Member played a proactive role in getting these issues resolved thus paving the way for go ahead of this significant project.

Addressing the gathering on the occasion the DDC Chairman expressed

sincere gratitude to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union MoS PMO, Dr Jitendra Singh for making available millions of rupees to improve roads and allied infrastructure in rural areas and facilitate the uplifting of lives of millions of people living in these remote and far flung areas. Mahan called upcoming roads as life line of the hilly region of Kathua. He appreciated the patience of the people of Basohli Sub District who were victimized by successive governments and representatives of the past, mostly out-

siders. Prominent among others present on the occasion were Sarpanch Madhu Bala, Sarpanch Surinder Singh, AEE PMGSY Sub Division Basohli Deepak Kohli, Pradeep Loharia Contractor, social activist Ajay Kotwal and Soni Mohd with residents of the area, particularly women and youth present in large numbers. The participants were jubilant on this momentous occasion of fulfilment of their long cherished dream of a 'Pacca Road' coming up in the concerned Panchayats.

# Education Tour of Govt Polytechnic Jammu students at IIT held



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 12: an Education tour was organized for the students of Government Polytechnic Jammu at IIT Jammu. The program began with the flag-off ceremony by the Principal of Government Polytechnic Jammu, Mr. Arun Bangotra who appreciated the efforts of

Cell for organizing such an insightful program for the student. The students were accompanied by Mr. Ajay Thapa, Lecturer Mechanical Engineering, and Mr. Himanshu Bakshi, Demonstrator Electrical Engineering Department. The program was hosted by the CES Centre for Essential Skills of IIT Jammu. The Center Incharge,

Lakhwinder Singh, along with Mr. Arjun and Mr. Paramever, founders of Nucleon-ISC Group, played a significant role in making the program a success. During the tour, the students were given a company by the faculty members of IIT Jammu who gave them an insight into the various aspects of higher education in the field of engineering. The students

were shown the various labs and facilities of the institute, and they interacted with the faculty members and researchers.

The tour was an excellent opportunity for the students to gain exposure to the latest technologies and research activities in the field of engineering. It was a great learning experience for the students, and they expressed their gratitude towards the organizers for providing them with such an enriching experience. Overall, the education tour was a great success, and it has helped in bridging the gap between academia and industry. Other present on the occasion was Er. Raj Kumar, HOD Mechanical, Er. Yogesh Raina, Lecturer, Automobile, Mr. Amit Sharma and Gagan Pratap Lecturer, Travel and Tourism.

# DDC Chairman for 100 pc utilization of Rs 111 cr budget in Jammu



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 12: DDC Chairman Jammu, Bharat Bhushan Bodhi on Friday laid stress on 100 percent utilization of district Capex budget approved for the current fiscal.

Chairing the District Development Council meeting here at PWD Guest House, the DDC Chairman approved the Rs 111 crore Capex Budget for the current fiscal for Jammu District.

DC Jammu Avny Lavasa and other sectoral officers

were present in the meeting wherein the DDC Chairman asked the concerned officials to ensure early estimation and tendering of the development projects in the district to make it sure that 100 per cent utilization of funds is guaranteed. He said that officers concerned should plan the strategy in a manner that not even a dime is allowed to go unutilized like in the past cases when funds used to collapse due to lethargy and dilly dallying policy adopted by the officials showing indiffer-

ence towards their duties and responsibilities. Bharat Bhushan maintained that the funds allotted are meant for the development of the region to ensure convenience and adequate services to the masses and any delinquency in the aforesaid spending will tantamount to action against those responsible for unaccomplished jobs or underperformance.

During the meeting, threadbare discussions were held related to the District Plan for the current

fiscal. The Chairman laid stress on achieving all targets through utilization of 100 per cent Capex budget for the development of Jammu district.

The DDC members raised several issues related to development issues of several departments including schools and Jal Shakti Department for regular supply of water.

The DDC Chairman exhorted upon the officers presented in the meeting to complete all pending works and also stressed up carrying out necessary development works in a time bound manner so that the problems being faced by general public would be addressed at the earliest.

VICE Chairperson DDC Jammu Suraj Singh, DDC Members Suresh Kumar, Bhushan Lal Brel, Prof Charu Ram/Bhagat, Sharda Bhuva, Devender Kumar, Vidya Mottan and Geetu Aulakh were present. ADDC Jammu Ramesh Kumar, SE Jal Shakti Dep't Vivek, SE PWD, ACD Preeti Sharma and sectoral officers of government departments were also present.

# Dy Mayor bat for every possible effort to make this year's Amarnath really "Swastham Yatra"

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 12: In order to provide best possible facilities in all aspects to the pilgrims of the upcoming Shri Amarnath Yatra, Deputy Mayor Jammu, Baldev Singh Billawaria chaired a meeting of top officials of Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC). The meeting was attended by the Chairmen of standing committee- Arun Khanna, Subhash Sharma, Gopal Gupta, Commissioner JMC Rahul Yadav and other officials of JMC.

Deputy Mayor Jammu Baldev Singh Billawaria asked the entire team for an extensive tour of Gesta Bhawan, Ram Mandir & other lodging stations where the saadhu and other pilgrims will stay during the holy Amarnath Yatra.

During the meeting, Deputy Mayor Jammu took review of the preparations being undertaken by the Municipal Corporation for the Holy Yatra at vari-



ous lodging stations. Deputy Mayor Jammu mentioned that he will personally take review of the all the arrangements of the upcoming holy Amarnath Yatra and is reviewing all the basic services being provided there by JMC whether it's of sanitation, proper water supply or the maintenance of the building and other things which can be provided by the Jammu municipal corporation.

Deputy Mayor Jammu directed the corporation officials to maintain the cleanliness of the langars set up in the Yatri Camp and also asked the langar

committees to deploy cleaning staff there regularly.

Deputy Mayor Jammu, Baldev Singh Billawaria said that every possible effort in collaboration with District Administration is being made by the JMC to make this year's Shri Amarnath really a "Swastham Yatra" in all aspects.

Deputy Mayor Jammu apprised that additional men & machinery have already been deployed by the JMC in way of Safai sathies, garbage lifting vehicles, prefabricated toilets as well as other allied amenities at various loca-

tions where the pilgrims/saadhus are going to stay during the holy Yatra.

Deputy Mayor Baldev Singh Billawaria also appealed to the general public, Business communities & prominent citizens of Jammu to come forward and cooperate with Jammu Municipal Corporation to make Shri Amarnath Yatra - 2023 really a Swastham, remarkable & successful one.

Deputy Mayor, Jammu appealed to the pilgrims to say no to plastic use as plastic bags are a threat to our environment and kindly eliminate plastic, also

# DDC Chairpersons, DDCs from J&K meet Tarun Chugh

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 12: The DDC chairpersons along with several other DDCs from Jammu and Kashmir met Tarun Chugh, National General Secretary of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) at party National Headquarters, Delhi.

DDC's expressed their thanks for the development work being done under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji in Jammu & Kashmir. They said that the Modi government has initiated several development projects which will benefit the people of Jammu & Kashmir for the decades to come.



Speaking on the occasion, Chugh said that the people of Jammu & Kashmir have high hopes from the leadership of PM Modi. He said that there has been a positive change

reaching the ground. Chugh also listened carefully to various development issues raised by the public representatives from Jammu & Kashmir and said that he would be more than happy to pursue these plans for the betterment of the people of J&K.

On this occasion, he issued a statement in the media and said that there was a good discussion in the meeting on the Panchayat level, the lowest

unit in democracy and the DDC representative group. He said that these are the same representatives who work to make the country's plans accessible to the common people on the ground.

Many representatives including Bharat Bhushan, Dhanantar Singh Kotwal, Colonel Man Singh, Keshu Dutt, Raghunandan Singh and Sandeep Singh Manhas were included in this group of people's representatives.

# J&K regions, sub-regions being equitably empowered: Rana



JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 12: Devender Singh Rana, Senior BJP leader today said that Jammu & Kashmir under Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi is poised for a huge transformation with equitable political, economic and social empowerment of all regions, sub-regions and appsement to none. Rana said Jammu is destined to play equal role in the political discourse of the Union Territory and expressed happiness over realization dawning on the entire political spectrum of Jammu and Kashmir that political role of Jammu cannot be downplayed or put under the carpet anymore because of the self-centric

politics of chosen and privileged few. He exuded confidence that the J&K people will now become part of the country's growth story by extending their support to the landmark initiatives being taken by the government for heralding a new era of development where in all regions, sub-regions of J&K will be equitably politically, economically and socially empowered. Devender Rana along with Mr. Munish Sharma, Prabhari BJYM and Smt. Anju Dogra, BJP State Secretary were interacting with the people during the public grievances redressal camp—a mechanism held on weekly basis—at the BJP headquarters at Trikuta Nagar. Devender Rana said

that Jammu and Kashmir is witnessing a new era of hope and promise with the era of despondency becoming a nightmare of the past. He dwelt in detail about various path breaking initiatives taken across Jammu and Kashmir during recent years with an avowed objective of ensuring development, creating infrastructural facilities, strengthening utility services and giving fillip to growth as a result of massive investments. Mr Rana said the investments will manifest in industrialization on a mega scale thus opening vistas of opportunities for economic empowerment and generation of jobs for professionals, technocrats, educated unemployed besides

skilled and unskilled workforce. Rana asserted that the BJP believes in inclusive Jammu and Kashmir, with every segment of society, irrespective of region, religion, race or caste having equal opportunities to prosper and progress and equal rights in the governance. The party does not believe in the political hegemony of any region or a particular section of elites. The people's power will triumph under the cherished agenda of Modi's Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas.

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

# AIFTP calls on Tax Bar Association Jammu

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 12: All India Federation of Tax Practitioners calls on Tax Bar Association Jammu here today at Tax Bar Association Jammu's Office situated in the premises of Excise and Taxation Complex, Railhead, Jammu. The worthy members of Tax Bar under the leadership of its President Adv. Rakesh Kapahi welcomes the office bearers of AIFTP led by Adv. Naveen Rattan, All India Vice President AIFTP and Adv. Ranjit Sharma, Amritsar Conference Chairman, AIFTP.

Dr. Naveen Rattan said that an All-India body for the tax practitioners was established after inspired by the ideology to have a common platform for all those who practice taxation laws, irrespective of their individual affiliations and to enable them to share the benefits of their learning and sharing of knowledge, eminent professionals from the fields of Direct and Indirect Taxes.

He said AIFTP gives an opportunity to its members to interact with the tax practitioners across the country and for this AIFTP regularly issues journals and also take initiatives to organize study tours both states, national as well as on international level also



so that the members may get exposure to learn more and also share their valuable feedbacks and experiences.

He said the main object of AIFTP is to spread education in the matters relating to tax laws, other laws and Accountancy.

He appreciated the members of Tax Bar Association Jammu for always being in front and for their efforts, for organizing two successful National Tax Conference in the past out of which one was organized in Jammu and the other was organized in Katra and because of which around 33 members from Jammu so far has taken membership of AIFTP.

Adv. Ranjit Sharma thanked the office bearers and the worthy members of Tax Bar Association Jammu to spare their time for a wonderful meeting and

invites them to participate in large number in the upcoming National Tax Conference - 'Amrit Kalash' which is going to be organized at Amritsar on 15th & 16th July, 2023. He said their participation is highly expected to make the event a grand success.

Adv. Rakesh Kapahi thanked the office bearers of AIFTP for inviting them in front and for their efforts, for organizing two successful National Tax Conference in the past out of which one was organized in Jammu and the other was organized in Katra and because of which around 33 members from Jammu so far has taken membership of AIFTP. Adv. Ranjit Sharma thanked the office bearers and the worthy members of Tax Bar Association Jammu to spare their time for a wonderful meeting and

role to boost the morale of the tax practitioners.

Office Bearers of Tax Bar Association Jammu including Senior Vice President Adv. Vikram Dubey, Junior Vice President Adv. Renu Verma, General Secretary Adv. Dhbeeraj Bhasin, Joint Secretary - cum-Treasurer Adv. Ishant Gupta, and worthy members including Adv. Vinod Suri, Adv. Sunil Sharma, Adv. Sachin Sharma, Adv. Rajesh Modi, Adv. Sourav Mahajan, Adv. Satish Gupta, Adv. Yudhvir Gupta, Adv. Ashwani Goswami, Adv. Rajinder Sharma, Adv. Ajay Mahajan, Adv. Kamal Mahajan, Adv. Khem Raj Sharma, Adv. R.K. Sharma, Adv. Suraj Wazir, Adv. Ravinder Kapoor, Adv. Ankush Sawhney, Adv. Vishal Gupta, Adv. Arjun Magotra and others.

# Stone Crusher Association deputation calls on Altaf Bukhari

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 12: A deputation of Stone Crusher Association on Friday called on Apni Party President Syed Mohammed Altaf Bukhari here in Jammu and presented a memorandum seeking end to the harassment by the authorities.

As per a press statement, the deputation members met Altaf Bukhari at Apni Party Office in Gandhi Nagar while appraising him about the problems faced by them for purchase of raw material and selling of finished material. The deputation was led by ST Wing President, Saleem Alam in which stone crusher's deputation accompanied by Dev Choudhary and his team members met Bukhari sahib.

"Day by day our stone crusher units are being harassed either by the mining department and even by the law enforcement agencies as their loaded vehicles are seized and huge penalties are being imposed," the deputation members complained.

They further informed Altaf Bukhari sahib that recently district mineral officers have served notices to all the stone crusher



owners for installation of weight bridges on every exit point of the stone crushers and dumpers (mineral dealers) exit points. "However, the stone crushers are not in a position to install weight bridges which cost around Rs 10 lakhs to Rs 20 lakhs for installation," they said.

After hearing them the Govt should keep some mineral blocks exclusively for the stone crushers so that they can easily get the raw material. "All over India, except J&K, the Department of Mining keeps some mineral blocks reserved for stone crushers to make sure they get the raw material. They are ready to deposit some royalty and other taxes in

advance to generate government exchequer if some mineral blocks are reserved for us," they said. Meanwhile, they also raised the issue of harassment by the mining lease holders to the stone crushers by getting more than the prescribed government royalty rates.

They also demanded that the Govt should keep some mineral blocks exclusively for the stone crushers so that they can easily get the raw material. "All over India, except J&K, the Department of Mining keeps some mineral blocks reserved for stone crushers to make sure they get the raw material. They are ready to deposit some royalty and other taxes in

Meanwhile, Provincial President, Jammu, and Former Minister, S. Manjit Singh also spoke on the occasion, and extended support to the Stone Crusher Association on behalf of the party.

He said that "The issue of police and the concerned mining department has increased for the last several years. The Apni Party will continue to highlight the issues of the general public as well as the business community."

Provincial Vice President, Ex-MLA Faqir Nath and Provincial Secretary / Jammu Urban District President, Dr. Rohit Gupta, were among those who were present on the occasion.

# SUBA GROUP Of Hotels Launches 'CLICK HOTEL TULIAN', Katra

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 12: Suba Group of Hotels has Click Hotel by Suba Brand Standard along with the Brand's core values of offering - Hi-Quality Bed - Breakfast & Broadband (WiFi) plus immaculate service and unparalleled hospitality. "We are pleased to expand our footprints in Jammu & Kashmir, India with the launch of Click Hotel Tulian in Katra & this is our second hotel with Tulian Hotels & Resort Group. This full-service hotel with all contemporary elements is ideal for Religious & Leisure Guests along with new age and group travelers. It is our endeavor to continue to penetrate our reach across popular destinations across the country & offering Standard quality Stay facilities," said, Mubeen Mehta, CEO, Suba Group of Hotels.

Click Hotel Tulian, Katra features contemporary yet modern accommodation with 37 Executive & Family Rooms, One in-house coffee shop - CINNAMON; mainly serving all Veg Indian Cuisine along In-Room Dining for dining options, efficient service

Click Hotel Tulian perfectly epitomizes the Click Hotel by Suba Brand Standard along with the Brand's core values of offering - Hi-Quality Bed - Breakfast & Broadband (WiFi) plus immaculate service and unparalleled hospitality.

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and a comprehensive range of guest facilities to ensure a pleasant stay for the guests.

Click Hotel Tulian, Katra is one of the finest affordable luxury hotel in Katra. This hotel is located in the heart of the holy town, close to the main shrine board office.

Very close proximity to Banganga - the point from where the Climb commences and in close proximity to the Heli-Ticket Counter, making it a perfect destination for the pilgrims and near to Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra railway station.

"With the Launch of Click Hotel Tulian, Katra - we wish to offer Click Hotel's standard format of Stay Experience to all our regular Suba Patrons and specially the new age travelers - who look forward to enjoy the quality stay, best shower experience along with hi-speed Wifi at prominent locations at dynamic stay charges," said Abinash Ashok, VP Suba Group of Hotels.

As a hotel partner, we are proud to associate with Suba Hotels, and the main reason behind to opt for CLICK HOTEL - its brand

acceptance to new age travelers along with frequent visitors to Katra. This is our second association after experiencing the successful working association of Click Hotel Tulian @ Srinagar. We wish to continue enjoying the Click Hotel's successful business module as supported by their Regional Sales Offices across India along with their regular patrons. We all pray for a strengthened association and we are sure this will add value in Business and Occupancy," said (Pankaj, Gundep, Mir & Balkirat) Partners - Tulian Hotels.

Each of the properties boasts luxurious rooms with a host of banqueting and F&B facilities. Suba Hotels serves modern travelers by providing a distinctive stay experience, outstanding quality services, and exceptional facilities at competitive pricing. The company has footprints in all major metros, including tier 1 and tier 2 cities. All of their facilities provide elegant and large rooms, exciting locations for holding weddings, events, and exhibitions, and a fantastic dining experience at iconic restaurants.

# Technology day celebrated at MIER college



JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 12: The Centre for Educational Technology of the College organized a series of activities to commemorate National Technology Day. These activities included the broadcasting of the

Hon'ble Prime Minister's address on the day, sessions on content development & Chat GPT, video on artificial intelligence followed by a discussion and enrolment of students in the C-DELTA course for different programmes being run by the college.

