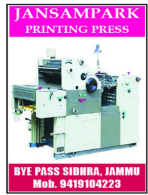




# JINDRAH IMAGES



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## G20 Tourism Working Group Summit

### Jammu Kashmir is witnessing a new era that has opened limitless possibilities of growth and peace: LG



**JNEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, MAY 23

The Lieutenant Governor, Shri Manoj Sinha addressed the meeting of the 3rd Tourism Working Group (TWG) of G20, today.

Addressing the gathering, the Lt Governor underlined why J&K was selected by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji for G20 meeting. He explained that Jammu Kashmir is witnessing a new era under the leadership of Hon'ble PM and it has opened up limitless possibilities of growth and peace.

"Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi Ji through development schemes that empowers masses and Union Ter-

ritory's effective administration isolated the terror eco-system which thrived with the support from across the border. Now even foreign investments are also coming into Jammu and Kashmir, green shoots of 'better times people are anxiously looking up to,' the Lt Governor said.

He also said that tourism in Jammu Kashmir is also a reflection of multi-religious and multi-cultural ethos of India.

The Lt Governor underlined the importance of peace for growth and tourism.

"Tourism cannot grow in isolation. The economics of it is fine, that tourism needs good infrastructure, sound policies and effective and respon-

sive administration. No less fundamental to me is the fact that only peace can bring warmth in the hospitality, we Indians eternally enjoy," the Lt Governor said.

He said today, Jammu Kashmir stands among the developed regions of India on some measurable milestones, and the administration is committed for people's prosperity, new institutions have been opened up in higher education, youths are being trained for Industry 4.0 technologies, infrastructure development is progressing rapidly and our emphasis on technology is transforming Jammu

abroad. We are ensuring social equality and equal economic opportunity to all citizens, which is also enabling them to contribute to the nation building," the Lt Governor said.

Throwing light on the transformation of Jammu Kashmir, the Lt Governor said that the grass root democracy has been strengthened; new industries are coming up, rapid agricultural growth is making our villages prosperous, new institutions have been opened up in higher education, youths are being trained for Industry 4.0 technologies, infrastructure development is progressing rapidly and our emphasis on technology is transforming Jammu

### Ease of film making and up gradation of the existing studios has to be pursued rigorously: Dr. Jitendra

- Film production can have a last impact on travel destinations: G. Kishan Reddy - India is a hub of animation, visual effects and gaming: Apurva Chandra

**JNEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, MAY 23

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology, MoS, PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of Culture, Tourism and the Development of the North Eastern Region, Shri G Kishan Reddy today addressed the side event on the theme "Promoting Incredible India through Film Tourism" on the sidelines of 3rd Tourism Working



The side event on Tourism was aimed at furthering the scope of the film, tourism sector and high-

lighting all the aspects of Incredible India.

During the event, Dr. Jitendra Singh said, India has no dearth of talent having the century old film legacy with leading names of Guru Dutt and Satyajit Ray who have been acknowledged for their art work despite no avenues and facilities, Dr. Singh added.

Dr. Singh hoped that the business community will help in scaling up the efforts already taken by the Ministry of Tourism and Ministry of I&B.

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### Development of J&K since Article 370 abrogation just beginning of its transformation: Lt Governor

**JNEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, MAY 23

The development of Jammu and Kashmir since the abrogation of Article 370 in 2019 is just the beginning of its transformation, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said here on Tuesday.

"I can say with confidence that under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, J&K is moving on the path of peace and prosperity.... The development of J&K post 2019 is just the begin-



Sh. Apurva Chandra. The development of J&K post 2019 is just the begin-

ning of the transformation of Jammu and Kashmir," Sinha told a press conference.

Expressing his gratitude to the prime minister for providing the historic opportunity to Jammu

and Kashmir to host the G20 working group meeting on tourism, Sinha said the administration is committed to promoting sustainable tourism.

"The ongoing working group meeting is

the biggest in terms of attendance. Fifty-nine delegates from 27 countries are participating in the working group meeting," he said, adding, "We have tried to take tourism to greater heights in J&K while taking care of the environment".

"We wanted to take our delegates to Gansarg. But due to logistics issues, we cannot do it this time," he said, adding that those who still want to go, will be taken to the famous ski-resort in north

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 4

### 8 candidates from J&K shine in UPSC civil services mains examination 2022

**JNEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 23

In a moment of pride and accomplishment, eight candidates from Jammu and Kashmir have made their mark in the highly esteemed Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) Civil Services Mains Examination 2022.

The results, which were declared today, have brought joy and celebration to the region.

Securing top positions in the prestigious examination, Waseem, Parsanjeet, and Nittin have showcased their exceptional abilities and dedication. Waseem has secured an impressive rank of 7, followed closely by Parsanjeet at rank 11 and Nittin at rank 32. Their extraordinary performances have not only brought

### 'Poonch is very happy'

A town celebrates as its daughter secures 11th rank in IAS Exam



**JNEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 23

The border town of Poonch is often in the news for wrong reasons – it cops terror attacks, witnesses intense security operations against militants and is no stranger to sounds of gunshots and bullets.

But Poonch is very happy today. One of its residents, Parsanjeet Kour, has secured the 11th rank in the Indian Administrative Service (IAS)

### PM Modi, Australian counterpart rename Sydney suburb as 'Little India' during special community event

**JNEWS SERVICE**  
SYDNEY, MAY 23

A street here in Australia was on Tuesday officially renamed as "Little India" by Prime Minister Narendra Modi along with his Australian counterpart Anthony Albanese during a special community event here.

Harris Park is a hub in Western Sydney where the Indian community celebrates festivals and events such as Diwali and Australia Day.

"I had the opportunity to welcome the Prime Minister @AlbomP ji on the Indian soil in Ahmedabad. Today he joined me in unveiling the foundation stone of 'Little India' here: PM @narendramodi, Prime Minister Modi tweeted.



"Harris Park is a thriving, dynamic, multicultural hub known for its blend of cultures and large Indian population," the City of Parramatta said on its website.

"Sometimes referred to as 'Little India,' Wigram, Marion and Station Streets in Harris Park are home to more than 20 eateries, a variety of shops selling colourful saris, glittering



**JNEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, MAY 23

The Administrative Council (AC) which met here under Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha gave approval to the absorption of 145 Employees of Hotel Corporation of India Limited (HCIL) working at Centaur Lake view Hotel, Srinagar, in different corporations under the Tourism Department.

Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to the Lieutenant Governor, Dr.Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary,

J&K; and Dr. Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor attended the meeting.

The decision was taken on the recommendations of the committee that the existing staff of the Hotel Corporation of India Limited will be absorbed by the UT of J&K on the existing terms and conditions while the payment of retirement gratuity and other benefits of the employees for the period they worked with HCI

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 4

### Div Com reviews progress on development works executed in Bahu Fort area under Smart City Project

**JNEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, MAY 23

Divisional Commissioner, Ramesh Kumar today chaired a meeting to review the progress on the beautification project of the approach road to Bahu Fort and the development of amenities in the Bahu Fort area.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Avny



Lavasa; Director Tourism, Vivekanand Rai; CEO Jammu Smart City Limited, Rahul Yadav; VC JDA, Director Floriculture, SSP Traffic, Chief Engineers of

projects have already been completed, including the installation of a musical fountain and a Light & Sound Show at Bahu Fort, while work is in progress on the Oceanarium at Bagh-e-Bahu and the Entry gate at Harki Pouri.

In addition to this, significant progress has been made on the beautification of the approach road to Bahu Fort and

### MeT predicts widespread rain in plains, moderate snowfall on higher reaches of J&K

**JNEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, MAY 23

Meteorological Department on Tuesday predicted widespread rain in plains and moderate to heavy snowfall over the higher reaches of Jammu and Kashmir till May 26.

The Met office has also issued "yellow color" (be aware) weather warning for Jammu and Kashmir during May 23-26.



It said today the weather generally will remain cloudy at most places of Kashmir and partly cloudy at most places of the Jammu region with chances of rain, thunderstorm very likely to commence at most places from late afternoon onwards.

Widespread Light to moderate rain, thunder coupled with lightning with a possibility of

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 4

## Dy Mayor inaugurates Yoga Camp organised by Ayush Deptt



JI NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU, MAY 23:** Department of Ayush Jammu and Kashmir organised Iconic Yoga Camp in which students of different Schools and Degree College of Sidhra, participated in Camp at Ward No. 47, Bawe Wali Mata Mandir Park in Bahu Constituency. Deputy Mayor Jammu, Baldev Singh Billawaria inaugurated the camp as the chief guest of the function while

former MLA Dalip Parihar, Corporator Sharda Devi, SHO Bahufort Aarti Thakur were present as Guest of Honours. The event was organised by the Department of AYUSH to raise awareness about the benefits of yoga among students. The students participated in various traditional asanas and taught each other different methods of meditation. They were also given pamphlets to make them aware of the mindful and therapeutic aspects of

yoga. Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Mayor Jammu, Baldev Singh Billawaria expressed his views on the importance of Yoga and appreciated the efforts of the team members of Ayush Department for the successful event.

He stressed on the need of coordination between the educators and youth to make Yoga a part of their life. He also shared that the people have widely accepted the effectiveness of Yoga as a form of therapy. He

further stressed on making physical activity and yoga part of day-to-day life.

The Deputy Mayor Jammu appreciated all the team members of the Department of Ayush for a successful organisation of the event. The Deputy Mayor also announced that special camps will be organised in all the wards of Jammu city to celebrate the International Yoga Day in future.

Dr Himani Butyal took a yoga session along with the yoga instructor as per yoga protocol. She expressed her gratitude to the Deputy Mayor of Jammu, Baldev Singh Billawaria, for gracing the event with his presence, and to all the guests for taking the time to be present.

Team Ayush includes Dr Sunil Koul, Dr Ranjana Bhat, Dr Chetan Singh, Dr Vikas Sharma (Medical officers), Vipin Khajuria (pharmacist), Jagan deep Singh, Jyoti Bali, Ishara Mansotra (Yoga instructors).

## Sidelining all parties except BJP in G20 event exposed Govt's bias: Tony

JI NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU, MAY 23:** aranjit Singh Tony, Chairman Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Jammu and Kashmir for a day in a live Engagement and Minority Affairs, and District Development Council (DDC) Member Suchetgarh on Tuesday said that Modi Government demeaned G20 event by keeping away the leadership of major political parties from the summit.

In a statement given to media fraternity, Tony said



that sidelining all the political outfits except BJP has badly exposed government's prejudice towards political leadership in

Jammu and Kashmir. He said that G20 Tourism Working Group Meeting in J&K was a wonderful opportunity for the people but the government's narrow-mindedness has made it a limited affair because if more entities were invited to the summit naturally better results and good suggestions would have followed. He said that the misdemeanor has been allowed only because there was no elected government in the Union Territory. "Had there been a popular government in place in

J&K, such a blunder would have never allowed to happen", he said adding that BJP leadership both at the centre and in J&K possessed myopic vision and that is the reason behind such imprudent decisions and moves. He however maintained that G20 event in J&K was a historical moment for the people of J&K and things would have turned much better if the government led by BJP has taken right decisions and invited representatives of all the mainstream parties.

## J&K Ex-Services League welcomes G-20 meet in Srinagar

JI NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU, MAY 23:** JKESL welcomed and fully endorsed the decision of Indian Govt to conduct G-20 Tourism Working Group Meeting at Srinagar. The complete veteran community of J&K is thankful to the Modi Govt for this move. J&K Ex-Services League (JKESL) is a Govt approved and Registered NGO of Ex-Servicemen, War Widows & serving Soldiers. JKESL is the biggest, oldest and Govt recognised body since 1951 which is engaged in the welfare of the Veterans, War Widows and serving soldiers of J&K. Brig Ghansara Singh, RB, OBE, OBI was the founder of this organisation in 1951. It has more than 22,000 members as on date.

India is holding the third G-20 Tourism working Group Meeting in the Kashmir Valley from 22 May 2023 to 24 May 2023. Apart from G-20 members, delegates from guest countries and several international organi-

sations are participating. India's special invitee guest countries include Bangladesh, Egypt, Mauritius, Netherlands, Spain, Oman, Nigeria and UAE. It is a master stroke by Indian Govt to hold a G-20 Tourism Working Group Meeting in J&K which has provided an opportunity to India to get recognition to Jammu & Kashmir at the global level.

G-20 meet at Srinagar will be the first major Global / International event in J&K since Aug 2019, when the state was divided into two Union Territories and its special status under Article 370 of the constitution was revoked.

Despite resistance from Pakistan, China, Turkey & Saudi Arabia, India had announced Srinagar as the venue for the G-20 meet.

The Govt of Pakistan has not only objected to India's decision but also has asked its allied countries like China, Turkey & Saudi Arabia to blacklist India & stop showing sup-

port for the said conference.

With the conduct of G-20 Tourism Working Group Meeting at Srinagar, J&K is getting a chance to exhibit its market prospects, eco-tourism ventures and cultural assets to the leading global nations. The G-20 also offers a chance to the administration of J&K to consolidate the benefits claimed to have resulted from repealing Article 370. In addition boost to film tourism, benefit from interest shown by Multinationals in investing in J&K.

Successful conduct of G-20 meet in Srinagar will be a slap on the face of opposing countries. It will prove to the world community that there is total peace in the UT of J&K and Pakistan's false propaganda will disappear.

Also the video made by representatives of Saudi Arabia posted on the social media proves that it is there is any Paradise on Earth, it is the Valley of Kashmir.

## BIS holds Standard writing competition in GHSS Mahalla, Doda



JI NEWS SERVICE

**DODA, MAY 23:** Continuing its programme of involving students, Jammu and Kashmir Branch Office (JKBO) of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) today held standard writing competition at Government higher secondary school Mahalla in Doda district.

A total of 21 students participated in the competition and first four winners were provided cash prizes. All the participants of the competition were given certificates on behalf of BIS.

BIS is Government of India department, which work under Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (CAF&PD) department of GoI.

The programme was organised by BIS mentor Muhammad Ayoub Mir and BIS Resource Support Team (RST) member Raja Amir Karim Tantray delivered orientation lecture and supervised the competition.

He informed students about ISI marking and hallmarking of gold and how to verify the quality of any product through the BIS Care App.

BIS had earlier established the standard club in the GHSS Mahalla and these students are members of the club.

They were all praise for BIS for organising such a competition in their school and hoped that in future also BIS will continue to organise similar programmes.

The programme was organised on the directions of Director BIS Jammu and Kashmir Branch Office (JKBO) Tilak Raj and BIS officer Ashish Divedivi supervised it.

## Seamless public welfare, global eminence gist of Modi Govt's 9 years in power: Kavinder

### Scores of Muslim youths join BJP, vow to strengthen party



JI NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU, MAY 23:** The successful last nine years of Narendra Modi Government have given many reasons to the party cadre to boast of BJP's feats as the party moved ahead with resilience to ensure public welfare and led the country towards global eminence with the world today identifying India as Vishva Guru.

This was stated by senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister, Kavinder Gupta while chairing a meeting of Trikuta Mandal Bahu Constituency ahead of month-long Maha Samparak Abhyan com-

mencing from May 30 to highlight the achievements of Modi Government at Centre in the last nine years.

Kavinder asked the party cadre to utilize this occasion to reach out to the masses projecting the feats which BJP has achieved under the dynamic leadership of PM Narendra Modi. He said that the month-long campaign shall comprise of traders' convention, intellectual meet, interaction with beneficiaries of Central Welfare Schemes, observation of Dr Syama Prasad Mukerjee's Balidan Diwas on June 23, listening to Mann Ki Baat programme on June 28, celebration of International

Yoga Day on June 21, rallies, Samparak Abhyan and door to door campaign.

The senior BJP leader asked the party workers to participate in the aforesaid programmes with zeal and zest, ensuring that message percolates among the masses.

Rekha Mahajan District President BJP South and Neeraj Puri Mandal President Trikuta Nagar also stressed on the successful conduct of the aforesaid events claiming that the same are of immense significance as this will help people to know about the policies, plans and feats that BJP achieved under PM Modi's

stewardship in the last nine years. Pushpinder Singh, Akash Chopra, Nayan Gupta, Surjeet Sonu, Pardeep Kumar, Corporator Neena Gupta, Corporator Ajay Gupta, Kallir Charak, B.B Talwar, Rajinder Koul, Vishal Gupta, Kapil Khurana, Dr Davinder, Amit Gupta, Raman Sharma, Ajay Sharma, Mukhtyar Singh, Pawan Doona, Nitin Thapa, Ajay Badan, Farman and Ashok Vaid were also present in the meeting.

Meanwhile, scores of Muslim youths joined Bharatiya Janata Party in presence of Kavinder Gupta at Party headquarters in Trikuta Nagar Jammu.

Some of the newly joined youths include Sikander Khan, Rehan Khan, Babar Tabraz, Mohd Asif, Mazer Khan, Israr Kazmi and Abrar Ahmed. Welcoming the newly joined members into party fold, Kavinder anticipated that their joining will strengthen the party base at their respective places. The newly joined youths assured that they will work tirelessly to bring in vibrancy and strengthen the party at grassroots level.

## G20 showcases J&K's rich cultural heritage, unity in diversity: Priya Sethi

### Lauds M Jackson Institute for honing hidden talent of children, youth

JI NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU, MAY 23:** Priya Sethi, National Executive Member Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and former minister has said that children and youth of Jammu and Kashmir has enormous talent and they need to be provided proper platform in order to hone their skills. She said that the holding of the significant international G20 Meet in J&K has provided them exposure of the optimum standard and a peep into the rich cultural heritage of J&K as also unity in diversity. They will also get acquainted with the different cultures across the globe through the representatives of various nations attending this Summit.

The senior BJP leader said this while speaking at the Grand Finale of 'Utherte Kalakar' here today. She was the Chief Guest of this programme organised by M Jackson Institute of Cultural Society. Children belonging to different age groups mesmerized the spectators by their scintillating performances through dance forms of art.

Asserting that the enormous talent possessed by children and youth of this Union Territory needs to be chan-



nelized systematically to upgrade it to optimum national and international standards. For this there is a need for adequate number of platforms for these children and youth providing them the opportunities to display their talent before experts who will not only bring out their hidden talent but would also hone and enhance their skills. Moreover these platforms will give them the precious experience of performing before huge audiences and during grand functions. Priya Sethi complemented the M Jackson Institute for coming forward

and providing the children and youth a proper platform and opportunity for getting their talent and skills chiseled under the supervision of expert in the field of performing arts. She said that the expert as well as the institute has already made a name in this field and the youth and children of this Union Territory especially those aspiring to excel in Dance Art have high hopes pinned to them.

Later, the former minister distributed prizes among the participating children and wished them for achieving a great success in the future.

## Pavneet Kour demands 24/7 electricity supply to Jammuities

JI NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU, MAY 23:** Apni Party Women Wing Provincial President Jammu, Pavneet Kour today expressed serious concern over the unscheduled power cuts in Jammu City amid scorching heat.

Chairing a meeting of the women wing at Hakkal in Ward Number 4, Pavneet Kour said that Jammu is witnessing temperature rise for the last two weeks, but the PDD has failed to ensure 24/7 electricity.

"The people are forced to face uneasy situations during the summers. The people pay their bills, and meters have also been installed in the majority of the residential colonies yet the PDD is unable to provide electricity," she said.