In the first activity, 135 students of

M.Ed., B.Ed. and B. A. Hons. in Psychology, Political Science and English and the concerned teachers watched the live webcast of the address by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi on National Technology Day. In the second activity, an e-content development workshop was organized for M.Ed. students in which they learnt to prepare multimedia video lectures. A video show on 'Artificial Intelligence in Education' was organized for B. Ed. Special Education (ID) students. Lastly, the students were enrolled in Commonwealth Digital Education Leadership Training in Action (C-DELTA) Course and it was followed by a hands-on session on the use of Chat-GPT in education.

Prof. Mool Raj, Mr. Kuldeep Singh, Mr. Rajan Slathia and Ms. Rohini Sharma acted as resource persons for these activities.

Prof. Adit Gupta appreciated the efforts of the Centre for Educational Technology in organizing these tech activities on the occasion.

# Retail Industry Continues to Grow Year Over Year: Industry Insights at Phygital Retail Convention 2023

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 12: The Jio Convention Centre BKC witnessed a grand start to the fourth edition of Phygital Retail Convention 2023. The event kicked off with the Megaverse - a thought-provoking 'Groupthink' session titled '100 Shades of Retail,' which saw renowned industry leaders from the retail segment participate. SangentaPendurkar, the CEO of Pantaloons, spoke about how challenges can lead to innovation and improved solutions for our lives and the world around us, stating, "Necessity is the mother of invention." The convention promises more powerful panel discussions and insights in the days to come.

BS Nagesh, Founder of TRRAIN and Chairman of Shoppers Stop, shared his valuable insights on the

strategies to attract new customers over the next decade. Having been with Shoppers Stop since its inception in 1991, Nagesh emphasizes on the need of evolving in the retail landscape and how businesses can adapt to changing customer preferences and behaviors.

Industry leaders talk about retail as an ever-evolving industry, constantly adapting to changing consumer behavior, technological advancements, and market shifts. To stay relevant and succeed, retailers must continue to innovate and provide exceptional customer experiences across all channels. This includes embracing omnichannel strategies, implementing sustainable practices, leveraging data and analytics, and investing in digital technologies such as virtual try-on and augmented reality. nalking about the market shift, Kamal Khushlani, Founding director,

Mufti said, "For fashion brands like Mufti, inventory management and attitude shifts are crucial to stand out in a market that values expression and boldness. Retailers must cater to the digitally impacted audience and offer new product categories aligned with changing consumer habits, such as an increased focus on well-being."

The day ended with exclusive Women Retail Icons of India Felicitation that was held at the Phygital Retail Convention (PRC) 2023, recognizing women who have made significant contributions to the Indian retail industry. The honourees were felicitated by InayatGuram, Director, Enterprise, Innovation, Logic ERP Solutions and Swarandeep Singh, MD, Logic ERP Solutions. IMAGES Group has recognized and conferred these well-deserved honours in the presence of India's top retail leaders.

## FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

**LG Manoj Sinha inaugurates...**

been transformed into pedestrian-oriented high street that will attract more footfall, increase in retail sale, improve experience of visitors and it will make the area more liveable," said the Lt Governor.

Sharing the efforts to create facilities at par with other big cities of the country, the Lt Governor said, the Polo View market is just the beginning. In coming days, Srinagar Smart City is developing similar markets in areas like Residency road, Lal Chowk, and the old city, he added.

"The holistic approach in developing urban infrastructure is focused on Individual's well-being, new avenues and opportunities for the people for more diversified incomes, improved service delivery, mobility, cleanliness and to achieve the objectives of sustainable urban development," the Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor also highlighted the steps taken to fulfill the aspirations of all 40 ULBs of Kashmir Division.

"We have put people at the centre of cities and the projects both development and solid waste management, are offering unprecedented opportunity to improve the lives of millions of urban residents," he said.

The newly inaugurated projects are the testimony to our commitment to improve urban environment, he further added.

Speaking on the development journey of J&K over the past few years, the Lt Governor expressed gratitude to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji for the unparalleled growth of the UT.

Today, economic development is gaining new momentum, pace of completion of projects has increased 9 times and every section of the society is feeling empowered, said the Lt Governor.

Citizens are now co-constructing policies so that infrastructure projects are developed as per needs of the people, he added.

The Lt Governor called upon the elected representatives of the ULBs and the common people to work shoulder to shoulder with the administration in the mission to rejuvenate the cities and make them more vibrant, efficient, clean and sustainable.

Infrastructure should become a strong base to improve the quality of life of every citizen. We must ensure that infrastructure development meet the needs of the 21st century and reflect the priceless heritage & traditions of our cities, the Lt Governor said.

He further emphasized on encouraging maximum public participation in beautification of cities and swachhata campaigns.

At the Polo View, the Lt Governor interacted with the shop-keepers and presented a token of appreciation to the Traders association for their cooperation.

Bicycle sharing facilities for different locations in the city was also inaugurated on the occasion by the Lt Governor.

H Rajesh Prasad, Principal Secretary Housing & Urban Development Department gave a detailed overview of the projects inaugurated today.

Mathora Masoom, Director Urban Local Bodies Kashmir informed about the ongoing projects for the development of urban areas of the region.

Junaid Azim Mattu, Mayor SMC; Vijay Kumar, ADGP Kashmir; Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; Athar Amir Khan, Commissioner SMC and CEO Srinagar Smart City; ULB members, senior officials and prominent citizens were present.

**Pak Army maintaining...**

is neither reduction nor an increase in the number of troops deployed there, the sources said.

Pakistani foreign minister Bilawal Bhutto, last week issued an apparent threat to the G-20 meeting in Kashmir saying that "Waqt aane par aisa jawab denge..." during his press conference in Goa after the conclusion of the SCO foreign minister's meeting. (Agencies)

**LG inaugurates nine...**

the statement.

It read that an Action Plan for establishment of Solid Waste Management for 40 ULBs of Kashmir division was approved by the Government on 17.10.2022 for an amount of Rs. 239.74 Crore for the total waste of 456 tonnes generated per day.

"09 Solid Waste Management facilities, with a cost of Rs. 12.79 Crore, have been completed in the ULBs of Achabal, Beerwah, Chadoora, Doornu-Verinag, Ganderbal, Qazigund, Shopian, Sumbal and Tangmarg/ Kuzner and have been inaugurated today which will process 40 tonnes of waste per day."

It added each facility has a Material Recovery Facility (MRF) for dry waste which includes Segregation of any mixed waste, baling & shredding facilities. Besides, there are Compost Pits for processing of wet waste.

"Over the past few years, the Urban Local Bodies have been significantly empowered to function as units of Local Self Government. The institution of 74th Constitutional Amendment Act has further empowered the Urban Local Bodies on the developmental front to take up projects having vast public utilities and to create assets for strengthening resource base of the ULBs."

It read that these projects include Shopping Complexes, Marriage Halls, Community Halls, Drainage networks, Development of lanes, Development of Bus Addas, Macadamization of roads, construction of Slaughter houses, development of Public parks, office buildings/Town halls etc.

"16 such developmental projects costing Rs. 21.55 Crore have been inaugurated today and dedicated to the public. Further, the implementation of some flagship schemes like SBM (U), AMRUT, PMAY-U, PM SVANidhi etc. further gave the ULBs an opportunity to widen the dimensions of their developmental activities and beneficiary oriented programmes." (KNO)

**High Court stays judgment...**

and connected writ petitions, is stayed in terms of its operation during the pendency of this letters patent appeal," the division bench said

Pronouncing a 27-page judgment after hearing Senior Additional Advocate General Monika Kohli, who was appearing for the government, and a battery of lawyers representing the petitioners, the court listed the matter for June 7.

"In assessing the balance of convenience, we have also kept in mind that the issues raised in the appeal in the context of the UT of Jammu and Kashmir, which is still not out of the woods in the context of its security issues and problems, have a direct bearing on the scheme of 2022 getting non-starter and any uncertainty which may be caused in the implementation of the impugned judgment ought to be avoided," the order read.

The court said it is equally conscious that these issues ought to be resolved at the earliest, stressing on the need to notify and hear all the parties.

It said the appellants are assailing through this appeal a common judgment of April 6 passed by the single-judge bench, adjudicating 19 petitions involving 2,396 writ petitioners who are seeking stay on operation of the judgment pending final adjudication of the present letters patent appeal.

The court said the VDG scheme is meant to be an exercise in building an attitude of self help in security matters amongst the local population. The aim is also to supplement the ongoing efforts of the security forces in dealing with militancy, acts of subversion and trans-border movements, it said.

"It is a manifestation of the will of the people to actively participate in the efforts to thwart the threat being posed to national security and integrity. The identification of men comprising these groups, support to them and the level of their motivation would be of utmost importance," it said.

"In the ultimate analysis, the success of the scheme would depend on the quality of men who would form these groups and the will behind these men," the court observed.

The division bench said the core policy purpose of founding the new scheme of 2022, by all implication an inference, stayed the same as that of the 1995 scheme, but certain structural and operational amendments or alterations with respect to VDGs have been brought into play.

While the old scheme comprised and consisted of SPOs and other members, bearing a strength of 15 in each group, under the 2022 scheme, a VDG is envisaged to have a maximum intake number of 15, bracketed in two categories, it said. (Agencies)

**SIU Ramban raids...**

were raided today where digital incriminating material was recovered as well, the statement said—(KNO)

**DM Poonch, Rajouri...**

Therefore, the DM Rajouri, in his order, has imposed a ban on storage, sale and use of fire crackers for security concerns.

Earlier, in a similar order, DM Poonch, in his order had directed that in exercise of powers vested in him under section 144 Cr. P.C., "I, Yasim M. Choudhary, IAS, District Magistrate, Poonch hereby impose complete ban on storage, sale and use of fire crackers within the territorial jurisdiction of District Poonch, till further orders."

"The SDMs/Tehsildars/CEO Poonch Municipal Council/EO Surankote Municipal Committee/District Information Officer, Poonch through print and electronic Media as well as drum beating and by all other means of communications, shall make aware the public not to use the fire crackers during marriage ceremonies/other functions/events in view of ban imposed on use of fire crackers for security concern," the order reads—(KNO)

**4 minors injured...**

confirmed it and said that a case has been registered in this regard.

**Dr Jitendra Singh holds...**

"All these young minds must realise the huge potential in the StartUps sector and instead of settling down to government jobs, they must seize the opportunity to launch startups and also create jobs," he said.

Urging the parents also to accompany their children on a visit to the Technology Week exhibition over the weekend, Dr Jitendra Singh said, "Let them come in droves and see for themselves how India, at the call of PM Modi, is headed on the path to rapid progress in the 21st century," he said, adding, "children in Class 6-7 are in their formative years, and by the time they pass out of school, their inherent skills are exploited to help them realise their dream projects."

The celebration of National Technology Day was started by former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee in 1999 to honour Indian scientists, engineers and technologists, who worked for India's scientific and technological advancement and ensured the successful conduct of Pokhran tests in May 1998. Since then, National Technology Day is observed every year on May 11.

The National Technology Week celebration was inaugurated by the Prime Minister at Pragati Maidan on 11th May 2023. Participants/exhibitors from 12 Ministries of Government of India are showcasing wide range of scientific innovations in Hall No.4 & 5A, Pragati Maidan, Delhi.

The theme of this event is 'School to Start - Up - Igniting Young Minds to Innovate', wherein students from schools across India engaged with Atal Tinkering Labs (under Atal Innovation Mission of Govt. of India), are participating and showcasing technological innovation in Hall No.4, Pragati Maidan, Delhi.

It is celebrated with a new and different theme every year. This year's theme is 'School to Startups - Igniting Young Minds to Innovate'. The CBSE has advised to celebrate National Technology Week 2023.

**2,500 mobile toilets...**

be deployed for managing these toilets. The officials said that an additional 120 toilets will be set up at the Yatri Niwas and at other locations in Jammu city, Lakhanpur, which is the entry point to Jammu and Kashmir, will also have more toilets this time, they said. Tenders for installation of the mobile toilets have been floated, the official said. Deputy commissioners of Kathua, Samba, Jammu, Udhampur, Ramban, Anantnag, Srinagar and Ganderbal districts have been asked to share details on requirement of toilets, the officials said.

Engineers of the Jal Shakti department will also be involved during the installation of toilets to ensure that there is no shortage of water during the yatra. The Jammu and Kashmir administration will also prepare a contingency plan to accommodate 7,500 pilgrims in Kathua district in case of inclement weather or any other emergency, the officials said.

For smooth issuance of RFID tags to registered pilgrims, the administration has increased the number of counters at different locations to control the rush at the Jammu Base camp, they said.

Steps for scientific disposal of bio-degradable and non-biodegradable wastes, including plastic waste, will also be taken, they said.

**CBSE class 10...**

The overall pass percentage in Class 10 results this year is 93.12 per cent, which is 1.28 percentage points less than last year's 94.40 per cent.

In the Trivandrum region, 99.91 per cent of students have passed the CBSE Class 10 board exam while in Guwahati, 76.90 per cent have qualified.

According to the CBSE official statement, a total of 28,471 schools participated in the CBSE Board exams in India and in 26 countries while the total number of students registered for CBSE 10th exams 2023 was 21,86,485.

The pass percentage of girl students in CBSE is 94.25 per cent while 92.27 per cent boys have passed.

Earlier in the day, the CBSE board exam result will be hosted on the official websites - cbse.gov.in and results.cbse.gov.in.

CBSE 12th and 10th results 2023 are now available on cbsereults.nic.in.

Apart from the official websites, the result is available via UMANC App and DigLocker.

The board has recently released an official notice regarding the security pin for DigLocker.

As per reports, CBSE has issued six-digit security pins for activating students' DigLocker accounts which schools can download using their LOC credentials from diglocker.gov.in.

It must further be noted that the mark sheets and passing certificates will be uploaded on the DigLocker for the applicants who appeared for the exams.

Kumar said that in exercise of powers vested in him under section 144 Cr. P.C., "I, Yasim M. Choudhary, IAS, District Magistrate, Poonch hereby impose complete ban on storage, sale and use of fire crackers within the territorial jurisdiction of District Poonch, till further orders."

"The SDMs/Tehsildars/CEO Poonch Municipal Council/EO Surankote Municipal Committee/District Information Officer, Poonch through print and electronic Media as well as drum beating and by all other means of communications, shall make aware the public not to use the fire crackers during marriage ceremonies/other functions/events in view of ban imposed on use of fire crackers for security concern," the order reads—(KNO)

Students can check their results by following these steps:

Step 1: Visit the official website - cbseservices.diglocker.gov.in/activate cbse  
Step 2: Click on 'Get started with account creation'  
Step 3: Enter the required information and the 6-digit pin provided by your school  
Step 4: Verify details and validate with the received OTP

Step 5: Your DigLocker account will be activated successfully

Step 6: Upon result declaration, open the app and click on the result link

Step 7: Enter details and access your digital mark sheet. (Agencies)

**G20 will be held in...**

Highway connecting the Valley with the rest of the country.

A 1997-batch IPS officer, Kumar took out time to stand with the jawans who have been tirelessly maintaining tight vigil along the crucial highway, a possible route for terrorists to enter the city.

Kumar, who was accompanied by Senior Superintendent of Police Rakesh Balwal, found out about the difficulties of the personnel besides guiding them in performing their job in pressing circumstances.

"This is a high-pressure job but, in the end, we have to be 100 per cent alert. Any failure can prove costly," Kumar told the police personnel on duty.

Kumar said the police force is completely geared up to meet any challenge.

"Generally, we have a naka (checkpost) for 365 days but whenever an important event happens, every one of us is on the roads to ensure that people sleep peacefully.

"The number of checkposts has definitely increased and many of my senior officers are moving around the city in the last 15 days. Today, I have come out myself to boost their morale and stand next to my jawans on the road," Kumar said.

He said patrolling is part of maintaining night dominance in the area and has been countering any threat of a terrorist sneaking into the city from South Kashmir.

He explained that there is a threat from terror groups in view of the forthcoming G20 meeting.

"Obviously, the threat is there but what are we here for? Let us not forget the motto of J-K Police that says 'A saga of sacrifice and courage'. Nothing untoward will happen," Kumar said.

Kashmir will host the third G20 tourism working group meeting from May 22 to 24. The first working group meeting on tourism was held at the Ramnath lutch in Gujrat in February and the second one in West Bengal's Siliguri in April.

This is the first international meeting being held in Kashmir after the abrogation of Article 370 and the bifurcation of the erstwhile state into two Union Territories - Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

Kumar also went into the interiors of the Nowgam area in Srinagar where the threat, mainly from the banned Jaish-e-Mohammed terror group, has been higher. He met the police and CRPF personnel posted there and took stock of the situation.

During his visit to the area, Kumar pointed to an under-construction building and directed the officers to stop a sniper there to ensure that the eventuality of a suicide terror attack is averted.

The Valley's top police officer also pointed out that women cops were also present in the likelihood that female passengers need to be searched.

"We are religiously following all the Standard Operat-

**BGSBU shunts out tainted officials****as LG office orders probe into 'financial irregularities'**

J&K NEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, MAY 12

In a significant development, the authorities at Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University (BGSBU) sacked two officials in a week's time after the Office of Lieutenant Governor, J&K, ordered probe into the alleged large-scale financial irregularities in the varsity, especially in the whopping Rs 12 Crore TEQIP project.

The probe has been ordered as a special audit report of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir pertaining to Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University, Rajouri, earlier pointed out large-scale financial irregularities in the centrally-sponsored Rs 12 crore TEQIP-III project, besides several other financial matters.

In wake of this, the Registrar BGSBU, as per the news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO), in an order issued on Friday has stated that the process of Special Audit regarding allegations of Financial Misappropriations, besides verification and audit of Service Books including Pay-Fixation of Permanent, Regular, Supernumerated, Deputationist employees including that of Suneet Gupta has been initiated by the University "in pursuance to instructions received from Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat".

"All the concerned sections are therefore required to keep the relevant data available for perusal of the special audit team," the order reads.

The probe has been launched days after the authorities at BGSBU relieved a retired official of the University after outcry over his continuation as Dean Academic Affairs (contractual) in the University.

ing Procedures and are hopeful that the event will pass off peacefully," Kumar said.

He also said some preventive arrests of overground workers and suspects were made as a precautionary measure. (Agencies)

**MHA prepares new...**

laws and prepare a new draft. "The (existing) Act mainly focuses on keeping the criminals in custody and enforcement of discipline and order in prisons. There is no provision for reform and rehabilitation of prisoners in the existing Act," it said.

The home ministry said a comprehensive 'Model Prisons Act, 2023' was finalised with the objective of holistically providing guidance and addressing the gaps in the existing Prisons Act including the use of technology in prison management, making provisions for grant of parole, furlough, remission to prisoners to encourage good conduct, special provision for women/transgender inmates, physical and mental well-being of prisoners and focus on the reformation and rehabilitation of inmates.

The model Act, it said, may serve as a "guiding document" for the states, and for adoption in their jurisdiction.

"Under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and decisive guidance of Union home minister Anurag Singh, a decision was taken to review and revise colonial-era outdated Prison Act, in tune with contemporary modern day needs and correctional ideology." "The Ministry of Home Affairs assigned the task of revision of the Prisons Act, 1894 to the BPRD. The Bureau, after holding wide ranging discussions with state prison authorities, correctional experts etc. prepared a draft," the ministry said in the statement.

Along with The Prisons Act, 1894, The Prisoners Act, 1900 and The Transfer of Prisoners Act, 1950 have also been reviewed by the MHA and relevant provisions of these Acts have been "assimilated" in the 'Model Prisons Act, 2023', it said. State governments and Union Territory administrations can benefit from the Model Prisons Act, 2023 by adopting it in their jurisdictions, with such modifications which they may consider necessary, and repeal the existing three Acts in their jurisdictions, the MHA said.

Some of the focus areas of the model Act provide for security assessment and segregation of prisoners, individual sentence planning, grievance redressal, prison development board, attitudinal change towards prisoners and provision of separate accommodation for women prisoners, transgender, etc.

The model Act also talks about provision for use of technology in prison administration with a view to bring transparency in prison administration, provision for video conferencing with courts, scientific and technological interventions in prisons, etc.

Among other stress areas are provision of punishment for prisoners and jail staff for use of prohibited items like mobile phones etc. in jails, allocation regarding establishment and management of high security jail, open jail (open and semi open), etc. and provision for protecting the society from the criminal activities of hardened criminals and habitual offenders, etc.

The model Act also has provisions for legal aid to prisoners, provision of parole, furlough and premature release etc. to incentivise good conduct and focus on vocational training and skill development of prisoners and their reintegration into the society, the MHA said.

It said that in the last few decades, an altogether "new perspective" has evolved about prisons and prison inmates, globally. "Prisons today are not looked as places of retributive deterrence but are considered as reformative and correctional institutions where the prisoners are transformed and rehabilitated back into society as law abiding citizens," the statement said. (Agencies)

**Mughal Road opens...**

the movement of one way traffic is hereby allowed on Mughal Road from Buffiaz to Peer Ki Gali w.e.f 12-05-2023," the order reads.

"Furthermore, Sr. Superintendent of Police Poonch, Sub Divisional Magistrate Surankote and Dy.SP Traffic Rajouri-Poonch shall deploy sufficient personnel at Behrangalla, Buffiaz and Poshana Checkposts to ensure smooth movement of vehicles with strict compliance of this order," it added—(KNO)

# Kashmir Reshuffle: Congress Loses Ground as BJP Gains New Members



J I NEWS SERVICE

**SRINAGAR, MAY 12:** Significant political development unfolded in Kashmir as numerous prominent personalities and dedicated workers from various districts, including Kupwara, Srinagar, and Baramulla, chose to join the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). The event took place in the presence of Ashok Koul, the General Secretary of the BJP's Jammu and Kashmir chapter, at 51 Church Lane, Srinagar. Expressing his

warm welcome, Ashok Koul remarked that a growing number of individuals are gradually recognizing the BJP as the most trusted and commendable party nationwide, providing ample opportunities for its workers to showcase their abilities. The event witnessed an attendance of approximately 400 individuals, out of which at least 200 officially joined the BJP, leaving behind their affiliations with the Congress and other local parties. Ashok Koul said, "Under

the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Jammu and Kashmir is witnessing remarkable progress and success. The BJP's vision for a prosperous and inclusive Kashmir has resonated with the people, leading to a growing wave of support for the party. The influx of prominent personalities and committed workers from the Congress and other parties into the BJP reflects the increasing trust and confidence in the party's ability to bring about positive change to the region."

The BJP party wholeheartedly embraces the new members and values their decision to join the party, reflecting their confidence in the BJP's vision and leadership.

Notable personalities who departed from the Congress and other parties include Hilal Ahmad Wani (INC), Advocate Sajad Ahmad Ganie (Social Activist), Habibullah Bakshi (Trade union president), Mohd Abass Kohli (Gujjar Leader), Syad Niyaz Indrabi (Social Activist), Abdul Hamid Rather (INC), Sajad Ahmad Wani (Youth Leader), and Nazir Ahmad (Political Activist) and several others.

The BJP remains committed to promoting inclusive governance, fostering development, and upholding the aspirations of the people in the region. The influx of experienced individuals and passionate workers further strengthens the party's resolve to serve the nation.

# Baru starts construction of Drain and Culvert at Hazuri Bagh in Ward-41

J I NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU, MAY 12:** Bharatiya Janata Party senior Leader and JMC Councillor Ward 41 Sanjay Kumar Baru started construction of Drain and culvert in the presence of BJP District vice-president Jaideep Singh Samyal, Shaktikendra Pramukhs Rakesh Sharma, Bubesh Sharma and local BJP leader Jatni Sethi at Hazuri Bagh in Ward-41.

Speaking on the occasion, Sanjay Baru said that it was indeed a long pending demand of the inhabitants which has been met today and he said that the mission behind this was to provide a conducive and clean atmosphere to the society.

He said that the work of main road deep drain at Hazuri Bagh, Bohri has been completed and now we are trying to connect corresponding by-lanes with the main deep drain on a war footing so that this work will be complete before the rainy season so that people do not face problems like every year.

Baru said that this work along with other major works initiated locally will help a lot in achieving the mission of "Ward-41" as Model Ward. He stated that efforts are still being



made to provide every possible assistance to the masses at their doorsteps for which he appealed to the inhabitants to contribute in keeping their surroundings neat and clean. He also stated that providing a neat and clean environment is the motive of Narendra Modi led Central Government and wherever required channelizing of deep drains will be done to provide best infra to the public.

Construction of drain and culvert at estimated cost of 6.21 lakhs will be completed within week, he said while giving information about the present work. PWD JE Rakesh Radha, Jatinder Khajuria, Lokesh Bhagat, Chhuni Lal Raina, Mahraj Krishan Zutshi, S. Jungjeet Singh, Ashish Mangotra, Babu Ram, Jugal Sharma, Surinder Sharma and others were present on the occasion.

# LFO-BHF hosts national youth exchange programme in J&K



J I NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU, MAY 12:** LFO-BHF (NGO) hosted 1st ever 3 days long National Youth Exchange Programme (NYEP) in J&K, U.T on theme "Role of Youth in Nation Building By Raising Voice Against Drug Menace" & National Youth Excellence Award-2022 under the leadership of Mr. Vivek Parihar (Director & C.E.O) & Mr. Vishal Singh (Director & C.O.) at P.S.P.S Govt. P.G COLLEGE FOR WOMEN, Gandhi Nagar which is Powered by Talla Jewellers.

On day 1st, Poster Making & Symposium Competition inaugurated by Chief Guest Former Cabinet Minister R.S Chib along with Guest Of Honour Jasvir Singh, DDC Pancheri Mongri, Udhampur, Special Guests were Tariq Ahmed Shera & Anirudh Raina under the theme. The winners of Poster Making were Meghna Goudie (1st), Yeasmin Nahar (2nd) & Manisha Kumari (3rd)

& the winners of Symposium were Arushi (1st), Geetika (2nd) & Shreya Kalla (3rd) followed by Cultural Evening which was inaugurated by Chief Guest Sh. Rajinder Singh, Mayor of Jammu, Guest of Honour Ranjeet Kour, SIO (JKAS) & Mala Bhasin, NSS Coordinator, CLUJ & Special Guest Nidhi Abrol.

On day 2nd, Sh. Chandan Kohli, SSP Jammu City inaugurated the awareness rally on Drugs Menace in which around 400 youth took part. The rally started from P.S.P.S Govt. College For Women, Gandhi Nagar to Dogra Chowk and back, also performed "Nukkad Natak" to aware the crowd and general public more about "Drugs & its abuse" and followed by cultural evening which was inaugurated by Chief Guest Kashish Gupta, CEO Talla Jewellers, Guest of Honour Tamanna Seth, SIO (JKAS) and Special Guest Bharat Bhushan Langhar On day 3rd, Chief Guest Padma Bhushan Jenab Gulam Nabi

Azad (Former CM J&K & President DPAP) of the day along with Guest of Honour, Padma Shri Sh. Mohan Singh and various special guests including Ms. Kashish Gupta, (CEO Talla Jewellers), Tavinder Kour, Regional Director Sanfort School, Mala Bhasin, NSS Coordinator, CLUJ, Mr. Gorav Chopra, Mr. Salman Nizami & Mr. Vishal Chopra.

Worthy Chief Guest honoured 25 Social Workers namely Mohit Sharma, Kajal Yadav, Gaurav Arya, Dr. Nitika Singh Gaur (From U.P), Sachin Nandhi Saathi Foundation (From Jharkhand), Azar Sumaiya Riyaz Motiwale, Meghna Shantaram Bhalekar, Pradnya Kalpana Shahji Sawant, Shubham Shailesh Gupta (From Maharashtra), Hrishii Sardana (Delhi), Mohit Yadav (Rajasthan), Pramesh Vijaywar (Chhattisgarh), Patel Mayurkumar Hirabhai (Jharkhand), Vijayanti (Chandigarh), Chandan Kumar Dubej (Bihar), Sanjaykumar Y Biradar (Karnataka), Davera Manoj Khanna (Telangana), Ankit Chourasiya (Madhya Pradesh), P. Venkata Chaitanya Narayana (Andhra Pradesh), Lovpreet Sharma (Punjab), Irfan Ahmed, Sahil Ali, Stuti Abrol & Afreeen Barkat (From J&K) More than 300 youth & students from 16 states participated in this 3 day long National Youth Exchange Programme & National Youth Excellence Award 2022.

Chief Guest of the 3rd day, also launched the website of the organisation (www.lfobhf.com). LFO-BHF also announced the best male and best female volunteer for session 2022-2023 i.e Abhishek Gupta & Navya Verma respectively.

# World nurses day celebrated in Medicine deptt of Associated hospital of GMC Rajouri

J I NEWS SERVICE

**RAJOURI, MAY 12:** International Nurses day celebrated at Associated Hospital GMC Rajouri with full zeal and Enthusiasm and Lamp Lighting. As May 12 is celebrated as International Nurses Day, which also marks the birth anniversary of Florence Nightingale, who is considered the founder of modern nursing. Marked annually with a unique theme, the day highlights the contribution of nurses in the healthcare sector. It is also an opportunity to thank nurses around the world for their selfless service in building a healthier society. The theme for International Nurses Day 2023 is 'Our Nurses, Our Future'. The program was attended by Dr Jameel ul Hussain Head of the department of medicine,



Dr chander shekhar Head of the gynae and obstetrics Dr javed choudhry, Dr kulbushan badyal, Dr imran chouthan, Dr Parveen Sharma, Nasir Khan President medical employee federation GMC and AH Rajouri along with nurses of the hospital. On the

occasion Dr Jamil Hussain appreciated the work done by nurses in the hospital and describe them as backbone of department. Dr Chandler Shekhar who is Head of gynae department told that nurses are main part of any hospital and without them it's impossible to achieve anything in the hospital whether it's OPD OT or any other aspect they always play an important role in Hospital and they left their families in order to serve those in Hospital. He told that they did exemplary work in COVID

# NC will develop Katra on modern lines if voted to power in ULB polls: Rattan Lal



J I NEWS SERVICE

**KATRA MAY 12:** Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President J&K National Conference asked the party cadre to gear up to make a mark in the forthcoming ULB polls as the chances of the party are bright this time because people have been disappointed by the poor performance of Municipal Corporation, Municipal Councils and Municipal Committees under BJP leadership in Jammu region. He was speaking at the workers meeting organised by senior NC leader Tariq Butt District Secretary Reasi at Holy town Katra here today. The senior NC leader asserted that

the Municipal Corporation, Municipal Councils and Municipal Committees have become the den of corruption and the people are fed up of the poor performance given by the incumbent helmsmen running the municipality. He said that the LG led administration has miserably failed to address civic issues of holy town Katra wherein people from across the country visited in crosses to seek the blessings of Maa Vaishno Devi Ji.

Rattan Lal Gupta said that the Katra town was neglected on cleanliness and sanitation front. He said people of the area are deprived of development even the pilgrims facing huge problems on account basic

amenities. Gupta asked the people of the area to support NC always to once again see the all round development and welfare of people without any discrimination on the basis of religion, language or any other distinction. He committed that the National Conference will develop Katra as Model Town in which people as well as visiting pilgrims will get all basic amenities, if the party voted to power in the upcoming ULB polls.

Rattan Lal Gupta said that ground level workers can play the active role in changing the course of ULB polls therefore it is significant that NC cadre should mobilize the grass-root level workers to ensure resounding victory in the upcoming polls. He said that only National Conference can address people's problems for which the party cadre will have to further strengthen the base of party at grass roots level.

Among others who were present include Sheikh Bashir Ahmed Provincial Secretary Jammu, Vijay Lochan Provincial President SC Cell, Banarsi Dass, Manzoor Hussain, Robin Kumar, Jugal Kishore, Abdul Rashid, Amir Khan, Bishan Lal Bhagat, Kali Dass, Jagdish Lal and other party functionaries.

# JUTA seeks early notification regarding enhancement of age of superannuation

J I NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU, MAY 12:** In a meeting held in the University of Jammu, office bearers of Jammu University Teachers' Association (JUTA) discussed various issues related to the teachers. JUTA thanked hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of J & K UT and Chancellor of University of Jammu for providing continuous support and inspiration to the University in all the matters related to academics and administration. While recalling their first meeting with Hon'ble Chancellor Sh. Manoj Sinha ji at Raj Bhawan on 28th January, 2022, the office bearers expressed their satisfaction towards its outcome as most of the demands have been accepted and stand resolved. JUTA further expressed a deep

sense of gratitude to hon'ble Lieutenant Governor (LG) for announcing the enhancement of the age of superannuation of the faculty of all Universities in Jammu and Kashmir from 62 years to 65 years on November 23, 2022 which was a long pending demand of the JUTA. The announcement was made during the inaugural ceremony of Annual Youth Festival 'Sonzal-2022' at the Kashmir University. This announcement was made as per UGC Regulations - 2018 published in the Gazette of India. Through this press release JUTA urges hon'ble Lieutenant Governor to order the issuance of notification regarding the enhancement of age of superannuation as the delay is causing substantial loss to many superannuating faculty members of the Universities of J and K UT as well as

academics at large. JUTA also reiterates the demand of earned leave accumulation and encashment of 300 days for University teachers as per UGC Regulations-2018. Whereas, UGC provides for earned leave encashment of 300 days, the University of Jammu restricts the accumulation and encashment of earned leave to 120 days only, placing teachers at a huge financial loss. The office bearers of the association are of the firm belief that hon'ble LG will consider their above mentioned demands and order the issuance of notifications at the earliest. The meeting was attended by Prof Pankaj Srivastava (President), Dr Manoj Bhat (Vice President) Dr Ravinder Singh (Secretary), Dr Yudhbir Singh (Joint Secretary) and Dr Sushant Panda (Treasurer).

# MP Er. Ghulam Ali Khatana reviews developmental scenario of Budgam

J I NEWS SERVICE

**BUDGAM, MAY 12:** The Member Parliament (MP) Rajya Sabha, Er. Ghulam Ali Khatana today reviewed the developmental scenario of Budgam district in a meeting held at Conference Hall Budgam. At the outset, District Development Commissioner (DDC) Budgam, Akshay Labroo presented the overall status of the sector wise developmental achievements and implementation

of centrally and UT sponsored schemes in the district through a powerpoint presentation. Stressing on speedy completion of all ongoing works and projects, the MP reviewed implementation and progress recorded under Ayushman Bharat/JK Sehat Scheme, JSY, PMGSY, SBM, JJM, RDSS, PMKSY, ICDS MGNREGA, PMAY, NRLM, NFM and other schemes. Detailed review of departments including R&B, PMGSY, PHE,

Horticulture, Agriculture, Education, Social Welfare, Animal and Sheep Husbandry departments was also taken by the chair. The MP lauded the District Administration Budgam for timely execution and completion of works and successful implementation of schemes. He however emphasized on sustenance of developmental activities and improvement in all sectors for overall benefit of the public.