She said that the electricity cuts have increased up to eight hours in a day which has not only affected



the normal life, but the business activities too.

She demanded that the LG administration should ensure the people get 24/7 electricity supply.

"The drinking water supply also remains irregular in Jammu due to the long power cuts. The people have to buy water privately through water tankers as they complain that Jal

Shakti Dept supplies water once after three to four days," she further said.

Earlier she was appraised by the women wing leaders from Hakkal in Ward Number 4 about the developmental issues with regard to lanes, drains, and improper road connectivity and especially poor cleanliness.

"The dust bins should be

installed in the area and the facility for garbage collection should be provided by the concerned authorities with minimum charges so that the cleanliness can be maintained," she said.

The meeting was attended by District President Jammu, Women Wing, Ritu Pandita, Shivani Koul, Shikha Sharma, and others.

# Jammu Civil Society felicitates President & Secretary of J&K Dharmarth Trust

### Brig. Langeh anticipates warm ties between market associations & Dharmarth Trust



JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 23: Jammu Civil Society today felicitated Brig. RS Langeh (Retd), President of J&K Dharmarth Trust and Ashok Kumar Sharma (SSP retd), Secretary of the Trust and hoped warm ties between the two entities will continue for ensuring goodwill and welfare of people of Jammu region.

In this regard, a programme was organized by the traders of Raghunath

Bazaar, Gummat Bazaar, Lower Gummat, Karan Market, Hari Market, Lower Hari Market, New Hari Market, Lower Karan Market, Shalamar Traders Association, Lower Raghunath Bazaar, Gurudwara Sunder Singh Road, Traders Association, Veer Marg and Ranbir Market under the banner of Jammu Civil Society here at Shri Raghunathji Temple. Baldev Khullar, President Jammu Civil Society and Ex. President

suggestions and demands of the traders, Brig. Langeh gave nod to most of the issues which come up for discussion and assured that these will be taken up soon for implementation in letter and spirit. He also mentioned about the everlasting cooperation between the temple and the stakeholders of the surrounding markets and requested traders for playing their significant role in their further glorifying the rich heritage and religious importance of this age old religious shrine, which is a must visit destination for every devotee and tourist visiting the City of Temples.

Brig. Langeh and Ashok Kumar expressed gratitude to the traders' fraternity for honouring him in such a big way. They assured that Dharmarth Trust will stand shoulder to shoulder with traders in making the vicinity more elegant and traveller friendly, because it is important for wooing the visitors to the Bazaar and also temple premises to pay obeisance at this world famous historical temple.

# J&K poised to witness huge tourist footfall post G20 event: Slathia

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 23: Former minister and Vice President Pradesh BJP Mr Surjeet Singh Slathia today said that Jammu and Kashmir is poised to witness a huge tourist footfall post G 20 event, adding that the economic activity is destined to undergo unprecedented transformation.

Speaking at BJP's Mandal Karyakarni at Gurah Salathia in the Vijayar assembly constituency this morning, Mr Slathia said the event has rekindled a big hope among all those associated with tourism and travel trade besides crafts and the day is not far when the Union Territory will become a shining chapter of India's evocative growth story.

Slathia asserted that the BJP alone can steer Jammu and Kashmir to peace and stability as the party is religiously working towards restoring dignity of the people and instilling a sense of confidence in them after dark phase of turbulence. Referring to the most successful visit of Prime Minister Mr Narendra Modi to Japan in connection



with the G7 meeting and his ongoing tour of several countries, Mr Slathia said the esteem he got from various heads of nations has made every Indian proud. His statesmanship and visionary leadership has put the nation on the path of becoming Vishwa Guru, he added. Slathia also referred to various initiatives taken for progress and development of Jammu and Kashmir in the recent years and said the people in both the regions are feeling the positives of the change in a big way. This is why they are determined to give the BJP a chance to proceed ahead with its mission of

Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas. While the development is touching newer heights, investments are hugely pouring in for massive industrialization, job generation and the overall growth apart from welfare schemes and projects witnessing impetus in all the regions and sub-regions without discrimination or any sort of appeasement to some at the cost of others. On the security front, he said the 'usual norm' of stone-pelting and intermittent shutdowns across the Valley has become a nightmare of the past, paving way for unprecedented influx of tourists round the

year. The holding of the G20 event reflects people's yearning for continued and lasting peace, he added.

Similarly, Mr Slathia said that Jammu is feeling empowered and enriched by being on the equal pedestal in respect of development and progress.

Prominent among those present in the Karyakarni included Prabhari Vijay Singh, Mandal President Brijpal Singh, BJP Youth President Anshul Jamwal, DDC Sudershan Singh, Sarpanch Jatinder Singh, Tajinder Kour, Muktyar Singh, all Shakti Kendra Pramukhs, Polling booth Presidents and the prominent BJP workers.

NPP SUBMITS MEMO TO DC, SSP UDHAMPUR

# SHO Udhampur threatened to hold my encounter: Harsh Dev



JI NEWS SERVICE

UDHAMPUR, MAY 23: NPP leaders today met the DC Udhampur and SSP Udhampur seeking arrest of SHO Udhampur and his four colleagues alleging criminal assault, filthy abuses and threats of elimination hurled upon Harsh Dev Singh, former Minister and President JK NPP. The memorandum read thus-

"Yesterday on 22nd May, 2023 while Harsh Dev Singh Former Minister and NPP chief was holding a peaceful dharna outside Police Station Udhampur, he was assaulted, thrashed, kicked, abused and dragged on ground by the SHO Udhampur and four other policemen. The NPP chief was sitting on a dharna and staging a peaceful protest against

police high handedness and harassment of innocent civilians while allowing bovine smuggling, illegal mining and hobnobbing with liquor mafia and drug mafia. The SHO Udhampur reached the spot and rather than asking the NPP leader and others the reason for dharna pounced upon Harsh Dev Singh and threw him on the ground.

He was dragged, kicked and thrashed resulting in several injuries on his person. He was beaten inside the Police Station. The SHO further threatened to hold encounter of Harsh Dev Singh. His wife Manju Singh was also assaulted and beaten and threats of elimination and filthy abuses hurled upon her. It is strange that one police officer was heard hurling filthiest abuses upon Harsh Dev

Singh in the video and other was winking at other policemen meaning there by that their job was accomplished. The criminal acts committed by the SHO and his accomplices need immediate cognizance of the district administration and we request for immediate FIR and the arrest of delinquent police officers. Such kind of barbaric act on the part of police is unheard in the history of district Udhampur or even in J&K.

If the action is not taken against the unformed goondas immediately, we shall hold massive protests at Udhampur from 25th May onwards."

The memorandum was signed by six BDC Chairpersons and DDC of Panthers Party. In the meanwhile, Mr. Harsh Dev Singh held a press conference in Udhampur lashing out at the 'Goonda Raj' of the police. He said that not only was he assaulted and manhandled inside and outside the Police Station but the police officers had even threatened to hold his encounter describing themselves as all powerful.

He sought immediate punitive action against the Police officers responsible for the barbaric act followed by their arrest in view of the massive outrage triggered by the shameless barbarism displayed by the Udhampur police.

# Formulate spotless plans to make Maha Jansampark Abhiyaan a great success: Yudhvir

### Make people aware about achievements of Modi Govt: Rajiv Charak



JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 23: The BJP Government headed by PM Narendra Modi at the Centre has ensured progress in J&K as never before with people getting all the facilities and services without any hassle or hardships. This was stated by Yudhvir Sethi, Vice President BJP J&K unit & Pradesh Seh Prabhari Maha Jansampark Abhiyaan while addressing a working committee meeting of East Mandal in connection with completion of 9 years of BJP government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The meeting was held under the chairmanship of Parveen Kermi, President East Mandal Jammu in which Shakti Kendra

Pramukhs, Booth Presidents, senior leaders of East Mandal and Working Committee members were present. Prominent among those who were present in the meeting include Rajiv Charak BJP Jammu District Prabhari, Anju Dogra, Secretary, Purima Sharma, BJP JK UT Spokesperson; Anu Gupta Media Secretary Mahila Morcha, Adv. Rajesh Gupta District General Secretary & Prabhari Jammu East Constituency; Kuldeep Kandhari District General Secretary; Brijesh Gupta District Vice President & Prabhari East Mandal and Hari Om Sharma Sanjoyak. The meeting was convened by Arun Sethi & Vipan Sharma, General Secretaries of East Mandal.

Sethi informed that the party is going to hold Maha Sampark Abhiyaan as 'Nau Saal Bemisal' from May 30 to June 30 in which intellectual meetings, door to door campaigns, meeting with beneficiaries of Central Govt schemes, rallies, etc will be organized.

Yudhvir said that the nine years of Modi government remained momentous and fruitful for the country as many historical steps were taken in these years with the top notch move of abrogation of Article 370, which changed the course of life of people of J&K as normalcy and peace returned and days of turmoil ended successfully.

Sethi asked the Shakti Kendra Pramukhs, Booth Presidents and senior leaders of East Mandal to formulate precisely spotless

plans for the upcoming party programmes with special focus on making Maha Jansampark Abhiyaan a great success. He laid special stress on ensuring synergy between different segments of party workers calling it the most significant part of making BJP strong at the grassroots level.

Rajiv Charak BJP Jammu District Prabhari, while asserting that only BJP can address aspirations of people of J&K in letter and spirit, has urged the party cadre to remain in public and address people's issues by taking the same with the senior party functionaries and the authorities concerned. He asked them to make people aware about the achievements of Modi Govt besides educating them about the variety of schemes launched by the Union Govt.

Parveen Kermi assured full support and cooperation to Yudhvir Sethi asserting that he would make relentless efforts to make all the upcoming party programmes exceptional for the party. He asked the party cadre to mobilize all the resources to make the Maha Jansampark Abhiyaan exemplary, adding that every single party worker should play a vital role in making the aforesaid campaign a big success.

# G20 Tourism Working Group meeting most significant event in J&K: Kesri

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 23: The delegates from member countries will act as ambassadors of Kashmir in their return to their respective nations. This was stated by Shiv Sena Hindustan J&K President Pt Rajesh Kesri today while addressing media persons during a press conference in Jammu today. The upcoming G20 Tourism Working Group meeting in Srinagar will be important for showcasing Jammu and Kashmir's potential as a tourism destination, not just for India, but also for the entire world. The diplomats and other officials are said to have prepared a comprehensive plan to use this conclave for boosting tourism in Jammu and Kashmir UT, said Kesri.



Tourism Working Group meeting is the most significant event in J&K. Upbeat citizens of Jammu and Kashmir have extended full support to the Jammu and Kashmir Administration to make the program a grand success, believing that the event is going to be historical in showcasing Jammu and Kashmir's potential as a tourism destination, not just for India, but also for the entire world. He said that it's for the first time in

the past 70 years that J&K has hosted an international event like G-20, and the occasion has offered UT a chance to rise to the occasion of exhibiting its market prospects, and ecotourism ventures. Kesri further said that "G20 Summit in Kashmir will boost tourism, providing a platform for the region to showcase its beauty to the world. It is a proud moment for people of J&K and a significant milestone for the tourism sector," said Kesri. This is the first time such a grand venue is happening in the valley. Earlier no such event has taken place in this paradise. Our handicrafts and tourism destinations will be highlighted on the global platform," he said. Kesri observed that Tourism is the backbone of Jammu and Kashmir's economy and the maximum share of the Union territory's GDP comes from tourism, with this tourism players will get further opportunities for growth in the sector. "G-20 tourism meeting in Srinagar is the best thing happening in Kashmir. It will send a strong message that Kashmir is a safe tourist destination and people should visit the picturesque beauty to enjoy its natural beauty and hospitality of locals," he said.

# Moment of pride for Chanakya IAS Academy Jammu-6 students got selected in UPSC 2022

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 23: Repeating the historic feat - rank holders of prestigious UPSC Examination students of Chanakya IAS Academy Jammu Branch. A remarkable feat that speaks the volume about the faculty, curriculum and training at Chanakya IAS Academy Jammu Branch. Our students were seen Ahmad Bhat AIR-7th, Prasenjit Kaur AIR-11th, Nitin Singh AIR-32, Manil Bajotra AIR-314, Mohd Irfan AIR-476, Nirvanshu

Hans AIR-811, secured ranks at All India level. Commenting on impressive results announced by UPSC Owais Ali Bhat, Director of Chanakya Jammu Branch congratulated all our students who have performed extremely well in UPSC 2022. He further remarked "The credit goes to hard work put in by our students and the expert guidance provided by our faculty as well as precise quality of tests imparted at Chanakya. I wish them all the best for future."



# 100 Smart Cities-real incubators of the New Urban India: Hardeep S. Puri

JNEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, MAY 23

Hardeep S. Puri, Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs and Petroleum and Natural Gas apprised the members of the consultative committee of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs about the progress of Smart Cities Mission. He further stated that the implementation of the Mission at city level is done by a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), playing an instrumental role in monitoring the progress to utilize the full potential of this path-breaking mission. The Minister stated that India's urban future will draw heavily from the innovations being nurtured in these 100 smart cities.

Smart Cities Mission launched on 25th September, 2015, is aimed at providing

core infrastructure, clean and sustainable environment and a decent quality of life to their citizens through the application of 'smart solutions'. 100 cities selected through a two-stage competition to be developed as Smart Cities are showing satisfying progress.

Smart Cities Mission, monitored by an Apex Committee headed by the Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, regularly report implementation status of projects through the Real Time Geographical Management Information System (GMIS). As per SCM Statement and Guidelines, a Smart City Advisory Forum (SCAF) is established at the city level to advise and enable collaboration among various stakeholders, including Member(s) of Parliament,

Member(s) of Legislative Assembly, Mayor, District Collector, local youth, technical experts, other stakeholders, etc. All 100 Smart Cities have established their SCAFs. So far, the Smart Cities have convened more than 756 meetings of SCAF.

Moreover, at State level, High Powered Steering Committee (HPSC) chaired by the Chief Secretary has been established. Besides, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs Nominee Directors on the Boards of Special Purpose Vehicle (SPVs) regularly monitor the progress in respective cities. Furthermore, the Ministry regularly interacts with the States/Smart Cities through video conferences, review meetings, field visits, regional workshops, etc. at various levels to assess the performance of cities and to handhold



them for improvement.

Further, the Committee visited various project sites including 'Mandovi Riverfront Promenade', 'Flood Mitigation Works', and Integrated Command and Control Centre in Goa and deliberated upon the current status and progress as on 1 May, 2022 wherein it was highlighted that the Mission has around 7,800 projects worth Rs.1.8 lakh crores of which 5,700+ projects (73% by number) worth Rs. 1.1 lakh crores (60% by value) have been completed. All remaining projects are expected to be completed by 30 June, 2024. Also, it was

outlined during the meeting that Rs 38,400 crore have been released under Smart Cities Mission upto 1 May, 2023, out of which Rs 35,261 crore has been utilized.

The meeting chaired by Shri Hardeep S. Puri, Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs and Petroleum & Natural Gas. Sh. Kausalkishore, Minister of State, MoHUA; Members of Parliament from across the States, Sh./Smt. MVV Satyanarayana, AKP Chitraj, Ramesh Bidhuri, Sanjay Kaka Patil, Abir Ranjan Biswas, Kalpana Saini, Vandana Chauhan and other senior officials from the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, GoI, attended the Parliamentary Consultative Committee meeting, here last evening. Smt. Shalini Agarwal, Commissioner, Surat; Sh. Divyanshu Singh, CEO, Indore Smart City, Sh. M. Prathap, CEO, Coimbatore Smart City; Sh. Ankit Khandelwal, CEO Agra Smart City, also made insightful presentations on best practices adopted in their respective cities.

The Minister of State, Sh. Kausalkishore lauded the pioneering effort of the Mission in successful deployment of the Integrated Command and Control Centres (ICCCs) in all 100 smart cities. "ICCCs build better situational awareness by the use of cutting-edge technologies and provide consolidated visualization for civic officials across urban func-

tions to handle day-day work/ issues/ exigencies through detailed SOPs", he said. He further added that ICCCs have become the nerve centres of these smart cities and embodies effective use of technology towards strengthening the urban management.

Furthermore, Smt. Kalpana Saini stressed on the need of adding more to Smart Cities Mission; whereas Smt. Vandana Chauhan appreciated ICCCs and their functioning during COVID-19 and other crises for effective management of the pandemic; Sh. AKP Chitraj stressed on the need for creation of expertise in crucial areas such as mobility, water and waste management, etc. in these cities; Sh. Ramesh Bidhuri lauded effective implementation of smart initiatives pioneering

of Living Index and the Climate Smart Cities. Further, in order to foster outcome-driven works, he outlined the need of extensive publicity efforts for amplifying exemplary pivotal initiatives of this mission.

The enactment of the Smart Cities Mission, marked the beginning of a new era in Urban Development Sector as a step towards reforming the sector, encouraging improved economic standards, smart governance, climate-sensitive sustainable environment, vibrant public spaces, digital access and health & hygiene, thus empowering the cities framework. Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India is committed to enhance the ease of living index in the service city initiatives pioneering

## FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

### Jammu Kashmir is...

Kashmir into a digital society. He said in the past 4 years, the ranking of Jammu Kashmir on the various parameters of sustainable development goals have gone up, thanks to visionary leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Modi ji.

"The world can see that entire society, especially the young generation is scripting a bright future for themselves and the nation. The speed and scale of rapid development in Jammu Kashmir are awe-inspiring. Our speed to execute infrastructure projects has gone up almost 10 times," the Lt Governor said.

Acknowledging the impact of covid pandemic on the tourism and world, the Lt Governor said, Covid pandemic made the world realize the virtues of traveller's well-being and also the values of a shared vision One earth, One family and One future.

"The paradigm shift towards sustainable living, inclusive and sustainable development is also an opportunity to provide new impetus to sustainable tourism. I am truly delighted that under India's G20 Presidency, the G20 Tourism Working Group is focusing on five interconnected priority areas. Green tourism, digitalization, skills, tourism MSMEs and destination management will provide a roadmap for tourism as a tool for achieving sustainable development goals," the Lt Governor remarked as he noted that Jammu and Kashmir is already working on a few of the priority areas identified by the G20 Tourism Working Group like on Green Tourism, Skills, Tourism MSMEs and Digitalization.

He emphasized that in the post-pandemic era five key building blocks will promote environmental awareness, protect the ecology and improve the economy and livelihoods of communities and inclusive growth of stakeholders.

Underlining that the G20 TWG meeting is taking place in the land of majestic peaks, crystal-clear lakes and serene green landscape, the Lt Governor said, Jammu Kashmir is more than a tourism destination.

"It is a poetry. It's a land of realisation. It is an energy field vibrating with the ageless Indian cultural values. Under the guidance of Hon'ble Prime Minister Modi ji, we have ensured that the transition in tourism sector in the backdrop of pandemic focuses on needs of travellers, interests of industry stakeholders, creates employment opportunities and promote environmental awareness," the Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor noted that a record number of 18 million tourists visited Jammu Kashmir And, the last year, the tourism sector made 7% contribution to Jammu Kashmir GDP. We have identified 300 new destinations to promote green tourism, small & medium enterprises, youth and women entrepreneurs and involve local communities to support the sustainable tourism.