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

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

JINDRAH IMAGES

Diminishing Covid pandemic

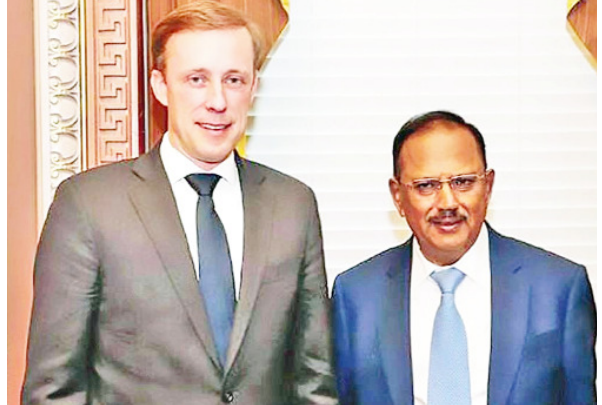
It is quite heartening to hear about the recent statement of World Health Organisation's (WHO) that Covid would not represent a global health emergency from tomorrow (May 11). The announcement has come as a major relief for the people across the globe including India. Till now, the deadly virus has left more than 6.9 million people dead worldwide. In January 2020, the WHO had issued the highest level of alert and declared a public health emergency amid the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic. The recent statement has also come with a cautionary note that it is not the end of the Covid threat and there is a need to maintain continuous caution against the deadly virus as there is every possibility that more virulent variants of the virus can be ruled out. If one recalls the outbreak of Covid-19 in February 2020 across India, the citizens have gone through trying times as the pandemic ravaged the lives, leaving hardly anyone untouched, directly or indirectly. The newfound wisdom stems from our experience of a colossal tragedy; similar devastation was last witnessed during the Spanish influenza pandemic of 1918-20. The catastrophe unleashed by the swiftly spreading coronavirus, enveloping the planet in its fold in devastating waves, was unstoppable despite lockdowns and vaccines. In the recent months, there had been hundreds of instances where either the administration turned complacent or the people violated Covid-19 protocols without any fear of law. Other reasons for the sharp rise in cases was mainly attributed to the severe decline in compliance of COVID-appropriate behaviour, especially in the use of masks and social distancing, pandemic fatigue and lack of effective implementation of containment measures at the field level. Secondly, there was a need to ramp up vaccination programmes. Notwithstanding strong directives of the Ministry of Home Affairs over the tepidness of the vaccination programme, the states and Union Territories had failed to check the spread of misinformation campaigns attached to it. The multiple waves of the pandemic were marked by overburdened and overwhelmed hospitals and other public facilities, patients gasping for breath and medicine, unending rows of pyres burnt and graves dug. Compounding the problem were the economic disruptions as Covid caused losses worth trillions of dollars. The long-term effects continue as smaller waves keep erupting, while many people suffer from 'long Covid' symptoms, a condition that both doctors and patients are still grappling with. Covid is here to stay, albeit with its bite weakened. The need of the hour is that the people should avoid being casual and careless about anyone falling sick and seek immediate medical assistance. Any complacency in observing or implementing Covid-19 protocols should be viewed seriously and strict action under law must be taken against the violators. It is a bitter reality that Indians should need to learn to live with it responsibly given the bitter lessons the deadly virus has taught us. The people should not get complacent to lower their guard while continuing their fight against the invisible enemy.

Geoeconomics and tectonic shifts in West Asia

DOVAL'S RIYADH VISIT AND I2U2'S STEADY PROGRESS DEMONSTRATE A NIMBLE, PRAGMATIC AND BUSINESS-LIKE FOREIGN POLICY.

NAVDEEP SURJ

WHEN the National Security Advisers (NSAs) of India, the US, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) met in Riyadh on May 8 and agreed, among other things, to "advance their shared vision of a more secure and prosperous Middle East region interconnected with India and the world," it moved the spotlight to the inclusion of geoeconomics in the nebulous but expansive domain of security. The very fact that four of the most powerful officials from these countries were meeting on a Sunday morning was a remarkable manifestation of the tectonic geopolitical shifts taking place in West Asia. And even without being a fly on the wall, it would be fair to assume that railways were not the only topic of conversation. But the railway connectivity is important and the topic has come up in meetings of the India-UAE High-Level Task Force on Investment; senior representatives from Ethihad Rail, Indian Railways, IRCON and RITES have participated in these deliberations. India has offered its expertise in building the expanding rail networks of the Gulf and also held out the possibility of providing high-speed, heavy-capacity freight locomotives like the GE diesel locos or the electric WAG-12 locos being manufactured by the Alstom-Indian Railways joint venture at a greenfield manufacturing facility in Madhepura, Bihar. Jake Sullivan, the US NSA, implicitly drew attention to the emerging possibilities in a speech on May 4 when he told his audience, "If you remember nothing else from my speech, remember I2U2 because you will be hearing more about it as we go forward. This is a partnership with India, Israel, the United States, and the UAE, and the fundamental notion is to connect South Asia to the Middle East to the US in ways that advance our economic technology and diplomacy. And we've already got a number of projects underway and some new exciting steps that we're looking forward to undertaking in the months ahead." That notion of connectivity also attempts to address, at least in part, concerns expressed by the Emiratis and others in the Gulf about Washington's oft-cited pivot to Asia. As Etbesam al Kitbi of the Emirates Policy Centre wrote for Observer Research Foundation,



"The UAE sees Asia and the Middle East in a strategic continuum and therefore struggles to understand the logic of an American pivot to Asia from the Middle East... In that sense, it is in the Emirati interest to see a change in the mental map of American strategists who fail to connect the Middle East to Asia. This is where India comes in, with the concept of 'West Asia' bringing India and the Middle East together." At a purely conceptual level, the connectivity project seems quite attractive. A study by Prof Michael Tanchum suggests that a multimodal India-ArabMed freight corridor linking Mumbai with the Piraeus trans-shipment port in Greece via Haifa in Israel that uses mostly existing and some new railway lines is very much feasible. It could cut the transit time from Mumbai to Piraeus to 10 days from 17 days via the Suez route and would also create an alternative to the Suez Canal. As indicated by this author, much of the infrastructure starting from the Jebel Ali port in Dubai to Al Ghuwafat on the Saudi border and on to Al Haditha on the Saudi-Jordan border is in place or is at an advanced stage of construction. A 300-km rail link is needed from Al Haditha to Beit Shean on the Jordan-Israel border and a rail link onwards to Haifa is already in place. The fact that the Adani group has acquired a 70 per cent stake in a terminal at Haifa advances another

important piece on this diplomatic chessboard. However, translating a conceptually possible project into an economically viable one will require a high order of political will and diligent execution. Unlike ships that sail across the waters, railway lines have different standards that must be harmonised, efficient transit through multiple borders needs efficient and trustworthy customs processes and economic viability needs steady and continuous volumes of freight traffic. It also needs Saudi Arabia's active consent for a very overt trade link with Israel. Riyadh has been moving steadily in that direction but the blatantly headline complexion of Israel's current government and the violence being directed not just against the Palestinians under occupation but also against the holy Islamic sites in Jerusalem by government ministers isn't helping matters. Israel, though, has been one of the earliest advocates of the connectivity project and Foreign Minister Eli Cohen reiterated this at a CII gathering during his truncated visit to Delhi on May 9 with his comment, "Our vision is that Israel, the Gulf Arab countries and India is the gate from the east to the west. The trade that will come from India will go to some Arab port and from there by train till Haifa port in Israel and from there to the markets in Europe." Over the past decade, India has invested considerable energy in its

relations with UAE, Saudi Arabia and Israel through separate strategic partnership agreements and is now in a good position to participate in the geoeconomics opportunities being created by the shifting geopolitics in the region. The visit of NSA Aji Doval to Riyadh and the steady progress being made by the I2U2 demonstrate a nimble, pragmatic and business-like foreign policy that will yield positive outcomes. The addition of Saudi Arabia to the mix and the presence of Sheikh Tahnoon bin Zayed, UAE's influential NSA in Riyadh, are vital developments for the connectivity project because of constraints in the UAE about trade restrictions being imposed by the Saudis on goods coming from the emirates. The connectivity project would be a positive development on its own steam. It doesn't have to be packaged as a counter to China's Belt and Road Initiative as suggested by an Axios report even though it might suit the optics in Washington DC. Riyadh and Abu Dhabi have steadily deepened their relationship with Beijing and until recently, Israel, too, was heavily invested in it. Nor should it be seen as an attempt to undermine the Chabahar or Bandar Abbas connectivity projects via Iran. Each one of these has its own place in the geoeconomics of the region and each can stand on its own if it delivers on its promise.

Military back in the thick of things in Pakistan

PAK LEADERSHIP INTENDS TO PURSUE CASES AGAINST IMRAN IN ORDER TO REMOVE HIM FROM THE POLITICAL SCENE.

SHALINI CHAWLA

Without delving into what the Karnataka assembly elections hold and which way the wind will blow, it can be safely said that this is an election that has significance well beyond the immediate. In fact, rarely has a state election been as important for the nation as the one in Karnataka now. For what we are seeing is not just one election battle but a fight for a larger message that this electoral outcome will send out to India and the world. Most observers (irrespective of political leanings) would agree that the results of this election will carry significant implications for Indian politics into 2024 and beyond. This is a place of privilege for the state and its electorate of over 52 million. It also places an enormous responsibility on the people of Karnataka, a state that has been a pioneer in science, technology and innovation. In popular Indian imagination, the state continues to be at the top in building new and modern tech-based solutions. For example, it leads the nation in total installed power of grid-interactive renewable energy. It is fertile ground for a host of startups and the

angels who give startups their fuel to play around and experiment. The state has 42% of India's total of 95 unicorns. It has over 13,000 startups now. More than 40 years ago in this state was etched the story of Infosys that went on to showcase India as a global software services powerhouse, kickstarting (alongside TCS and others) a revolution that has over five million people in direct employment and many times that number indirectly. Infosys and its best-known founder N.R. Narayana Murthy popularised messages of integrity and how a straight path can help build a long-term business. These stories have been told again and again in educational and business institutions across India. They marked a modern story of growth with values. A new high in this story of business for good, values in the lead and a spiritual outlook of giving away came again from Karnataka in the leadership of Azim Premji and his giving pledge. "I strongly believe that those of us, who are privileged to have wealth, should contribute significantly to try and create a better world for the millions who are far less privileged. I will continue to act on this



belief." Premji, himself the creator of Wipro as an IT giant, cut new ground and became India's tallest business leader when he pledged to raise his total lifetime giving to \$21 billion in 2019. Every student in India knows these stories. They showcase Karnataka as a state that looks to the future and pushes ahead to meet the needs of a bold, modern, globalised India where Indians are not only the consumers but important suppliers of talent and ideas. It epitomised professional excellence, a spirit of service as well as resilience

and humility. Yet, this is also the state that has hit the national headlines for other reasons, like the ugly controversy force-created by interested groups on whether girls can wear the hijab in colleges. The pictures and utterances that emerged at the height of the controversy in February 2022 presented Karnataka in a less than favourable light, a state that was seen a recent increase in cases of communal violence. Last year, the state Home Minister Arga Jaanardana told the legislative assembly that the state had recorded 63 instances of com-

munal violence since January 2019 (January 1, 2019 to February 15, 2022), with no convictions as of February 2022. This translated to one communal disturbance every 18 days in a little over three years. The last days of a bitterly contested and important election are once again seeing the push towards a communal agenda, with the BJP putting its energies in defence of the Bajrang Dal. Prime Minister Narendra Modi himself led with 'Bajrang Bali Ki Jai' and asked voters to chant the same as they cast their vote. It is clear that the veneer, if any, is

gone and the appeal on religious grounds is as direct as it gets. One reason could be the BJP's worry that it is losing ground. It thinks that a dose of religion will help it sail through in the face of challenges like internal local area squabbles within the BJP and the Congress hammering away on the monumental corruption that has allegedly become the signature of the BJP rule in Karnataka. The BJP push-back is on a point in the Congress manifesto that promises "decisive action as per the law including imposing a ban" on organisations like the Bajrang Dal and the Popular Front of India, which have been known to be spreading hatred. Herein lies the paradox of Karnataka. The rest of educated India knows the state mostly through the stories of its tech leaders and the vibrancy of Bengaluru, which has sometimes been voted as the top city to work for many and certainly for IT professionals. A visitor to Bengaluru will note the energy and the frenetic pace that makes the city tick. People from across the country flock here, and grow their careers here. On the other hand, the state has become a tinderbox of communal strife. True, the politics of the state has

changed, the BJP has taken power and grown roots but equally a section of the people have taken to the new and acerbic messaging that pits one against the other. The hijab row had political motivations but it also had to have people on the ground warming up to the message. While it is fair to argue that a lot of the strife is politically created, the headline messaging is equally that the politics of Hindutva has entered the south, and Karnataka is its gateway. In the process, the message of growth with values may be lost. In the absence of a robust political adoption and translation, that story has not seeped in. Today, headline growth is up but the story beneath the surface is different. The Economic Survey document of the state government noted that per-capita gross state domestic product (GSDP) of 3.05 lakh (estimated for FY 22) is the highest among the top five Indian states. Yet, other critical indicators have not kept up. For example, NFHS data show that Karnataka has fallen over the years in national ranking in terms of stunting in children (low height-for-age). Height-for-age is a measure of linear growth retardation and cumulative growth deficits.

## Taarak Mehta Ka Ooltah Chashmah's Jennifer Mistry accuses Asit Modi of sexual harassment: 'He called me sexy'

Jennifer Mistry Bansiwal has confirmed that she quit the show in March and alleged that producers Sohail Ramani and Asit Modi sexually assaulted her. She alleged that she had been such actions for a long time but endured them, hoping for improvement with time.

Jennifer essayed the role of Anjali, wife of Koshan on Taarak Mehta Ka Ooltah Chashmah. After Divya Dahiya, Vakani and Shailesh Lodha, she is the latest among the team of the popular comedy show, that has been running for more than a decade, to speak against the makers.

Insisting that Taarak Mehta Ka Ooltah Chashmah gave her all the money, name and popularity that she enjoys today, Jennifer told ETimes that she believes people must know whatever she has gone through. "There have been multiple incidents

when he (Asit) has tried to flirt with me and made sexual advances... There was also one incident when he called me 'sexy' and pulled my cheeks. I have filed a case of sexual harassment against Asit Kumarr Modi, Sohail Ramani and Jatin Bajaj."

Jennifer added, "Every person on Taarak Mehta is a bonded labourer. There have been many incidents that have happened in the past and I let go, thinking that things will change. Khooon ka ghooont pekar I've ignored. Like, during pregnancy, I didn't want to leave the show, but they sacked me because Gurucharan Singh (her onscreen husband) left." She added that she even suggested alternate storylines and requested several times to not be sacked. She also said that she was ready to work till the ninth month of her pregnancy, but was sacked instead.



## Alia Bhatt says it is important to be liked; reveals Jee Le Zaraa co-star Priyanka Chopra's advice to her



Bollywood actor Alia Bhatt recently got candid about being liked, her roles, and Jee Le Zaraa co-stars Priyanka Chopra and Katrina Kaif. Harper's Bazaar, Alia was asked what is more important for her: To be liked or be respected? To this, she responded, "It's more important to be liked." Her reasoning was that you can be respected, but everybody might still hate you. "The thing is, it is never going to be either-or. You might be liked by many but disliked by many, respected by some and disrespected by some. You can't have it all. You know what's most important? Just like yourself," the actor stressed.

Even though Alia Bhatt's performance as Shanaya in her debut film Student of the Year was dull, she shone through in movies like Highway and Dear Zindagi. Her choice of roles after that has been outstanding. Speaking about her roles and underrepresented topics in the Indian film industry, Alia said that her film Highway focused on the violence many girls face within their homes and called it a 'survival story'.

"With Kapoor & Sons, it was about how little time we have and how much we should value our family," she added.

## Ranveer Singh declares 'babygirl' Deepika Padukone's Time magazine cover iconic: The world's at your feet, proud of you



Ranveer Singh not only craved Deepika Padukone's Time magazine interview, kissed her and left, but also showered love on her magazine cover in a new post. The actor took to Instagram on Friday and said he was proud of his 'babygirl' Deepika as he shared pictures from her recent cover photoshoot for Time magazine.

Along with Deepika's photos, Ranveer Singh wrote, "World at your feet! Proud of you, babygirl! (kissing face emoji)." Fans were also feeling their love. One commented on Ranveer's post, "Cuties." Another one wrote, "Lucky man." A fan also commented, "You made my day Ranveer." An Instagram user also wrote, "What else can a wife ask for from the most supportive husband."

Earlier, Ranveer had also taken to Instagram Stories to share Deepika's Time magazine cover. Along with it, he wrote, "Iconic." Re-sharing which, Deepika said on Instagram Stories, "My happy place..."

After Deepika unveiled her latest magazine cover on Thursday, Time too shared a video from her interview, in which Ranveer Singh had dropped in during the interview and surprised Deepika. The video was shared on Instagram; in it, as Deepika posed in front of the camera, Ranveer stopped by at the interview venue to surprise her. The two exchanged kisses and held hands as Deepika giggled. Many on social media have reacted to their PDA.

Deepika and Ranveer married in an intimate wedding at Lake Como, Italy, in 2018. They had two wedding ceremonies - a Konkani one, and a Sikh Anand Karaj. In her Time magazine interview, Deepika also spoke about marriages today, and explained that it was important to acknowledge that every couple's journey was unique.

## Kriti Sanon recalls she came home crying after her first ever photoshoot: 'I was extremely nervous, screwed up a little'

In a new interview, Kriti Sanon spoke about her modelling days before she joined films. The actor recalled her first photoshoot and how she messed it up. Kriti said she's a perfectionist, almost irritatingly so, and was brought to tears after her photoshoot did not go well. She said it really bothered her that she 'didn't do well' in it. Kriti has been busy promoting her upcoming film Adipurush, where she features alongside Prabhas. The actor had dabbled in modelling before she signed her first film. She made her acting debut in 2014 with the Telugu film '1: Nenokkadine alongside Mahesh Babu. She was also seen in her first Hindi film Heropanti, co-starring Tiger Shroff, the same year. Speaking about her modelling days, Kriti recalled



feeling 'extremely nervous' during her

first ever photoshoot. "My mother is a professor, and she was the first woman in her family to work. In fact, she completed her PhD while she was pregnant with me. And being the firstborn, sometimes you have to shoulder the responsibility of setting an example. So I have always felt the need to be really good at whatever I do - I think it's inbuilt. And I am a perfectionist, almost irritatingly so. I remember feeling extremely nervous during my first photoshoot, and I screwed up a little. I came home crying because it bothered me that I didn't do well. But confidence can be built over time. I believe you learn more from your failures than you ever will from your successes - my mantra is to learn from my mistakes and move forward," Kriti told Harper's Bazaar India.

Kriti is now working on her next, The Crew, alongside Kareena Kapoor and Tabu. Speaking about the Rajesh Krishnan-directed and Rhea Kapoor-backed film, which also features Diji Dhanraj, Kriti said in the same interview, "I am currently shooting for The Crew, which is a very interesting project for me. I am working with two amazing female actors...we generally work with a lot of male actors, but to work with two leading ladies is a dream come true, and it's a lot of fun." Kriti will be soon seen in Adipurush. Helmed by Om Raut, Adipurush is a mythological drama based on the epic Ramayana. The film features Prabhas as Lord Ram, Kriti Sanon as Janaki, and Sunny Singh as Lakshman.

## Sohail Khan says the first choice for his upcoming directorial is Salman Khan: 'Bhai hai, lekin professional hai'

Actor-filmmaker Sohail Khan has revealed that he is currently developing a project that could potentially be a major action film. Although his first choice for the project would be his brother Salman Khan, Sohail revealed that casting Salman comes with heightened expectations due to his immense popularity. Sohail, who attended the launch of Yasmin Karachiwala's pilates studio in Cuffe Parade, Mumbai, interacted with the media and said, "Agar main apne budhe maa-baap ko kisi ke saath trust kar sakta hoon, toh woh hain Yasmin Karachiwala. (I can trust Yasmin Karachiwala with my old parents) She is the only woman who can go and say to daddy (Salim Khan), 'Let's do (yoga) today.' Daddi liked doing yoga. He feels that pilates is an extension of yoga." Sohail Khan also revealed his plans of returning to the director's chair. When asked about the lead actor of his upcoming film and whether Salman would be cast in the role, Sohail said, "First choice toh wohi hai ki bhai ke paas jaye. Woh suitable bhi hona chahiye bhai ke liye. Bhai hai, lekin professional hai. Like or not like (the role) woh unke upar hai (The first choice is to go to your brother. But he should also be suitable for the role. He is my brother, but he is professional too. It depends on him if he likes it)." The actor-filmmaker added, "When you make a film with Salman Khan, the expectations increase. So you have to even be that sure about your script when you go to him. Let's see once the script develops." Salman Khan and Sohail Khan have worked together on several films such as Pyaar Kiya Toh Darna Kya, Hello Brother, and Jai Ho, to name a few.

## Bellamkonda Sreenivas: 'If you wish to reach every corner then Hindi cinema is the only way'

Telugu actor Bellamkonda Sai Sreenivas, is all set to make his Bollywood debut with the Hindi remake of Prabhas-SS Rajamouli's Chhatrapathi. While the movie is about to hit theatres on Friday, the rising star of Telugu cinema is already in love with Hindi cinema. In an exclusive conversation with ANI, Sreenivas opened up about his thoughts on working in a Hindi movie, and said, "The love I had got from the Hindi audience, as my Telugu movies which got dubbed in Hindi got amazing views and I wanted to thank them in the right way by giving them a great film, so our whole team tried and worked hard. And I thought Hindi cinema is something that you will dream about because if you wish to reach every corner then Hindi cinema is the only way."

Bellamkonda, who also won the best male debut award for his Telugu film in 2015, also commented on his expectations from the film. "I definitely want one more. So I got the best debut Filmfare in 2015 for my Telugu film and again in 2023 I am very sure that I will get the best debut film fare again for the film Chhatrapathi," he said.

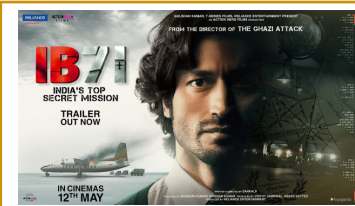
As the film serves a lot of action, Bellamkonda expressed how action has to be mixed with emotions in order to deliver a wonderful experience to the audience. He said, "Whenever content merges, action needs emotions. As just for the sake of action it isn't fun to do a project. So if an emotion is there then there is action, then it gets elevated. So I always believe in that as we have a high-emotion film and it is going to be great."

"I think the content of the film is something which deserves to be delivered in the biggest way possible.



It's a great film, it's great content and I am sure when you see this film you will definitely enjoy it and the audience will think that it is 'paise wasool' (worth the money)," Sreenivas added when questioned about his reaction on the script of the movie. Looking confident for his Bollywood journey, he also mentioned the fact that every Telugu movie star has been successful in the industry, so he will continue the trend.

Sreenivas is known for his performances in films like Sita, Alludu Adhurs, Kavacham and many more. Chhatrapathi tells the story of a protagonist who rose against oppression to become a saviour of immigrants that suffered massive exploitation. It also stars actor Bhagyashree, Sharad Kelkar, Sahil Vaid, Amit Nair, Rajendra Gupta, and Shivam Patil, among others.



## IB 71 MOVIE REVIEW: VIDYUT JAMMWAL STEPS OUT OF HIS COMFORT ZONE ONLY TO LEAVE US CONFUSED

An espionage thriller, IB 71 chronicles India's top-secret mission that is said to have aided India's victory in the 1971 India-Pakistan war. Starring Vidyut Jammwal and Anupam Kher in pivotal roles, the film starts off on a high note, but soon goes off track. With visuals, voice over, text

captions and flashbacks, there's a lot happening for one to understand the exact timeline of the film. Until the interval, I genuinely couldn't figure what the film was trying to show or say. Directed by Sankalp Reddy, IB 71 in the first half, seemed nothing but an attempt to take us on a ride, play some riddles and leave us

all confused without any answers. But thankfully, the second half picks up, pieces of puzzles start to come together and it all made some sense. Was it too little, too late? Somewhat, yes. IB 71 starts with Pakistan preparing for yet another war after being defeated in 1948 and 1965, and this time from the Eastern front in alliance with China. Upon receiving vital information about this impending attack, Intelligence Bureau Chief Avasti (Kher), along with his top agent Dev (Jammwal), comes up with a plan to save the nation without firing a single bullet or letting the neighbouring country get the slightest hint about it. As mobilizing the army at a short notice appears to be a tough task, they suggest blocking of the air space to prevent Pakistan and China from attacking India. Dev is assigned this task and how he accomplishes this confidential mission in the next 10 days, along with 30 other undercover agents is what the film shows in the second half. Crisp editing makes for an easier watch. With a runtime of a little less than two hours, the film is

tightly edited and that length, perhaps, is the only good part about it. The story doesn't seem drag, stays to the point and ends before it turns into a snooze fest. Reddy, who has earlier helmed Ghazi Attack, has the intent right behind telling this untold story based on true events, but somewhere he loses focus and goes all over the place. Aditya Shastri's story is intriguing and holds a lot of potential to keep you hooked. What doesn't really work is the screenplay for which six people are credited - Sankalp Reddy, Arjun Varma, E. Vasudeva Reddy, Arun Bhimavarapu, Gargee Singh and Abhinaynu Srivastava. For the longest time, they looked like disjointed and scattered pieces of a puzzle. Even when the story is picking pace, there is very little or no connect with how it unfolds for audiences to understand. The background music gets a bit too loud at places, though cinematography in certain scenes elevates the whole experience, especially the ones involving the plane. What left me utterly surprised, and somewhat



## SC to pass order Monday on SEBI's plea in Hindenburg-Adani case

NEW DELHI, MAY 12: Supreme Court on Friday said it would pronounce its order on Monday on market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India's (SEBI) plea seeking six more months to complete the probe into US short seller Hindenburg's allegations against India's leading business conglomerate Adani Group.

The SEBI recently moved the Supreme Court saying that the probe could not be completed and thereby it needed six more months time.

"We will pronounce the orders on SEBI's application on Monday," a three-judge bench of the Supreme Court, headed by the Chief Justice of India (CJI) Dr Dhananjaya Yeshwant Chandrachud and also comprising Justices J B Pardiwala and P S Narasimha said.

The Apex Court also said that it could not read justice (ret'd) A M Srepe's report, due to the heavy workload,



and thereby, it will, meanwhile, read the report, and consider SEBI's application and pass an order on Monday. "We will therefore pass the orders on Monday," the Top Court said. The Solicitor General (SG) Tushar Mehta, representing SEBI, told the Apex Court that the market regulator has filed an application seeking an extension of six more months to complete the probe, "SEBI needs six more months time to complete the probe," the SG said.

This is the minimum time the SEBI requires to complete the probe, Mehta told the Supreme Court's special bench. Advocate Prashant Bhushan, appearing for one of the petitioners, said that the SEBI is a partner of an inter-nation cooperation IOSCO. All countries even tax haven countries are members. Treaty of IOSCO says that any member country can seek any information and no secrecy is there. Bhushan said that there is a master circular issued by SEBI on December 19, 2022 for foreign portfolios and investors. One of the clauses is that all of them must disclose the ultimate beneficial owner.

The CJI, during the course of the hearing, clarified that the SEBI's application seeking six more months time to complete the probe seems to be unrealistic. He suggested and indicated that this court can give three more months time to SEBI, but not six months.

The CJI-led bench said, when it had sought report from Justice Srepe-led committee and SEBI in two months on Adani-Hindenburg controversy. It is not proper for SEBI to seek six months more to complete the probe.

"We will give you three more months to complete the probe. Let there be some alacrity," the CJI said.

One of the petitioners, Vishal Tiwari opposed the plea of SEBI and said the Apex Court that six more months is a huge period, and in fact, the SEBI had already started investigating the matter even before the Supreme Court heard the case.

## HC asks Centre to respond to UK-based journalist's plea challenging cancellation of OCI card

NEW DELHI, MAY 12: The Delhi High Court Friday asked the Centre to respond to a plea by a UK-based Indian origin journalist challenging cancellation of her OCI card for her alleged involvement in "detrimental propaganda against the Indian government".

Justice Prathiba M Singh issued notice to the ministries of Home Affairs, External Affairs and the High Commission of India in London on the petition filed by 82-year-old Amrit Wilson. The high court also asked the Centre to place on record the material based on which it cancelled the Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) card of Wilson.

The woman, in her plea before the high court, contended that the March 17, 2023 order cancelling her OCI card was ex-facie illegal and arbitrary. She has said it was passed by the high commission in a mechanical manner, without any application of mind and in complete violation of the principles of natural justice.



Wilson, represented by senior advocate Rebecca John, said her revision application moved on April 17 is still pending before the Ministry of Home Affairs despite repeated requests. She said the respondents' actions have resulted in "gross violation" of her fundamental rights and have prevented her from travelling to India where she spent the first 20 years of her life.

The Indian High Commission had issued a show cause notice to Wilson in November last year accusing her of being "engaged in detrimental propaganda against the Indian government" and involving herself in "multi-

ple anti-India activities" which pose a threat to the sovereignty and integrity of India and the interest of the general public. The plea said the show cause notice was arbitrary since it did not provide any material particulars or a summary of specific reasons to substantiate the allegations levelled against her. "Notwithstanding the lack of any relevant material being provided to the petitioner to build her defense, she duly responded to the aforementioned show cause notice vide a reply dated December 4, 2022. In the reply, first, the petitioner stoutly denied her involvement in any detrimental propaganda against the Government or any anti-India activities. "Second, while pointing out that the show cause notice makes no mention of any specific incidents where the petitioner has participated in any such anti-India activities, the petitioner requested respondent no. 3 (High Commission of India) to disclose the relevant material which forms the basis of the aforesaid show cause notice, in order to enable the petitioner to present her case and provide necessary explanation qua each specific allegation," the plea said.

It added that despite categorical request of the petitioner for disclosure of relevant material which formed the basis of the show cause notice, she did not hear back from the authorities for a three months, and suddenly on March 24, she received the order notifying her that the Indian government had cancelled her registration as an OCI cardholder under the Citizenship Act with immediate effect.

## T-Hub collaborates with Collins to drive Innovation in Aerospace Industry

HYDERABAD, MAY 12: India's leading innovation ecosystem, T-Hub, on Friday announced a collaboration with Collins Aerospace, a leader in the aerospace and defence industry. The collaboration is part of the Powered by Collins initiative, that aims to foster technology innovation with Deep Tech small- to medium-sized enterprises, Hyderabad-based T-Hub said in a release here.

As part of the collaboration, T-Hub has been named the inaugural Activation Site, a designation given annually by the program for a leading global startup accelerator to support outreach and engagement within a targeted ecosystem.

Through this initiative, world-class startups and scaleups will benefit from funding and collaboration opportunities with Collins Aerospace and T-Hub's expertise as the world's largest innovation campus to drive the project's objective. The goal is to create and field new products and services by combining Collins' expertise with the innovative solutions of startups.

T-Hub will assist in outreach to top global startups and scaleups with expertise in the four open



Collaboration Opportunities: Extravehicular Space Mobility, High-Performance Batteries, Autonomy for Small UAS, and Composites Recycling. Shortlisted companies will be invited to a Collaboration Day with program leadership from Collins, which could result in funding to execute a rapid proof-of-concept project with one of the Collins Aerospace program teams.

T-Hub CEO Mahankali Srinivas Rao (MSR), stated "We are excited to collaborate with Collins Aerospace to drive innovation in the aerospace

industry. This initiative presents an excellent opportunity for Indian startups to work alongside an industry leader and showcase their capabilities.

It is a testimony to the talent and potential of Indian startups, and we are committed to sourcing the best startups to participate in this initiative."

"T-Hub was a natural choice to be the inaugural Activation Site for our Powered by Collins initiative," said Mary Lombardo, Vice President, Advanced Technology for Collins Aerospace.

## Improper management of solid liquid waste by Uttarakhand NGT refrains from imposing Rs 200 cr fine

NEW DELHI, MAY 12: The National Green Tribunal has accepted the request of the Uttarakhand government to allow it to deposit Rs 200 crore in a separate ring-fenced account for sewage and solid waste management.

The state's chief secretary made the request after the tribunal announced a penalty of Rs 200 crore on the state for improper management of solid and liquid waste.

A bench of NGT chairperson Justice A K Goel noted there was a gap of around 60 million litres per day (MLD) in sewage generation and treatment, besides 252.65 metric tonnes per day (TPD) of unprocessed waste and 15.75 lakh metric tonnes (MT) of solid waste.

The bench, also comprising judicial members Justices Sudhir Agarwal and Arun Kumar Tyagi and expert members A Senthil Vel and Afroz

Ahmad, said based on the polluter pays principle, an environmental compensation was estimated at around Rs 200 crore for the state's failure to scientifically manage liquid and solid waste in violation of the mandate of law. The bench noted the chief secretary has given an undertaking that Rs 200 crore, which was readily available with the state, will be ring-fenced and utilised exclusively for sewage and solid waste management.

"...We accept the prayer of the Chief Secretary that instead of this tribunal levying compensation, the administration itself will ensure availability of Rs 200 crore by transferring the amount in a separate ring-fenced account within one month to be operated as per directions of the Chief Secretary," the bench said. It said the chief secretary will have to review the progress at least once a month and file before the tribunal six-monthly

reports with verifiable progress in waste management.

Other directions of the tribunal included immediate remediation of waste at nine legacy waste sites and resolving issues regarding the Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs).

During the proceedings, the tribunal said, "We find that many STPs set up are discharging treated wastewater into river Ganga and its tributaries or in other streams and it is essential to restrain such discharges and if not possible, then such effluents be treated to the highest level and no faecal contaminated bacteria be so discharged." The state pollution control board (PCB) needs to review this aspect and action taken be included in the next status report. The NGT is monitoring compliance with Municipal Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and other environmental issues by states and union territories.

## "No Need To Demand Eknath Shinde's Resignation": Ajit Pawar Explains Why

PUNE: In a swipe at Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) leader Ajit Pawar on Monday said he will not resign on moral grounds following the Supreme Court verdict on last year's political crisis in the state. The opposition MVA alliance will see what it can do on the issue of disqualification of 16 MLAs during the assembly session in July, he added. He also took a swipe at the BJP's central leadership. "There is no need of demanding resignation from the current Chief Minister Eknath Shinde on moral grounds. We know he will not resign even in his dreams. There is a huge difference between former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee and the current people," Mr Pawar told reporters.

"The next Assembly session will be held in July. We will use our rights to see what we can do about this issue," he added.

He also said that Congress leader Nana Patole resigned as Speaker without consulting then Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray and if a new Speaker had been elected immediately, the 16 MLAs belonging to the Shinde camp would have been disqualified.



"Our Speaker had resigned then without asking our Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray. That should not have happened. Even when he resigned, we could have elected a new Speaker immediately. If we had our Speaker, then those 16 MLAs would have been disqualified," he said. The constituents of Maha Vikas Aghadi alliance had said that the Shinde government should resign on moral grounds following the Supreme Court verdict. Uddhav Thackeray had said on Thursday that the Shinde government in Maharashtra was "illegal and formed against the Constitution".

Chief Minister Shinde on Thursday said that former Governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari had acted as per the situation at the time. "I won't talk about what Supreme Court said about the then Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari, but I would say that he acted as per the situation at the time," he said at a press briefing. Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis described the Supreme Court verdict as "victory of democracy and the democratic process".

"This is a victory for democracy and the democratic process. We are satisfied with the verdict given by the Supreme Court," Fadnavis said.

The Supreme Court on Thursday held that former Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari was "not justified" to call for a floor test based on the request of Eknath Shinde

fact since he did not have enough objective material before him to conclude that Mr Thackeray had lost the confidence of the House. A five-judge Constitution bench led by Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud said it could not disqualify the Eknath Shinde-led Maharashtra government and reinstate Mr Thackeray as Chief Minister because the latter had chosen to resign instead of facing a test of strength in the Assembly.

MUMBAI: Air India Chief Executive Officer Campbell Wilson on Friday apprised the airline's employees about how the aviation industry reacted promptly to assist in response to external events. He said, "Then, to plan how we might quickly increase domestic flights to fill the gap left by another airline's curtailment of flights, without naming the Go Air issue. In his weekly address, the CEO said, "The week also saw Air

India and other group carriers spring into action to assist in response to external events.

Firstly, stepping up flights to Imphal to cater to those seeking to temporarily relocate given local unrest." He said, "Then, to plan how we might quickly increase domestic flights to fill the gap left by another airline's curtailment of flights, without naming the Go Air issue. In his weekly address, the CEO said, "The week also saw Air

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India and other group carriers spring into action to assist in response to external events.

PUNE: The matter of disqualification of 16 MLAs following the removal in the undivided Shiv Sena last year could have been effectively dealt with had the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) moved swiftly after the resignation of Nana Patole as the Speaker of Maharashtra Assembly, said senior NCP leader Ajit Pawar on Friday.

Mr Pawar was speaking to reporters in Pune a day after the Supreme Court delivered its verdict on the political crisis that led to the collapse of the Uddhav Thackeray-led Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government following a rebellion by Eknath Shinde, who later allied with the BJP to become the chief minister. Mr Thackeray's demand for the resignation of Chief Minister Shinde and his Deputy Devendra Fadnavis is futile as there is a great difference between former prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee and "current people", he said.