"Tourism sector in Jammu Kashmir has been accorded the status of Industry and all fiscal incentives as per our Industrial Policy and I can tell you, we are receiving massive investment proposals from the industries in hospitality sector," the Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor said that after a long pause of almost 4-decades, J&K UT administration has revived the relationship with Bollywood and launched a film policy in 2021 to attract more investment into film sector. He also said that more than 300 movies were filmed in the region last year and such enthusiasm is bringing about a qualitative change in the lives of people.

"Our aim is to make the countryside and popular destinations more sustainable and preserve the beauty of fascinating heritage sites. I am confident, under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Jammu Kashmir will soon find its place in the top 50 destinations in the world and it will be on the travel bucket list of global travellers," the Lt Governor observed.

During the inaugural session Union Tourism Minister, Sh. G. Kishan Reddy; Union MoS Dr. Jitendra Singh; Union MoS Sh Ajay Bhatt; G20 Sherpa, Sh. Amitabh Kant; G20 Chief Coordinator, Harsh Vardhan Shringla; delegates of G20 nations, invitees from observer countries and representatives from various multi-lateral organisations were present.

### Ease of film making...

Dr. Jitendra Singh said, ease of film making and up gradation of the existing studios has to be pursued rigorously to support the film industry. Liberalisation of state regulations has to be taken up by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to encourage film making throughout India, Dr. Singh added.

During the event, Sh. G. Kishan Reddy said, tourism has the greatest ability to generate overall employment especially among the vulnerable communities. Film production can have a last impact on travel destinations as the cinematic exposure to a destination transforms

the place into a tourist destination, Sh. Reddy added.

Sh. Reddy impressed upon the states and UTs to have formal policies for the promotion of film tourism. Wherever there is an existing policy, the same may be strengthened to pave way for film production, Sh. Reddy added.

Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Shri Apurva Chandra in his detailed session on 'Facilitating Film Tourism in India through Film Facilitation' said, India's film sector has very much to offer to the world having skilled manpower, visualisation and sound effects. The culture and heritage of India provides an enabling environment to the world to shot the best films here, Sh. Chandra added.

To provide an enabling environment to the film industry, Film Facilitation Office at NDFC with proactive nodal officers has been set up as a single window mechanism to enable and expedite the issuance of film visas to international cast and crew.

Sh. Chandra also highlighted India as a hub of animation, visual effects and gaming. A number of noted master pieces, the big budget films have been produced in India with lesser production costs which is a magnet of attraction to the film makers, he added.

Various important sessions of the side event on 'Tourism deliberated upon how to leverage the power of Film Tourism to promote destinations. The sessions provided an opportunity to the States/ UTs to share their policies and best practices which helped them develop film tourism. The event also provided opportunity to the Industry Stakeholders to give their suggestions and feedback on the factors that will encourage filmmakers to shoot in various locations in the country.

### Development of...

Kashmir. The LG said the conduct of the third tourism working group meeting has shown that Jammu and Kashmir can host international events.

"We are capable enough to host any international event. If there are any shortcomings, we have got them in the legacy. We have picked up pace, but it will take time to fill the void of 70 years," he said.

Asked about Pakistani Pakistan Foreign minister Bilawal Bhutto's remarks on the meeting in Kashmir, Sinha said the neighbouring country should focus on feeding its own people.

"I think our neighbouring nation should make arrangements for feeding its people and for providing basic amenities. We have come a long way from there. G20 is a matter of pride for us," he said.

To a question about press freedom in the Union territory, Sinha said the press enjoys "absolute freedom" here.

"According to a report by an international organisation, seven journalists in Kashmir were arrested on terror charges and for disrupting social harmony, not for their reporting. The numbers are 10 to 20 times higher anywhere in the world," he added.

There is an independent and active media in Jammu and Kashmir. More than 400 newspapers are published here, Sinha said.

On a question about the development of tourism infrastructure, the LG said state land will be auctioned for setting up hotels and added some hotels will be disinvested.

"We will show you quality hotels after two years," he said.

### 8 candidates from...

glory to their families but also inspire other aspirants from the region.

The success story continues with Naved Ahsan Bhat, who has secured a commendable rank of 82. His hard work and determination have paid off, proving that with perseverance, dreams can be turned into reality.

Additionally, Manan Bhat has secured a remarkable rank of 231, while Manil Bejotra has achieved an admirable rank of 314. Their achievements highlight the talent and potential that resides in Jammu and Kashmir.

Irfan Choudhary, with a rank of 476, has demonstrated his commitment to excellence, and Nivranshu Hans, securing a commendable rank of 811, has shown that determination and consistency can lead to great accomplishments.

The success stories of these eight candidates is a testament to their grit, perseverance, and hard work, as well as the support they received from their families, mentors, and teachers. Their achievements in the UPSC Civil Services Mains Examination 2022 will undoubtedly inspire and motivate many other aspirants from the region to strive for excellence and pursue their dreams.

The Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) con-

ducts the Civil Services Examination each year, considered one of the toughest competitive examinations in India. It serves as a gateway to prestigious positions such as the Indian Administrative Service (IAS), Indian Police Service (IPS), and Indian Foreign Service (IFS), among others.

As the nation celebrates the success of these eight candidates from Jammu and Kashmir, their accomplishments serve as a reminder that with determination, dedication, and hard work, anyone can achieve their goals, breaking barriers and creating a brighter future for themselves and their communities. (Agencies)

### 'Poonch is very...

examination conducted by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC).

As the news of her success spread, the town burst into jubilation.

"We knew she would qualify, but to score such a good rank is amazing," her uncle Uncle Prathipal Singh said. "Poonch is very happy," Kour, a daughter of pharmacist Nirmal Singh and Darshan Kour, expressed her desire to serve the people of Jammu and Kashmir with a particular focus on the healthcare and education sectors.

"It will choose to become an IAS officer and work for the betterment of the people in Jammu and Kashmir. There are numerous challenges in the healthcare and education sectors in Poonch, and I am determined to address them," she said.

She expressed immense happiness about her success. "We are all overjoyed. There are no bounds to our happiness. My family is extremely proud as well."

Kour completed her education up to graduation in Poonch and obtained her Masters from Jammu University. She attributed her success to self-study. "I relied on self-study and joined a test series. Hard work, consistency, and patience were crucial factors in my journey," she added.

Acknowledging the support of her family throughout her preparation, Kour said, "I had hoped to clear the examination, but I didn't expect to secure such a high rank. Examinations are unpredictable."

Previously, Kour cracked the Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Service (JKAS) examination in 2021 and is currently undergoing training in the summer capital, Srinagar.

Kour emphasised the importance of dedicating 7 to 8 hours per day for studying. "My teachers are pleased with my dedication," she shared.

Kour cleared the Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Service (JKAS) examination in 2021 and is undergoing training in Srinagar.

As the UPSC declared the results this afternoon, hundreds of people including her neighbours and kin thronged to her house in the radio station area to greet the family.

Her father still can't believe what her daughter has achieved. "We never expected her to clear the IIT rank in the civil examination, although we were confident she would crack this examination. I can't say how happy we all are," he told reporters here. "We are all proud of her."

He said she was always dedicated to her studies and cracked the examination without any coaching.

Uncle Prathipal Singh said Kour used to dedicate most of her time to studies. "Our daughter is very simple. Her aim to achieve something big in life has been fulfilled today. She cracked KAS and IAS without any coaching."

He said she completed her M.Sc this year. "She got 32 rank in KAS but was unhappy and appeared in the examination again. Result of which is still awaited," he said.

She had told the family that she did well in the UPSC examination as well. "We knew that she would qualify, but to score such a good rank is amazing," the uncle said.

### PM Modi, Australian...

"Thank you my friend Anthony," Modi said during the community event.

He said this is the recognition of the Indian community to Australian society.

"I thank the premier of New South Wales, the Mayor and Deputy Mayor of the City of Parramatta and Council members for this special honour," he said.

The first formal proposal for officially naming the area 'Little India' was made in 2015.

Earlier attempts to formally declare the suburb as 'Little India' was stalled after the Geographic Names Board told Parramatta Council to stop using the term in marketing material because it "creates confusion". Parramatta Council has said it is continuing discus-

sions with the Geographic Names Board and is yet to receive a formal application to assign the name 'Little India'.

Harris Park, a small suburb next to Parramatta is home to migrants from Lebanon, Italy, Greece, and China.

Members of the Indian community of a western Sydney suburb have also renewed calls to name their area as 'Little India'.

In the last 10 to 15 years it has become the go-to spot for Indian migrants, local media reports said.

A 2021 census revealed that 45 per cent of the 5,043 Harris Park residents have Indian roots, the report said. (Agencies)

### AC approves absorption...

will be borne by HCL.

The Hotel Corporation of India has 145 permanent employees of Central Lake View Hotel as on 01.05.2023 which will be absorbed on existing terms and conditions in Jammu and Kashmir Tourism Development Corporation Ltd, Jammu and Kashmir Cable Car Corporation Ltd and Sheri-Kashmir International Convention Centre, Srinagar, as per their requirement and absorptive capacity to be determined by the Tourism Department.

### Div Con reviews...

the construction of footpaths, drains and premixing of the approach road under the Junction Improvement Project.

The Jammu Smart City Limited (JSCL) has proposed additional works for the overall development of the Bahu Fort area. The major works are construction of footpaths from Balidan Stambh to Bahu Fort - NH bypass (2.1 Km length), construction of RCC drains, new main entry gate, restoration of facade of shops, vending zone, toilet blocks, landscaping, queue management and flooring of Bahu fort shrine area etc.

The Divisional Commissioner directed Jal Shakti and JPDC to assess utility shifting where required so that the same could be completed in a time bound manner for early completion of the project.

The Div Con observed that after completion of the project the area would witness an increase in tourists footfall and a boost in pilgrimage tourism.

### Met predicts widespread...

Hailstorm & strong gusty winds at a few places on May 24, the Met office said and added there is a possibility of moderate to heavy snowfall over higher reaches also.

It said intermittent rain or thunderstorm at scattered places in Jammu and Kashmir during May 25-26 while the weather will remain partly to generally cloudy from May 27-29.

It has also warned that due to rains the low-lying rivulets and the low-lying areas may be waterlogged and hailstorm and lightning in some places may cause damage.

There could be a temporary disruption of surface transportation, especially on Srinagar- Jammu, Zojila, Mughal Road, Srintham Top and other higher reaches of the J&K.

Srinagar recorded a low of 14.8 degree Celsius on Tuesday against 13.0 degree Celsius on the previous night and it was 3.1 degree Celsius above normal for the summer capital.

Qazigund had a low of 10.8 degree Celsius against 9.0 degree Celsius on the previous night and it was above normal by 0.5 degree Celsius for the gateway town of Kashmir.

Pahalgam recorded a low of 10.2 degree Celsius against 6.2 degree Celsius on the previous night and it was 4.0 degree Celsius above normal for the famous tourist resort in south Kashmir's Anantnag district.

Kupwara settled at 12.6 degree Celsius against 9.4 degree Celsius on the previous night and it was 2.2 degree Celsius above normal for the north Kashmir area.

Kokernag recorded a low of 11.6 degree Celsius against 11.8 degree Celsius on the previous night and it was 1.5 degree Celsius above normal for the picnic place of south Kashmir.

Gulmarg recorded a low of 9.0 degree Celsius against 9.5 degree Celsius on the previous night and it was above normal by 2.2 degree Celsius for the world-famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, the Met office said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of 9.0 degree Celsius against 9.5 degree Celsius on the previous night and it was above normal by 2.2 degree Celsius for the world-famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, the Met office said.

## Adv Suresh calls on Principal GMC, raises demands

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 23: The representatives of OBC Department of Pradesh Congress Committee J&K headed by the Chairman of the Wing Adv. Suresh Dogra called on Principal Government Medical College, Dr Shashi Sudhan Sharma and presented a memorandum of grievances of public.

This meeting was regarding the public issues and problems being faced by them. The principal JMC Dr. Shashi Sudhan Sharma took a patient hearing to the deputation.

Speaking on the occasion, Adv. Suresh Dogra said that the Doctor is known for second Covid-19. Amid pandemic Covid-19, doctors had played a pivotal role to save the affected



people by staking their lives.

Adv. Dogra with his team including Parshotom Mehra, General Secretary, Janak Mehra, Darshan Verma, Vikas Mehra & others presented a memorandum briefing the problems and grievances being faced by victim.

Adv. Dogra raised various issues including proper sitting in the OPD for patients and attendants, non-availability of nurses and paramedical staff in the wards, shortage of ventilators, non-availability of critical ambulances and shortage of simple ambulances, long waiting & huge fee for X-Ray, ultra-

sounds & the others and exemption of entry fee for the BPL attendants of the patients.

Dr Shashi Sudhan Sharma after having a brief discussion with Adv. Suresh Dogra and his team, assured that she will look into the matter and resolve the aforesaid issues as early as possible.

### FREE REGISTRATION OF AMARNATH YATRA

## Shiv Sena prays Bajrang Bali, solemnizes Yagya, Hanuman Chalisa

SHIVA'S INCARNATION SHRI HANUMAN JI WILL GIVE WISDOM TO GOVT: SAHNI



JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 23: Shiv Sena (Uddhav Balasahab Thackeray) J&K unit today organized Shri Bajrang Bali Mahayagya and recitation of Hanuman Chalisa as a mark of protest against no positive response shown by the government on the demand of free registration for the impending Holy Shri Amarnath Yatra which is scheduled to start on July 1. The party prayed to Lord Hanuman to give wisdom to the government of Jammu and Kashmir for considering their most genuine demand.

Talking to media persons here today, Manish Sahni, President J&K Shiv Sena

expressed great resentment against the government for now showing any serious concern towards their demands. He said that he has approached through a memorandum from the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, who is also the Chairman of the Shri Amarnath Shrine Board, to the Chief Secretary of J&K and Union Home Minister Amit Shah, regarding the demands of the Party but noting has been done in this regard.

Sahni reiterated its demands for making Shri Amarnath Yatra registration free, giving toll exemption to the pilgrims and vehicles carrying Langar and tent service material

and keeping the holy Himshivling safe for Darshan during the period of the Yatra.

Sahni said that the Modi Government at the Centre, which describes itself as the biggest well-wisher of

Hinduism, is keeping silent about making the registration of the holy Shri Amarnath Yatra free of cost related to religious faith. In such a situation, there is a demand to make the Holy Yatra of Bhagwan Shiva free of cost. Through the Mahayagya of his incarnation Shri Bajrang Bali and recitation of Shri Hanuman Chalisa, a request has been made to God to give wisdom to the rulers. In the scriptures and Vedas, Lord

Hanuman has been described as the King of Kalyug, he added.

"The devotee who worships Hanuman ji with true devotion, God will definitely consider his prayer. That is why the only way left for Shiv Sena is to pray Bajrangbali that He should now give wisdom to these arrogant rulers," he said.

Sahni said that if the government does not change its decision to collect registration, then Shiv Sena will protest on May 27 at Delhi's Jantar Mantar and expose the government's hypocritical Hinduist policy among the whole country.

On this occasion Pandit Raman Shastri, Councilor Anita Sharma, Ajeesh Gupta, Ashwani Sharma, Sudhir Anand, President Bazar association Jung Bhadur Sharma, President Women's Wing Meenakshi Chhibber, General Secretary Vikas Bakshi, Senior Vice President Sanjeev Kohli, Balwant Singh, President Kanghar Wing Raj Singh, Manglu Ram, Mamta Devi, Rajendra Sehgal, Uma Devi, Sudha Sarin etc. were present.

## G20 summit boosts tourism and glorifies all-round growth in J&K: Rekha Mahajan

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 23: To accelerate the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) activities in the public domain. To mark the event, the BJP Jammu District South under the dynamic leadership of its President Jammu South Rekha Mahajan has formulated massive public outreach programs such as Jan Sampark Abhiyaan in RS Pura Constituency, Mira Sahib Mandal. Rekha Mahajan chaired the working committee meeting of Mira Sahib Mandal falls under District Jammu South here at RS Pura Jammu organized under the presidency of Mandal President Bikram Sandhu. The meeting was attended in the esteemed presence of DDC Prof Gharu Ram Bhagat, DDC Vidhya Mottan, Municipal Committee Chairman SatPal Pappi District General Secretaries Akash Chopra, and Pushpinder Singh Charak, District Vice President and Mandal Prabhari Vikram Sharma District Secretary and Program Incharge Mira Sahib Mandal Abhinav Anand ShashiUttam and others.

While addressing the BJP activists, Rekha Mahajan chalk out the blueprint to carry forward the month-long



outreach called "Maha Jansampark Abhiyaan" which will commence from May 30, the day the Modi government completes nine years in office, until June 30. Rekha directed all party workers to reach out to the ground level and enlightened the Modi-led government schemes in the public domain in District Jammu South.

During her tour in RS Pura Constituency, Rekha Mahajan lauds that G20 summit is in advancement in the union territory of J&K, and after the abrogation of article 370 under the supreme leadership of PM Modi India is a rising superpower. Rekha

said "It's for the first time in the past 70 years that J&K would be hosting an international event like G-20, and the occasion offers UT a chance to rise to the occasion of exhibiting its market prospects, and ecotourism ventures. She said "G20 Summit in Kashmir is set to boost tourism in J&K, providing a platform for the state to showcase its beauty to the world. It is a proud moment for every Kashmiri and Dogra a significant milestone for the tourism sector," and the general public of Jammu and Kashmir, including students, are widely participating in various events in the run-up to the main meet, Rekha Mahajan added.

## ABGRF lauds PM Modi for holding G20 Tourism Working Group Meeting in J&K

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 23: Akhil Bharatiya Gausahala Research Foundation (ABGRF), Jammu and Kashmir, has welcomed the hosting of G20 Tourism Working Group Meeting in J&K which seems to be the first international level event after abrogation of Article 370.

In this connection a meeting was held here today in which Adv P S Chandel, Convener ABGRF, Dr Vikas Bhardwaj, State President, Sunil Magotra Youth President, Ravi Abrol Senior Vice President, Vikas Mahajan, Jammu District Youth President,

Rahul Magotra District President Udhampur were present.

PS Chandel said that it is really matter of pride for the people of J&K that delegates from G20 member nations are visiting the Union Territory after Prime Minister Narendra Modi provided this opportunity to Jammu and Kashmir to showcase splendid beauty of the Union Territory and the warmth which people show to the visitors as J&K is famous for its matchless hospitality.

He said that tourism is one of the mainstays of economy in J&K and this international event is an opportu-

nity to bring to fore the various facets of the splendid beauty of Jammu and Kashmir before the visiting delegates as they could further the cause of promotion of tourism if the things were handled in promising manner. He thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi for providing this meaningful opportunity to the people of J&K to showcase the bounties which nature has offered to the region to woo more tourists from abroad.

The participants hoped that the event would finally give a push to tourism and economy, which are the much sought after entities these days as far as J&K is concerned.

## Community Mobilization Camp for School Readiness held at Ranbir HSS



JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 23: In collaboration with the Directorate of Samagra Shiksha J&K, Directorate of School Education Jammu, SRML Hr. Sec. School Jammu and in partnership with UNICEF India, National Development Foundation organized a one-day School Readiness Camp for Community Mobilization, promoting Parent-Teacher Engagement and Retention. Around 100 participants participated, including parents, community members, teachers and students. Ajeet Kumar

Sharma, Coordinator Quality Samagra Shiksha, was Chief Guest, while Principal Sri Ranbir Hr. Sec. School Jammu.

Anjali Gupta, Principal, in her address, thanked the National Development Foundation for choosing SRML School for conducting this community mobilization programme and appreciated the institution's support.

Rajiv Khajuria, President National Development Foundation, in his address, assured that National Development Foundation will continue to work on ECCE and FLN in J&K. He termed the kindergarten of the school as one of the best Pre-Primary Institution in

the activities of the kindergarten of SRML Hr. Sec. School Jammu.

the activities of the kindergarten of SRML Hr. Sec. School Jammu.

the activities of the kindergarten of SRML Hr. Sec. School Jammu.

Jammu Division and called upon the parents and community members present on the occasion to admit more children to the school. He lauded the efforts of the School Education Department for their specialized focus on ECCE, FLN and NIPUN Bharat Mission.

Ajeet Sharma, Coordinator Quality Samagra Shiksha, requested the staff members deal with the ECCE and FLN to adopt the new pedagogy by motivating the children to meet society's expectations and achieve the fixed target by the FLN. He addressed the parents and requested them to get the benefits of all the Government Schemes that the Government of India and JK UT are providing their kids for better quality education. He also thanked the society for their overwhelming response to getting their children admitted to the Government Schools and getting all the benefits of ECCE

## PTTI Vijaypur organized one day workshop on ChatGPT, AI

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 23: One day Workshop on "ChatGPT and Artificial Intelligence (AI)" was organized by Police Technical Training Institute (PTTI) Vijaypur in collaboration with Department of National Security Studies, Central University of Jammu, for staff and trainees of the Institute. On this occasion, Dr. Ekta Manhas, Assistant Professor, Department of National Security Studies, Central University of Jammu delivered an illuminating lecture on Artificial Intelligence (AI), Security, Opportunity and Challenges thereof. While speaking on the occasion, Dr. Ekta told that Artificial Intelligence (AI) refers to the ability of machines to react and behave in ways similar to humans, in terms of thinking, decision-making, and having an intention. She said that Artificial Intelligence is a powerful tool that helps us rethink how we use information, analyze data, and make better decisions. In the interactive session following the lecture, attendees had the opportunity to ask questions and engage in thought-provoking discus-



sions. In the valedictory address, Shri Shiv Kumar, SSP, Principal PTTI Vijaypur briefed about benefits and demerits of Artificial Intelligence. He said that the Institute has organized first of its kind workshop to aware Police personnel about emerging security challenges due to Artificial Intelligence. Principal PTTI Vijaypur thanked Dr. Ekta Manhas for sparing her precious time for sharing valuable experience with the participants. He also thanked Dr. J. Jagannaathan, Assistant Professor & Head, Department of National Security Studies, Central University of Jammu for deputing team of intellectuals for sharing experience on such an important topic

and hoped for similar coordination in future also. Among others, Shri Zia-Ul-Haq, Dy.SP (Admn/Outdoor), Shri Kaldeep Raj, Dy.SP (Indoor/Tech), Insp. Vivek Kalsotra, Insp. Surrender Paul, Insp. Mukh Raj, Insp.

Ram Lal, Insp. Javed Hussain, Insp. Anil Kumar, Insp. Vishal Kumar, Insp. Tariq Mehmood, Insp. Kanwal Raina, Insp. Himanshu Dutta, SI Kapil Raina, Narinder Kumar were present.

## Doda: Election Department staff imparted Online Training on functioning of upgraded EVM Machines

JI NEWS SERVICE

DODA, MAY 23: The staff of District Election Office Doda was imparted online training to acquaint them with the functioning of upgraded Electronic Voting Machines (EVM version 2.0). The training session was conducted by IT officials from the Chief Electoral Office Jammu and Kashmir. The training aimed to ensure that the election officials are well-versed with the functioning of the new mode of EVMs.

During the virtual training, officers and officials from the District Election Office interacted with experts from the Chief Electoral Office.

## Yasir Highlighting genuine demands of the public, urges LG Admin to intervene

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 23: Apni Party Leader and District President Rural Kathua (Bani, Bansoli) Yasir Choudhary addressed a huge public gathering of Panchayat Gufudalal at Roukhla, Bani-Lohai in Malhar Constituency.

Speaking on the Occasion, Choudhary said that said Constituency comprises 30,000 people and 6 Panchayats and they have been deprived of the basic facilities as their demand is genuine since they lack proper roads.

Choudhary highlighted their basic issues and providing proper roads is the main issue as the whole of 6 Panchayats and its people suffer. The



earlier Political regime's of seventeen years have done nothing but false promises of providing good roads, proper supply of electricity and water. "To the matter of fact, nothing has been delivered since then, as people are victims of those Divisive Traditional Politics and their agenda and so far nothing good has been

done to improve their living conditions," said Choudhary.

Choudhary urges LG Administration and Govt. of India to intervene in the said matter and provide an optimum timely solution so that people can live a better life as proper roads are basic rights of people.

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

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

JINDRAH IMAGES

## AAP-BJP tussle getting murkier

The ongoing tussle between the BJP-led Central government and the AAP government in Delhi over control of the state's bureaucracy has reached its crescendo. The battle is turning murkier day by day as the Centre is allegedly brazenly trying to undermine the latter. The AAP-led government in Delhi got a morale booster on May 11 when the Supreme Court's Constitution Bench ruled in its favour, saying that the Delhi government had 'legislative and executive power over services', except those relating to public order, police and land. Hailing the verdict as a vindication of AAP's stand, the Kejriwal government promptly transferred Services Secretary Ashish More. The Centre, in a bid to overturn the SC ruling, on Friday, promulgated an ordinance to create the National Capital Civil Service Authority that would have powers over officers' postings and transfers. While the authority would be chaired by the CM, the final say in case of a dispute will be that of the Centre-appointed L-G. The next day, the Centre moved the SC, seeking a review of the May 11 verdict. The Centre's move has united the opposition parties with the West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and other chief ministers in opposition ruled states assuring their counterpart from Delhi Arvind Kejriwal, that they would support him in his fight against the Central ordinance to control appointments and transfer of bureaucrats. Banerjee has even declared that a forthcoming vote in Rajya Sabha on a bill to convert the central ordinance on control of services in Delhi into law, would be a 'semi-final before the 2024 elections'. What has raised eyebrows is the timing of the decision of the central government as it showed undue haste rather than waiting for Parliament to be in session to introduce a Bill. It also chose the eve of the SC's six-week break to issue the ordinance. The opposition parties have justified the hue and cry of the AAP government as they believe that the Centre should have allowed the events to unfold as per the SC's direction. Then, if it still found something amiss, it could have intervened to rectify the situation. The new ordinance takes away these powers from the Delhi state government and gives them to a committee which would be effectively controlled by the Centre. The tussle between Delhi government and the Centre tussle is not new and it has always hit the headlines in the newspapers. The Delhi Assembly, first formed in 1952, was abolished in 1956 and replaced by the Delhi Metropolitan Council in 1966. Since the Assembly's revival in 1993, whenever different parties have been in power at the Centre and in Delhi, governance has been impacted by power games. The situation is no different this time. There is no immediate resolution of this fight between two parties, BJP and AAP, which have already started their preparations for upcoming Lok Sabha polls to be held early next year. They have pinned high hopes to win general elections.

# INDIA COUNTING ON NEW MODUS VIVENDI WITH CHINA

MODI TRIED TO BREAK THE ICE AT BALI G20 SUMMIT WITH AN IMPROMPTU MEETING WITH XI, BUT IT HAS NOT WORKED.

MAJ GEN ASHOK K MEHTA (RETI)

ON May 16, local Chinese and Indian divisional commanders met at Daulat Beg Oldie for routine talks. Five days later, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in a rare allusion to China at the G7 summit in Hiroshima, quoted a Foreign Minister S Jaishankar patent: "a unilateral attempt to change status quo". The military and diplomatic dialogue reached an impasse a year ago, but New Delhi refused to recognise it. The two countries' positions are poles apart.

After last September, it was well known that the disengagement sought by India will never happen, though access to grazing grounds and patrolling, both under the China-imposed lockdown, could materialise. Jaishankar has repeatedly said that relations are not normal with China, which has violated the written agreements of 1993, 1996, 2005 and 2013.

China's new Foreign Minister Qin Gang and Defence Minister Gen Li Shangfu, during their recent SCO meetings in India, reiterated their stance: the border situation is generally stable, which should move to 'normalised management' — one of their esoteric phrases. But, more significantly, they urged India to put the border issue in the proper place, delinked from bilateral relations.

India finds this proposition unacceptable even if it no longer asks for the restoration of status quo ante April 2020, a demand that the Army still maintains. Beijing's continuing provocations are manifest in renaming, a third time, places in Arunachal Pradesh and protesting the breach of its territorial sovereignty over visits of Indian leaders to it. Jaishankar's latest pronouncement followed the SCO foreign ministers' meeting in Goa relating to a question on the LAC — "our focus remains on resolving outstanding issues and restoring peace and tranquillity in border areas."

India's pique was demonstrated by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh not shaking hands with General Shangfu, though in the bilateral meeting, he made the namaste gesture twice, which went unnoticed by the General.

The inventory of Indian losses



due to Chinese intrusions consists of territory through partial disengagement and buffer zones and forfeiting access to 26 patrolling points and six grazing areas. This is capped with the decline of its image built up during the Doklam confrontation. Bhutan's Foreign Minister Tandi Dorji, in Dhaka for the sixth Indian Ocean Conference on May 14 told a news channel that it would soon demarcate its border with China, something, simply unthinkable earlier. After its impressive, but wasted, Operation Snow Leopard which rattled China, India is on the defensive. In an interview, Jaishankar admitted: "We are smaller economy and China is bigger economy. We cannot go and pick a fight with China", reflecting that India fears military escalation.

After the events of December 9, 2022, when the PLA attempted to occupy the Yangtze Plateau Ridge in Tawang, the fear is real. After that, India has carried out major fire-power exercises and is considering deploying 120 Pralay tactical ballistic missiles (100-to-150-km range), BrahMos supersonic cruise missiles and Pinaka multi-barrel rocket system as the integrated rocket forces deterrent.

Seven ITBP battalions are to be raised and deployed. But none of these will be as pivotal to thwarting the PLA seizure of the Yangtze

Ridge as real-time intelligence and satellite imagery provided by the US.

Rajnath's resolve to catch up with China was absent from the latest defence budget, being less than that granted the previous year. At this rate, leave alone fulfilling parliamentary resolutions relating to Pok and Aksai Chin, the fear of military escalation will prevail.

The Chinese have finally spoken, though indirectly, rejecting outright Jaishankar and Singh's claims that Beijing violated written norms and protocols. It was not the through usual Global Times but senior analyst Hu Shisheng who is affiliated with the Chinese Communist Party and is the director of the Institute for South Asian Studies at the China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations. Hu's comments followed General Shangfu's visit for the SCO meeting last month. Hu blamed India for the Galwan incident due to its long-term violation of bilateral agreements.

This is the first time in the last three years that the accusation made by India against China has been reversed on India by a renowned Chinese India-China hand. Hu claims that India's perception of the LAC was challenged in 1959 and restoring status quo will not be by India's line of 2020

but the 1959 line — already promulgated by the PLA. New Delhi has chosen not to react to this unofficial missile.

It is not coincidental that the military chiefs — CDSs of the Quad countries — met in California between May 15 and 17 as a curialising to the Quad meeting held in Hiroshima instead of Sydney. Chief of Defence Staff Gen Anil Chauhan met his counterparts from Japan, the US, Australia and even the UK. The Quad Malabar naval exercises will be held in August off the Sydney coast. As India has articulated that Quad is not a military alliance, the CDS conclave will not breach its strategic autonomy. India is counting on a new modus vivendi with China. Prime Minister Modi tried to break the ice last September at the Bali G20 summit with an impromptu meeting with President Xi Jinping which has not worked so far. He has three more opportunities this year: at the SCO, G20 and BRICS summits, the first two being chaired by India.

New Delhi faces hard choices to unlock Ladakh: accept the fait accompli and 'normalised management' across the Rubicon to join the US, as it allied with the USSR in 1971. But sitting on the fence or simply balancing, which will not curb military escalation, appears to be the preferred option.

## Modern technological innovations in border protection needed

RK ARORA

IN a recent series of events, four drones were shot down by the Border Security Force (BSF) along the Punjab border. This development sheds light on the complexity and vulnerability of the Indian border with Pakistan and the implications for national security.

Over the past several years, India has faced attacks and covert operations from neighbouring countries, emphasising the need for modern technological innovations in border protection. As globalisation brings countries closer through economic and political relations, there arises a necessity for vigilant border guarding without hindering legitimate interactions. The utilisation of drones has presented a new challenge to national security, as criminal networks, drug smuggling syndicates and terrorist organisations exploit this technology to perpetrate their nefarious activities.

The increasing use of drones by smuggling syndicates and terrorist groups along India's western border has become a growing concern for national security. Punjab, in particular, has witnessed a more than four-fold increase in drone sightings in a year. To counter this threat, security and law enforcement agencies have taken several actions, including intensifying training programmes, developing counter-drone measures and upgrading technical capabilities.

However, the threat continues to evolve, necessitating further steps to strengthen border security. Effective combat against security threats requires institutional mechanisms for coordinating intelligence gathering, sharing, and coordination. Despite financial constraints and resistance to change, the forces

THE UTILISATION OF DRONES BY CRIMINAL NETWORKS HAS PRESENTED A NEW CHALLENGE TO NATIONAL SECURITY.



are prepared to engage with the latest technology and military modernisation.

The India-Pakistan border has long served as an illegal corridor for smuggling narcotic substances, counterfeit currency, arms and ammunition and various contraband items. Drug cartels and criminal networks have employed various methods, such as using plastic pipes, creating cavities in farming vehicles and appliances, and utilising drones, to infiltrate the Indian territory.

Punjab has emerged as a hub for smuggling activities, with multiple factors contributing to the sustainability of these illegal corridors. Its proximity to the heroin-producing region comprising Pakistan, Afghanistan and Iran, along with the support of the Pakistan government infrastructure for smuggling syndicates, has played a significant role in maintaining the illegal activities. Security forces

have recently incorporated modern drones into their arsenal to intensify their crackdown on drug smuggling syndicates. Criminal networks find drones appealing for smuggling purposes due to their ability to avoid detection and evade law enforcement agencies' interference. Most drone flights occur during the night, making it difficult to spot these flying objects. The use of drones for smuggling by drug syndicates mirrors the tactics employed by Mexican drug smugglers along the US-Mexico border.

The threat posed by drones on the India-Pakistan border was first noted in 2019 when Pakistan-based drug cartels adopted a pattern similar to the one in operation along the US-Mexico border. Since the first recorded drone delivery of arms and ammunition in August 2019, the menace has only grown. Punjab has emerged as the most active among the three

Indian states and one union territory sharing a border with Pakistan. However, J&K, Rajasthan and Gujarat have also witnessed an increase in drone sightings, with the trend expected to rise.

Smugglers, backed by Pakistan's state actors, predominantly use Chinese-made drones, with the DJI Matrice being the most popular, to smuggle drugs, arms and ammunition from Pakistan into Indian territory.

The use of drones on the international border presents a significant challenge for Indian border security and law enforcement agencies due to their agility and ability to evade detection. Saboteur elements have successfully exploited gaps in border surveillance and utilised drones to smuggle contraband.

In response, security agencies are developing strategies to detect and intercept drones, including employing counter-drone technology, increasing surveillance efforts, and enhancing inter-agency cooperation.

The BSF is exploring various types of counter- unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) systems, such as detection systems and jamming systems that disrupt communication between the drone and its operator. They are also utilising physical interception methods, deploying trained personnel for the task.

Additionally, a forensics facility has been established by the BSF to analyse the mechanical and navigational components of recovered drones, enabling the determination of their capabilities and flight paths. The BSF has tapped into the Indian startup ecosystem to develop indigenous counter-drone technologies, resulting in the successful development

of an indigenous counter-drone gun solution.

While these measures have been implemented, criminal networks have adapted and employed new modus operandi, such as shifting their focus to other vulnerable areas or utilising upgraded autonomous drones. As a result, border security and law enforcement agencies must remain vigilant and continue to develop new strategies and technologies to counter the evolving threat of drone activity on the international border.

To effectively counter this threat, the Indian security establishment can consider transitioning from a traditional border security approach to a new hybrid border security model. This model would involve upgrading conventional resources with counter-UAV systems, incorporating technical training programmes, and developing short-, mid- and long-term capabilities. Establishing a dedicated platform for the innovation of indigenous counter-drone technologies and institutionalising inter-agency coordination would also be vital.

Implementing these measures will require further deliberation, collaboration and financial support. Nevertheless, they will contribute to safeguarding India's borders from hostile drones. With drone technology becoming increasingly affordable and accessible, this threat is only expected to expand, necessitating additional counter-measures.

Border-guarding forces may draw lessons from the policies implemented by like-minded countries and seek technological partnerships with indigenous stakeholders to effectively respond to this growing menace.

## Anupamaa actor Nidhi Shah on Paras Kalnawat's claims: 'Why would anyone leave a No. 1 show'

Actor Paras Kalnawat, who was a part of the daily soap Anupamaa, recently shared the reason behind him leaving the show during an Ask Me Anything session on Instagram. He wrote, "I would always be thankful to the makers for giving me such a great show. But yaaron kahin pahunchne ke liye kahin se nikalna zaroori hota hai and I believe I'm at a much better and peaceful place. Honestly speaking 80% of the cast would want to exit if given an opportunity. Risk lenne ki aur sahi ke liye ladne ki taakat har kisi mein nahi hoti," he wrote while replying to one of the fans. Now, actor Nidhi Shah who stars in the same show, disagrees with Kalnawat's remarks and clears the air. "The show is doing too well and it's for a reason. Each member of the cast is loving (and enjoying) what

they're doing and everything is coming out so well," says Shah, who plays the role of Kinjal in Anupamaa. Addressing Kalnawat's exit from the show last year, the 24-year-old adds, "Why would anyone leave a show which is number one for the past three years? You see the life of other shows - I think there are hardly three or four shows with such longevity. Other shows go off air in like six or seven months." That being said, Shah notes that if one gets a "better and more promising opportunity", it's obvious for them to go forward. "But, I don't think there's anyone on our set who is willing to leave. Nobody has any pressure over here," she stresses, adding, "And, if someone wants to leave, they will leave. Nobody is going to beg anyone that, 'Please stay, shooting is not moving forward without you'."