"First of all, the then Speaker of the Assembly (Patole) resigned without consulting the then Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray. It was announced only after he resigned. It

should not have happened in the first place but it happened," said Mr Pawar. He said that after Mr Patole's resignation (in February 2021), the MVA, which had NCP, Congress and undivided Sena as partners, should have taken up the issue of the Speaker's appointment, he said.

"But unfortunately, we as MVA, failed to do that," said Mr Pawar, who was the deputy chief minister in the MVA government.

The issue of disqualification, triggered by the Shinde faction's revolt, could have been resolved had there been a Speaker, he said. But for a long time, the deputy speaker was looking after the House proceedings, said Mr Pawar, who is currently the Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly.

"After this incident (the rebellion and formation of new government), they immediately filled up that post. Had the post been already filled, the Speaker would have disqualified these 16 people (MLAs)," he said. Regarding Mr Thackeray's demand that the Chief Minister and his deputy should resign on moral

grounds after the Supreme Court verdict, Mr Pawar said "won't serve any purpose. There is a great difference between former prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee and current people. They will never resign. They will not resign even in their dream," he said.

The Supreme Court on Thursday held that it cannot restore the MVA government led by Mr Thackeray as he resigned without facing a floor test in June last year and asked the Speaker to decide on the disqualification of 16 MLAs within a "reasonable period".

The court also said the decision of the Speaker to appoint Bharat Gogawale of the Shinde faction as the whip of the Shiv Sena in the Assembly was contrary to law.

On the role of the then Governor Bhagat Singh Koshiyari, the top court said, "The governor was not justified in calling upon Mr Thackeray to prove his majority on the floor of the House because he did not have reasons based on objective material before him to reach the conclusion that Mr Thackeray had lost the confidence of the House."

## Air India CEO Apprises Employees On How Sector Reacted To External Events

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# Mission Life Campaign-2023: Forest Division, Billawar organises Awareness programmes to sensitize stakeholders

JI NEWS SERVICE

KATHUA, MAY 12: Forest Division, Billawar today organised an Awareness Programme at the auditorium of Government Degree College, Billawar as a part of one month long "Mission LIFE Campaign-2023".

The Awareness Programme comprised of a Debate competition on the theme of "Climate Change and Bio-diversity" followed by an Awareness-cum-consultation workshop with the representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions.

The programme witnessed participation of over 300 people comprising DDC Nagrola Gujroo Narayan Dutt Tripathi, DDC Billawar Vikram Singh, DDC Mandli Neeru Bala, BDC Chairpersons Ashok Sharma; Reeta Devi & Nisha Devi, ADC Billawar Vinay Khosla, Vice Principal GDC Prof. Lekh Raj,



Panches & Sarpanches of fire prone areas of Billawar and students and faculty members of various schools and colleges. Besides, Officers and Officials of various departments including Forest, Social Forestry, Forest Protection Force, Wild Life, Soil Conservation, Pollution Control Committee, Police, Revenue, Fire & Emergency Services, Rural Development.

Speaking on the occasion, DFO Billawar Vivek Modi, highlighted the theme of the Mission LIFE as envisioned by the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi at COP 26 focussing to bring individual behaviours at the forefront of the global climate action narrative. He underlined that Mission LIFE inspires us to do all that can be done in our daily life to protect the environment and that the

environment can be protected by making incremental changes in our lifestyle.

All the participants were encouraged to contribute in the campaign within their respective capacities by adopting simple changes in their lifestyle which will eventually have positive and long-lasting impact on the health of the environment.

A "Lifestyle for the Environment Pledge by committing to consciously participate in taking up the environmental lifestyle and inculcating environment-friendly habits was also taken by all the participants during the event.

During the consultation workshop on Forest Fires Prevention & Control, the DDCs & BDC Chairpersons along with Sarpanches highlighted the need for conducting fire awareness workshops at the level of Gram Panchayats and augmenting the

water sources like Ponds and Check Dam in fire prone areas for prevention of forest fires. They also assured to extend all possible help to the field staff of forest department in the upcoming fire season by mobilizing the local villagers.

The programme ended with prize distribution among the participants of the debate competition. Sukriti Bhadwal of GDC Billawar secured 1st position in the competition whereas, Marigankshi Sharma of New Age Degree College Phinter and Akshita Verma of Billawar Public School secured 2nd and 3rd positions respectively.

The whole programme was organized under the guidance of the Conservator of Forests, East Circle Jammu, the Chief Conservator of Forests Jammu and the Director, Department of Social Forestry J&K.

## Distt Admin Kupwara issues vaccination schedule for Haj pilgrims of district

Manasik-e-Hajj training for Haj pilgrims of Karnah tehsil to be held on Saturday

JI NEWS SERVICE

KUPWARA, MAY 12: The District Administration Kupwara today issued a vaccination schedule for the Haj Pilgrims-2023 of Kupwara district.

As per the schedule, Haj pilgrims belonging to Karnah tehsil will be vaccinated at Sub District Hospital Tangdar on 14th May 2023. For pilgrims of Kralpora, Keran and Trehgam tehsils, vaccination will be held at PHC Trehgam on 15th May 2023. For Haj pilgrims belonging to the tehsils of Handwara, Langote, Qalamabad, Wagram, Tarathpora, Zachaldara, Qaziabad and Kralgund, vaccination will be held at District Hospital Handwara on 16th May 2023. Vaccination of Lalpora and Sogam based Haj pilgrims will be held at Community Health Centre Sogam on 17th May 2023. At SDH Kupwara, vaccination for the pilgrims belonging to the tehsils of Kupwara, Drugmulla and Machill will be held on 18th May 2023. Meanwhile, the training programme for Manasik-e-Hajj of selected Haj Pilgrims of Tehsil Karnah shall be held on Saturday, 13th May 2023 at Government Degree College Karnah (Kandi) at 10 AM.

## Director, Employment Deptt J&K stresses for making Career counseling sessions result oriented



JI NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, MAY 12: The Director, Employment Department J&K, Nisar Ahmad Wani today convened a meeting of departmental Officers, there and emphasized upon them to reach out to the unemployed youth to raise awareness among them regarding various self-employment schemes for their socio-economic development.

At the outset, the Director asked them to reach out to the unemployed youth and get them registered on the portal of Employment Department viz. www.jakemp.nic.in that has been integrated with the National Career Services (NCS) portal which gives access to youth to a variety of Job Opportunities throughout India.

He also stressed upon making Career Counseling Sessions result oriented and catering to the needs of the young population.

The officers present were also instructed to organize Job Fairs to provide a common platform to Job Seekers & Job Providers.

He further directed to conduct unemployment survey in their respective districts to reveal the actual picture of unemployment across the UT. Focus was laid on motivating youth to take up Self Employment Opportunities available with the Department and other Line Departments.

Moreover, the Joint Director Employment during the meeting laid emphasis on achieving the targets under different deliverables of the Department.

The meeting was attended by the Joint Director Employment, Hakeem Tanveer Ahmad, besides Deputy/ Assistant Directors, Career Counselling Officers and Employment Officers of Kashmir Division.

## DC Shopian tours Mughal Road; reviews preparedness for its opening

JI NEWS SERVICE

SHOPIAN, MAY 12: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Faz Lul Haseeb today conducted an extensive tour of Mughal Road up to Peer Ki Gali stretch wherein he inspected ongoing slide clearance and developmental works.

During the tour, the DC enquired about the feasibility of opening of Mughal Road for regular traffic movement. Notably, early opening of Mughal Road was high on demand of local people as it eases the movement of vehicles and significantly reduces the travel time compared to Jammu Srinagar National Highway. However, due to a long span of bad weather conditions, intermittent rainfall/snowfall, sliding along the vital road, the road had remained closed.

The DC directed the Ex. Engineer Mughal Road to speed up the work by deploying more men and machinery so that it can be made through for traffic.

Directions were given to concerned for early clearance of the slides along the roadside, after the improvement of weather conditions.

## Power shutdown

JI NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, MAY 12: Power Controller Kashmir has informed that, the power supply to Receiving Station Badamibagh, Sonwar, Panthachok, Tanager WWS, Govt Press, Lasjan and DPS shall remain affected due to facilitate Branch Cutting of trees lying in the vicinity of 33 Kv Pam-pore-Badamibagh line on May 16 and 20 from 9 am to 3 pm.

Similarly, in order to facilitate Branch Cutting of trees lying in the vicinity of 33 Kv lines the power supply to receiving stations Tikker, Karsan, Sogam, Khumriyal, Drugmulla, Machil and Hyhama shall remain affected on May 16, 20 and 23 from 10 am to 4 pm; receiving stations Pattan, Palhala and Hamray shall remain affected on May 15, 18 and 22 from 10 am to 4 pm; receiving stations Shadipora and Singpora shall remain affected on May 18 and 23 from 10 am to 4 pm; receiving stations Sangrama, Wagora, Kreeer and Hardichloo shall remain affected on May 16, 20 and 24 from 10 am to 4 pm and receiving stations Delina and Jetty shall remain affected on May 17, 20 and 22 from 10 am to 4 pm.

# DLCC meet to devise strategy in TFEI held at Ganderbal

JI NEWS SERVICE

GANDERBAL, MAY 12: The Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Ganderbal, Mehraj-ud-Din Shah today chaired District Level Coordination Committee meeting to devise a strategy in Tobacco Free Educational Institutions (TFEI) and Tobacco Free Villages in the district.

At the outset, Chief Medical Officer Ganderbal, Dr Afroz Shah briefed the chair that they are planning some activities to be carried out under TFEI as well as Tobacco Free Villages and Cigarette and Other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA) 2003 in schools and villages across the district.

He said that Tobacco control can be achieved by awareness against use of tobacco and implementation of COTPA and TFEI around educational institutions. She said during the activities in schools teachers and students will be sensitized about the provisions

of COTPA and guidelines of the TFEI.

The CMO said under COTPA, every school has to appoint a Nodal Officer for tobacco control who can fine shopkeepers and vendors who sell tobacco and tobacco products near schools. Speaking in the meeting, the ADC said that the role of teachers, schools and education department is pivotal as the new generation is getting attracted towards smoking which is a challenge. Tobacco is putting a huge economic burden on people and it has health hazards associated, he added.

Earlier, a detailed presentation was presented by Dr Safena Mushtaq Regarding TFEI and health hazards of tobacco which is the root cause for many diseases prevalent in society, particularly various cancers, cardiac diseases and many more.

ADC directed District Level Coordination Committee members to play their role as it is a multi-pronged

strategy of different individuals, organizations and departments to coordinate and arrive at a comprehensive policy to defeat this grave issue which is going to have serious consequences if they fail to control it. He asked the police department to enforce COTPA strictly and sale of tobacco or related products shall be banned within 100 metres of educational institutes.

The ADC also directed the Food and Drug Department to have vigorous market checking for the same. He assured complete support from district administration regarding the implementation of COTPA and TFEI. In the meeting, it was also revealed that every school will have health clubs that will look after the health and social aspects of students particularly with reference to tobacco use.

The meeting was attended by CMO Ganderbal, Dr Afroz Shah, Dy CEO and other committee members.

## DDC Reasi reviews Central Sector Scheme on FPOs



JI NEWS SERVICE

REASI, MAY 12: District Development Commissioner, Babila Rakwal chaired a meeting of the District Level Monitoring Committee

on the Central Sector Scheme on Farmers Producers Organizations which aims to promote 1000 FPOs in the country covering each block in the district in a phased manner. In the meeting, the committee approved

allocation of three blocks viz: Block Katra, Jij Bagli and Thuro to the Implementing Agency under the scheme-NAFED. Further the DDC, took a review of the progress under the FPOs already sanctioned to seven existing blocks. DDC advised the line departments and the field officers for the promotion of the new innovations which shall help farmers increase their income levels through high value crops, value additions, floriculture, aromatic plants, etc. She advised department of Agriculture and Horticulture to motivate farmers to join the FPO movement through their field level officers, so that the membership base of the FPOs increases to the suitable levels.

# 2 Day Workshop on PMSSS 2023-24 inaugurated at Padma Shri Padma Sachdev Govt College for Women, Gandhinagar

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 12: The Prime Minister Special Scholarship Scheme (PMSSS) took center stage today as a two-day workshop was inaugurated at Padma Shri Padma Sachdev Government College for Women Gandhinagar.

Dr Ravi Shankar Sharma, Special Secretary to Higher Education was the chief guest on the occasion. The event witnessed the presence of esteemed dignitaries, including Kunal Jeet Singh, Director SAGB, AICTE, RK Ganjoo, Assistant Director SAGB, AICTE, Prof Ajeet Angral, Consultant SAGB, AICTE and Prof SP Saraswat, Nodal Principal, Jammu, Principals of various Government Degree Colleges, Polytechnic Colleges, and Higher Secondary Schools.

The formal welcome address was extended by

Dr S.P. Saraswat, Nodal Principal, Jammu. The Program began with green welcome by lighting of lamp and Saraswati Vandana by the Students of Music Department of Gandhi Nagar College. The Prime Minister Special Scholarship Scheme (PMSSS) is an initiative by the Government of India to provide financial assistance and educational opportunities to students from the UT of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. The scheme aims to empower students by enabling them to pursue higher education in colleges and universities outside their home towns, thus fostering national integration and skill development.

The workshop was aimed at to provide a platform for knowledge sharing, collaboration, and discussion among key stakeholders involved in the implementation and administration of the



Addressing the gathering, Dr Ravi Shankar Sharma, Special Secretary to Higher Education expressed his gratitude to all the participants for their active engagement in promoting educational opportunities for students from Jammu and Kashmir. He emphasized the importance of the PMSSS in fostering national integration and enabling talented youth to realize their full potential.

participating institutions. He spoke about the odyssey of PMSSS which started with about 38 students and today the number has exceeded to thousands. He encouraged open dialogue and collaboration among the stakeholders to ensure the smooth functioning of the scheme.

The Director of the Student Affairs and Grievance Bureau (SAGB) at the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), Kunal Jeet Singh, delivered an enlightening presentation on the Prime Minister's Special Scholarship Scheme (PMSSS). The workshop aimed to foster knowledge sharing and collaboration among stakeholders involved in the implementation and success of the PMSSS.

Kunal Jeet Singh's presentation provided a comprehensive overview of the PMSSS, highlighting its



# Div Com Kashmir reviews arrangements for Mela Mata Kheer Bhawani

DIRECTS OFFICERS TO ENSURE ALL ESSENTIAL FACILITIES TO DEVOTEES AT GANDEBAL, OTHER LOCATIONS

J I NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, MAY 12: The Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri today convened a meeting of officers to review arrangements for the celebration of Mela Mata Kheer Bhawani at Tulmulla Ganderbal and other districts including Kulgam, Anantnag and Kupwara.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Commissioners of Ganderbal, Kulgam, Kupwara and Anantnag, Director Health Services, Kashmir, officers of FCS&CA, KPDCI, Tourism, Transport, PHE, Fire &



Emergency Services, SMC, SRTC, Relief & Rehabilitation Commissioner, Police besides representatives of Jagti Tenem Committee/Scan Kashmir Front UT J&K and Mata Kheer Bhawani Ji Yatra Welfare Society. Addressing the meeting, Div

Com directed officers to ensure cleanliness and proper sanitation at Tulmulla Ganderbal and other locations where thousands of Kashmiri Pandits are expected to visit during the religious event. He also directed concerned to ensure availability of drinking water, electricity and transportation facilities to the devotees so they do not face inconvenience during the observance of festival.

Besides, he directed SMC to provide mobile toilets to the trust during the period of Mela and also asked concerned agencies for completion of renovation and upgradation works at Tulmulla

before the start of Mela Kheer Bhawani.

Div Com instructed DC Ganderbal to provide blankets to the management of the temple for devotees besides making arrangements of tents and chairs to facilitate participants of Mela Mata Kheer Bhawani.

During Mela Kheerbhawani, thousands of Kashmiri Pandits visit five famous temples of Tulmulla, Ganderbal; Tikker, Kupwara; Laktipora Aishmuqam, Anantnag and Mata Tripursundri Devsar and Mata Kheerbhawani Manzang in Kulgam district in Kashmir valley.

## Weekly KCC camp held at Bandipora

40 KCC CASES, 40 PMJY & 40 PMSBY CASES SPONSORED

J I NEWS SERVICE

BANDIPORA, MAY 12: As part of the nationwide KCC campaign, the Department of Animal Husbandry in collaboration with the Lead District Bank Bandipora today organized a weekly KCC camp at the meeting hall of BVO Office Bandipora.

The camp was chaired by Dr. Gh. Ahmad Lone, CAHO Bandipora.

Attendees included LDO/BVO Bandipora, Dr. Mohammad Ramzan, TO Bandipora, Delegates from Lead District Bank, Nodal Officer, Concerned Bank Managers, and Veterinary Assistant Surgeons with their staff. During the camp, 40 KCC cases, 40 PMJY, and 40 PMSBY cases were sponsored. CAHO Bandipora highlighted the importance of departmental schemes in improving the socio-economic status of farmers and encouraged their active participation.

LDO/BVO Bandipora provided detailed information about various departmental schemes, including the KCC scheme and raised awareness about schemes under the Holistic Agricultural Development Programme. Information about social security schemes including PMJY and PMSBY was also shared. Farmers were given an opportunity to pose their concerns, which were gracefully answered.

One Farmer named Tahir Ahmad shared his success story, inspiring other farmers to pursue Animal Husbandry as a profession.

These KCC camps provide a valuable platform for farmers to learn about various schemes that can benefit them and improve their socio-economic status.

## DDC B'PORA REVIEWS OVERALL HEALTH SCENARIO IN DISTRICT

REVIEWS IMPLEMENTATION OF KAYAKALP, NQAS

J I NEWS SERVICE

BANDIPORA, MAY 12: In order to review the healthcare scenario of the district, the District Development Commissioner (DDC) Bandipora, Dr. Owais Ahmed on Friday chaired a meeting of the health department officials to review the overall health scenario in the district.

During the meeting, various issues related to the health sector in the district were discussed. The DDC emphasized the need to improve the healthcare facilities and services in the district. He urged the health department officials to work towards achieving the target of providing

quality healthcare services to the people.