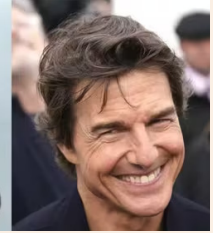
## Whatever work I've done has led me to this moment: Sonakshi Sinha on 'Dahaad' success



As someone who learned "everything on the job", actor Sonakshi Sinha says she counts all the 'good, bad, ugly' moments from her career as part of her growth. The actor, who made her debut with Dabangg in 2010 as the love interest of Salman Khan's cop character, has now donned the police officer's uniform for a critically-acclaimed turn in Prime Video series Dahaad. But she does not consider her journey from Dabangg to Dahaad, her digital debut, a "full circle" yet. "It's not a full circle. 'Meri jalebi ban rahi hai'. I'm still going around in a spiral. And, I want to keep growing. This is a good place I have reached in 13 years now. Whatever I've learned, I've learned on the job with the people I've worked with, the roles I've done and the things I've worked on," Sonakshi said. "Everything teaches you something and whatever experiences I've had, whatever work I've done... good, bad, ugly, whatever it may be, have all led me to this moment," added the actor, known for films such as "Lootera", "Noor" and Force 2. In the last one decade, there has been a shift in the portrayal of women police officers on screen - be it Tabu in Drishyam, Kuttey and Bhoolaa, Sanya Malhotra in Kathal, Shefali Shah in Delhi Crime, Sanya and Raveena Tandon in Aranyak.

## 'Even shoelaces were taped': How Tom Cruise prepares for stunts

Tom Cruise defies death once again in Mission: Impossible - Dead Reckoning Part One as he takes on jaw-dropping stunts, including an incredible motorcycle jump off a cliff with seconds to spare before certain disaster. From surviving an exploding fish tank to hanging from a plane about to take off, Cruise's stunts continue to push the boundaries of action cinema. With the latest trailer highlighting this heart-stopping moment, fans can expect an adrenaline-packed thrill ride like never before in the upcoming instalment of the Mission: Impossible series.



requires relentless training and meticulous attention to detail, as Cruise emphasized in another video released by Paramount Pictures last month ago. "You train and drill every little aspect over and over and over again," he stated. By the time the scene was shot on location, Cruise had already amassed an astonishing record of over 500 skydives and 13,000 motocross jumps. The Mission: Impossible - Dead Reckoning Part One. In "Dead Reckoning Part One" to be released on July 12, Cruise reprises his role as Ethan Hunt, leading an International Monetary Fund (IMF) team in a race against time to prevent a terrifying weapon from falling into the wrong hands. With the fate of the world at stake and dark forces from Ethan's past closing in, he must confront a mysterious and powerful nemesis named Gabriel.

The Secret Behind Tom Cruise's Daredevil Stunts How does Tom Cruise do these acts? The daredevil actor once revealed the thrilling details of the breath-taking mountain bike jump off a cliff in Norway during a chat with talk show host Jimmy

Kimmel. Cruise nonchalantly discussed the meticulous preparations that went into ensuring his safety, right down to taping his shoelaces. "Even my shoelaces were taped," he quipped, emphasizing the level of caution taken to avoid any

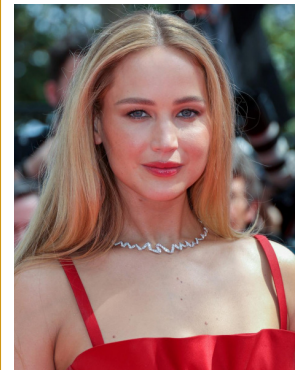
potential entanglements during the high-flying adventure. The Countdown to Disaster: Six Seconds to Spare Relentless Training and Unparalleled Preparation Surviving a stunt of this magnitude

## Actor Ajith Kumar 'channels his passion', launches motorcycle touring company



Tamil actor Ajith Kumar, who is also an avid biker, has launched his motorcycle touring company AK Moto Ride. Making the big announcement on Tuesday, the actor said, "I have long loved and lived by this quote: 'Life is a beautiful ride. Embrace the twists, turns, and open roads ahead.' I am now pleased to share that I will be channeling my passion for motorcycles and the outdoors into a professional endeavour, through a motorcycle touring company, AK Moto Ride." The company will not only offer tours of Indian regions, but international routes also. AK Moto Ride will also provide 'meticulously maintained adventure touring superbikes that guarantee dependability and performance throughout the tour with an unyielding dedication to safety and comfort.' In a statement, Ajith further said: "Professional guides well-versed in the intricacies of motorcycle tours and with extensive knowledge of local customs and traditions will offer riders a seamless and immersive experience from start to finish."

## Jennifer Lawrence ditches heels with red gown, opts for flip-flops at Cannes, fans find it 'relatable'



Actor Jennifer Lawrence recently attended the ongoing 2023 Cannes Film Festival. The actor appeared on the red carpet and posed for the paparazzi. For the event, Jennifer wore a red gown and paired it with black flip-flops, ditching heels. While several fans praised her, a section of the people also criticised the actor. In several pictures, Jennifer was seen giving differ-

ent expressions as she posed for the camera. She also posed with Daniel Anzures, Justine Chiarochi, Sahara Mani, Hayedeh Safiyari, and Zahra for the photographers. They arrived at the premiere of the film Anatomy of a Fall. Several fan accounts shared their pictures. Reacting to Jennifer wearing flip-flops, a fan wrote, "Very sensible. High-heeled shoes with narrow toe boxes look sexy but can cause a lot of damage on the feet, Achilles heels, lower legs and back. Let people wear what they want." A person said, "I like Jennifer... does what she wants and doesn't give an 'F' what anybody thinks. A girl after my own heart." A comment read, "Perfect, absolutely, I'm a wedding pianist and run around barefoot in a ballgown before donning the heels." An Instagram user said, "She's the best!" "Great. I'd wear the same. No one would even notice that beautiful dress she's wearing," said another fan. "She's so down to earth and relatable guys!" commented another person. A person however criticised her saying, "She's back in the public eye for two seconds and already back to her shenanigans." "If she can't stand the glamour and etiquette of an important event, she better stay home!" another comment read. Recently, Jennifer's film Bread and Roses, a documentary about the daily lives of three women after the Taliban's resurgence, premiered at the Cannes Film Festival in a special screening. It has been produced by Excellent Cadaver, a production company set up by Jennifer and Justin. Justine said how he and Jennifer decided to support women's rights after Kabul's fall and the Taliban surge back to power in 2021 following the withdrawal of US troops.

## Sheezan Khan remembers playing Ali in Ali Baba Dastaan-e-Kabul, talks about 'fear'



Sheezan Khan has shared a picture of himself, dressed as his character from Ali Baba Dastaan-e-Kabul. Sheezan exited the show soon after he was arrested post the death of co-star Tunisha Sharma. He is currently shooting for Rohit Shetty's adventure reality show Khatron Ke Khiladi 13 in Capetown, South Africa. He also shared a video on his Instagram Stories, and talked about the character. "Abhi bhi log puchte rehte hai ke Ali Baba kyun chhoda, kahan chhoda. I never played Ali, I was Ali, and I am Ali. Kaha chhoda? I didn't leave, bas ek bandhan se toot kar dusre bandhan mein aa gaye. Aur kya? (People still keep asking me why I left Ali Baba. But when did I leave it? I never played the character, I am Ali. I just left one bond to form another one)." Sheezan said as he smiled to the camera. "I think yahi ek kalakar ki khoobi hoti hai jo apne aap ko ek jagah rokta nahi hai. Aage aage badhta rehta hai, aur badhna bhi chahiye, ussi ko kala kehne hai (I think that is what every artist does - keeps moving ahead and that is what he must do. That is art). I am very happy so I guess that's all that matters," he added. Last year, Tunisha was found dead on the sets of the fantasy TV show Ali Baba: Dastaan-e-Kabul, and Sheezan was arrested a day later when her mother accused him of abetment to suicide. After he secured bail in March this year, Sheezan had to seek separate permission to go out of the country for shooting Khatron Ke Khiladi 13.



## Sunny Leone looks perfect in green silk gown during her first appearance in Cannes. The actor is at the festival for her film, Kennedy.

Sunny Leone is in Cannes and opted to go green for her first public appearance. She has shared glimpses of herself in a one-shoulder gown. The actor who is making her Cannes debut this year is in France for the premiere of her film, Kennedy. Director Anurag Kashyap and actor Rahul Bhat are also in Cannes for the film. Sharing some stunning pictures of herself from the French Riviera, Sunny wrote on Instagram, "Amazing first day @festivaldecannes doing interviews for #Kennedy. Thank you @lyavanzato for making me feel beautiful." She looks lovely in the green Maria Kokia gown with a waist panel. She kept her makeup simple and paired the outfit with matching heels. Her fans loved her all-green look. A fan wrote, "Sunny is always looking beautiful."

Another wrote, "Look like a baby doll." One more commented, "Ayyy prettyyyyyyy." Sunny is in Cannes with her husband Daniel Weber. Upon her arrival in France, she shared a video from her car as she sat beside Daniel. She expressed her excitement about all the "gowns and dresses" and promised her fans to keep them updated with lots of pictures and videos. Sharing the video, she wrote on Instagram, "Mission #kennedy about to arrive this gorgeous hotel!!" On Monday, Rahul Bhat, who plays the lead role in Kennedy, shared a candid video with Anurag as they had some fun in Cannes. He added the song Jumma Chumma De De with it and captioned it, "Zeher hai ke pyaar hai Kennedy ka chumma. With the OG @anuragkashyap10." They simply posed on a street with

their backs to each other. Directed by Anurag Kashyap, Kennedy stars Sunny Leone, Rahul Bhat and Abhilash Thapliyal in the lead roles. The film revolves around an insomniac ex-cop, long thought to be dead, but still operating for the corrupt system, and looking for redemption. It has been selected for a Midnight Screening at Cannes Film Festival 2023. It is among the few films from India this year to be the official selections at the festival this year.

# Papaya: The antioxidant powerhouse for weight loss, digestion and anti-cancer benefits

Get to know the extraordinary power of papaya, a remarkable fruit renowned for its exceptional antioxidant properties.

Papaya can cause allergies in some people. If you encounter any adverse reactions after consuming it, discontinue consumption and seek medical advice.

The papaya is a powerhouse of antioxidants and, as such, must be included in the diet. This humble fruit is known to have anti-cancerous properties (lycopene in papaya can reduce cancer risk), aid digestion, protect the heart, enhance the effects of good cholesterol, be good for your skin and may also provide some protection against sunburns.

Additionally, if you are on a diet, papaya can be an ideal snack as it is low in calories and fiber. Here's the impressive, nutritious profile of papayas [1].

What is the papaya's nutritional profile?

- Medium-sized papaya or around 152 grams, usually has:
    - Calories: 60
    - Carbohydrates: 15 grams
    - Fiber: 3 grams
    - Protein: 1 gram
    - Fat: 0 grams
    - Vitamin C: 157% of the RDI (recommended daily intake)
    - Vitamin A: 33% of the RDI
    - Folate: 14% of the RDI
    - Potassium: 11% of the RDI
- What are the health benefits of papaya? Sameena Ansari, Senior Dietitian and

Nutritionist, CARE Hospitals, Hi-Tec City, Hyderabad, shares the health benefits of papaya [2].

1. Nutrient-rich: They are a good source of vitamins A and C, folate and potassium.
2. Digestive health: The enzyme papain in papaya can assist in digestion and alleviate constipation.
- 3.



4. Immune system support: The high vitamin C content in papayas supports immune function.
5. Eye health: The presence of vitamin A and other antioxidants contributes to good eye health.
6. Skin health: The antioxidants and vitamin C in papayas can promote healthy skin and wound healing.

Is papaya good for weight loss? As a result of their low calorie and high fiber content, papayas are an excellent weight loss food.



The fiber helps promote a feeling of fullness, reducing the likelihood of overeating," explained Ansari. Also, it has an enzyme called papain, which aids in digestion and may contribute to a healthy metabolism. Can diabetics consume papaya? Diabetic patients do not necessarily have to give up consuming papaya completely, but it's important to monitor blood sugar levels and ensure that the fruit is consumed in moderation as part of

a balanced diet. "For diabetic patients, it's generally safe to consume papaya in moderation. As with any fruit, portion control is essential because of the natural sugars present in the fruit."

Diabetics should consult with a healthcare professional or a registered dietitian to establish the appropriate amount of papaya to include in their diet.

Is papaya safe for pregnant women? Eating fully-ripe papaya is generally considered safe for pregnant women.

"However, it is advisable for pregnant women to consult with their healthcare provider before making any significant dietary changes or incorporating new foods into their diet," suggested Ansari. Final thoughts

Keep these things in mind when consuming papaya, according to Ansari:

- Allergies: Some individuals may have allergies to papaya. If you experience any adverse reactions after eating papaya, discontinue its consumption and seek medical advice.
- Ripeness: Choose ripe papayas for optimal taste and nutritional content. Pesticides: If possible, select organic papayas to reduce exposure to pesticides. Interactions: Papaya contains enzymes that may interact with certain medications, particularly blood-thinning medications. If you are taking any medications, consult your healthcare provider to ensure there are no potential interactions.

# MS: Can the Mediterranean diet help preserve cognitive health?

Multiple sclerosis (MS) is a chronic autoimmune condition that affects the brain and central nervous system. Symptoms include fatigue, mobility problems, and numbness.

Around 2.8 million Trusted Source people live with MS worldwide, and females are twice as likely than men to have the condition.

Studies show that certain diets Trusted Source and other lifestyle factors may improve the quality of life for patients with MS. One study, for example, found that the Mediterranean diet may have a neuroprotective effect against disability in MS.

The cause of MS is unknown, and there is currently no cure. Treatments typically focus on symptom relief and slowing progression.

The Mediterranean diet is a varied diet that contains minimally-processed foods, limited amounts of red meat, and moderate amounts of dairy and poultry.

Further research into how dietary factors affect MS could improve quality of life among patients with the condition.



MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY

Recently, researchers investigated the effects of the Mediterranean diet on cognition among patients with MS.

They found that stronger adherence to the Mediterranean diet was linked to a lower risk for cognitive impairment.

"Cognitive impairment may affect over 50% of persons with MS and there are currently no effective pharmacologic treatments," Barbara Giesser, neurologist and MS specialist at Pacific Neuroscience Institute at Providence Saint John's Health Center in Santa Monica, California, not involved in the study, told Medical News Today. "A lifestyle strategy that could help protect or maintain normal cognitive function would be very important in helping people with MS to live their best lives," she added. The study was presented at the American Academy of

Neurology's 75th Annual Meeting. Lowered risk for cognitive impairment For the study, the researchers recruited 563 people with MS. Each completed a questionnaire to record how closely they followed the Mediterranean diet. Scores ranged from 0-14. Participants were split into two groups: those who scored 0-4 adhered least to the Mediterranean diet, whereas those who scored nine

and above adhered to the diet most.

Participants also underwent three tests assessing their thinking and memory skills. From these tests, they found that 108 participants, or 19.2%, had cognitive impairment.

After analyzing the results, the researchers found that patients who most closely followed the Mediterranean diet had a 20% lower risk for cognitive impairment than those who adhered to it least. The relationship remained after controlling for confounders including demographic factors and health factors including sleep disturbances, diabetes, and hypertension.

"Among health-related factors, the level of dietary alignment with the Mediterranean pattern was by far the strongest predictor of people's cognitive scores and whether they met the study criteria for cognitive impairment," said study author Dr. Ilana Katz Sand, of the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York, New York, and a member of the American Academy of Neurology, in a press release.

## Pune's KEM hosp study to reduce children's susceptibility to type 2 diabetes



Researchers at the city-based KEM Hospital have initiated a study to decrease the children's susceptibility to type 2 Diabetes from the time they are inside their mothers' wombs. According to the researchers, children born to diabetic parents and children who are underweight at birth are genetically very likely to develop type 2 Diabetes in future.

The study titled "Pune Rural Intervention in Young Adolescents (PRIYA) Follow-up" was started a week ago and includes 200 children (100 boys and 100 girls) aged six to 10 years from the rural parts of Pune. The 557-odd parents of these 200 children are part of the original PRIYA programme and were adolescents when it began in 2012 and ended last month. The PRIYA programme aims to reduce the children's susceptibility to type 2 Diabetes since the time they are inside their mothers' wombs by improving nutrition, vitamin and folic supplements, and encouraging expecting mothers to lead a healthy lifestyle.

Dr Chittaranjan S Yajnik, director of the Diabetes unit, KEM Hospital, said that India has a huge diabetic burden and has the highest number of children who are born underweight. "Children born to diabetic parents have a genetic susceptibility to developing type 2 Diabetes through precipitating factors such as a sedentary lifestyle largely linked to increase in age and obesity. Following a healthy lifestyle is not possible for everyone and genetic susceptibility cannot be altered. However, there is scope for controlling the precipitating factors," Dr Yajnik said.

Babies who are underweight at the time of birth are susceptible to type 2 Diabetes in future. The main reason behind children being underweight at the time of birth is malnutrition among the expecting mothers or the foetus receiving inadequate nutrition during the prenatal period. The levels of vitamin B12 and folic acid during pregnancy also affect the growth of the foetus.

## KETO VS. VEGAN: WHAT TO EAT IF YOU WANT TO SAVE THE PLANET AND YOUR HEALTH

Debates over the benefits and pitfalls of different diets have been around as long as well, the diets themselves. Is the ketogenic diet a good way to lose weight, or a carb-free trip to bad health? Are vegetarians missing out on vital vitamins? What, exactly, is the omnivore's dilemma? Can vegans eat sugar? And do paleo adherents actually know what their ancient ancestors ate? A study published this week in The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition can at least put one diet debate to rest: the climate impact of our choices.

Our food system is responsible for a third of global emissions—animal agriculture alone makes up 14%—and our diets could have a significant impact on what those look like in the future. Using data collected from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey of nearly 17,000 American adults, researchers at Tulane University identified six popular American diets—vegan, vegetarian, pescatarian, paleo, keto, and omnivore—and compared them on the basis of environmental impact and nutritional quality.

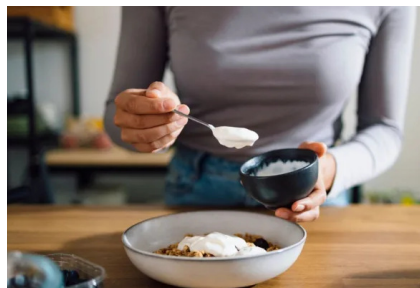


# 7 Food Swaps To Get More Protein & Lose Weight, Say Dietitians

If you've decided that you want to lose weight in a healthy, sustainable way, or have just started researching what that looks like, you've quite possibly read a good deal of articles discussing the importance of protein when it comes to shedding pounds. While a healthy weight loss diet can look different for everyone depending on their unique needs, getting more protein in is almost always going to be a key factor. Thankfully, this is made easier if you are aware of important food swaps for protein.

There are a multitude of ways that protein can promote weight loss. For one, it can help shrink your cravings and prevent over-snacking, as well as reduce feelings of hunger in general, which can lead to fewer calories consumed throughout the day. Higher-protein diets have also been shown to improve metabolism and increase the amount of overall calories burned. And once you've lost your desired weight, increasing your protein can also help you maintain your weight loss.