Dr. Owais also reviewed the progress of various ongoing health projects in the district. He expressed his satisfaction with the progress made so far and directed the officials to ensure that these projects are completed within the stipulated time.

The DDC on the occasion took stock of available facilities, staff strength, in position doctors, paramedical staff, etc, in all three subdivisions of the district.

He also reviewed infrastructure facilities available in DH Bandipora, CHCs, PHCs, and other health care institutions in rural areas.

Dr. Owais urged health functionaries to come up to the expectations of the patients and focus on providing the best services and making accessible, affordable health care in the district available for the patients.

During the meeting, Dr. Owais conducted a review meeting to assess the progress of the implementation of Kayakalp and National Quality Assurance Standards (NQAS) in the district. The DDC emphasized the need for proper implementation of Kayakalp and NQAS to ensure that the healthcare facilities in the district are providing quality services to the people.

## Awareness/ Training programme on Maize based value added products held at Budgam

J I NEWS SERVICE

BUDGAM, MAY 12: A daylong awareness cum training programme on Maize based value added products for farmers, farm women and

children was today organised by DARS, Rangreth and KVK Budgam in collaboration with Indian Institute of Maize Research Ludhiana at KVK Campus, here. The programme was attended by 35 farmers, farm women

and students. Various value added products of maize were also demonstrated during the programme.

Dr. Gh. Ahmad Lone (PC KVK Budgam) briefed the gathering about types of maize.

## New Football clubs to be registered & developed on professional lines

J I NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, MAY 12: With improvement in weather conditions, outdoor sports activities started across Kashmir division here, today.

In this connection, a one day Badminton event on similar lines was today conducted at Jehlum Indoor Stadium, Janbazpora Baramulla. In addition to the G-20 awareness campaign, the events also highlighted the benefits of healthier, fitter and vibrant J&K for a better future.

The other activities held under My Youth My Pride include Badminton, Chess and Tug of

War at Indoor hall in Qaimoh, Kulgam district in South Kashmir.

In the meantime J&K Football Association has started the process of registering new clubs to improve the game and creating an environment for professional Football in the union territory. Divulging the details, JKFA said that such clubs will provide a platform to young footballers to showcase their talent and an opportunity to be picked up for bigger roles in I-League and other top division events.

They said JKFCF, a new football club, has been established with a distinctive approach with



both provinces of J&K as its home base. They also said it is for the first time that a private professional football team would have its base both in Jammu and Srinagar and the club has formally started its practice in the Bakshi Stadium Srinagar. Meanwhile, many players from different districts of Kashmir

division called on Secretary J&K Sports Council Nuzhat Gull in her Srinagar office chamber with the request to extend the reach of sports activities to their respective areas.

Assuring the players of all the support from J&K Sports Council, Nuzhat Gull said that additional verticals of sports activities have been included in the calendar of activities this year which shall engage more youth.

Speaking to the visitors, Secretary Sports Council said that apart from sports activities anti drug campaigns, healthy lifestyle campaigns and G-20 awareness campaigns shall run parallel.

## J&K SCERT launches Toycathon 2023 titled "Promotion of innovative ideas, revival of local heritage"

J I NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 12: The State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT) Jammu and Kashmir today launched Toycathon 2023 with the theme "Promotion of innovative ideas and revival of local heritage" at J&K Board of School Education.

Principal Secretary, School Education, Alok Kumar, presided over the function while Director IIM Jammu, Dr BS Sahai, was the guest of honour.

The event was held under the supervision of Director SCERT and Chairman, J&K Board of School Education, Professor Parikshat Singh Manhas. The brochure of Toycathon 2023 was launched by the Principal Secretary in presence of Director SCERT J&K and Director IIM Jammu besides other dignitaries.

Toycathon 2023 focuses on developing toys and



games that reflect the innovative ideas, use of regional resources and revival of our local heritage. The registration link along with the QR code was unveiled and declared open for submission of entries on the occasion. Dr. B S Sahai, while speaking on the occasion, stressed on the importance of creativity and critical thinking among the young minds. He appreciated the initiative of launch of Toycathon for school children by JK SCERT.

Speaking on the occasion, Professor Parikshat Singh Manhas highlighted the importance and need of toys and games for making

education holistic, joyful and experiential. He impressed upon the importance of designing toys and games to leverage the potential of toys and games in making learning engaging and enjoyable across all ages. He said that the programme aimed at exploring rich cultural heritage of Jammu and Kashmir through redesigning/rediscovering toys and games, with innovative ideas. He added that to achieve all our goals as per NEP 2020, being one nation, we have to make our indigenous toys more popular all over the world as these are in consonance with both tradi-

tion and nature so that Indian value system, Indian culture and our eco-friendly approach towards the things can be visioned globally.

He said Toycathon 2023 is an event of learning by experimentation and creative activity. Toys and games introduce children to a scientific method of working i.e. the basis of innovation.

The Programme focused on creating awareness among the educators to realize the importance and role of toys and games to make teaching learning process effective and experiential. The concept for

preparation of Toys/Games for the Toycathon event would be based on themes including Regional Culture-Historical events, Heritage and regional freedom fighters, out-of-the box creative, logical and scientific thinking, learning, education and schooling, social and human values, occupation and its specific fields, environment, rediscovering traditional local toys, any toys/games applicable for specially abled child and fun based toys for joyful learning.

During the launch of the event, Schools, JKSCERT KD and DIETs across the UT were connected through live YouTube streaming and Google meet for facilitating maximum participation in the event.

The Toycathon event will be held under three categories i.e. class 6th to 8th, class 9th to 10th and class 11th to 12th in four phases. The participants should

register themselves in the event through google form and submit the ideas in the prescribed format. They should make toy/game as per the themes mentioned.

The last date of submission of ideas is 25th July, 2023. The Grand finale of the event will be held in the month of

September/October, 2023. The esteemed dignitaries who graced the event included Kanta Devi, Special Secretary SED, Anu Behl, Special Secretary SED, Bikkar Hussain Chauthan, Director Finance, Engineer Deep Raj Kanathia, Project Director Samagra,

Asbok Kumar Sharma, Director School Education Jammu, Subah Mehta, Joint Director DSE, I/C Joint Director, Fayaz Ahmed Fayaz, Director Academics JKBOSE, Joint Secretary Examination JKBOSE, Joint Secretary Secrecy JKBOSE, CEO Jammu and DIET Principal Jammu.

## DC Pulwama discusses cases of Change of Land Use

J I NEWS SERVICE

PULWAMA, MAY 12: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, Dr. Basharat Qayoom today convened a meeting of District Level Committee (DLC) at DC Office Complex to discuss the cases of change of land use. The meeting discussed the various cases of conversion of land for non-agriculture purposes. On the occasion, the DC directed the concerned departments to ensure timely issuance of NOCs to the applicants after proper verification of documents under rules of land conversion Regulations, 2022.

He also directed the officers to submit the NOC/ reports to their respective departments in a time bound manner and ensure speedy disposal of such applications.

The meeting also discussed the status of NOCs being issued regarding approved cases, and their reporting and follow-up status by the concerned departments. Taking a review of progress under Agriculture Census, the DC said that the focus should be laid on the collection of data on the number of agricultural operational holders, its land utilization, tenancy status and irrigation facilities available etc.

He further directed officers of Revenue Department to complete the Census exercise and uploading of data entries. Among others, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Pulwama, ACD, SES, PDD, R&B, I&E Control, General Manager, DIC, DFO, Tehsildars besides Chief Agriculture officer, DFO and other concerned officers attended the meeting.

## Public hearing for Minor Mineral Mining held in Billawar



J I NEWS SERVICE

KATHUA, MAY 12: A public hearing for River Bed Mining was conducted by the Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Committee (JKPCC) for Block No. 14 (8.98 ha) and Block No. 17 (9.11 ha) of Bhini River downstream at Needam Palace, village Till in Billawar. The panel was chaired by Additional District Magistrate Billawar, Vinay Khosla.

The meeting began with a welcome address by Divisional Officer JKPCC Kathua, Surinder Kumar Tripathi, who briefed the public about environmental clearance for river bed mining.

Participants from the surrounding area included BDC Chairman, Ashok Kumar Spolia; DDC Member, Vikram Singh; Panches, Sarpanches and other prominent persons. Other participants who spoke on the occasion included Chairman MC Billawar Umakant Basotra, Social activist Advocate Jatinder Singh, and Sarpanch Parveen Raina. The main issues raised were regarding scientific mining, stopping overcharging and ensuring the survival of trees planted by mining proponents.

ADC Billawar, Divisional Officer JKPCC Kathua and DMO Kathua assured participants that their demands and issues would be considered and necessary action taken if required. ADC Billawar also assured that monthly meetings with allied departments would be organised to review these issues.

DMO Kathua assured the public that only approved rates would be charged and mining would be done on a purely scientific basis. Technical Officer to Regional Director JKPCC Hans Raj Galocha also tried to deliberate issues of public interest.

Field Inspector JKPCC Narayan Singh Thakur presented a vote of thanks.

## NMBA: DCOs conduct inspections of Medical establishments in Kulgam

J I NEWS SERVICE

KULGAM, MAY 12: Under the aegis of Nasha Mukta Bharat campaign, the Drug Control Authority Kulgam today conducted inspections of medical establishments in the hotspot areas of the district.

15 inspections of medical sale establishments at Kund, Ruzloo, Kanchloo, Waltengoo, Nowbugh, Y.K pora, Qazigund, Nageenpora were conducted by the constituted team of Drug Control Officers (DCOs).

Operations of 04 medical shops were disallowed on spot for violation of different conditions of licenses and other rules.

Chemists in the district were impressed upon to maintain the records of all the scheduled H1 medicines properly as per the prescribed norms and were asked to keep proper vigil on every suspicious person. They were asked to share responsibility of one and all to contribute in eradication of drug menace.

Assistant Drug Controller Kulgam emphasised upon all chemists particularly of the far flung areas who still have not installed CCTV cameras to adhere to the directive within weeks time. Failure may invite strict action as per rules.

## Vaccination schedule announced for selected Hajj Pilgrims of Baramulla

J I NEWS SERVICE

BARAMULLA, MAY 12: The District Administration Baramulla today notified the vaccination schedule for the selected Hajj pilgrims-2023 of the Baramulla district.

The pilgrims hailing from Baramulla/Sheeri will be given the vaccination at Government Medical College Baramulla on 16th of May, 2023 and the pilgrims from Sopore will be given the vaccination at Sub District Hospital Sopore on 16th of May, 2023. Similarly, the pilgrims hailing from Dangiwarah and Rohama will be vaccinated at Trauma Hospital Watergam on 16th of May, 2023 and the pilgrims from Boniyar and Uri will be vaccinated at Sub District Hospital Uri on 16th of May, 2023 and the pilgrims hailing from Tangmar and Kunzer will be vaccinated at Sub District Hospital Tangmar on 16th of May 2023.

# V.C DDC Kupwara reviews development schemes in Wavoor Block

J1 NEWS SERVICE

KUPWARA, MAY 12: The Vice Chairman, District Development Council (DDC) Kupwara, Haji Farooq Ahmad Mir today chaired a meeting of officers and field functionaries of Block Wavoor to review the status of developmental projects and schemes undertaken in the block.



BDC Chairman Wavoor, Choudhary Rafiq Kataria, Block Development Officer Wavoor, Gouhar Arzoo Chand, besides all Panchayat Secretaries, Panchayat Accounts Assistants, Technical Assistants and other concerned officials of block Wavoor attended the review meeting.

During the meeting, the status of PMAY(G), prioritisation and estimation of secure MGNREGA works and completion of spillover works of different

schemes were reviewed thoroughly. After a comprehensive discussion, the Block Development officer Wavoor briefed the chair about the current status of developmental activities undertaken in different Panchayats of Wavoor block.

The Vice Chairman impressed upon the field functionaries to prioritise the important and much needed works and prepare the secure estimates on priority so that MGNREGA

departments in monthly review meeting which are held on the first Monday of every month.

He said that due to implementation of three tier Panchayati Raj institutions, and Local Democratic decentralisation, the government has reached out to the door steps of villagers as Panchayat Secretariats are functional in every panchayat.

VC impressed upon Panchayat secretaries to aware the rural population about the benefits of different programmes of centre government and UT Government.

V.C appreciated the efforts of District Commissioner Kupwara, Dr. Dhaifode Sagar Dattatray for taking Kupwara district to new heights of development.

# Director Agri inaugurates Interaction programme for Apiculturists at Kunzar, Tangmarg



J1 NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, MAY 12: The Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhury Mohammad Iqbal today visited Kunzar, Tangmarg areas of Baramulla District and inaugurated an interaction programme for the apiculturists or bee keepers of the said areas.

Addressing the event, Director Agriculture highlighted the importance of small scale agriculture cottage industries like Bee Keeping/ Apiculture and mushroom cultivation for small and marginal farmers. He asked the farmers to go for diversification in agriculture activities. He said that diversification contributes to

works are started well in time and employment is provided to the rural people as MGNREGA is the main livelihood security programme in rural areas.

VC stressed upon Panchayat secretaries to prepare the supplementary list of left out, deserving PMAY-G households after proper verification so that left out deserving families are engaged and provided the benefit of PMAY-G.

He asked the Panchayat secretaries to ensure participation of officials of line departments to put in all the efforts for the successful implementation of different programme aimed to promote the agriculture activities like apiculture and mushroom among the small and marginal farmers of the region. He also marked the importance of raising the awareness among the farmers regarding the Apiculture/ Mushroom Centric Schemes & programmes so that more and more educated youth could be attracted towards these enterprises.

# ADDC Kishtwar reviews progress of Jal Jeevan Mission projects

J1 NEWS SERVICE

KISHTWAR, MAY 12: Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Kishtwar Sham Lal today chaired a meeting here in his office to review the progress of work on Water Supply Schemes (WSS) taken up under Jal Jeevan Mission (J1M).

The meeting was attended by EEN PHE, Sunil Sharma; Coordinator DPMU, Vishal Singh; District Head TPQJ, Jagjeet Singh, besides AES, JES of all PHE sub-divisions of the district. During the meeting, the officials informed the chair that out of the 129 tendered water supply schemes, 90 works have been allotted, while work on 60 Water Supply Schemes is in full swing. The chair directed EEN PHE Sunil Sharma to start work on additional 15 schemes within a week's time.

# CEO Kishtwar leads implementation of cultural calendar in schools

J1 NEWS SERVICE

KISHTWAR, MAY 12: Chief Education Officer Kishtwar, Prehlad Bhagat, presided over a meeting with DCC and all Zonal In-Charge Cultural Cells (ZICCs) to emphasise the implementation of the Cultural Calendar in schools for the current academic session in accordance with issued guidelines.

Bhagat expressed the significant role that cultural activities play in schools and said that it is the responsibility of Zonal In-Charges to coordinate with each school and HOIs for the successful conduct of recommended activities. He also assured full cooperation in this regard. Additionally, the CEO highlighted the importance of showcasing positive aspects of society through cultural activities and spreading awareness about drug menace and other social evils among school inmates. Bhagat asked all in-charges to work together and communicate with parents, community organisations and cultural groups to gather ideas.

# Secretary interacts with Tourism stakeholders of Jammu

ASKS THEM TO COME FORWARD WITH IDEAS FOR PROMOTION OF TOURISM IN REGION

J1 NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 12: Secretary, Tourism, Dr. Syed Abid Raheed Shah today held an interactive meeting with various Tourism Stakeholders of Jammu division to review the current scenario and chalk out the strategy for upcoming publicity, promotional and interactive campaign for this year.

During the interaction, the Secretary complimented the service providers for their support and cooperation in achieving a brisk tourism season last year and urged them to come forward with their ideas for promotion of tourism in the region. He sought their support in maintaining the tempo of tourist arrivals in the coming days as well.

Speaking on different initiatives of government for tourism promotion, Dr. Abid highlighted that the Government has already notified Homestay guidelines and asked the stakeholders to popularize these

interaction also emphasized upon the officers of department to come up with early solutions to issues raised by the stakeholders. He asked the officers to act as facilitators so that the issues of stakeholders are genuinely addressed.

# Hand Holding Session with various stakeholders of J1M held at Reasi

J1 NEWS SERVICE

REASI, MAY 12: A session was held at the Conference Hall in the Deputy Commissioner's Office in Reasi to provide guidance and support to various stakeholders involved in the Jal Jeevan Mission. The session was chaired by Babila Rakwal, who serves as both the Chairperson of the District Jal Jeevan Mission and the Deputy Commissioner of Reasi. Attendees included members of Pani Samities and Panchayati Raj Institutions, as well as Asha workers, Anganwari Workers and other stakeholders. Project Management Consultant, Sajal Srivastava discussed various aspects of the Jal Jeevan Mission (J1M), including the role of Panchayati Raj Institutions and Pani Samitis in implementing J1M and ensuring Har Ghar Jal. He also discussed the certification of Har Ghar Jal villages and the testing of water samples from each household. Sarpanch, Dubri Mohr and other members of Panchayati Raj Institutions spoke about ongoing works under J1M and the functioning of Pani Samitis in their respective areas.

# GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR UNION TERRITORY OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PWD (R&B) DIVISION UDHAMPUR

## NOTICE INVITING TENDER

e-NIT No. 13 of 2023-24 Dated 08-05-2023

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory of J&K, tenders are invited on percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Union Territory, CPWD, Railways and other State/ Central Government for the below mentioned work:

Table with 10 columns: S. No., Name of Work, Est. Value, Tender No., Bid Opening Date, Bid Closing Date, and Contractor. It lists four construction projects for road restoration and drainage work in various areas.

- 1. Date of publishing of Tender Notice: 08-05-2023
2. Period of submission of bidding documents: From 09-05-2023, 900 Hrs to 18-05-2023, 1800 Hrs
3. Bid Submission Start Date: 09-05-2023 From 900 Hrs
4. Bid Submission End Date: 18-05-2023 up to 1800 Hrs
5. Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online): 19-05-2023 at 1200 Hrs in the Office of the Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Udhampur
6. Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online): To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed.

- 1. It will be mandatory and binding on the contractor to start the work within 12 hours initiation from the Engineer-in-Charge of the area. As the works are of emergent nature, the intimation can be given by SMS/ Phone Call/WhatsApp on Mobile No. which is required to be mentioned in document submitted with the documents. If the Mobile Number is not mentioned his bid will be considered as non-responsive.
2. Photographs of pre, during & post restoration of all the activities need to be maintained and this will be the responsibility of the concerned contractor.
3. In case the contractor does not start the work within the stipulated time, the department will be at liberty to get the work done from any contractor/ service workers at the risk and cost of the contractor to whom the work is allotted.
4. Various quantities advertised are indicative only and the actual quantities may vary as per site conditions and the contractor will be bound to act accordingly.
5. Before commencement of work the Asst. Executive Engineer concerned will report to the Divisional Officer with reference to the damage report and agency in execution of work duly supported with the photographs clearly indicating the quantum of damage.
6. During execution of work, daily progress reports shall have to be maintained at the Divisional level which shall also be intimated to the Divisional Office on weekly basis.
7. During submission of claims of particular work, the daily progress report as per Sub Divisional record shall have to be certified by the Technical Officer of the concerned work, Executive Engineer concerned.
8. In case of heavy damages, immediately motor path shall be restored simultaneously after submission of damage report and photographs.
9. For fire work beyond the scope of providing motor path for the vehicular traffic, the detailed estimate duly supported with photographs, drawings (Site Plan & X-sections etc) and technical report shall be submitted to the Divisional Office for record of technical sanction. The work shall be executed / resumed only after accord of technical sanction as per requirement of the.
10. The validity period of the contract will be upto 31-03-2024.
11. Within 07 (seven) days after the date of receipt of the Letter of Acceptance, the successful bidder/contractor shall deliver to the concerned authority, a Performance Security in any of the required forms as of an amount equivalent to Rs. 500000 (Rupees Five Lakh Thousand only) in the shape of CDR/DB/ Bank Guarantee which will be released after successful completion of the work, after charge completion period to be certified by the Engineer-in-Charge.
12. As per the qualification, all bidders shall submit copies of documents as defined below:-
a) Copy of registration card duly renewed for the current financial year 2023-24.
b) Copy of PAN Card.
c) Copy of GSTIN Registration No. and latest clearance certificate: FORM GST-38 (i.e. latest clearance certificate: FORM GST-38 of the preceding Month/quarter to the issued of NIT is to be enclosed.
d) EMD in the shape of CDR/DB, duly pledged to Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division, Udhampur.
e) Tender cost (Tender Bill) in the shape of Demand Draft/ Receipt issued after date of issuance of e-NIT mentioned the name of the work for which tender fee was deposited.
f) Affidavit with noncommence of work for correct information duly signed by the contractor/agency and attested by the issuing magistrate (As per Annexure-A).
g) Copy of verification certificate from card issuing authority/SSP Cime Baramulla, Jammu for the registration card issued from Kashmir Division also to be uploaded.
h) Address (venue) with Mobile No.
12. The Contractor shall arrange the key construction material via kaitled wire crates on his own from authorized dealers for the above said work and quality of material shall have to be verified / passed by the concerned Asst. Executive Engineer before start of work.
13. The Earnest Money Deposit (2% of the Advertised Cost of the tender) from all the bidders at the time of CDR/DB before evaluation of technical bids, the EMD of successful bidder shall be released as per PWD Engineering Manual 2020.
14. As per the qualification, all bidders shall submit copies of documents as defined below:-
a) The Registration Cards issued by Public Works (R&B) Department, should be preferably renewed online by the respective issuing authorities in accordance with SRO-277 dated 26/07/2018.
b) The Registration Cards issued and subsequently renewed by Departments, other than Public Works (R&B) Department, must also be in accordance with the SRO-277 dated 26/07/2018.
c) In case, the cards issued in violation of J&K, Registration of Contractors Act, 1956 or amendments thereof shall be accepted.

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-Tender Notice DEN/Track/FZR acting for and on behalf of the President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on www.treps.gov.in with closing date: 01.06.2023 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through online payment modes available on www.treps.gov.in portal i.e. net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker Cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed. For more information log on to www.treps.gov.in

Table with 3 columns: Tendering Section, Bidding System, and Details of Tender. It lists two tenders for provision of ballast and dismantling of existing goods shed.

NOTICE I Ramesh Sharma (old Name) S/o Shonku Ram R/o Chouki Choura has changed my name from ramesh Sharma (old name) to Ramesh Sharma (new name). I do hereby assume from this date the name/surname Ramesh Sharma (new name)

UT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT POLYTECHNIC JAMMU Bikanram Chowk, Jammu (J&K) 180-004 ESTD: 1960. राजकीय बहुविध विद्यापीठ, जम्मू. Contact No: 911-243372, 243791. Date: 08.05.2023

Subj: Engagement of Guest Faculty in Government Polytechnic Jammu. ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE

Applications are invited on prescribed format from the eligible candidates who are domicile of J&K UT, for engagement as Guest Faculty for the academic session May-June 2023 for the below mentioned discipline:-

Table with 3 columns: S. No., Discipline/Subject, and Qualification. It lists two disciplines: Automobile Engineering and Tech/ B.E in Automobile Engineering.

The Application as per format (available on www.govtpolytechnicjammu.edu.in) accompanied with self-attested copies of the following documents must reach the office of the undersigned by or before 20.05.2023 and No Application shall be entertained after the said date in any case:-

- 1. Academic/ Technical Qualification. (Certificate/ Mark sheets)
2. Domicile Certificate.
3. D.O.B. Certificate.
4. Experience Certificate, if any.
Terms and Conditions -
1. The engagement shall be purely on need basis for academic session May-June 2023 only.
2. The selected candidates shall have to submit the undertaking/ affidavit before joining clearly indicating that he/ she has not to claim for continuation for his/her services & follow all rules and regulations of the institution.
3. The Selection shall be made purely on the following criteria of 100 points i.e., 80 points be kept for basic eligibility qualification (pro-rata basis), 05 points for Higher qualification, 05 points for GATE/NET/SET, 05 points for Teaching Experience (Polytechnic Diploma Level or Higher Level), pro-rata basis (01 points for each academic year), 05 points for Interaction with the concerned candidates.
4. The remuneration for the guest faculty shall be Rs. 750/- per hour subject to the maximum of Rs. 20,000/- per month.
DIP/J-1324/23 (Dr. Arun Bangotra) Principal Government Polytechnic Jammu

# Advisor Bhatnagar addresses G-20 Digital Innovation Alliance National Roadshow at SKUAST-K

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, MAY 12: Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar today addressed the G20 Digital Innovation Alliance National Roadshow at Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir (SKUAST-K) here.

The National Roadshow was organised by Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), Startup Hub Ministry of Information Technology, Government of India in collaboration with SKUAST-K.

In his keynote address, Advisor Bhatnagar said that it is the endeavour of our Prime Minister, Narendra Modi to make G-20 Presidency a people's event across India. He added that the G-20 is an important institution which reflects the topmost economies of the world, adding that several areas which are important for humanity are



being addressed through it.

The Advisor further remarked that our Prime Minister has the vision of putting India on a global level and this G-20 Presidency has brought sense of pride, excitement and motivation among the countrymen that our country is attaining its position in global order. Speaking on different aspects of this National Roadshow, Advisor Bhatnagar

said that this G20 Digital Innovation Alliance will foster collaboration and advancing digital innovation in various sectors like agriculture, healthcare, education, finance, and governance. He added that the technology is progressing rapidly and we all need to adapt ourselves to new and emerging means of technologies like Artificial Intelligence, Robotics, among others.

The Advisor further highlighted that effective education system, vocational training, innovation and incubation techniques, research and other are very essential for today's world. He added that National Education Policy (NEP-2020) of our country is very unique and it covers all these aspects which are essential for today's digital and technology driven world.

While speaking on the digital transformations in Jammu and Kashmir, Advisor Bhatnagar remarked that under the able leadership of Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha sea changes are being witnessed across the UT. He added that accelerated growth and development is happening in the region besides key digital initiatives have brought transparency and accountability in governance system across J&K.

During his keynote address, Advisor Bhatnagar highlighted the importance of harnessing the power of digital innovation to

drive inclusive growth, enhance economic competitiveness, and address critical social challenges. He emphasized the need for strong partnerships among G20 countries to leverage emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, blockchain, and Internet of Things (IoT) to create sustainable and resilient economies.

In his address, Vice Chancellor SKUAST-K, Prof. Nazir Ahmad Gani said that India is emerging as knowledge superpower of the world and our country is self-sufficient in every means due to host of initiatives for the common people. He added that this National Roadshow will expose students of University to Startups and make them job creators instead of job seekers which is the vision of this university.

The National Roadshow witnessed engaging panel discussions, interactive sessions, and presentations by leading experts in various domains related to digital innovation.

# Chairperson DDC Baramulla, KCCI delegation calls on Lt Governor



JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR/JAMMU, May 12: Ms. Safina Baig, DDC Chairperson, Baramulla called on Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan, today.

The DDC Chairperson discussed with the Lt Governor various issues of public importance and development of the district. She also raised the issue concerning the post of Haj pilgrimage this year. A delegation of Kashmir Chamber of Commerce & Industry led by its President Sh. Javid Ahmad Tenga also called on the Lt Governor and apprised him about various concerning issues of the business community. The Lt Governor assured the members of the delegation that the issues projected by them would be looked into meticulously for their early redressal. Later, Sh. Pritam Singh, Founder President, Peepal Saves People Foundation Trust called on the Lt Governor at Raj Bhawan Jammu and apprised him about the peepal sapling plantation drive and other environmental initiatives of his organisation. Renowned Broadcaster and Director (Retd.) All India Radio Jammu Sh. Vijay Kumar Sambyal, popularly known as Rangeely Thakur in the field of music, submitted a memorandum of demands regarding promotion of art & music in the UT. He also expressed his gratitude towards the UT administration for giving due attention to the field of Arts. The Lt Governor also released a book titled "Words Whispered in the Dark" authored by Ms. Bindya Raina Tikoo. The Lt Governor congratulated the author on the occasion and wished her success in the future endeavours.

# College of Nursing GMC Doda Celebrates International Nurses Day

JJ NEWS SERVICE

DODA, MAY 12: College of Nursing Government Medical College Doda today celebrated "International Nurses Day" to commemorate the birth anniversary of Florence Nightingale pioneer of modern nursing. The programme focused on this year's theme "Our Nurses, Our Future" and started with lighting of ceremonial Lamp & Prayers Dean & Principal GMC Doda Prof. Dr. P. Ujja Vimesh, while speaking on the occasion, lauded nursing workforce at GMC Doda for their dedication and

said their significant contribution during the pandemic was a glaring example of commitment and dedication. "In healthcare structure Nurse is important and plays a main role in managing the comforts of the patient" he said. Earlier, Assistant Professor Department of Physiology & Coordinator Nursing GMC Doda, Dr. Suman Bala welcomed the guests and thanked administration of GMC Doda for continuous support.

The 2nd batch of B.Sc Nursing 1st-year student's session 2022-2023 was formally inducted into the Noble Profession of Nursing by reciting the

Nightingale pledge and Anthem from the Nursing fraternity. The students also participated in series of competitions like Digital Quiz & Speech competition. The winners of competitions were awarded with trophies by Chief Guest.

The function was also attended by Founder Principal GMC Doda Dr. Tariq Farvaiz Azad, HODs of all departments, Chief Accounts Officer, Faculty GMC Doda, Matron AH GMC Doda, Nursing Staff, Nursing Faculty, Administrative Staff and Nursing Students of Government Nursing College Doda.

# Kathua gets another J&K Bank CRM



JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 12: Expanding its network of instant and easily accessible banking touchpoints, J&K Bank today dedicated a Cash Recycler Machine

(CRM) for public in Kathua.

The Bank's Zonal Head (Kathua) Sanjeev Kumar inaugurated the CRM in presence of Cluster Head (Kathua) Vinay Gupta amid a good gathering of valuable customers, local traders and

residents besides Bank officials.

While educating the participants on the occasion about the benefits of digital and alternate banking channels, Zonal Head urged the people to avail banking services at CRMs, ATMs and digital platforms like mPay Delight. "The commissioning of the CRM here is part of the Bank's plan to ensure ease-of-banking for common people. I urge you to make use of these facilities," he said.

The locals present on the occasion hailed J&K Bank for its people-friendly measures besides commissioning of CRM which they said, would go a long way in providing instant and easily accessible banking services to the people.

With this inauguration, the total number of banking touchpoints in the zone has reached to 188.

# Programme on "International Nurses Day-2023" held at Khonmoh

CARE, COMFORT AND COMPASSION TOWARDS PATIENTS HALLMARK OF NURSING: DC SRINAGAR

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, MAY 12: In connection with "International Nurses Day" a programme was held at Arsh Institute of Health Science and Technology, Khonmoh under the theme of "Our Nurses, Our Future" to commemorate the birth anniversary of "Florence Nightingale" pioneer of Modern Nursing.

The Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad was the Chief Guest on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner said the "International Nurses Day" provides us an opportunity to recognize the contributions of Nurses around the world, who work tirelessly to provide quality healthcare services to patients. He also lauded nursing workforce for their dedication and significant contribution during the Covid-19 pandemic and other exigent situations.

While highlighting the significance of the theme of International Nurses Day 2023, "Our Nurses, Our Future" the DC said that the Nurses have a great responsibility in day to day patient care setup. He further said that the day also reminds us to honour Nurses and acknowledge their contributions to improving the health care of individuals and communities around the world.

On the occasion, the DC also appreciated the Arsh Institute of Health Science and Technology, Khonmoh Srinagar for converting the Institution into an Isolation Unit with all facilities during the COVID-19 outbreak. CMD, Arsh Institute of Health and Technology, Mohammad Anwar Khan also spoke on the occasion and emphasized on the fact that Nursing has evolved into a profession with wealth of Skills and professional knowledge. During the programme, culture programs were also presented on the theme by the participants.

Later, the Deputy Commissioner felicitated the students who bagged the 1st position in University Examination and distributed prizes among them.

Administrator of the Institute, Gulzar Ahmad Bandy, other Staff members and Students were present on the occasion.

# Dulloo concludes discussions regarding implementation of HADP

REAFFIRMS ROLE OF 29 PROJECTS IN DOUBLING OUTCOMES, BOOSTING EXPORTS FROM J&K

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, MAY 12: Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Agriculture Production Department, Atal Dulloo, today concluded discussions with the heads of Project Grounding and Monitoring Committees regarding implementation of schemes under Holistic Agriculture Development Plan (HADP) in Jammu and Kashmir.

ACS, while addressing the meeting held in this regard here, exhorted upon the officers to implement HADP in its entirety keeping its aims and objectives in mind. He asked them to complete all the preliminary work before hand regarding issuing of tenders, procurement and management of human resources. He asked them to maintain transparency by framing thorough specifications of tender documents for timely procurement and utilization of resources.

These 29 projects being implemented under HADP would

surely double the outcomes in agriculture and allied sectors besides boosting exports from J&K to other parts of the country and abroad as well, maintained ACS while reaffirming the role of the initiative on this account.

Dulloo also took stock of position of funds available under each scheme of this plan. He directed the officers to submit deliverables under each of the component in time so that these are completed within the set timeframe.

The sub-projects which came under thorough discussion today included promotion of High Density Plantation and rejuvenation of Orchards, Food Processing and Development of Clusters for specific products of J&K, Dairy Development, reorientation priorities regarding mutation products, Poultry Development, Fish Seed production, Trout culture, promotion of wool processing and marketing, support to Human Resource Development for technological



backstop for sustainable and accelerated transformation of Agriculture.

Some of the works which were deliberated upon during the meeting includes: EoI for Nursery Development over 134 Ha, establishment of Mother Block Development over 170 Ha, New High Density orchards over 5500 Ha, rejuvenation of 2000 Ha orchards, establishment of tissue Culture, Plant testing and virus testing labs.

Similarly, the meeting discussed creation of new semen sta-

tion and ecology which shall transform the agricultural economy of J&K putting it on a new trajectory of growth, almost doubling the output of the sectors, boosting exports and making the sectors sustainable and commercially viable. This will herald a new phase of farming prosperity and rural livelihood security in J&K. The agricultural output which stands at Rs 37600 crore shall increase with a resultant increase in sectoral growth rate to 11%.

Moreover, the interventions would result in creating employment opportunities for over 2.8 lakh youth and establish around 19,000 enterprises.

More than 2.5 lakh persons shall be skilled in various agri-enterprises. In the next five years, the UT shall have a motivated workforce with agri-entrepreneurial skills in a commercially viable and ecologically sustainable manner, as is envisaged with the completion of this holistic development plan.

# Bhupinder Kumar visits Udhampur; Assesses progress on major departmental projects



JJ NEWS SERVICE

UDHAMPUR, MAY 12: Secretary, Health and Medical Education, Bhupinder Kumar, today conducted extensive tour of Udhampur and took stock of major ongoing departmental projects including construction of new Government Medical College in the district.

Secretary visited the construction sites of GMC Udhampur, 200 bedded teaching district hospital and makeshift building of GMC Udhampur. He issued on spot instructions to the executing agencies for expediting completion of these projects, in a time bound manner, by way of deployment of additional manpower and increasing number of shifts at the construction sites. Bhupinder Kumar exhorted upon the Deputy Commissioner, Udhampur and Principal GMC Udhampur to monitor progress and regularly review these projects to ensure timely completion of these prestigious works. He also emphasized upon them to ensure that the makeshift college building of GMC is completed by May-2023 in all respects so that the college would be ready to receive 1st batch of MBBS students from July-2023. Secretary also interacted with the Principal and faculty members of GMC Udhampur and stressed upon them to render their services with utmost care, compassion and professional integrity, keeping patient care at the core. He also impressed upon the medical fraternity for improving public service delivery through various schemes including AB-PMJAY SEHAT, Janani Suraksha Yojana and leveraging the latest online initiatives of Health and Medical Education Department. During his visit, Secretary was accompanied by Deputy Commissioner, Udhampur, Sachin Kumar Wadhyar, Principal GMC Udhampur, Joint Director Planning, H&ME besides other officers of executing agencies and Health Department.