10 Interesting Facts About Earth's Oceans To come just starting out in their



weight loss journey, it can feel really intimidating to try and figure out how to increase your daily protein, especially if you're already in a routine of what and how you like to eat. This is exactly why small food swaps can be helpful. They can allow you to keep your favorite foods while just making slight changes to increase how much protein you're consuming. Read on to learn some dietitian-re-

commended food swaps that can help you get more protein—and for more healthy eating tips, make sure to check out 21 Superfoods That Are Surprisingly High in Protein, Say Dietitians. Cow's milk for almond milk For those who are able to consume dairy products, this food swap can give you a big boost of protein. "Add cow's milk to your oatmeal

instead of almond milk," suggests Lisa Young, PhD, RD, author of Finally Full, Finally Slim and member of our Medical Expert Board. "Almond milk is a good bet if you are

fiber, and unsaturated fat, which will keep you satisfied for much longer," says Young. If you normally opt for plain butter on toast, you'll be consuming higher

Roasted chickpeas for croutons If you're a person who loves texture in their salads, then you most likely throw croutons on top fairly often. However, Best suggests trying chick-

### THESE SUBTLE FOOD SWAPS FOR PROTEIN CAN HAVE SIGNIFICANT RESULTS IN TERMS OF YOUR WEIGHT LOSS GOALS.

opting to go plant-based, but cow's milk will give you more protein—as well as calcium and vitamin D." Cottage cheese for cream cheese "Instead of spreading your bagel with cream cheese, opt for protein-rich cottage cheese," says Young. "Cottage cheese is a good source of protein and will keep you full. It is also low in fat and will save you calories." If you're not super fond of the idea of placing cottage cheese on your bagel, don't fret! This type of cheese can also act as a 1:1 substitute for cream cheese in your favorite dips. Peanut butter for regular butter If you're a fan of toast in the morning, but usually enjoy it with plain butter or jelly, our dietitians suggest replacing these with peanut butter. "Peanut butter contains protein,

levels of saturated fat with very little protein, whereas 'Jelly contains added sugar which contains no nutritional value,'" says Young. Swapping these out for peanut butter is an excellent choice for more protein and weight loss. Quinoa for rice This swap adds: 4.6 grams of protein. Rice is an affordable, comforting, and versatile grain, but it doesn't provide a lot of protein. Because of this, try swapping it out for the whole grain quinoa. "Quinoa makes a great swap for regular rice because it has a higher protein content than white rice," says Trista Best, MPH, RD, LD, at Balance One Supplements. "Quinoa is a plant source of a complete protein, meaning it contains all essential amino acids."

peas. "For those that enjoy croutons in their salad for an extra crunch, swap those high-carb toppings for protein-rich roasted chickpeas," says Best. "This swap also provides a great source of fiber, which croutons are typically lacking due to their refined and processed nature." Tofu for almond milk If you've never tried tofu in a smoothie, it may seem a bit odd at first. But swapping in tofu in lieu of almond milk in smoothies not only provides added texture, but it gives you a protein boost as well. "Tofu is a rich source of plant-based protein, and it can provide a creamy texture that can help to make your smoothie thicker and more satisfying, without adding additional sugar or calories," says Best.





## TN CM leaves for 9-day foreign trip to attract investments; opposition AIADMK questions 'pleasure trip'



CHENNAI, MAY 23: Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Tuesday embarked on a nine-day tour of Singapore and Japan, stating that his visit was aimed at attracting more investments to the state.

Stalin said his similar visit to Dubai last year had resulted in signing of pacts with six investors to the tune of Rs 6,100 crore that would ensure 15,100 job opportunities.

Two of them have started the works, he told reporters at the airport in a pre-departure media interaction. "The key

When fully implemented, these would usher in jobs to over 4.12 lakh people, he said. The main opposition AIADMK, however, questioned Stalin's foreign visit. Party general secretary and Leader of Opposition in Assembly K Palaniswami alleged that in the name of attracting investments, the Chief Minister had embarked on a 'pleasure trip'.

He said the Global Investors Meet held by his government in 2019 attracted over Rs 3 lakh crore investments and that the pace of starting new businesses slowed down in 2020 due to the Covid pandemic.

However, many investors had started the works in early 2021 and only as a continuation of this new initiatives were underway in the present government, Palaniswami claimed. In a statement, he alleged the ruling DMK was claiming credit for these investments ensured in the previous regime. "The Chief Minister who had embarked on an earlier pleasure trip to Dubai with his family has undertaken a similar visit to Singapore and Japan in the name of attracting investments," Palaniswami charged.

motive of this visit (to Singapore and Japan) is to extend invitation (to investors) for the 2024 Global Investors Meet," the Chief Minister said.

He will meet prospective investors by way of conferences during his official visit and some deals are also slated to be signed, he added.

Stalin added that ever since the DMK came to power in mid-2021, Rs 2,95,399 crore worth investments have been "confirmed" after 226 memoranda of understanding were signed.

## US Speaker Kevin McCarthy Says Debt Ceiling Talks 'Productive', But No Deal

WASHINGTON: A top US Republican on Monday said his first one-on-one talks in months with President Joe Biden to avert a calamitous debt default were "productive" but that there was still no deal.

The White House meeting came after Biden returned from a trip to Asia early to hammer out a deal ahead of the US Treasury's June 1 cut off date for Congress to authorize more borrowing.

"I felt we had a productive discussion. We don't have an agreement yet, but I did feel the discussion was productive in areas [where] we have differences of opinion," House Speaker Kevin McCarthy said after the talks.

McCarthy told reporters that negotiators were going to "work through the night" to move the sides closer and that he and Biden would "talk every day to try to find a way to get this done."

Debt limits are raised periodically to cover repayments on loans that have already been approved and spent, but House Republicans are insisting this time that averting a default must be paired with deep cuts to bring down the country's \$31.8 trillion debt.

As they sat down for the meeting, Biden said "I am optimistic we are going to make some progress," adding both sides understood they have "a significant responsibility" to solve the impasse. - "Red line"

The on-again, off-again discussions sputtered through the weekend, with McCarthy's team and White House negotiators meeting for more than two hours on Sunday night and another three on Monday.

Biden and McCarthy also spoke by phone Sunday as the president flew home from a G7 summit in Japan.

Republicans insist on spending less money in fiscal year 2024 than 2023, calling it a "red line."

The White House has offered a freeze for 2024 in exchange for Republicans supporting tax increases for corporations and wealthy Americans but McCarthy has rejected the idea.

The Biden administration has proposed limiting spending on some domestic programs but wants the Pentagon to share in the cuts.

Republicans have pushed for boosted military and border security spending, with major rollbacks to non-defense programs.

Disputes also remain over what a White House official characterized as increasingly hard-line Republican demands for beefed-up work requirements for social welfare programs.

Biden points out that Republicans raised the borrowing cap three times under his predecessor Donald Trump without threatening to default on the country's debt obligations.

If lawmakers fail to raise the bor-

rowing cap, the government will careen into default for the first time in history, with potentially catastrophic results.

Many experts say that in a worst-case scenario global stock markets would melt down as the US economy lurches into a downwards spiral, killing millions of jobs.

Biden's deal line - June 1 deadline - The president is being pressured by progressives in his party to rely on the US Constitution's 14th Amendment - which states that the validity of public debt "shall not be questioned" -- to bypass Congress and increase the limit on his own.

But he and Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen cautioned that the courts would not be able to resolve any legal disputes quickly enough to meet the deadline.

Yellen sent a letter to Congress on Monday warning again that the United States could find itself unable to pay its bills as soon as June 1. Even if McCarthy and Biden can hammer out a broad deal, anything they agree to will need to be shepherded through the House of Representatives, where they face pressure from hardliners on both sides not to make too many concessions.

Further complicating the timeline, the Senate is out this week, while the House is slated to be in recess Friday ahead of Memorial Day weekend.

## Rahul takes truck ride from Delhi to Chandigarh listens to 'Mann Ki Baat' of drivers



CHANDIGARH/NEW DELHI, MAY 23: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi travelled in a truck from Delhi to Chandigarh to listen to the problems faced by truck drivers, the party said on Tuesday.

Gandhi undertook the journey Monday night and in visuals and videos, the former Congress chief, donning his trademark white T-shirt, is seen sitting inside a truck, travelling with a driver and speaking to drivers at a dhaba.

"Leader of the people @RahulGandhi ji reached among the truck drivers to know their problems. Rahul ji travelled with them from Delhi to Chandigarh," the Congress

said in a tweet in Hindi.

Gandhi also stopped near a Gurdwara in Ambala City along the Ambala-Chandigarh national highway early Tuesday morning and paid obeisance there.

"According to media reports, there are about 90 lakh truck drivers on the Indian roads. They have their own problems. Rahul ji did the work of listening to their 'Mann Ki Baat'," the Congress said. Haryana Congress chief Udai Bhan told PTI that Gandhi travelled with truck drivers and halted en route and listened to the problems faced by them.

Congress' social media department head Supriya Shrinete shared pictures

of Gandhi traveling in a truck and meeting with truck drivers.

"Rahul Gandhi is a different person. Today he is committed to bridging the widening gap between the general public and the government in this country. Then in this heat, he is sitting with the truck drivers all night and listening to their problems or travelling in a truck. In such a few people, the hope of a better future has arisen!" she said in a tweet in Hindi.

Congress sources said Gandhi was on his way to Shimla to spend some time with his mother Sonia Gandhi and on the way he decided to listen to the problems of truck drivers.

Station House Officer Baldev Nagar police station, Ambala City, Ram Kumar, said at around 4.30 am, Gandhi got down from a truck near Gurdwara Manji Sahib on GT road. He went inside the gurdwara and paid obeisance and spent a few minutes there.

He also had tea in the 'langar' at the gurdwara, Kumar said. Later, he again boarded a truck and left towards Chandigarh, the SHO said. Bhan said Gandhi keeps meeting a cross section of people to first-hand know the problems they face. "Even during the Bharat Jodo Yatra, Rahul ji interacted with various sections of people," he said.

## Defamation case: Guj court issues fresh summons against Kejriwal, Sanjay Singh



AHMEDABAD, MAY 23: A court on Tuesday issued a fresh summons to Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and AAP's Rajya Sabha member Sanjay Singh to appear before it on June 7 in a criminal defamation case lodged by the Gujarat University over Prime Minister Narendra Modi's academic degree.

The court of Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate SJ Panchal summoned Kejriwal and Singh after the court was informed that the summons issued earlier directing the duo to appear on May 23 does not appear to have been received by them as none of them was present in the court.

Earlier, the court of additional chief metropolitan magistrate Jayesh Chovatya had issued summons to the AAP leaders in a criminal defamation com-

plaint for their "sarcastic" and "derogatory" statements against the Gujarat University over Prime Minister Narendra Modi's academic degree. AAP's legal cell head for Gujarat, Pranav Thakkar, on Monday, said Kejriwal and Singh have not yet received the summons issued to them by the court. On Tuesday, Gujarat University's lawyer Amit Nair apprised the new judge-SJ Panchal about the

summons on April 15 after finding that prima facie there appeared to be a case against Kejriwal and Singh under section 500 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) on a complaint filed by Gujarat University registrar Piyush Patel. The defamation case was filed against Kejriwal and Singh over their comments after the Gujarat High Court set aside the Chief Information Commissioner's order asking the varsity to provide information on PM Modi's degree.

They made "defamatory" statements in press conferences and on Twitter handles targeting the university over Modi's degree, the complainant alleged, and claimed their comments targeting the university were defamatory and hurt the prestige of the institution, which has established its name among the public.

The judge asked the staff to check and then directed them to issue a summons to Kejriwal and Singh. The previous additional chief metropolitan magistrate Jayesh Chovatya issued a

## Emirati leaders invite Israel's Netanyahu Herzog to join COP28 climate conference in Dubai

JERUSALEM, May 23: Emirati leaders extended a long-sought invitation to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to attend the U.N climate conference, known as COP28, in November.

The United Arab Emirates' President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan and Prime Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum also invited Israel's figurehead President Isaac Herzog and dozens of other leaders including Syrian President Bashar Assad to COP28, in Dubai. The Israelis did not immediately accept the invitation, but Netanyahu thanked the Emiratis for the gesture. The invitation falls short of the high-profile bilateral visit Netanyahu has sought. But a trip to the Gulf Arab country would nonetheless give an important boost to the Israeli leader who has established official ties with the UAE as part of the 2020 Abraham Accords, normalising relations between the two countries.

Netanyahu has repeatedly called for closer ties with Arab countries across the region, but has yet to pay the UAE

an official visit since the accords were signed. Netanyahu, Israel's longest-serving leader, has sought to return to the world stage, to the world stage. Since returning to office late last year, he has made official visits to Italy, Germany and Britain.

He had hoped to visit the UAE shortly after his right-wing government took office, but the plan was postponed after national security minister and ultranationalist Itamar Ben-Gvir last January visited the compound known to Jews as the Temple Mount in Jerusalem.

The same site is home to the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound to Muslims. Such visits are widely viewed as provocations that could lead to new clashes between the Israelis and Palestinians. The UAE condemned Ben-Gvir's actions at the time. He visited the site again on Sunday, declaring Israel "in charge" and drawing renewed criticism from the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Turkey, Qatar, Jordan, Egypt and the United States. Netanyahu's alliance with far-right figures like Ben-Gvir has drawn

repeated criticism from close allies. He remains uninvited to visit US President Joe Biden in Washington, which some interpret as a White House snub. The U.S. administration has criticised Israel's settlement policies in the occupied West Bank, Ben-Gvir's visits to the disputed compound and the government's push to overhaul Israel's judiciary system.

The administration has said he's likely to receive an invitation at a soon point. Syrian President Bashar Assad, who has been internationally ostracized during his country's civil war, has also been invited after returning to the Arab League following a 12-year suspension. The annual U.N. climate talks are designed to keep countries accountable to their pledges to cut down on carbon emissions. In November, the talks in Dubai will be hosted by Sultan al-Jaber, the chief executive officer of the Emirates' state oil company. Choosing the oil-rich emirate as well as al-Jaber to host the climate conference has drawn criticism from various environmental groups and activists.

## AAP says policeman 'misbehaved' with Sisodia; Delhi Police dismisses charge

NEW DELHI, MAY 23: The AAP on Tuesday alleged that a policeman misbehaved with former Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia at the Rouse Avenue court here. The Delhi Police dismissed the charge as propaganda.

Sisodia was produced before the court in a money laundering case related to the alleged excise scam.

Senior AAP leader Atishi posted a

video on the alleged incident on Twitter, and wrote, "Shocking misbehaviour by this policeman with Manish in Rouse Avenue Court. Delhi Police should suspend him immediately."

Slamming the police, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said, "Does the police have the right to misbehave with Manish Sisodia like this? Has the

police been instructed to do this?" Reacting to it, the Delhi Police termed the matter as "propaganda" and said it is "against the law" for an accused in judicial custody to issue statements to the media. "The matter of policeman misbehaving with Manish Sisodia in Rouse Avenue Court is a propaganda.

## Biden 'optimistic' on debt ceiling as White House negotiation



WASHINGTON, MAY 23: President Joe Biden said he was "optimistic" of making progress on debt ceiling talks as he opened a critical meeting with House Speaker Kevin McCarthy late Monday at the White House, a pivotal moment as Washington works to strike a budget compromise and raise the nation's borrowing limit in time to avert a potentially chaotic federal default.

It's a crucial conversation for the Democratic president and the Republican speaker, just 10 days before a looming deadline to raise the debt limit.

As soon as June 1 the U.S. could start running short of cash to cover its debts, a daunting situation. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen said in a letter to Congress on Monday "it is highly likely" that Treasury would be unable to pay all the nation's bills. An unprecedented default

would be financially damaging for many Americans and others around the world relying on U.S. stability, sending shockwaves through the global economy. "We both talked about the need for bipartisan agreement," Biden said at the start of the meeting.

The president said he was "optimistic we're going to make some progress." McCarthy said the two had a very productive conversation on a phone call Sunday and thinks they can find "common ground."

Both men said there remain disagreements. The White House chief of staff and top administration negotiators joined the session, as did McCarthy's own chief of staff as well as a top Republican involved in the negotiations. Rep. Patrick McCleary of North Carolina, the Financial Services Committee chairman. The contours of an agreement appear within reach, and

After a weekend of start-stop talks, both Biden and McCarthy have declared a need to close out a compromise deal. Negotiators for the White House met again for nearly three hours Monday morning with McCarthy's team at the Capitol ahead of the session at the White House.

Biden and McCarthy spoke by phone Sunday while the president was returning home on Air Force One after the Group of Seven summit in Japan. "It went well, we'll talk tomorrow," Biden said in response to a shouted question upon his return late Sunday. The call revived talks, and negotiators met for 2 1/2 hours at the Capitol late Sunday evening, saying little as they left. Financial markets turned down last week after talks stalled. "We'll keep working," said Steve Ricchetti, counselor to the president, as the White House team exited talks late Sunday. McCarthy, R-Calif., told reporters earlier Sunday that the call with Biden was "productive," and Biden told a press conference before departing from Japan. "I think that we can reach an agreement."

But McCarthy continued to blame Biden for having refused to engage earlier on annual federal spending, a separate issue but linked to the nation's debt. "I'm hopeful," he added.

# National Apprenticeship awareness workshop held at Udhampur

JJ NEWS SERVICE

UDHAMPUR, MAY 23: To promote apprenticeship training and create awareness among youth/Establishments about Apprenticeship scheme, the regional Directorate of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, J&K, Ladakh, H.P, in collaboration with Directorate of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship J&K organised a daylong National Apprenticeship Awareness workshop here in the Conference Hall DC Office Complex.

Deputy Commissioner, Sachin Kumar Vaishya was the chief guest on the occasion. Regional Director/Regional Central Apprenticeship Advisor, J&K & Ladakh, S. Santhimanan; Director/ Apprenticeship, Union Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, SSP



Udhampur, Dr. Vinod Kumar; ADDC, Ghan Sham Singh; ADC, Joginder Singh Jassota; GM DIC Pankaj Kumar Anand; Superintendent ITI Udhampur Ravinder Singh Bhatti; Principal Govt. polytechnic College Ritu Janwal; MGN fellow Prashant Gupta and other delegates, besides the representatives of local Industries & ITI and polytechnic students attended the

holding more such orientation programs to encourage skilled and to meet the demand of qualified workforce for the industries.

Emphasizing on the need to have a skilled workforce, the DC also highlighted the current market conditions which require the workforce to get market relevant skills. He also emphasised about the fact that India is experiencing Demographic Dividend and to reap the full benefit of this advantage 'we need to skill our workforce with the market driven skillsets'. DC also emphasised that the present era is the age of Information technology and IT related interventions must be incorporated and adapted in Skill Development training in ITIs and Polytechnics so the trainees/Alumni become job creators rather than job seekers.

He stressed that Apprenticeship programs need to be remodelled to meet the needs of the time and skills, rather than just having Degrees, will ensure quality workforce for the same.

The DC emphasised on youth to update and upgrade themselves with knowledge base and acquire modern skill sets coupled with present market technological trends. He said that after the IT revolution, a global scenario has emerged in which skilled human resources are necessary to meet the day-to-day market requirements and youth must adopt an enhanced skill set to take benefits of the current market situations.

The DC also urged upon the youth to actively join Apprenticeship programs which will help them to gain knowledge and tools needed on ground and will ensure industries will have trained workforce. He assured continuous support and monitoring to make it a success.

## DC BATS FOR CREATING HUGE MARKET DRIVEN SKILLED WORKFORCE

National Apprenticeship Awareness Workshop. Addressing the Workshop, the Deputy Commissioner said that such workshops are aimed to create awareness amongst establishments on training and benefits under National Apprentice Promotion Scheme (NAPS).

The DC hailed the organizers for conducting the workshop in Udhampur District and stressed

# DC Kulgam reviews Developmental works of Health sector in district

JJ NEWS SERVICE

KULGAM, MAY 23: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Dr. Bilal Mohiuddin Bhat today chaired a review meeting of Developmental Projects under Health Sector.

It was given out that 13 work projects viz NITPHC Pariwar, NITPHC Manzgam, NITPHC Khull, NITPHC Namimarg, NITPHC Shamshipora, Construction of Addl Accommodation PHC Frisal, PHC Devsar, PHC Nihama, PHC KB Pora, NITPHC Chowgam have been taken up under languishing projects and the estimate cost of these projects is Rs 25.04 crore out of which 9.65 Crore expenditure has been done.

Most of the projects are in the final stage and balance work has been tendered out, for which timeline has been set before July end by the DC.

Similarly under PMDP, 05 projects viz. IPD Block DH Kulgam, construction of NITPHC at Srandoon, and Construction of Separate MCH at DH Kulgam, Construction of SDH DH Pora, and Construction of SDH Qaimoh with an estimated cost of Rs 90.74 Crore have been taken up and 03 projects stand completed with an expenditure of 39.84 Crore.

The DC expressed satisfaction over the progress of the projects under PMDP and lauded the executing agencies for completion of the projects.

Under District Capex, 06 projects with an estimated cost of Rs 5.85 Crore are taken up and 02 projects stand completed with an expenditure of 4.74 Crore.

The DC emphasized upon concerned for early completion of the all projects under NABARD, UT/State-CAPEX including 28 number of projects which include some important projects.

Directions were also given for early completion of the incomplete projects executed by Police Housing Corporation.

The meeting was attended by Viqar Ahmad Giri, ADC Kulgam; Mir Imtiaz Ul Aziz, ACR Kulgam; Zahid Sajad, CPO; SE PW(R&B), Executive Engineer PW(R&B) Kulgam/Qazigund, DGM JKPC, CMO and other officers.

# GDC Kishtwar organises Cricket Tournament under Kehlo India, NMB



JJ NEWS SERVICE

KISHTWAR, MAY 23: The Department of Sports and Physical Education of Government Degree College Kishtwar organized an exhilarating Inter-semester Cricket Tournament on the College Athletic Grounds under the aegis of Khelo India and Nasha Mukht Bharat (NMB).

The tournament commenced in the gracious presence of the College Principal and the Chief Guest, Dr. Jyoti Parihar.

In her opening speech, Dr. Parihar emphasized the signifi-

cance of games and sports for the physical and mental well-being of the individuals. She encouraged the college students to actively participate in the sports events organized at GDC Kishtwar, highlighting the adverse consequences of drug abuse on one's physical, social, intellectual, and moral domains. Dr. Parihar further added that apart from providing entertainment and excitement, sports can also be pursued as a career option, ensuring a secure livelihood for the future.

Expressing her appreciation, Dr. Jyoti Parihar commended Prof.

# G20 Summit: Pulwama abuzz with Sports Activities, Yoga Activities

JJ NEWS SERVICE

PULWAMA, MAY 23: The Department of Youth Services and Sports Pulwama is organising numerous activities in different games and sports to commemorate the G-20 Summit.

In this regard, the District Youth Services and Sports Zone Tahab Pulwama today celebrated a grand Yoga Day at Mahboob-Ul- Aalam Public Middle School Lassipora Tahab Pulwama to create awareness about the scheduled important event of G-20 summit, being conducted at Srinagar under India's presidency.

Speaking on the occasion, ZPEO said that the main aim of the event is to motivate more and more School going children towards sports activities to remain physically fit and to prevent themselves from drugs abuse and other social evils.

Both, male and female students of various Educational Institutions participated in this Yoga event in huge number.

G-20 Yoga event at Lassipora Tahab Pulwama witnessed the participation of around 500 students from different Educational Institutions who performed different Asanas of Yoga under the guidance of professionally trained Yoga teachers.

The Headmaster, MAJ, SHO Lassipora, SDPO Lassipora, officers and other officials of Youth Services and Sports were also present.

## 'MERI LIFE MERA SWACHH SHEHAR'

# MC Ramban organizes awareness campaign

JJ NEWS SERVICE

RAMBAN, MAY 23: Municipal Council Ramban today conducted awareness programmes in various wards and schools within the town under fortnightly 'Meri Life Mera Swachh Shehar' campaign.

Officers and officials, besides a large gathering of locals, students and senior citizens participated in the campaign.

The aim of the campaign was to conduct special extensive door to door waste collection drives.

'Meri Life, Mera Swachh Shehar' is a concept to reduce the production of items that can be recycled and reused and thereby protect the environment.

It is informed that during the fortnight campaign an extensive drive would be conducted to collect plastic, old books, used clothes and footwear from the households of Ramban town.

A swachhba pledge was also taken by the officers, officials, teachers besides a large number of students in Ramban town.

# AKAM: Mega Art & Cultural Mela held at IMGDC Shopian

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SHOPIAN, MAY 23: In order to boost the innate capabilities of the students of district Shopian, a mega Art and Cultural Mela under the banner of Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav (AKAM) and G20 was today held at Intiaz Memorial Govt. Degree College (IMGDC) Shopian.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Faz Lul Haseeb was the Chief Guest and Principal Govt Degree College Shopian, Mohammad Shafiq was guest of honor.

The programme was inaugurated by DC Shopian, in presence of Principal IMGDC, who boosted the morale of the students while presenting the inaugural note.

More than 500 students from different schools participated and 25 students contested in 5 components including Painting, singing, essay writing, stand-up comedy and seminar.

The DC on the occasion, highlighted the role of early goal setting in careers. He also spoke with students on the significance of co-curricular activities for personal development.

# 'International Biodiversity Day' celebrated at Anantnag

JJ NEWS SERVICE

ANANTNAG, MAY 23: In compliance to the directions of JK Legal Services Authority, DLSA Anantnag under the guidance of Chairman DLSA Anantnag, Jaffer Hussain Beigh, organized two programmes on "International Biodiversity Day" in coordination with Government Degree College Women Anantnag and Government High School Poshkeeri block Mattan.

The 1st programme held at Government Degree College for Women Anantnag was attended by Secretary DLSA Anantnag along with LADC and PLVs.

Idees Agrasay, Assistant LADC Anantnag deliberated on Biological Diversity Act 2002 and important Acts passed related to Environment and Bio-diversity.

Furthermore, Prof. Sabzar Ahmad Reshi from Women's Degree College Anantnag also gave the presentation on the topic.

# PSPS Govt College for Women organises awareness programme on Career opportunities in MBA

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 23: Career Counselling and Placement Cell of Padma Shri Padma Sachdev Government College for Women Gandhinagar, joining hands with TBS, University of Jammu, today conducted an Awareness Programme on "Career Options in MBA".

The Programme started with the formal welcome of the

Resource Persons for the day - Prof. Alka Sharma, and Director SHIEDC; Dr. Rachna Mahajan, Associate Professor; Dr. Farah Choudhary, Senior Assistant Professor; Ishan, Aditya, Aryan - the Students of Semester-2 from TBS as young motivational speakers. Prof. Minu Mahajan, Principal of the College; a galaxy of Intellectuals and around 470 students of outgoing Semester-

6. Prof. Minu Mahajan, in her address, encouraged the students to keep the flame of knowledge always on.

To recognize their strengths, learn by the experience of others.

She also enlightened the students about the importance of goal setting in life and how the Career Counselling Cell of the College is striving hard to apprise students to meet the

challenges of life. The Resource Persons deliberated on various career options associated with the MBA Program through a powerpoint presentation.

They also appraised students about IMA Entrance test, CAT, MAT Test wherein the focus was upon registration, preparation, syllabus, exam pattern etc. The lecture concluded with the interaction and question answer session.

The Proceedings of the programme were conducted by Prof. Neelam Thapa and concluded with the formal Vote of thanks by Prof. Renu Rajput.

The whole programme was coordinated by Prof. Rajni Kumari, Converter Career Counseling Cell and members- Prof. Malli Rajput, Prof. Suman Bala, Prof. Sugandha Mahajan and Prof. Rajinder Kumar.

# GDC Vijaypur accords grand farewell to final semester Students

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SAMBA, MAY 23: To bid adieu to final semester (6th) students of the college, a grand farewell party was organized by students of semester 4th of GDC Vijaypur.

The welcome address was presented by Simranjeet Kour and Priyansh Vaid of B.Com Sem-IV.

Dr. Vandana Gupta, Principal of the College was the Chief Guest of the event.

The party commenced with the lighting of the traditional Lamp followed by a grand Welcome of the chief Guest of the programme.

The proceedings of the program were conducted by Chandan, Akash, Riya and Kavya Charak of Sem-IV. The programme featured different cultural

performances which included singing and dancing competitions, poetry recitation, interesting fun games etc. which were appreciated by the entire audience with thundering applause.

Staff and students wished the outgoing students best of luck for their upcoming challenges and also took their suggestions for improvement and betterment of the College.

The College Principal, Dr. Vandana Gupta, congratulated the organizing team and students of semester 4th and extended her best wishes to the outgoing students.

Towards the end of the farewell ceremony, students of Sem-VI were given gifts as a token of love.

Anirudh and Jyoti were selected as Mr. BA and Ms. BA respectively where

# GDC Surankote hosts workshop on Intellectual Property Rights, IP Management for start-ups

JJ NEWS SERVICE

POONCH, MAY 23: Institution Innovation college (IIC) of Government Degree College Surankote today hosted a one day workshop on Intellectual Property Rights and IP Management for startups.

The workshop was attended by a large number of students and staff members. The main aim of the workshop was to educate students and faculty members about the significance of Intellectual Property Rights in the current scenario. The proceedings of the workshop were conducted by Dr. Khaled Rishi (HoD Urdu). He welcomed the faculty and the participants and highlighted the initiative of the Ministry of Education (MoE) which has launched the Institution's Innovation Cell (IIC) program in the NAAC accredited colleges of UT of J and K.

Dr. Mohammad Ashfaq (convener IIC and HoD Geography) deliberated on Fostering Innovations Among Young Minds. He also discussed the need for Innovative entrepreneurship and the role of IP world over. He also portrayed the work progress of the IIC

of GDC Surankote during the 2nd quarter of 2022-23 in the form of short video.

Dr. Syed Ovais (HoD Chemistry) was the keynote speaker. He provided an insight into Intellectual Property Rights and relevant laws. He briefly discussed various forms of intellectual property like copyright, trademark, patents, trade-secrets, geographical indications etc. He also emphasized the advantages of patenting and overall management of Intellectual Property for start-ups and budding entrepreneurs. Furthermore, Dr. Ovais also deliberated the "Scheme for Intellectual Property Protection (SIPP)" which is exclusively designed to nurture emerging technologies in startups and assist them in protecting the commercial benefit out of it. The program was concluded by the Presidential address by the College Principal Prof (Dr) Rani Mughal. Dr. Mughal in her speech congratulated the IIC cell of the college. Dr. Mohammad Ashfaq and Dr. Syed Ovais for their initiative. She conveyed that students should come up with novel and innovative ideas for the betterment of human life which has become the need of the hour.



# NYK organises District Level Yuva Utsav 2023-24 at Govt PG

DC BATS FOR CREATING HUGE MARKET DRIVEN SKILLED WORKFORCE

JI NEWS SERVICE

RAJOURI, MAY 23: Nehru Yuva Kendra Rajouri, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, today organised the District Level Yuva Utsav here in Government PG College. The event was organised on the theme "Panch Pran of Amritkala".

The main objective of the programme was to celebrate the "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav" in the spirit of Yuva Shakti se Jan Bhagidari and to form a fraternity of young artists, writers, photographers and orators of the country under the mentorship of experts. Similar programmes are also being organised across the country in all 623 districts by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports Govt. of India.

District Youth Officer, Nitin Hangloo briefed about the



objectives of the programme. He said that in the one day programme, five different events/competitions will be organised. Youth will participate in Young Writers Contest (Poetry), Young Artists Camp (Painting), Mobile Photography Contest, Declamation Contest, Cultural Fest - Group Folk Dance. He

added that the objective of the programme is to provide a platform to the talented youth of the district.

Dr. Shamim Ahmed Zaid, Principal Govt PG College Rajouri presided over the Inaugural Ceremony by lighting the ceremonial lamp. Pervaiz Malik along with

Hamid Malik and Dr Zakir were the jury members of Cultural Festival while Dr Saima Aslam, Dr Mohd Kousar Ali Jafri and Abdul Hamid judged the participants of Declamation Contest. Madhu Sharma, Rajinder Sharma and Sanjeev Sharma were the jury members in Painting while Shiv Dutta and Rohit Sharma were jury members in Photography. In poetry, Vishal Singh, Dr Zakir Bhatti and Rafiqat Hussain were the jury members.

More than 300 young boys and girls from nook and corner of the district presented their talent in their respective categories. Students from different educational institutions of the district also participated in the mega event. Cultural teams belonging to the remotest corners of the district added colours to the event.

In the valedictory session,

appreciation certificates were provided to the Jury Members and certificates and mementos were also provided to the winner of all the categories. The winners shall now participate in the State Level Yuva Utsav. Special Appreciation Certificates were awarded to Dr Naseem Ahmed, NSS Program Officer Govt PG College Rajouri for providing necessary collaboration regarding the event and Vikrant Sharma for management in the competitive events.

Mohammad Yasser and team from Kotranaka secured the First position in Cultural Festival, while Chitranjan Sharma and group from GDC Doongl and GHSS Kalakote secured second and third position respectively. In the declamation contest, Iram Gafoor emerged victorious while Mohammad Nishat and Mehlaqa Batool were the runners up.

# Group of 40 youth complete Short-Term Course on "Modern Tunnelling Techniques" conducted by ITI Doda

JI NEWS SERVICE

DODA, MAY 23: Focusing on demand based skill development and skill upgradation, District Administration Doda organised a short-term course on "Modern Tunnelling Techniques" to upgrade the skills of a group of 40 youth to enable them to get sustainable livelihood after attaining the training through Industrial Training Institute (ITI) Doda in association with NHIDCL.

The successful candidates of the 15-day Short Term Course were awarded certificates by the Deputy Commissioner, Vishesh Mahajan today at a simple but impressive function held in the conference hall of the DC office complex, here. This short-term training course was designed by the faculty of ITI Doda with resource persons from NHIDCL and MGNF.

The group of Forty (40) trainees were drawn from Polytechnic College Doda and ITI Doda. They were imparted 7-day theory knowledge at ITI Doda and 8-day practical experience at the tunnelling sites and under construction bridge sites to enhance their employability in various ongoing developmental projects in the district. Er. Harjeet Singh from NHIDCL and Er. Ashok Kumar (TL-Segmental) imparted training to the candidates on various aspects of tunnelling, bridges, and highways, during the course. The training program equipped them with the necessary skills and knowledge to excel in their career as tunnelling and highway construction professionals keeping in view the construction scenario in the UT of J&K. The DC Doda appreciated NHIDCL, ITI Doda and MGNF Manujender Singh for organising much needed skill upgradation training for the desirous youth of the district. He informed that such training shall be conducted in future also to make the youth of the district compatible with the demands of the upcoming developmental projects in the District and in the UT of J&K. He urged the youth to enhance their skills as per the demand of the market to get better livelihood and contribute their part in the development of the district and the nation. The programme was attended by GM/NHIDCL, NS Gill; DIO DIPR Doda Mohd Ashraf Wani; Manujender Singh, MGNF for District Doda, Principal Government Polytechnic Javed Hakeem, Superintendent ITI Doda Naresh Singh, Er Ashok Kumar Resource Person from NHIDCL.

# GDC Kishtwar, Wildlife Chenab Division organise Seminar on 'Life-style for Environment' under Mission LIFE and G20 Initiative



JI NEWS SERVICE

KISHTWAR, MAY 23: Eco Club, Government Degree College Kishtwar, in collaboration with Wildlife Division Chenab Kishtwar, Department of Wildlife Protection UT of J&K Govt, today organized a seminar on the topic "Life-style for Environment" under the aegis of G20 and Mission LIFE - an initiative of Government of India launched on 20th October 2022.

The event was organised with the aim to nudge individuals and communities to practice a life-style that is synchronous with nature and to

and many among them spoke on the topic and covered various objectives of mission life and revealed the imperativeness of enriching and conserving environment in lieu to blissful life.

Dr. Jyoti Parihar, the College Principal, in her speech, laid emphasis on the role of every individual for the conservation of our environment. She stressed upon students to act locally and try to inculcate environment-friendly behaviour in their daily lives. She further appreciated the efforts of the Eco-club and wildlife Department Kishtwar for organizing such events in collaboration with College authorities and praised the participants for their outstanding speeches. She also applauded Dr. Tariq Ahmed Shah (Resource person) for the informative and valuable session. Dr. Madhu Ram, Prof. Randeep and Prof. Akshay Sharma judged the event. Among the student speakers 1st position was bagged by Mehak Sharma, 2nd by Abroo Wajid and 3rd by Palak Sharma.

refrain themselves from damaging it. Sh. Majid Bashir Mintoo (Wildlife Warden Chenab Division) was the Chief Guest of the event. Mansoor Ahmed Khan (Range Officer, Kishtwar Range, Department of Wildlife) was the special guest. Dr. Tariq Ahmed Shah (Research Associate, Department of Wildlife) acted as Resource person who gave a detailed insight about the Government initiatives and theme of Mission LIFE. He also deliberated upon lifestyle changes every individual should adopt for a sustainable living. Nearly 50 students participated

# Swachh Bharat Mission Green: 6000 villages declared as ODF PLUS in J&K

JI NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 23: The UT of J&K has achieved another milestone of declaring 6000 Villages as ODF Plus in the Aspiring category under the "Swachh Bharat Mission Green." This has been possible due to strong leadership and support provided at all levels.

These villages are sustaining the ODF Plus status and have systems in place for managing Solid or Liquid waste. The villages have progressed beyond constructing and using toilets to attain cleanliness and adequate sanitation in their villages, hence moving from ODF to ODF Plus. In its efforts to ensure that all the villages have minimal litter and an adequate system in place to manage waste, the

Directorate of Rural Sanitation, department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj has taken many initiatives. One such major step in this arena is the initiation of the process of door to door collection in many panchayats where waste is being collected from HHs for its scientific disposal.

In some areas people have even started paying users charges for the waste collection services being provided to them. The department has also put in place assets at Households and Community level for processing Solid and Liquid wastes.

As of now the department has created 59407 Individual compost pits, 309558 individual soak pits, 7138 Community Compost Pits and 20958

Community Soak Pits.

As many as 75 villages have been declared as ODF Plus Model villages. A number of segregation sheds have also been constructed and machinery such as Baling Machines, Shredders have been installed in some of these segregation sheds for scientific processing of the waste. Since SBM (G) is a people's campaign, IEC plays an extremely important role for its success. The department is holding various activities in each district such as Nukkad natak, Plog runs, painting

competitions, rallies, debates etc, to persuade people to realize their role and responsibilities in Swachhata Campaign and understand the benefits accruing from following the right sanitation practices. Apart from IEC activities, Capacity building programs are being organized on a regular basis at the Divisional, District and Panchayat Level where ToTs have been trained to further impart training at Panchayat level on various components of SBM (G).

# DECC Ramban organises Awareness Session on Career opportunities in Sports

JI NEWS SERVICE

RAMBAN, MAY 23: District Employment and Counselling Centre cum Model Counselling Center Ramban today organised an awareness programme on Career opportunities in Sports here in the District Police Lines.

Youth Professional from Ministry of Labour and Employment Government of India Lovepreet Singh was the resource person on the occasion.

# UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) CONST. DIVN. NO. III, JAMMU SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Short e-NIT No. CD-III/ 32 of 2023-24 Dated 19-05-2023

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

S. No.	Name of Work	Advertiser's Cost (in Lacs)	Est. of document (in Rupees)	Earnest Money (in Rupees)	Time allowed for completion	Time and date of opening of tender	Class of Contractor
1	Repair/Painting of room on Bala Patern at 1) Govt. high School Ramna Pulbhara, 2) Govt. Primary School Upper Tanti, 3) Govt. primary School Garhi Bhatnara, 4) Govt. Primary School Garhi Nanda, 5) Govt. middle School Nakka 6) Govt. Middle School Pragwal (under capex Budget 2022-23/UT Sector) (e-Call)	3.80	600	(2% of Advertised Cost)	20 days	(1400 Hrs) on or after 30-05-2023	A B C D
2	Repair/Painting of room on Bala Patern at Govt. middle School Capal (under capex Budget 2022-23/UT Sector) (e-Call)	0.50	600	(2% of the Advertised Cost)	15 days	(1400 Hrs) on or after 30-05-2023	A B C D
3	Repair/Painting of room on Bala Patern at Govt. middle School Nayana (under capex Budget 2022-23/UT Sector) (e-Call)	0.50	600	(2% of the Advertised Cost)	15 days	(1400 Hrs) on or after 30-05-2023	A B C D
4	Repair/Painting of room on Bala Patern at Govt. Middle School Malal (under capex Budget 2022-23/UT Sector) (e-Call)	0.50	600	(2% of the Advertised Cost)	15 days	(1400 Hrs) on or after 30-05-2023	A B C D
5	Repair/Painting of room on Bala Patern at Govt. Primary School Jagan (under Secondary Education, Capex Budget 2022-23/UT Sector) (e-Call)	0.50	600	(2% of the Advertised Cost)	15 days	(1400 Hrs) on or after 30-05-2023	A B C D
6	Repair/Painting of room on Bala Patern at Govt. Middle School Bui Shadidan (under Secondary Education, Capex Budget 2022-23/UT Sector) (e-Call)	0.50	600	(2% of the Advertised Cost)	15 days	(1400 Hrs) on or after 30-05-2023	A B C D
7	Repair/Painting of room on Bala Patern at Govt. Primary School Bui Shadidan (under Secondary Education, Capex Budget 2022-23/UT Sector) (e-Call)	0.50	600	(2% of the Advertised Cost)	15 days	(1400 Hrs) on or after 30-05-2023	A B C D
8	Repair/Painting of room on Bala Patern at Govt. Primary School Ganta Mehalta (under Secondary Education, Capex Budget 2022-23/UT Sector) (e-Call)	0.50	600	(2% of the Advertised Cost)	15 Days	(1400 Hrs) on or after 30-05-2023	A B C D

The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (BQ), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website <http://jtenders.gov.in> as per below schedule:-

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	19-05-2023
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 20-05-2023 to 29-05-2023, 1800 Hrs
3	Date, Time and place of pre-bid meeting	24-05-2023 at 1300 Hrs. in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. III Jammu
4	Bid submission Start Date	20-05-2023
5	Bid Submission End Date	20-05-2023 upto 1800 Hrs
6	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	30-05-2023 on or after 1400 Hrs in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Const. Div. No. III Jammu
7	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed

1. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of e-challan through Treasury indicating Treasury Voucher No. & date, e-NIT No. and name of work duly crediting to 0059 (Revenue) favoring Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. III Jammu and upload the same to Treasury challan/receipt, Earnest Money /Bid security in shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Const. Divn. No. III Jammu. The CDR/FDR/BG shall be valid for 45 Days beyond the bid validity period. The original instruments in respect of cost of documents, EMD and relevant documents of LI be submitted to the Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Const Div. No. III Jammu at the time of allotment.

2. The electronic bidding system would not allow any late submission of bids after due date and time as per server time. Bidders may modify their bids by uploading their request for modification before the deadline for submission of bids. For this, the bidder need not to make any additional payment towards the cost of tender document. For bid modification and consequential re-submission, the bidder is not required to withdraw his bid submitted earlier. The last modified bid submitted by the bidder within the bid submission time shall be considered as the bid. For this purpose, modification/withdrawal by other means will not be accepted. In online system of bid submission, the modification and consequential-submission of bids is allowed any number of times. The bidders may withdraw his bid by uploading their request before the deadline for submission of bids; however, if the bid is withdrawn, the re-submission of the bid is not allowed. No bid shall be modified or withdrawn after the deadline of submission of bids.

3. The date and time of opening of Financial-Bids shall be notified on Web Site [www.jtenders.gov.in](http://jtenders.gov.in) and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message to their e-mail address. The Financial-bids of responsive bidders shall be opened online in the Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Const Div. No. III Jammu. The date for same shall be intimated separately.

No- 3804-26  
Dated: 19-05-2023  
DIYJ-1894/23

SD/-  
(ER. SUNIL KUMAR DOGRA)  
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER  
PWD (R&B) CONST. DIV. NO. III  
JAMMU

# Inter School Zonal Level Athletic meet held at Ramban

JI NEWS SERVICE

RAMBAN, MAY 23: An Inter School Zonal Level Athletic meet was today organized by the Department of Youth Services & Sports (YSS) Ramban here in the Government Model Higher Secondary School. The event was organized under the supervision of District Youth Services and Sports Officer, Dharamveer Singh. The event was inaugurated by the School Principal K. Sharma. Speaking on the occasion, the Principal advised the participating students to maintain team spirit, cooperation and coordination while participating in the sports competitions.

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
**ETENDER NOTICE**

Tender Notice No: 433-Sig-17-23-24 Closing Date/Time: 01.06.2023/15:00  
Sr. DSTE/FZR acting for and on behalf of the President of India invites E-Tenders against Tender Notice no. 433-Sig-17-23-24 Closing Date/Time 01.06.2023 at 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/bid up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, 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 only payment modes available on IREPS portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed.

**1. NIT HEADER**

Contract Type	Works
Tender Type	Open
Tender Closing Date/Time	01.06.2023 15:00 hrs
Pre-Bid Required	No
Advertising Value	Rs. 13483627.33
Bidding Style	Single Rate for Tender
Earnest Money	Rs. 217400/-
Tender Doc. Cost	0/-
Bidding Start Date as per IREPS	18.05.2023

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 1530/23

# Rajouri administration discusses revision of environment plan

DC EMPHASISES ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT CONSERVATION

JJ NEWS SERVICE

RAJOURI, MAY 23: A crucial meeting to discuss the revision of the District Environment Plan was held today here under the chairmanship of District Development Commissioner, Vikas Kundal.

The revised plan aims to enhance the overall environmental parameters in the district through extensive plantation drives, effective waste management, promotion of community participation and use of renewable sources, besides launching mass awareness campaigns, among other strategic measures. The meeting held detailed discussions on various aspects of environmental conservation, including solid waste management, bio-medical waste management, plastic waste management, pol-



lution abatement in non-attainment areas, restoration of polluted river stretches, and industrial waste management. Additionally, key initiatives were identified to safeguard and conserve forests, water bodies, and wetlands and enhance the district's green cover. The DDC emphasised the importance of the real-time monitoring system, making the provision of noise monitoring and air quality monitoring to ensure accurate and up-to-date information for better effective environmental management. The utilisation of digital boards at prominent locations display-

ing real-time updates on air quality, temperature, and other relevant information was also emphasised.

The meeting recognised the significance of mass awareness campaigns and social media engagement in educating the public about the environmental challenges.

The DC laid stress on making Special efforts to encourage global participation in positive environmental actions, fostering a collective effort towards creating a sustainable and better future. Furthermore, the installation of solar rooftops in government offices was agreed

upon as a significant step towards promoting renewable energy. Special awareness activities will be organised to motivate the public to adopt solar rooftops in their households, contributing to the larger goal of a greener and cleaner environment. Water body conservation was a crucial topic of discussion, with the Rural Development Department already undertaking substantial work in this area. New water bodies will be identified and developed, ensuring the sustainable management of water resources.

The meeting directed the submission of a comprehensive plan under the "Catch the Rain" programme by the SE Hydraulics. The District Development Commissioner highlighted the district administration's commitment to sustainable development and expressed enthusiasm for the implementation of the revised environment conservation plan. The inclusion of community participation and an effective grievance redress mechanism were emphasized to ensure a collaborative approach towards achieving environmental goals. As part of its dedication to environmental stewardship, the district administration will continue to develop various initiatives and engage in proactive initiatives to create a greener, healthier, and more sustainable environment for all.

## DDC Rajouri distributes Smart KCC Cards among progressive Farmers

JJ NEWS SERVICE



RAJOURI, MAY 23: District Development Commissioner, Vikas Kundal, on Tuesday distributed Smart Kisan Credit Cards (KCCs) to the progressive farmers under Kisan Sampark Abhiyan. The initiative, designed to enhance financial inclusion and facilitate agricultural growth, marks a significant milestone in the region's agricultural development.

Accompanied by officials and resource persons, including the District Nodal Officer and Chief Agriculture Officer, the DDC underscored the importance of the Smart KCC Cards. These advanced

cards offer a range of benefits, including streamlined access to credit facilities, simplified loan applications and the ability to avail various agricultural inputs seamlessly.

"By equipping farmers with these cards, the District Administration aims to catalyse their productivity and economic progress," reiterated the DDC.

The DDC, while interacting with the Farmers, said the Orientation Programme provided a platform to them to gain in-depth knowledge about various government schemes and projects under the Holistic Agriculture Development Program (HADP).

Additionally, participants received comprehensive information about self-employment opportunities and allied sector schemes. The program aimed to empower farmers with valuable insights and resources to maximise their agricultural potential.

Recognizing the significance of social security schemes, the DDC emphasised the importance of schemes such as the Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY), and Atal Pension Yojana (APY). These schemes provide farmers with financial security and protection against unforeseen circumstances, ensuring their well-being and peace of mind.

Expressing his gratitude to the participants, the DDC commended their dedication and resilience in the face of challenges.

He reaffirmed the District Administration's commitment to support the farming community by implementing progressive initiatives and providing comprehensive assistance.

## GDC Doda hosts All India Women Cricket Championship

JJ NEWS SERVICE

DODA, MAY 23: District Development Commissioner Doda, Vishesh Mahajan along with Senior Superintendent of Police, Abdul Qayoom today inaugurated All India Women Cricket Championship here in Sports Stadium Doda.

The tournament is being organised by the Department of Physical Education and Sports, Government Degree College Doda in collaboration with Sports & Fitness Hub, Doda.

Around 8 teams including teams from Uttar Pradesh, Hyderabad, GDC Doda, GMC Doda are participating in the tournament.

The inaugural match was played between teams of Uttar Pradesh and Green Champs. The UP team beat Green Champs by 84 runs. Rashi Gupta was adjudged player of the match.

Principal Government Degree College Doda Prof. (Dr.) Attar Singh Kotwal, Dr. Ajaz Wani, Prof. Kewal Manhas, Prof. Satish Kumar, faculty members and a large number of spectators were present on the occasion. The tournament shall continue till 26th of May in the Sports Stadium Doda.

Addressing the players, the DDC appreciated the Department of Physical Education and Sports GDC Doda for organising such an inspiring event. He said the championship provides a requisite platform to the youth, especially girls/ women to showcase their talent in sports.

Earlier, the College Principal welcomed the Chief Guest and Guest of Honour. He emphasised the importance of women empowerment and stressed that such events disseminate the mes-

## Inter-Division UT Level sports competition in 10 disciplines commences in Jammu

WINNERS TO PARTICIPATE IN NATIONAL GAMES: JT DIRECTOR YSSSHRI AMARNATH JI YATRA 2023

JJ NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, MAY 23: Inter-Division UT Level sports competition for under 19 Boys and Girls in 10 disciplines was today kick-started by the Joint Director Youth Services & Sports Jammu, Suram Chand Sharma here in M.A. Stadium.

The competitions are being held for Kabaddi, Chess, Yoga, Handball, Basket-Ball, Kho-Kho, Gymnastic, Wrestling, Weight Lifting, Shooting. The players and athletes from all 20 Divisions of the UT are participating in the competition and the winner(s) of each discipline would qualify for participation in the National Games being organised by School Games Federation of India from 5th of June 2023 in New Delhi.

Speaking on the occasion, Suram Chand Sharma congratulated the sports persons for their selection in the Divisional Level Teams and playing the UT level competitions. He exhorted them to encourage others also to take part in sports to channelize the energy of Youth in the right direction and to keep them away from drug menace and other social evils. He also inaugurated various matches and encouraged the players to display high standards of sportsmanship while playing.

## DC Kathua reviews anti-drug measures at District NCORD meeting

JJ NEWS SERVICE



KATHUA, MAY 23: Deputy Commissioner Kathua, Rakesh Minhas today chaired a meeting of the District Level Committee under the Narco Coordination Centre (NCORD) to discuss and review measures to curb the drug abuse and narcotics trade in the district.

The meeting discussed at length the issues related to incidence of drug addiction, areas of concern and hotspots of drug abuse besides measures taken by law enforcement agencies to curb the menace.

The Assistant Drug Controller informed that out of 405 out of 425 medical stores have installed CCTV cameras which will help in keeping a check on over the counter sale of psychotropic drugs. The DC directed ADCs and SDMs to keep a strict vigil on the sale of OTC, besides conducting random inspection of pharmaceutical shops to ensure functioning of CCTV surveillance systems. While discussing the registration status of existing de-addiction centers operating in the district, the DC called for expediting the process of registration within the extant rules besides facilitating the un-registered Drug De-addiction centers to register with regional authority. The DC stressed on mapping all those vulnerable spots in the district which either have reported cases of drug addiction or its supplies to launch a mass awareness encouraging the community members to facilitate rehabilitation of drug addicts and crackdown on the perpetrators. The DC asked the Chief Education Officer to launch a massive awareness campaign in the schools to sensitize the students about hazards of drug menace. He stressed for insightful counseling of parents during parent teacher meet. The DC called upon ADCs and SDMs to ensure enforcement of drug eradication measures in their respective jurisdictions besides identifying illegal cultivation of poppy and other illicit drug crops by teams comprising the officers of Agriculture, Revenue, and Police departments.

## GDC Ramgarh hosts Screening of Documentary on 'Mission LIFE'

JJ NEWS SERVICE

SAMBA, MAY 23: Government Degree College Ramgarh today hosted the screening of a Documentary on the theme 'Mission LIFE' as the part of a series of activities being organized by Eco Club of the college to mark the celebrations of World Environment Day.

The event was organized under the

guidance of Prof.(Dr.) Geetanjali Andotra, Principal of the College. The event was organized in collaboration with NSS under the aegis of G20 cell to commemorate India's Presidency in G20 in 2023.

Prof. Risha Kumari, Convener Eco Club said that Mission LIFE aims to nudge individuals and communities to protect and preserve the environment

and ensure sustainable development. Further, she added that Mission LIFE focuses on the actions that are related to saving energy, water, reducing the single use plastic, adoption of a sustainable food system and reduction of waste among others. Also she included that the students must adopt the concept of 'reduce, reuse and recycle'.

At the outset, Dr. Sandeep Kumar

briefed the audience about the importance of the day and explained that the Mission LIFE is designed to inspire people to change their behavior by becoming followers of 'Lifestyle for Environment'.

A large number of students as well as all the faculty members of the college participated in the event with great zeal and enthusiasm. Two documentaries

## Kishtwar Administration starts arrangements for Shri Hudh Mata Trisandhiya Yatra, Dachhan

KDA organizing mega Jagran at Shri Gori Shankar Mandir to add to spiritual experience of pilgrims

JJ NEWS SERVICE

KISHTWAR, MAY 23: The District Administration Kishtwar has started the arrangements for the upcoming Shri Hudh Mata Trisandhiya Yatra, Dachhan starting on June 20, 2023.

In this regard, Deputy Commissioner Dr. Devansh Yadav today chaired a joint meeting of line departments and the members of Shri Hudh Mata Trisandhiya Yatra Managing Committee to discuss the requirement of amenities and other logistics for the convenience of pilgrims.

The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner /CEO Kishtwar Development Authority



Indjeret Singh Parihar, ASP, Rajinder Singh, SDM Marwah, Dr. Mohsin Raza, DIO Kishtwar Kuldeep Kumar, Tehsildars of Kishtwar and Dachhan and the representatives of the Shri Hudh Mata Trisandhiya Yatra Managing Committee.

The management committee members projected various demands and sought up-gradation of the infrastructure and

availability of basic amenities like drinking water, shelters, provision of toilets etc. The pilgrimage is scheduled to commence on 20th June 2023 from Kathua in Jammu and reach Kishtwar on 22nd June from where pilgrims will proceed towards the Bhawan with scheduled halts at various locations along the route up to Dachhan.

The Deputy Commissioner issued necessary directions to the concerned officers, including Tehsildars, AD FCS & CA, and Executive Engineers asking them to make all arrangements well before the start of the Yatra.

The ASP Kishtwar informed the chair about the security arrangements and traffic management plan put in place to ensure the convenience and safety of the pilgrims throughout the pilgrimage.

The concerned Executive Engineers and Wildlife authorities assured that the repair work on the Bridle Path from Dhanaagrath to Hudh Mata Bhawan and from Soudar to Lohama via Hourri Nallah will be completed on priority well

ahead of the start of Yatra. The CEO, Kishtwar Development Authority, Indjeret Singh Parihar, assured that an adequate number of tents will be made available at Gowkoth and the base camp at Kiskoth Hudh Mata Bhawan during the Yatra.

It was decided that Kishtwar Development Authority (KDA) will organize a mega jagran at Shri Gori Shankar Mandir Sarkoot to provide a spiritual and devotional experience to the pilgrims. The KDA would make necessary arrangements for the cleanliness, decoration, and lighting of the Shri Gori Shankar Mandir premises to create a serene ambience for the jagran.

## DC Udhampur seeks timeline completion of developmental works

Discusses bottlenecks hampering vital projects

JJ NEWS SERVICE

UDHAMPUR, MAY 23: To discuss bottlenecks hampering execution and completion of the developmental works of various departments in the district, Deputy Commissioner Udhampur Sachin Kumar Vaishya today chaired a meeting of Officers and contractors here in the Mini Conference Hall DC Office Complex.

Senior Superintendent of Police, Dr. Vinod Kumar, Additional District Development Commissioner, Ghan Sham Singh and district heads of line departments besides contractors attended the meeting.

The DC sought cooperation of the contractors for expediting the completion of the ongoing works of different departments to provide timely benefits of these projects to the public. He asked the contractors to ensure that the allotted works are completed by 30th of August this year. The DC assured the contractors that the district administration will facilitate resolution of impediments, if any, in the execution of works. The DC directed all the concerned officers to maintain close inter-departmental coordination and work with dedication to complete all the ongoing works being executed by their respective departments in a time bound manner. He also passed directions for resolving issues/ bottlenecks, if any.